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The Supplements are published separately as annexes to the Bulletin. They include the official texts of the Commission (communications of the Council, reports, proposals) of the documents published under the double responsibility of the Council and of the Commission. The Supplements are not published in Spanish.



BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

**European Coal and Steel Community
European Economic Community
European Atomic Energy Community**

**Commission of the European Communities
Secretariat of the Commission
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summary

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1ST PART

**DOCUMENTS, FACTS
AND STUDIES**

1. Proposals on agricultural prices for the 1973-74 campaign

1101. On 23 March 1973 the Commission submitted its Proposals to the Council for setting the prices of some agricultural produce for the 1973/74 campaign and for other related measures. These Proposals directly concern the new Member States insofar as the Act on the Accession conditions and adaptations to the Treaties prescribes special provisions (milk, beef and veal, flax).

The Commission was guided in its Proposals both by economic assessment factors and by the need to restore as far as possible the single nature of the common agricultural market, allowing for the current monetary situation.

The Proposals were prepared with the knowledge of data in the 1972 Report on the Agricultural and Agricultural Market Situation, the Report on the 1968/69 and 1970 Results from the EEC agricultural accounting network and Report on farming incomes in the enlarged Community.

Farming Considerations

1102. The development of the overall economic situation has certainly heavily influenced the economic situation of farmholdings. The disturbing persistence of inflationary currents has resulted in a sharp rise in prices of farming production equipment. Moreover the heavy wage increases in the Community will admittedly go on. Lastly, the effect of increased internal and external productivity must be reckoned with.

1103. From these findings the Commission concludes that allowing for the increase in productivity a rise in the general level of joint prices of agricultural produce is still necessary to let the modern farms follow the development of wage incomes in the non-agricultural sectors.

1104. In line with this other assessment factors should be reckoned with which limit the scope for raising agricultural prices.

— The Proposals for agricultural prices must take note of the statement of intent carried in the Council Resolution of 31 October 1972 on anti-inflation action. The Resolution points out that the Council and the Commission will seek ways to hold back rising agricultural prices by falling back on specific measures to prop the incomes of the least favoured farmers.

— Care must be taken that price rises do not trigger off turmoil on the markets and here the dairy produce market is by far the most worrying case.

— The main difference between the level of prices applied to agricultural produce in the new Member States and that of prices applied in the Community means that over the transition period the level of agricultural prices in the three new Member States will climb appreciably. This makes it necessary to cut down the risks of inducement to raise output in the new Member States and to reduce the consumption of some products by overheavy increases in the levels of joint prices all of which would in the end be detrimental to all Member States.

1105. Bearing in mind these assessments the Commission came to the conclusion that it was the right time to propose an overall moderate increase in joint agricultural prices not exceeding 3%. Besides this, over certain speculations, the market conditions justify some further price increases.

1106. The Commission found that by and large the labour incomes in holdings leaning on staple crops were higher than those in holdings farming livestock and that the incomes gained in farms specializing in milk production were higher than those earned in farms devoted to beef and veal. On these

findings it is justified to prescribe a heavier price increase for beef and veal than for dairy produce. Moreover, the increase in dairy prices should be heavier than that for vegetable products.

1107. In the beef and veal sector the problem of low producer incomes is compounded by a short supply which for the enlarged Community can be put at 560 000 tonnes in 1972. Moreover, the serious world shortage of beef and veal has meant a heavy increase in market prices and these prices are actually now well above the guide prices for mature cattle.

1108. After a growth in the livestock population of 1.6%, of 1.7% in yields and 2.5% in the supply to dairies, the overall supply of milk to dairies has gone up by 5.9% between 1971 and 1972 in the enlarged Community. Since consumption has not kept pace, butter stocks in the enlarged Community reached 400 000 tonnes by end 1972. In the original Six, this stock amounted to 106 000 tonnes at end 1971 and more than 300 000 tonnes at end 1972. If no special measures are applied it can be forecast that during 1973 the butter stock in the enlarged Community will exceed 600 000 tonnes.

1109. Considering the surplus milk output and the shortage of beef and veal, the Commission holds that a special drive must be made to boost beef and veal output and switch from milk production to meat production.

1110. So on top of the overall increase prescribed in point 1105 above the Commission is proposing an increase of 8% on the guide price of mature cattle for 1973/74 and will also propose an increase of the same magnitude for the 1974/75 campaign.

1111. The Council has already received a batch of Proposals aimed at stimulating beef

and veal output and diminishing the supply of milk to dairies.¹ In the light of the debates on the subject within the Council, the Commission is submitting an amended version of its proposed Council (EEC) Regulation to set up a bonus scheme for pushing the development of beef and veal output and for switching herds from dairy to meat-farming. The Commission proposes that premiums for switching from milk to meat be based on herds of at least 15 cows and that Member States be given the option of excluding from this system those regions where the price for milk received by the producers is 25% higher than the target price of milk.

1112. Owing to the serious problems caused by the surplus of butyric oils and fats the Commission holds that the time has come to revalue the nitrogenous elements of milk in relation to the butyric. It therefore proposes to cut the intervention price of butter by 11% (i.e. 20.00 u.a./100 kg) and raise the intervention price of milk powder by about 24% (i.e. 13.10 u.a./100 kg). This increase counterbalances the cut in the intervention price of butter and allows for the overall price increases. At the same time consumption of dairy produce is to be boosted by keeping up some particular measures for disposing of butter stocks and by cutting the consumer price of butter through subsidizing its consumption by 10 u.a./100 kg. A Proposal for this is attached to the pricing Proposals.

1113. Considering the points mentioned in point 1106 above, the Commission also proposes a further increase of 2% of the target price of milk from 16 September 1973 whose effect would fall entirely on the intervention price of milk powder. Thus the proportion between

¹ OJ C 122 of 24.11.1972.

the ,oil and fats' value and the nitrogeous value of milk would stabilize at 55/45 from that date.

1114. The Commission also feels that investments in the dairy sector should be discouraged insofar as they might trigger off an expansion in output. The Commission will consider this in applying Article 93 of the EEC Treaty and in issuing aid from the EAGGF, Guidance Section.

The Commission is also proposing to the Council to exclude purchase of dairy cattle from the scheme of inducements provided in Article 8 of the Council Directive of 17 April 1972 on modernizing farmholdings.¹

1115. The Commission is still convinced that the problem of low farming incomes must be solved by effective measures in structure policy and by specific action to prop incomes in the least favoured regions. The Commission has therefore put forward a draft proposed Directive on hill farming and farming other underfavoured regions.²

The measures prescribed by this Directive will help to develop beef and veal output in these areas. To encourage the switching of output to beef and veal as part of the modernization drive, the Commission reiterated its Proposal on the switching premium covered in Article 10 of the Directive of 17 April 1972.

1116. Considering the serious situation on the dairy produce market, the Commission feels that all of the Proposals should be adopted by the Council as soon as possible and by the latest at the same time as the joint prices.

1117. Considering the special problems in some other sectors, the Commission feels it is the right time to propose further increases in the target price of rye, the guide price of table wine type R II, the base price of slaughtered pork and in the aid for flax production.

Monetary Considerations

1118. In addition to the above assessments, the Commission considers that decisions to be taken over prices should reckon with the need to restore as far as possible the single nature of the common agricultural market now fragmented by monetary developments. The Council Decision taken over monetary affairs on 11 March 1973 can form a favourable starting point for gaining this objective. The Commission considers that for the computations to be made under the common agricultural policy it would be convenient to set conversion rates which allow for the true economic position of Community currencies. In this way, an initial step would be taken towards regaining the singleness of the common agricultural market. In some cases application of these conversion rates would mean a fall in the joint agricultural prices expressed in national currency. In other cases prices would rise. Special measures are needed to avert the serious economic effects which might result. Again on 23 March the Commission also proposed some measures to be taken in the agricultural sector in the wake of monetary developments.³ These Proposals prescribe that in setting levies and refunds the recording of world market prices would be made by converting the world market data expressed in dollars or other third country currencies not on the basis of their theoretical parity but on the basis of the average gap found in relation to each of the Member States' currencies floating together.

1119. On the basis of monetary considerations, the Commission feels that the overall price increase (see point 1105) should come out at 2.76% which matches the gap between the

¹ O J L 96 of 23.4.1972.

² Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2228.

³ Point 2225.

middle rates set for the Benelux countries and their official parities. The price increase should be utilized to restore the single market in a large part of the Community (Benelux, Denmark, France) by removing the impact of the 2.76% of monetary compensation due to the gaps between the official parities and the recorded values of currencies.

In the Benelux countries the result would be the non-application in national currency of the 2.76% increase in joint prices expressed in u.a. In France and Denmark, prices expressed in national currency would go up by 2.76%. But for Germany the approach chosen would help to avoid the gap between joint prices expressed in national currency widening too much in relation to the other Member States. Thus for Germany, the gap would be reduced by 4.85% (7.61 less 2.76) compared with joint prices. For the Benelux countries and Germany the Proposals submitted are justified by the fact that the middle rates set at end 1971 have already made themselves felt on the general economy of Member States.

Regarding Italy, progress towards restoring the singleness of the common agricultural market could be made by not counterbalancing completely the monetary gap noted. Such a decision could emerge in a growth of 6.76% (4% plus 2.76%)¹ in joint prices expressed in national currency for products covered by the application of compensatory amounts. Again in Italy an excessive widening of the gap between joint prices in national currencies and those applied in the other States could be avoided.

For the United Kingdom and Ireland, the increases in national currency prices to be made to link up with the joint prices would be staggered over several phases, the first one coming in with the second alignment of prices. The Commission reiterated here that in these countries the devaluation of 10% had already

been counted when the prices applying from 1 February 1973 were set.

1120. Thus, if the middle rates set for all of the products now covered by compensatory amounts were held, those amounts could be cut out in trade between 5 countries (Benelux, Denmark, France). At the same time, the monetary compensatory amounts applied in trade with Germany could remain set. For as long as the Italian, Irish and British currencies go on floating the applicable compensatory amounts will, if need be, have to be adjusted. The Commission has sent in appropriate Proposals to the Council.²

1121. The Commission considers that the solutions recommended above are but the first step towards restoring the singleness of the common agricultural market and that the compensatory amounts should be abolished as soon as possible. In any case, any compensatory amount, be it monetary or 'Accession', is to be abolished by 1 January 1978 at the latest.

1122. In assembling these Proposals for the 1973/74 campaign the Commission found that the agricultural prices policy is being increasingly conditioned by limits set through the demands of general economic policy and that the agricultural prices policy while helping to raise the general level of farm incomes cannot solve all the difficulties stemming from disparities within the agricultural sector itself. The Commission is therefore telling the Council that it intends to scrutinize the problems involved and investigate the timeliness of bringing in further measures to help in equitably raising farm incomes without deteriorating the market situation.

¹ The 2.76% increase would come in only for hard wheat, rice and olive oil.

² Point 2225.

The Commission is asking the Council to schedule a debate for October on the guidelines so that from studies which the Commission intends to actively pursue and enlightened by the Council's considerations, the Commission will be able to allow for all factors when preparing overall Proposals for the next agricultural campaign which it will put before the Council at the right time.

1123. The Proposals summarized in the tables imply the following increases in joint prices compared with those set for 1972/73 campaign:

Hard wheat (minimum price guaranteed to producer), rice, olive oil: 0.

Hard wheat (target price), soft wheat, barley, maize, sugar, oil seeds, wine (except type R II), raw tobacco (most varieties), fruit and vegetables: 2.76%.

Rye: 6.8%

Wine, type R II: 4.8%

Milk: 2.8% from 1.5.1973 and 2.0% from 16.9.1973

Mature Cattle: 10.8%

Calves: 5.8%

Pigmeat: 6.8%.

Review by the Council and the Economic and Social Committee

1124. The Council had an initial general discussion on the Commission Proposals for settling prices over the 1973/74 campaign of certain farm products and on some related measures as well as on the proposed Regulation concerning measures to be taken in agriculture following monetary developments. The Coun-

cil also had an initial discussion on the basic problems raised by the proposed Directive on hill farming and agriculture in certain other underfavoured zones.¹

1125. On 29 March 1973 the Economic and Social Committee adopted an Opinion on the Commission Proposals over 1973/74 farm prices and related measures.² The Committee held that the Proposals in question were unacceptable unless they were matched, in some regions, by prompt compensatory action to offset their negative effects on the most underfavoured producer and consumer groups and agricultural workers.

Regulations adopted concerning the Prices Policy

1126. The Commission led by monetary developments to defer by one month the 1973/74 price Proposals, proposed to the Council that the 1972/73 campaign for milk and beef and veal be extended. The Council accepted this Proposal and on 27 March³ adopted two Regulations for extending the 1972/73 marketing year up to 30 April 1973 for milk and up to 29 April 1973 for beef and veal. Against this background and the persistent shortage in the Community on the beef and veal market, the Council on 27 March 1973³ decided to extend up to 29 April 1973 the waiving of import charges and compensatory amounts in the beef and veal sector.⁴

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2228.

² Point 2469.

³ OJ L 85 of 31.3.1973 and L 80 of 28.3.1973.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2219.

Proposed Prices and Amounts

| Product | Price or amount | Set Amounts 1972-1973 | Proposals 1973-1974 | Application period for Proposed Prices |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | u.a./tonne | | |
| Hard Wheat | Target price | 132.60 | 136.26 | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 |
| | Single intervention price (surplus zone) | 116.93 | — ¹ | |
| | Minimum guaranteed price to producer (wholesale trade level) | 153.80 | 153.80 | |
| Soft Wheat | Target price | 113.80 | 116.94 | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 |
| | Base intervention price | 104.75 | 107.64 | |
| Barley | Target price | 104.25 | 107.13 | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 |
| | Base intervention price | 95.70 | 98.34 | |
| Rye | Target price | 105.45 | 112.58 | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 |
| | Single intervention price (surplus zone) | 97.45 ² | — ^{1 2} | |
| Maize | Target price | 101.75 | 104.56 | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 |
| | Single intervention price (surplus zone) | 83.25 | — ¹ | |
| Rice | Target price for husked rice | 211.50 | 211.50 | 1. 9.73- 31. 8.74 |
| | Intervention price for paddy rice | 130.00 | 130.00 | |
| Sugar | Minimum beet price | 17.68 | 18.17 | 1. 7.73- 30. 6.74 |
| | Semi-fat beet price | 10.40 | — ¹ | |
| | Target price of white sugar | 245.50 | 252.30 | |
| | White sugar intervention price | 233.40 | 239.80 | |
| Olive Oil | Target price to production | 1 247.00 | 1 247.00 | 1.11.73- 31.10.74 |
| | Market target price | 796.00 | — ¹ | |
| | Intervention price | 723.50 | — ¹ | |
| Oilseeds | Target price | | | 1. 7.73- 30. 6.74 1. 9.73- 31. 8.74 1. 7.73- 30. 6.74 1. 9.73- 31. 8.74 |
| | . Colza and rape seeds | 208.50 | 214.30 | |
| | . Sunflower seeds | 210.50 | 216.30 | |
| | Basic intervention price | | | |
| . Colza and rape seeds | 202.50 | 208.10 | | |
| . Sunflower seeds | 204.50 | 210.10 | | |

| Product | Price or amount | Set Amounts 1972-1973 | Proposals 1973-1974 | | Application period for Proposed Prices | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| | | u.a./tonne | | | | |
| Cotton Seeds | Lump sum aid (per hectare) | 80.00 | 80.00 | | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 | |
| Flax and Hemp | Lump sum aid (per hectare) | | | | 1. 8.73- 31. 7.74 | |
| | . Flax | 135.00 | 160.00 ⁴ | | | |
| | . Hemp | 115.00 | 115.00 | | | |
| Seeds | Aid (per 100 kg) | | 8 | | 1. 7.73- 30. 6.74 | |
| | . Textile flax | — | 8-31 | | | |
| | . Graminaceous | 8-30 | 5-21 | | | |
| | . Vegetable | 5-20 | | | | |
| Table Wines | Guide Price | | | | 16.12.73- 15.12.74 | |
| | | Type R I | 1.45 | 1.49 | | |
| | | Type R II | 1.34 | 1.40 | | |
| | | Type R III | 22.60 | 23.22 | | |
| | | Type A I | 1.36 | 1.40 | | |
| | | Type A II | 30.10 | 30.93 | | |
| Type A III | 34.40 | 35.35 | | | | |
| Raw Tobacco | Target price | | 6 | | | |
| | Intervention price | | | | | |
| Fruit and Vegetables ⁵ | Base price | | 7 | | 8 | |
| | Purchase price | | | | | |
| Milk ⁹ | Milk target price | 117.70 | (a) 120.90 | (b) 123.30 | (a) | |
| | Intervention prices | | | | 1. 5.73- | |
| | . butter | 1 860.00 | 1 660.00 ¹⁰ | 1 660.00 ¹⁰ | 15. 9.73 | |
| | . skim milk powder | 540.00 | 671.00 | 697.50 | (b) | |
| | . cheese | | | | 16. 9.73- | |
| | - Grana-Padano 30-60 days | 1 456.50 | 1 552.50 | 1 587.00 | 31. 3.74 | |
| | - Grana-Padano 6 months | 1 710.00 | 1 811.50 | 1 848.00 | | |
| | - Parmigiano-Reggiano 6 months | 1 854.00 | 1 955.50 | 1 992.00 | | |
| | Direct aid for skim milk | | | | | |
| | . Powder | 176.20 | 241.70 | 255.00 | | |
| . Liquid | 16.50 | 22.00 | 23.20 | | | |
| Beef and Veal ⁹ | Guide price for mature cattle (live weight) | 780.00 | 864.00 ¹¹ | | 30. 4.73- 31. 3.74 | |
| | Guide price for calves (live weight) | 965.00 | 1 020.00 ¹¹ | | | |

| Product | Price or amount | Set Amounts 1972-1973 | Proposals 1973-1974 | Application period for Proposed Prices |
|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | u.a./tonne | | |
| Pigmeat | Base price (slaughtered pork) | 825.00 | 880.00 | 1. 11.73- 31.10.74 |
| Silk worms | Aid per box of silkworm eggs. | 30 | 30 | 1. 4.73- 31. 3.74 |

¹ To be set later.

² Base: 1972-1973 = Duisburg, 1973-1974 = Fallersleben.

³ Price by proof per hectolitre or by hectolitre, according to type.

⁴ For the U.K.: 80 u.a. per hectare.

For Denmark: 135 u.a. per hectare.

⁵ Cauliflowers, tomatoes, sweet oranges, mandarins, lemons, dessert grapes, apples (other than cider varieties), pears (other than perry varieties), peaches (other than brugnonns and nectarines).

⁶ See proposed Regulations.

⁷ See proposed Regulation.

⁸ Various periods according to product:

Cauliflowers: 1 May 1973 - 30 April 1974;

Tomatoes: 1 June 1973 - 30 November 1973;

Peaches: 1 June 1973 - 30 September 1973;

Lemons: 1 June 1973 - 31 May 1974;

Pears: 1 July 1973 - 30 April 1974;

Dessert grapes: 1 August 1973 - 31 October 1973;

Apples: 1 August 1973 - 31 May 1974;

Mandarines: 16 November 1973 - 28 February 1974;

Sweet oranges: 1 December 1973 - 30 April 1974.

⁹ For the 1972-1973 campaign the Council has raised the prices in two stages, from the start of the campaign up to 14 September 1972 and from 15 September 1972 to the end of the campaign. Prices shown are those flow running.

¹⁰ For the U.K.: 910.50 u.a. per tonne.

For Ireland: 1 569.20 u.a. per tonne.

¹¹ For the U.K. and Ireland:

mature cattle: 702.00 u.a. per tonne.

calves: 830.00 u.a. per tonne.

2. The social situation of the Community in 1972*

Social Situation 1972

Employment

1201. The overall total of unemployed in the Community has tended to grow; rising by the Commission's estimate from 1.4 million to 1.6 million in 1972. It is also thought that the overall level of employment has dropped slightly over last year but that the number of wage earners has slightly increased mainly in the services sector.

The number of school-leavers looking for a job has tended to rise in most of the Member States, but for varying reasons. The overall outlook for 1973 leads one to anticipate a swifter development of economic activity and a probable fresh growth in total employment throughout most Member States. An average rate of growth of 0.5% is expected.

The key problem over employment is still the structural upheaval emerging from dual existence of non-fulfilled supply and demand. The number of jobs vacant is still high despite a slightly falling trend and was put in 1972 at 750 000. A useful technical aid in settling this problem will be to extend the European scheme of broadcasting details of jobs offered and required (SEDOC) to the enlarged Community.

Under a draft Regulation now before the Council available data on foreign labour will be made more extensive and more easily usable through the compiling of comparable statistics.

The Social Fund

1202. The new Social Fund can henceforth tackle the urgent employment problems more swiftly and directly. Resources to be earmarked for it over 1973 will enable it to assist nearly 70 000 workers. The Council also decided on a Commission Proposal, to authorize the Fund to intervene in two new areas; namely,

for agricultural workers wishing to leave the land and textile sector workers. Proposed interventions by the Fund in favour of the clothing industry and two forms of additional aid (assured income for six months after training for agricultural workers and advisory aid on semi-rural milieux for the textile sector) have been postponed pending further information.

The Free Movement of Workers

1203. The non-national labour needs in the Community countries have been estimated at 450 000 units in 1972 which shows a sharp drop compared with the number of non-national workers, more than 705 000 hired in 1971. But from existing data it is not possible to assess how far non-national labour needs in 1972 have been met by the available Community labour.

Residence in the welcoming country must as far as possible be exploited for social promotion of these workers through suitable training and vocational development projects. Noting the fact that the same considerations also apply to ex-Community movement, the Commission thinks that Member States migratory policies should be coordinated at Community level.

Vocational Training

1204. Progress was made in 1972 in the gradual implementation of a common vocational policy. In July 1971 the Council had adopted general guidelines for assembling a new joint activity programme. The Commission recently laid before the Council a draft

* Summary of the Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community over 1972 (attached to the Sixth General Report).

of 'initial measures for mounting a common policy on vocational training'.

These early steps will in the main cover practical moves such as exchange of information on the objectives of Member States training policies and reforms now underway in this area as well as on financing and costs of vocational training. Cooperation will also set up in the field of training techniques and research, and proposals will be made for harmonizing training standards and for mutual recognition of diplomas.

Industrial Relations

1205. In November 1972 the Commission had discussions with employers' and workers' representatives over the consequences of the outcome of the Paris Summit for the Community social policy and in particular over the lines of a closer association between both sides of industry in the Community's economic and social decisions.

The increasing number of multinational companies and international concentrations and mergers is still of major concern to the workers organizations. A Conference called in October 1972 by the CESL, gathering together union representatives from thirteen countries held that the EEC had a key role to play in ensuring the workers rights to information, consultation and participation when the multinational firm in question had its headquarters in an EEC Member State.

Through its Proposals on a statute for the European joint stock company and on harmonizing company law, which envisage worker participation on supervisory boards, the Commission feels it has set up a judicial framework which by and large meets the union demands for better information, consultation and participation over running and administering joint stock companies. Its proposed Directive on

harmonizing legal, regulatory, and administrative provisions for collective lay-offs and its work concerning the social impact of mergers must also be considered against this background.

Wages and Asset or Wealth Accumulation

1206. The sharpening inflationary trends have dominated the problems of wage policy in 1972. It should be noted that Member States' Governments in their quest for ways to abate this inflationary pressure have not fallen back on direct controls or the hard and fast freezing of wages and prices. It is now quite clear that the best method, as the Commission had advocated in several Reports, was combined action between the public authorities, trade unionists, employers and consumers.

Regarding the policy of asset formation some progress was made in three countries (Germany, France and the Netherlands) where a few projects have been prepared unifying the overall guidelines which the Commission proposes to lay before the Council with the aim of fostering asset formation among workers. In the other three countries, however, there is apparently nothing to show that any special attention has been paid to these questions in 1972 either on the part of the public authorities or of both sides of industry.

Housing

1207. Regarding housing policy there were no spectacular developments to be seen in the Member States over 1972. Previously assembled multi-annual programmes were pushed further. There was, however, a rise in housing output in Germany, France and the Netherlands over 1971 and 1972. The 1971 figure for the Six comes out at 1 573 300 dwellings or 97 800 more than 1970. One has to go back to 1964 and 1965 to find an output of more than 1.5 million dwellings in the Community.

It is disturbing to see that the building site market and construction costs are on the rise. To cope with the rising building prices, some Governments took steps to rationalize production methods but they are not yielding adequate results.

Family Questions

1208. Over 1972 in all Member States family living standards have been affected by rising prices, especially in countries where family allowances are not linked to the cost-of-living index. In France the policy on family charges has taken a new turn and in Germany is moving towards a complete revision, but no changes have occurred in the other EEC countries.

Concerning family law common trends are to be seen in the Member States. As France was radically changing her filiation system, allowing the legitimization of children born through adultery, Italy was witnessing a major reform of family law in the same direction and Germany was working out new measures. In four countries reform of the abortion laws are being discussed.

Social Services

1209. The size of the problems set by the presence of several million foreign workers is still a source of worry, aggravated by the recent trend among these workers to prolong their residence abroad and send for their families which has triggered off new needs (family dwellings, social facilities, etc.).

There have been some positive moves such as the increase in credit facilities and the favourable effect on public opinion of events like the

'Immigrant Week' in Belgium and the 'Foreign Worker Days' in Germany. But a multitude of migrant workers are still living in very harsh conditions and their situation is sometimes worsened by outbreaks of social tension between the local and foreign population.

Social Security

1210. The application scope of social security, initially confined to the wage earning category, has been steadily extended to other social groups, although there are still some gaps. The Commission in 1972, therefore, laid a paper before the Council tabulating the categories of people protected against the various risks in each Member State. Again over 1972, Germany brought in sickness insurance for farmers and Italy extended her social security scheme to cover domestic servants.

The growth of the credit needed to swell the number of beneficiaries and raise the level of benefits in the various schemes has increasingly meant the use of a means stipulation and this trend makes one wonder whether we are witnessing a change in the concept of social security itself.

Safety, Industrial Medicine and Hygiene

1211. In this field, many measures were brought in by Member States in 1972. But although Community and national action is imperative, the most effective measures for safety are those applied on the job and here the shifting of the responsibility for accident prevention which has just occurred in Italy must be regarded as a step forward. Employers and workers organizations have a key part to play in persuading workers not to regard safety rules as a State imposed burden.

Health and Environment Protection

1212. A second Communication on the Community environment policy was submitted to the Council. This paper carried a pollution and nuisance reduction plan and a programme for protecting the natural environment. The Commission's Proposal for a methodological approach on the public health and environmental hygiene front is a point of departure towards joint health standards and setting objectives for the quality of the environment.

New Members

1213. The Report, under the same headings as for the Six, also contains a concise 44-page summary of the development of the social situation in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark over 1972.

Social Indicators

1214. In its Appendices the Report also includes a 24-page set of social indicators which give an overall outline of social development in the enlarged Community and help in making broad comparisons between Member States through statistics on population, education, industrial relations, working conditions, wages, consumption, housing, social security and social expenditure since 1958. Mr Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, when presenting the Report to the European Parliament, said that putting these indicators into the Report was a major innovation and he hoped that when finalized this system would more effectively meet the need for comparable statistical data on the social sector.

Statistical Appendix

The new Social Fund: Applications for Aid under Article 5 (March 1973)

| | No. Applications | No. Beneficiaries (¹) | Total Cost (u.a.) (²) | Aid (1972) asked from Fund (u.a.) |
|--------------|---------------------|--|--|---|
| Germany (FR) | 12 | — | 182 775 454 | 89 885 328 |
| Belgium | 2 | — | 13 765 198 | 6 882 599 |
| France | 4 | 19 700 | 42 988 958 | 21 494 479 |
| Italy | 22 | 51 030 | 84 760 160 | 38 307 030 |
| Netherlands | 3 | 3 000 | 3 987 071 | 1 921 933 |
| Luxembourg | 2 | 650 | 46 000 | 23 000 |

Estimates.

The unit of account is equal to the value of the dollar before the 1971 devaluation.

After conferring with the Social Fund Committee the Commission approved 15 applications and issued credits for a total of 50 062 289 u.a. including 37 million u.a. for regions under-

developed or whose industries are declining, 6.5 million u.a. for training skilled labour and 6.5 million u.a. for handicapped workers. The other applications are being vetted.

The Former Social Fund: Aid Issued in 1972

| | Re-education | Re-installation | Total (u.a.) |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Germany | 21 312 512 | 634 681 | 21 947 193 |
| Belgium | 1 478 606 | 106 | 1 478 712 |
| France | 6 368 633 | 243 239 | 6 611 872 |
| Italy | 23 238 541 | — | 23 238 541 |
| Luxembourg | 2 741 | — | 2 741 |
| Netherlands | 1 520 999 | 5 599 | 1 526 598 |
| EEC | 53 922 032 | 883 625 | 54 805 657 |

Status Report on the Seven Financial Aid Programmes for Housing Construction and the Three Experimental Programmes for ECSC Workers (up to 31 December 1973)

| | No. of Dwellings Financed | Including | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | | To be built | Under Construction | Completed |
| Germany | 81 595 | 2 877 | 2 642 | 76 076 |
| Belgium | 7 029 | — | 326 | 6 703 |
| France | 22 855 | 896 | 1 798 | 20 161 |
| Italy | 6 164 | 344 | 754 | 5 066 |
| Luxembourg | 836 | 8 | 8 | 820 |
| Netherlands | 4 105 | 369 | 107 | 3 629 |
| EEC | 122 584 | 4 494 | 5 635 | 112 455 |

The Social Fund budget for 1973 amounts to 240 million u.a. including 60 million u.a. for interventions under the former Fund. Article 4 prescribes the issue of 70 million u.a. of aid and Article 5, 110 million u.a. Besides this 750 000 u.a. have been kept in reserve for research and pilot study projects.

Through Article 4, the Social Fund may intervene when the employment situation is compromised or threatened through individual measures put through by the Council under Community policies. Through Article 5 the Social Fund may intervene to rectify a critical employment situation in retarded or declining regions or in industries particularly feeling the impact of technical progress.

Selected Statistics (1971)

| Country | Population (millions) | % Active Population Compared with total | % Unemployed compared to active population | % Female labour in 1970 ¹ | Migrant Workers (thousands) | Working days lost per 1 000 Workers | Dwellings Completed per 1 000 persons |
|------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Belgium | 9.7 | 41.2 | 2.0 | 29.1 | 209 | 406 | 4.4 |
| Germany | 61.3 | 43.2 | 0.7 | 34.0 | 2 128 | 203 | 9.1 |
| France | 51.3 | 41.1 | 2.2 | 37.0 | 1 161 | 280 | 9.3 |
| Italy | 53.9 | 36.4 | 3.2 | 26.3 | 40 | 998 | 6.7 |
| Luxembourg | 0.34 | 41.7 | 0.0 | 26.6 | 38 | — | 4.0 |
| Netherlands | 13.2 | 35.2 | 1.5 | — | 116 | 25 | 10.4 |
| Total of the Six | 189.6 | 39.9 | 1.8 | 31.9 | 3 690 | 400 | 8.3 |
| United Kingdom | 55.7 | 45.1 | 2.9 | 36.9 | — | 595 | 6.5 |
| Ireland | 3.0 | 38.0 | 6.0 | — | — | 369 | 5.2 |
| Denmark | 4.9 | 47.7 | 1.2 | 39.4 | — | 11 | 10.0 |
| Total | 243.2 | 41.2 | 2.1 | — | — | 434 | 8.2 |

¹ Figures for original and new Members are not comparable.

3. Further monetary developments

The March 1973 International Monetary Crisis

1301. In February after the monetary developments marking the first half of the month,¹ the dollar showed a persistent depreciatory trend. On 1 March 1973 the American currency reached its floor rate on the European exchange markets. The Bundesbank in particular was obliged to acquire 2.8 thousand million dollars on that day. By 2 March all the exchange markets were closed down and had to remain so until 19 March.

1302. On 4 March 1973 the Commission sent the Council the following Communication:

Communication from the Commission to the Council on the implementation of a Community Exchange System:

In presenting its Proposal, the Commission wishes to reaffirm the Community's position in favour of an international monetary system based on fixed but adjustable parities and the convertibility of currencies and including an efficient adjustment process.

It would appear that such a system must in any case be applied between all Community countries so that the Community's internal cohesion is maintained, thus helping to restore a lasting international monetary order.

The Community is ready to agree to terms with the non-Member countries wishing to be associated with this system.

Organization of Exchange Relationships

To ensure that speculative movements originating outside do not affect exchange relationships between the Community countries and do not disturb their economic relations, the development of which is essential to their well-being, a system must be set up that provides for the

maintenance of the "Community band" of 2.25% and for the suspension of interventions to keep the exchange rate of the United States dollar within pre-determined limits.

Implementation of the proposed system implies that fixed exchange rate relationships must be re-established between the currencies of all Community countries.

Exchange Control

In the present circumstances the proposed system must be protected against disruptive movements of capital.

To this end, the application of the Directive of 21 March 1972 must be reinforced and supplementary instruments of control must be made available to the Member States whose currency is affected by speculation on appreciation. This applies in particular to Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Financing

Rules must be laid down for financing of losses of reserves incurred under the proposed system.

As in the present circumstances the conditions provided for in the Agreement on short-term monetary support cannot be applied without major changes, and the European Fund has not yet been set up, we must fall back on the Agreement between Central Banks of 10 April 1972. To this end it is necessary to amend the rules currently applying to the duration and costs of available credits.

Transactions concluded in this framework will be charged to the European Fund.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, points 1301 to 1308.

1303. The EEC Council met on 4 March 1973 with Mr De Clercq, the Belgian Finance Minister, in the Chair. After the debates the Council issued the following Communiqué:

Council Statement of 4 March

'The Council has scrutinized the situation which has led to the closure of exchange markets in Europe. It has found that the crisis was not set off by the current exchange relationships between the main currencies but was caused by a distrust born of speculation.

The Council has studied the various ways to prevent the running of the Community being upset by erratic capital flow and to advance the construction of the Economic and Monetary Union. It is agreed that the Commission Proposals and other suggestions put forward in this context during the debate make a sound basis for defining a joint attitude. The Council has assigned the Monetary Committee to make a prompt and thorough review of all this material.

At the same time owing to the international nature of the crisis, the Council considers that during next week concertation should be organized between the Community and the chief States concerned. The Council Chairmen will make the necessary contacts.

The Council will meet on 8 March to establish on the basis of Commission Proposals the Community's position towards this international concertation. It will meet again on 11 March 1973.

Meanwhile, the official quotations remain in abeyance.'

Before departing, the Ministers had listened to Mr Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, Director General of the IMF, who highlighted the fact that

special care must be taken over the worldwide implications of a Community decision.

1304. During its session of 8 March 1973, the Council again reviewed the monetary situation and agreed the *joint position* which the Chairman-in-Office will put forward on behalf of the Community for the international concertation organized in Paris for 9 March 1973. In this statement¹ the Community would propose a threefold scheme of consideration to cover interventions on the exchange markets, measures for a closer control of internal and international liquidity and the monitoring of capital flow.

1305. The concertation of 9 March 1973 took place within the 'Group of Ten'² joined by representatives from Denmark, Ireland, Luxembourg, Switzerland, as well as the Commission, the International Settlement Bank (BRI), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the OECD and the 'Committee of Twenty.' After the meeting, during which the Chairman-in-Office of the Community explained the joint position of the Nine, the enlarged Group of Ten published a Communiqué in which it found that the monetary crisis could be put down to speculation currents and that the parity and central rates grid yielded from the monetary alignment of 14 February 1973 met the economic needs and on the monetary front would make a sound contribution towards a better balance of international payments. In the words of the Communiqué, the members of the Committee unanimously declared 'their resolve to defend together an orderly system of exchange relationships' and decided to meet again on

¹ Point 1312.

² The 'Group of Ten' is made up of the countries party to General Loan Agreements; namely: West Germany, Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

16 March 1973 to draw conclusions from some technical studies to be made in the meantime and then to take the decisions which the studies called for in order to let the EEC countries and Sweden to reopen their exchange markets on 19 March 1973. Lastly, the enlarged Group of Ten stressed 'the urgent need for an effective reform of the international monetary system.'

1306. On 11 March 1973 the *Commission* sent the Council a Communication following up that of 4 March 1973 concerning the activation of a Community exchange system. Acknowledging the resolve expressed by those attending the meeting of the enlarged Group of Ten on 9 March in Paris to ensure an orderly system of exchange relationships and to help towards an effective reform of the international monetary system, the Commission concluded that pending this reform the Community's partners, in particular the USA, were ready to cooperate to a certain extent in taking the necessary action to resist the 'destabilizing' speculation currents. For the Community the Commission held that whatever the results gained in this international concertation Community action was imperative and that the solution proposed in its Communication of 4 March to the Council as further explained in that of 11 March was still the most satisfactory both for preserving the internal cohesion of the Community and for helping international cooperation.

Recalling that the solution mentioned meant keeping the 2.25% Community band and suspending interventions to respect the present fluctuation margin of the dollar exchange rates, the Commission expressed the Opinion that the Community system of exchange relationships should be based on a sizable and permanent monetary support to meet the speculation currents which could threaten one or more Member countries and on one of the Community intervention mechanisms. The Commission, feeling that a start should be made towards

pooling reserves, proposed to endow the European Monetary Cooperation Fund (if possible as soon as it is formed early in April or at latest by 1 July 1973) with resources up to 10 thousand million units of account and if need be each Member country could get from the Fund, on terms to be defined, credit in Community currency against remittance of her own currency. The Commission also proposed to set up a joint mechanism so as to allow the Fund to intervene on the exchange markets.

1307. The *Council* of the Communities met again on 11 and 12 March 1973 with Mr De Clercq, the Belgian Finance Minister, in the Chair. After the proceedings the following Communiqué was issued:

Council Statement of 12 March

'The Council met on 11 and 12 March 1973 to review measures to be taken to deal with the international monetary crisis and with special reference to the meeting of the enlarged Group of Ten, held in Paris on 9 March 1973.

The Council officially records the following decisions:

- (i) to keep the maximum spot variance between the DM, the Danish crown, the florin, the Belgian franc, the Luxembourg franc and the French franc at 2.25%. For Member States keeping a two-tier system of exchange this commitment applies only to the regulated market;*
- (ii) to release the Central Banks from having to intervene in the fluctuation margins of the US dollar;*
- (iii) to apply more strictly the Directive of 21 March 1972 and set up whatever additional monitoring devices may be necessary so as to shelter the system from disruptive capital movements.*

The British, Irish and Italian members said that their Governments intended to back as soon as possible the decision to keep the Community fluctuation margins.

Therefore when the Commission submits within the scheduled deadline, that is by 30 June 1973, its Report on the development of short-term monetary support and the terms for progressive pooling of reserves it will at the same time put forward the suggestions it finds appropriate.

The Council agreed that meanwhile a close and perpetual concertation over monetary matters will be kept up between the competent Member States authorities.

The representative of the West German Government indicated his Government's intention of making a limited adjustment to the central rate of the DM before the exchange markets opened again so as to help towards an orderly development of exchange relationships.

The technical details involved in the above-mentioned questions will be finalized shortly, considering the forthcoming meeting of the enlarged Group of Ten to be held in Paris on 16 March, and in order to become applicable for 19 March 1973 when the exchange markets are scheduled to reopen.

On 12 March the Commission spokesman made the following statement on the Council's Communiqué:

'The Commission considers that the arrangements made by the Council, and which will prevent a scattered float, will ward off the dangers of speculation. But the Commission regrets that the Council could not decide on measures in which all Members of the Community could share as the Council itself had suggested. The Community must still make for the Economic and Monetary Union and therefore the Nine must promptly get together again in a Community exchange system as

agreed a year ago. This is why the Commission puts great value on the brief given to it to put forward appropriate proposals. It also sets great store by the proposals it is to make on the pooling of exchange reserves and on short-term support.'

On 14 March 1973, Norway and Sweden took the necessary steps to associate themselves with the joint floating system of the six Community currencies. By means of swap agreements the two countries are now sharing in the Community scheme.

1308. On 16 March the enlarged Group of Ten met again in Paris as agreed. After noting the Council's Decisions of 11 and 12 March, the Committee members reaffirmed their resolve to ensure between them an orderly System of exchange rates. They therefore agreed the basis of pragmatic action in the near future over the exchange markets and also approved some studies to be completed as promptly as possible.¹

1309. When the exchange markets were reopened on 19 March 1973 the DM was revalued by 3% and a joint float in relation to the exterior was started by the German, French, Danish and Benelux currencies. France and Belgium however, retained the two-tier exchange market. The commercial Belgian and French franc floated in solidarity with the DM, the Dutch florin and the Danish crown whereas the financial Belgian and French franc were already floating. The United Kingdom, Ireland and Italy were floating independently with Italy also keeping to its two-tier structure. In the week following the reopening of the exchange markets, the dollar's position was firm especially in relation to the DM.

¹ Point 1313.

In some Member States the reopening of the exchange markets saw the introduction of new curbs on capital movements: in Belgium and the Netherlands, negative interests; in France limits on the scope for using financial francs were brought in together with the non-remuneration of non-resident deposits.

Reform of the International Monetary System

1310. The Community Finance Ministers met informally on 23 and 25 March 1973 in Brussels and Washington with Mr De Clercq, the Belgian Finance Minister, in the Chair. At these meetings they worked out a joint position on some aspects of reform of the international monetary system, which is currently being studied by the Committee of Twenty.¹

1311. The joint Community position was put to the Committee of Twenty by Mr De Clercq at the Committee meeting of 26 and 27 March 1973 in Washington. During the session the members reaffirmed the need for a world monetary order based on cooperation and consultation within a strengthened IMF which will boost the growth of world trade and employment as well as economic development and will support the efforts of the national monetary authorities throughout the world to beat inflation. The Committee also discussed the tenor of international monetary reform in the light of recent events on the exchange markets and the reactions by the various countries. It then debated in detail some problems involved in setting up a recast international monetary system.²

Documentary Appendix

*Meeting of the 'Committee of Ten':
Report by Chairman-in-Office of the Council
(9 March 1973)*

1312. 'I will come straight to the key point of today's meeting, namely concerted action on an international scale to restore order on the exchange market.

In the view of the EEC the crisis which we are now experiencing is mainly due to speculation factors against which we must marshal an effective defence.

This defence must above all be aimed at preserving international order based on regular relationships between the exchange rates. It should also allow us to carry on calmly with the necessary reform of the international monetary system. To this end all the Member States of the IMF and in particular the countries gathered round this table must contribute in proportion to their capacity to the success of this venture.

To attain this objective the Community proposes to consider carefully the measures we could take jointly. If an agreement was reached to affirm the resolve to cooperate over stabilizing the exchange rates and buttressing currencies attacked by speculation then our thoughts should bear on three basic planes. The first concerns interventions on the exchange markets. From our angle the United States Government like that of the other countries

¹ This Committee formed last Summer as part of the IMF is made up from representatives of the industrialized nations and the developing countries. It is assigned to compile a Report on reform of the international monetary system, which will be reviewed by the Annual General Meeting of the IMF scheduled for September 1973 in Nairobi (Kenya).

² Point 1314.

round this table would have to undertake to intervene in cash and in the appropriate way to prop the dollar rate. The financing of these interventions could be ensured for the near future by using reciprocal credit agreements or swaps. It could also envisage that the increases in official dollar balances, in relation to a standard to be set, be subject to an exchange guarantee.

The second plane covers measures to be taken for tighter monitoring of internal and international liquidity.

Over internal liquidities, the policy of interest rates should be harmonized through concertation between all the authorities concerned.

At present and in view of the pace of inflation in the countries concerned, this harmonization should be aimed at raising the rates in the USA and cutting them in Europe. Moreover, both sides should follow a sound policy for regulating internal liquidity.

Over international liquidity the Central Banks of the Member States of the IMF should undertake not to make any further direct or indirect placements on the Euromarkets. There are even grounds for steadily diminishing these placements and for the monetary institutions to undertake to stop diversifying the make-up of their exchange reserves.

Lastly, various measures could be contemplated for reducing surplus international liquidity such as:

- (i) issuing medium-term USA Government bonds on the Euro-dollar market,
- (ii) imposing at world level obligatory reserves on deposits in Euro-currencies.

And now I come to the third plane of thought. This covers the monitoring of capital movements. It is now a major application in most of the countries meeting here. The following suggestions might be examined:

- (i) the phase-out of the monitoring mechanism in the USA for long-term outgoings of capital could be slowed down;
- (ii) obligations to repatriate dividends and exceptional products of foreign subsidiaries of American companies could be tightened;
- (iii) transfers abroad of short-term capital not tied in with current transactions could be made subject to prior authorization;
- (iv) the repatriation of the product from exports could be required within a specified deadline.

There would also be grounds for contemplating raising the rates of the Interest Equalization Tax and adopting measures, especially over taxation, aimed at stimulating the entry of capital and in particular direct investments.

In this context it seems worthwhile, and this concerns all countries, to ask whether or not the time has come to require companies engaged in international activity, in the country of the parent company and the countries of the subsidiaries, to declare the amounts and structure of their treasuries and not to appreciably change either one or the other.'

Communiqué of the Group of Ten and the Community (16 March 1973)

1313. '(1) The Ministers and the Governors of the Central Banks from the ten countries sharing in the General Loan Agreements and from the EEC countries met in Paris on 16 March 1973, with Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the French Minister for Finance and Economy in the Chair. Mr Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, Director General of the IMF was at the meeting which was also attended by Mr Nello Celio, Head of the Federal Department of Finance of the Swiss

Confederation, Mr E. Stopper, Chairman of the Swiss National Bank, Mr W. Haferkamp, Vice-President of the EEC Commission, Mr E. van Lennep, General Secretary of the OECD, Mr René Larre, Director General of the International Settlement Bank and Mr Jeremy Morse, Chairman of the Deputies for the Committee of Twenty of the IMF.

(2) The Ministers and Governors heard a report by Mr Rinaldo Ossola, Chairman of their deputies, on the outcome of the technical study made by the latter following instructions given.

(3) The Ministers and the Governors noted the decisions of the EEC Members announced on Monday. Six EEC Members and some other European countries, notably Sweden, will keep to the 2.25% fluctuation margin between their currencies. The currencies of some countries such as Italy, the UK, Ireland, Canada and Japan will go on floating for the time being. But Italy, the UK and Ireland have expressed the intention of supporting as soon as possible the decision to keep the EEC exchange rates within the margin of 2.25% and to stay meanwhile in close consultation with their EEC partners.

(4) The Ministers and Governors have reaffirmed their resolve to jointly ensure an orderly system of exchange rates. To this end they agreed on the basis of pragmatic action over the exchange markets in the near future as well as on some additional studies to be completed as swiftly as possible.

(5) They agreed in principle that official intervention on the exchange markets made at suitable times could be of value in helping to maintain orderly conditions allowing also for the fact that it was desirable to encourage the

reflux of speculative capital currents. Every country said it was ready to intervene on its own market, on its own initiative, if need be, and to act flexibly allowing for market conditions, closely conferring with the authorities of the country whose money could be bought or sold. The countries deciding to keep a 2.25% fluctuation margin between their currencies announced their intention to coordinate application of these provisions between themselves. If need be, these interventions will be financed by using mutual credit facilities. To ensure that the resources needed for these transactions are fully adequate certain existing 'swapping' facilities will be amplified.

(6) Some countries have announced additional measures for curbing the entry of capital. The United States authorities have stressed that the progressive phase-out between now and end 1974 of controls on long-term capital outgoings must be matched by a clear improvement in their country's balance of payments situation. The measures which might be taken over the transitional period with an eye to removing these controls would take due note of exchange market conditions and developments in the balance of payments.

The American authorities are currently examining measures which might have to be taken to do away with barriers against capital movements towards the United States. The countries in a strong balance of payments position will scrutinize the scope for lifting or softening the curbs on exits of capital especially over the long term.

(7) The Ministers and Governors noted how vital it was to wipe out speculative capital movements. They affirmed their intention to gain a better understanding of the origin and nature of the heavy movements which have recently occurred. Concerning the Euro-

currency markets they agreed that measures to calm the instability of these markets would be actively studied, with due consideration given to the consequences for the longer-term function of the international monetary system. These studies will bear on limiting the placement of official reserves on those markets by the IMF member countries and on the possible need to set up obligatory reserves on those markets comparable to those now held on the national banking markets. On the first point the Ministers and Governors confirmed that their authorities would be prepared to take the initiative in following up the commitments by which they would steadily and carefully cut down their own placements. The United States will examine measures to boost a flow of Euro-currency funds towards the United States in relation to market conditions.

(8) Within the compass of discussions on monetary reform the Ministers and Governors agreed that there was good cause for an urgent and thorough review of proposals on the consolidation of official balances in currency. This issue is already on the agenda of the IMF Committee of Twenty.

(9) The Ministers and Governors reaffirmed their support for the basic principles governing international economic relations since the last war, which meant ensuring the maximum freedom of investment and international trade and the avoidance of competitive adjustments in exchange rates. They expressed their resolve to go on using the existing bodies for international economic cooperation in order to ensure that these principles were upheld in the interests of all their members.

(10) The Ministers and Governors expressed their unanimous conviction that international monetary stability hinged in the last analysis on the success of national drives to hold in-

flation. They resolved to pursue suitable policies wholeheartedly towards this end.

(11) The Ministers and Governors are convinced that all of these measures make up a consistent programme at international level to deal with speculative pressure which has recently emerged and to maintain an orderly international monetary set-up while the work towards its reform is being actively carried on.

They reiterated their concern to see this work done swiftly and soon brought to a successful conclusion through the offices of the IMF Committee of Twenty.

Communiqué issued after the Meeting of the Committee of Twenty (26 and 27 March 1973)

1314. (1) The IMF Board of Governors Committee for Reform of the International Monetary System and Related Issues (the Committee of Twenty) held its second meeting in Washington on March 26 and 27, 1973, under the chairmanship of Mr Ali Wardhana, the Indonesian Finance Minister. By courtesy of the Organization of American States the meeting was held in the Pan American Union Building. Mr Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, Director General of the International Monetary Fund, took part in the meeting which was also attended by Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President of the EEC, Mr René Larre, General Manager of the International Settlement Bank, Mr Olivier Long, Director General of GATT, Mr Manuel Perez-Guerrero, Secretary General of the UNCTAD, Sir Denis Rickett, Vice-President of the IBRD, and Mr Emile van Lennep, Secretary General of the OECD.

(2) The Committee received a report in which the Chairman of their Deputies, Mr Jeremy

Morse, summarized the Deputies' discussions to date on the adjustment process and exchange rate mechanism, reserve assets and convertibility and capital flows.

(3) The Members of the Committee reaffirmed the need for world-wide monetary order, based on cooperation and consultation within the framework of a strengthened IMF which will encourage growth of world trade and employment as well as economic development and will support the efforts of national monetary authorities throughout the world to beat inflation.

(4) The Members of the Committee exchanged views on the substance of international monetary reform in the light of recent developments in exchange markets and of reactions by the different countries to these developments. They instructed their Deputies to consider the implications of these events as their work continues. The Members of the Committee recognized that the various elements of reform are inter-linked. Their discussion of a recast system focussed on the following points:

(a) The adjustment process should work more effectively by using adequate methods to assure timely and effective balance of payments adjustment by both surplus and deficit countries assisted by closer international consultation within the Fund including the use of objective indicators. It was noted that the deputies are forming a technical group on indicators. The value of effective national policies for balance of payments adjustment was emphasized. Members of the Committee recognized that exchange rates must be a matter of international concern and consultation and that in the recast system the exchange rate system should still be based on stable but adjustable par values. It was also recognized that floating rates could provide a useful technique in specific situations. There was

also general agreement on the need for exchange market stability and on the importance of Fund surveillance of exchange rate policies.

(b) There should be better international management of global liquidity. The role of reserve currencies should be curbed and the SDR should become the main reserve tool of the recast system. The deputies were asked to study further the conditions for a return to general convertibility, including questions concerning consolidation of excess reserve currency balances and methods of settlement.

(c) An intensive study should be made of effective means to deal with the problem of disruptive capital flows by various measures, including controls, to influence them and by arrangements to finance and offset them. It was noted that the Deputies are forming a technical group on disruptive capital flows, in particular those associated with Euro-currency markets.

(d) There should be a marked trend against the use of trade controls for improving payment balances. Developing countries would, however, be sheltered wherever possible from trade and capital controls put on by other countries and their particular circumstances should be considered in assessing controls that they themselves felt it necessary to apply.

(5) The Members of the Committee recognized the concerns of developing countries under present conditions and their interest in a recast system. They affirmed the desirability, when the changes were made, of promoting economic development and the flow of real resources from developed to developing countries.

(6) The Committee approved their Deputies' future work programme. In directing the attention of the Deputies to those aspects of reform which have an important bearing on the current

4. Finalizing the 'Community Patent'

Monetary Developments

situation, they acknowledged that procedures were already established for coordinating the work of the Executive Board of the Fund with that of the Deputies. They noted that the Deputies plan to expand their meeting schedule and to intensify their work between meetings, and they instructed them to proceed urgently with the preparation of a draft outline of the reform, in which the major issues would be presented to the Committee for decision.

(7) The Committee will meet again at a date to be proposed by the Chairman and depending on the progress of the Deputies' work.

1401. The 'Community Patent'¹ team of experts having completed its work on 30 March 1973, a new European patent scheme embracing two international Conventions is now set up in draft form.

The first Convention which brought in a European system for issuing patents and which was worked out together by 21 European countries² will be submitted for final ratification and signature before the year end to a diplomatic Conference from 10 September to 6 October in Munich. The purpose of the Agreement is to rationalize and simplify the patent issuing procedure by disengaging the national patent offices and allowing industries the chance to get a European vetted patent through a single application. The Convention's geographical range, broader than that of the EEC States alone, will cover other European countries.

The draft of the second Convention which concerns the European patent for the common market (the Community patent) and which has just been finalized is aimed at forming a Community patent scheme to help towards attaining the objectives of the Rome Treaty by removing, within the Community, distortion of competition and barriers against the free movement of goods stemming from the territorial nature of national protection measures. National patents will certainly go on but the draft Convention also prescribes provisions on national patents to keep the impact of maintaining national patent legislation on the common market down to a strict minimum.

The European patent, issued under the provisions of the first Convention will amount within the contracting States to a national patent, meaning that from the date of issue it will in principle be subject to only national laws.

¹ Point 2119.

² Bull. EC 9-1972, Part 1, Chap. II.

To avoid splintering the effects of the European patents it was imperative to set up under a special Convention standard rules for applying and exploiting the European patent insofar as it covers the EEC Member States. To ensure this standardized character, the principle is put forward whereby the Community patent has the same results throughout all the Member States' territories and can only be transferred or expire in relation to all of those areas. When being applied the Community patent is subject only to the provisions of the second Convention.

One result of Community patent unity is that reservations likely to be made by the States party to the first Convention involving duration of the European patent and exceptions to patentability (for pharmaceutical and foodstuff products) may not be voiced by the States party to the second Convention.

This is crucial in particular for Italy whose national laws do not yet prescribe the patenting of pharmaceuticals. Another result is that when the European patent is applied for the Member States of the EEC can only be designated together. Designation of one or several States amounts to designation of all of them.

The draft Convention also prescribes standard dispute and annulment procedures for Community patents. Disputes are referred to the special agencies under the second Convention; namely, the legal annulment divisions and chambers against whose decisions appeal may be made to the Community Court of Justice.

The special agencies needed to implement the second Convention will be incorporated into the European Patent Control Office by the Administrative Board's Select Committee made up of Member States' and Commission representatives.

But infringements of Community patents will be taken before the qualified national tribunals

of the Member State under the Convention concerning judicial authority and the enforcement of civil and commercial decisions¹ which came into effect on 1 March last. The national tribunals have to apply the provisions of the second Convention which defines the effects of Community patents. To ensure an even application of the provisions the Court of Justice in Luxembourg can or in some cases must be referred to by the national authorities for a preliminary ruling over interpretation of the second Convention.

A key objective of the Community Convention is to abolish territorial boundaries for the disposal of patented products. This is why the draft Convention bans the splintering of the common market into nine national markets. Products protected by the Community patent can circulate freely as soon as the patentee has put his products onto the market in any part of the Community. This also applies for products legally marketed by the holder of a contract licence. To ensure system uniformity when protection is given not by a Community patent but by one or more analogous national patents, the draft prescribes that marketing by the patentee or his licensee in a Member State, whether or not there is parallel protection in that State, results in the expiry of rights from national patents and in the unhampered movement of the products protected by those patents.

But to allow patentees the scope to adapt to the above-mentioned scheme, a Protocol attached to the Agreement provides for the waiving of Articles which ban the splintering of the common market for a transition period of five or at the most ten years. This Protocol is the only key point where a difference of opinion is to be found between Member

¹ Supplement to Bull. EC 2-1969 and OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

States and the Commission. The latter, with reference to the authority of the Court of Justice as seen in the Court Decree of 8 June 1972 in the Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft/Metro Case, holds that keeping a transition period is out of line with the Rome Treaty provisions on the free movement of goods.

One subject of much argument within the expert group was the Community financing of the future European Office. It was proposed to substitute the Community for the Member States with regard to the financial rights and obligations of the latter stemming from their participation in the first and second Conventions. The group finally adopted a solution which harks back to a provision in the Agreement of 19 April 1972 to form the European University in Florence. Under this plan national financing by each Member State for its due share has been provisionally adopted. But the States have promised as soon as the Convention comes in to undertake the work needed to examine when and on what terms this scheme of national financing could be superceded by a system to be defined, considering the European Community's development and the alternative of Community financing. The necessary Amendments to the second Convention could be decided by the Council on a Proposal from the Commission.

Membership of the second Convention is reserved for Member States of the Community. A non-Member State party to the first Convention and which represents with the Community a customs union or free trade area can however be invited by the Council to make a special agreement with Member States to set the terms and conditions for its sharing in the Community Convention.

Since the second Convention is an extension of the first, it cannot come into effect before the latter. Moreover, the second Convention should not come into force after the first for

the European patent must be guaranteed a standard character for the Community States. A draft statement has therefore been prepared declaring that the Member States intend to bring the two Conventions into effect at the same time.

Consideration also had to be given to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) signed in 1970 but which as yet is not being applied. To avoid a confused legal situation another draft statement gives assurance that the PCT will come into effect on the same date for the Nine, which will not be earlier than the date of dual application of the two European Agreements.

The text of the Agreement and the other texts compiled by the 'Community Patent' expert group (the implementing Regulation, the Protocol, several resolutions and statements of intent) will be submitted for final approval to an inter-Government Conference to be attended by the Nine Member States and the Commission. The international non-Government bodies who have already been twice consulted will be invited as observers. The date and place for the Conference have not yet been set but it will most probably be held in Luxembourg in the Spring of 1974.



2ND PART

**COMMUNITY
ACTIVITIES
IN MARCH 1973**

1. Functioning of the Common Market

Free Circulation of Goods

Meeting of senior officials charged with customs problems

2101. The general directors of Customs of the Member States held a meeting the 20 March in Brussels. Mr Finn Gundelbach, a member of the Commission, presided. The meeting was held for the examination of a certain number of problems concerning the administration of the Customs Union and was the first to be organized in the framework of the enlarged Community. The heads of the customs administrations underlined the fact that their service were faced with almost unsurmountable difficulties because the particularly complex decisions of the Community, especially in the domain of agriculture, arrived too late to be communicated to their officials and to be studied by them in the time available. They also pointed out that it was not possible for their officials to be in possession of an up to date version of the regulations because of the frequent modifications which were constantly being made.

The French and German delegations suggested that the modifications of the rates and of the terms used should, as far as possible, be made not more than twice a year. The representatives of the Commission said that they would study the problem as a whole and submit a memorandum to the Council on the causes which are at the origin of the difficulties met with and proposing solutions which would be likely to remedy the situation.

The role of the Community in international customs negotiations was also raised. It was noted that the treaty lays down that negotiations concerning customs matters were of Community competence, but that in certain cases the negotiations are being carried on by Member States

themselves. For example, the Community does not participate, except as an observer, in the negotiations undertaken in the framework of the Council for Customs Cooperation.

This problem which had been the object of an exchange of views within the Committee will be submitted to the Council later on the basis of proposals of the Commission concerning certain particular cases.

Community Customs tariffs

Nomenclature

2102. Acting on the favourable advice of the Nomenclature Committee concerning Community Customs Tariffs, the Commission modified¹ by its regulation of 17 December 1969² the conditions for the admission of 'Bourbon' whisky into sub-heading 22.09 C III (a) of the CCT. Furthermore, the new text details the conditions for certificates of authenticity concerning this product.

Tariff economy

Suspension of autonomous duties

2103. In the terms of the regulation adopted by the Council the 27 March 1973³ the autonomous duties of the Community Customs Tariffs for potatoes as listed in sub-heading 07.01 A III are completely suspended until the 1 June 1973.

¹ OJ L 77 of 26.3.1973.

² OJ L 320 of 20.12.1969.

³ OJ L 82 of 30.3.1973.

Tariff quotas

2104. The 12 March 1973, the Council modified¹ its regulation of the 10 July 1972² concerning the Community tariff quotas for heifers and cows which are not destined for slaughtering and for a certain mountain breeds. The dues applicable in the framework of the tariff quotas are reduced from 6% to 4% as from 1 February 1973.

Customs regimes for the circulation of goods*Transit within the Community*

2105. On the 9 March 1973,³ the Commission modified its regulations of the 15 November 1963 concerning, on the one hand, the Community internal transit document for the justification of the Community character of goods,⁴ and on the other hand, the employment of Community transit documents in view of the application of Community measures for the control of the utilization and/or of the destination of such goods.⁴

The modifications of the first of these texts are made with the intention of aligning the dispositions of Article 8 with the notion of 'interior frontier' which was introduced into Article II of the regulation of the Council of 18 March 1969 concerning transit within the Community⁵ by the Act of Adhesion. The second modification is made with the intention of modifying the actual format of control document No. 5 in view of the creation of a Community internal transit document parallel to T3 for trade within the Community as it was originally and with the addition of the New Member States.

Origin and methods of administrative cooperation

2106. The 27 March the Commission transmitted to the Council its proposals for a regulation concerning the definition of 'products of origin' within the framework of trade with Austria, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland. The essential object of this regulation is to permit the complete application of protocols No. 3 annexed to the agreements made with Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

2107. Also, the 26 March the Commission transmitted to the Council, proposals for a regulation concerning the procedure to be followed to facilitate the issue of *certificates concerning the circulation* of goods envisaged in the dispositions governing trade between the Community and certain countries.

Economic customs regimes*Active finishing of products*

2108. On the 26 March, the Council adopted a directive⁶ concerning the application of Article 18 of the directive of 4 March 1969⁷ concerning the harmonization of legislative, regulating and administrative dispositions concerning the regime for the active finishing of products. This application directive governs the taxation separately of the 'remainders and throwouts of manufacture' resulting from the

¹ OJ L 68 of 15.3.1973.

² OJ L 156 of 12.7.1972.

³ OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973.

⁴ OJ L 295 of 24.11.1969.

⁵ OJ L 77 of 29.3.1969.

⁶ OJ L 106 of 20.4.1973.

⁷ OJ L 58 of 8.3.1969.

activities of finishing products when the principal products are exported effectively. The directive in question will be completed, in a second stage, by a list of other accessory products.

Furthermore, the Commission adopted the 26 March a directive¹ concerning the application of Articles 13 and 14 of the above mentioned directive of the Council of the 4 March 1969 which establishes a system of administrative cooperation which will permit the application of the taxation rules envisaged in Article 16 of the 1969 directive when the by-products of the finishing operations of products are put onto the market in a different Member State than that in which the finishing operations were carried out.

Elimination of technical impediments to trade

2109. On the 26 March 1973, the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a directive defining the safety conditions to which aerosols must conform in order to permit their free circulation in the Member States of the Community. Indeed the different regulations which are already in force or, which are in preparation, in the Member States differ from a number of points of view and constitute, therefore, an impediment to trade which would be eliminated by the putting into operation of this directive. The adoption by the Council of this proposal for a directive should be of interest not only for the consumers but also for the industry. With the affixing of a Community conformity mark as demanded by this proposal, the consumer would have the guarantee that all the clearly defined clauses of security had been complied with.

Furthermore, it is likely that the possibility of manufacturing on a large scale will bring

about a diminution in the cost price thanks to the utilization of more advanced manufacturing techniques.

2110. Two other proposals for directives, concerning this time foodstuffs were transmitted by the Commission to the Council on the 7 and 29 March 1973. The first concerns natural *yeast* and yeast residues and the second *coffee extracts, tea* and their substitutes and mixtures based on these extracts.

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2111. At its session of 12 to 16 March 1973², the *European Parliament* adopted a resolution approving the proposition prepared by the Commission concerning the 'Admission duty-free, within the enlarged Community, of Community goods in small consignments and not of a commercial character'. In another resolution the Parliament approved the proposition of the Commission concerning the harmonization of legislative, regulatory and administrative dispositions concerning the regime of 'passive finishing', underlining the economic importance of the proposal for 'an efficient division of work between the countries of the Community and non-member countries'. For its part, the *Economic and Social Committee*³ during its session of 28 and 29 March 1973 gave their opinion concerning the duty-free admission of goods in small consignments and not of a commercial character, the transformation in bond of goods in preparation for their consumption and the elimination of impediments to trade (protection of the driver against accidents to the driving machinery, security windows, protection measures against the unauthorized use of motor vehicles).

¹ OJ L 120 of 7.5.1973.

² Points 2440 and 2443.

³ Points 2470 to 2474.

Competition Policy

Agreements, concentrations, dominating positions: case under consideration

Concentration in the iron industry

2112. Under the terms of Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission authorized an operation of concentration between the iron sector enterprises of *Klöckner-Werke A.G.* of Duisburg and *Hamburger Stahlwerke GmbH* of Hamburg. This operation has as main objective the guarantee of supplies to the iron mills of the Haspe factory which belongs to Klöckner, of semi-products provided by the Hamburger Stahlwerke. In the domain of finished laminated products these two enterprises are in competition on the markets for machine wire and commercial steel. It was possible to grant this authorization because on these markets and with a reciprocal supply of semi-products, this concentration does not give the interested parties a position which is incompatible with the authorization conditions set forth in Article 66, para. 2 of the ECSC Treaty.

Extension of the authorization for the sale in common of solid fuel by COBECHAR

2113. By its decision of the 20 March 1973¹, the Commission extended up to the 31 December 1975, the authorization for the sale in common granted by the High Authority of the ECSC to Belgian coal mines grouped together in COBECHAR which had already been extended several times. It was a result of a decision of the High Authority of 16 January 1963², that the Belgian coal mining companies were authorized to sell solid fuels

in common by the intermediary of their sales organization, the 'Comptoir Belge des Charbons' COBECHAR for a limited period. At the end of this period the authorization was extended up to the 31 December 1972. The interested parties having decided to extend their agreement for a further three years, an application for the further extension of the authorization was made. Nothing in the modification of the structure of sale in common nor in the other factors which have been examined (incidence of commercial regulations) has been found which could prevent the Commission from giving a favourable response.

The authorization for sale in common by COBECHAR contained certain conditions for economic and commercial reasons. The reasons which led to the establishment of these conditions, such as the imposed obligation of notification for operations of sale in common are still valid.

State aids

France

2114. The 9 March 1973, the Commission decided to invoke the infraction procedure of Article 169 of the EEC Treaty concerning aid for French *ship-building* which included a mechanism against rises in prices occurring during the period of construction. This mechanism envisages the exclusion from the guarantee of products imported from the other Member States to be incorporated in the ships constructed in France. This discriminatory treatment constitutes an infraction of Article 5 of

¹ OJ L 102 of 17.4.1973.

² OJ L 15 of 30.1.1963.

the directive of the Council of 20 July 1972¹, which lays down that the Member States should abstain from all discriminatory measures concerning the manufacture of products which are incorporated in ships constructed in their national territory.

Luxembourg

2115. During the month of July 1972, the government of Luxembourg communicated to the Commission, in conformity with Article 93, Para. 3 of the EEC Treaty, the *project of law concerning economic expansion* modifying and replacing the former general regime of aids. Since the objectives of the project were the structural expansion and amelioration of economy as well as a better geographical distribution of economic activities, the law in question envisages essentially the promotion of the setting up, rationalization and conversion of industrial and services enterprises by the granting of aids (rebates of interest, subsidies, tax exemptions, state guarantees and aid for buildings and land) in favour of the investments of the enterprises either for material investments (land, buildings, equipment) or for connected immaterial investment (market research, other research). The examination of the dossier has shown that we are faced with a regime of aids of general finality because of the lack of dissociation between the objectives of the projected law and the fact that the aids are applicable to the whole of the territory. In order to take into account the remarks and observations formulated during the examination of the dossier, the government of Luxembourg decided to modify the projected law. These modifications entailed a dissociation of the objectives. In the first stage the law will only be used in a general sense for sectorial aids, the significant cases of its application will be submitted in advance to the Commission for approval.

As far as its regional application is concerned it will only be put into operation at a later date and on the basis of application regulations which will establish the necessity of a specific region. Taking these facts into consideration, the Commission considered that it would not be opposed to the regime in question, while reserving its right to examine the projects for the regulations for the application of the law at an opportune moment.

**Taxation policy and
Financial institutions**

Taxation

Direct taxation

2116. Several meetings have been held with the fiscal experts of national governments seeking possible solutions at the Community level for the following problems:

- (i) international tax inspection;
- (ii) various problems relating to workers in the Community;
- (iii) alignment of provisions for determining the profits of firms, more especially the allowances for depreciation. This work is to be continued in further meetings.

Indirect taxation

Regulation of tax-free sales in airport skyshops and in various transport media

2117. On 14 March 1973, the Commission submitted to Council, under the second section

¹ OJ L 169 of 27.7.1972.

of Article 149 of the EEC Treaty, an amended proposal for a third Council directive on the alignment of legislative measures, regulations and administrative action relating to turnover taxation and excise duties collected in the course of passenger traffic.¹ This new proposal, which takes into account the opinion of the European Parliament² and of the Economic and Social Committee³ which were dated respectively, 19 January 1973 and 30 November 1972, proposes transitional measures lasting until 1 January 1976 for the regulation of tax-free sales in airport sky shops and on board various transport media.

Alignment of legislation and creation by Convention of Community law

Economic law

Penal economic law

2118. The 'penal economic law' working party, consisting of representatives of Commission departments and national experts from the Member States and adherent States, held a meeting under the chairmanship of a Commission representative. The mandate of the group is to formulate proposals for dealing with the problems of prevention and sanctioning of Community regulations, directives and decisions, and mutual supervision and assistance between Member States in matters relating to such measures. The decision to form the working party had been made in virtue of a decision of the Ministers of Justice of the Member States, at their meeting in Luxembourg on 3 June 1971.⁴

At this meeting there was broad agreement regarding the necessity for undertaking the work in the fields mentioned above, and regarding the principles embodied in a pre-draft for a regulation drawn up by the Commission departments.

Private law

Community patents

2119. The 'Community patents' group of experts finished their work at their ninth meeting. The new project for a convention concerning a European patent for the Common Market⁵ accompanied by the report of the group of experts will be transmitted to the Committee of permanent representatives who will make a decision concerning the publication of the project and the procedure to be followed.

¹ OJ C 113 of 28.10.1972 and Bull. EC 10-1972, second part, point 25.

² OJ C 4 of 14.2.1973 and Bull. EC 2-1973.

³ OJ C 142 of 31.12.1972 and Bull. EC 11-1972, second part, points 9 and 154.

⁴ Bull. EC 7-1971, first part, chap. I.

⁵ Point 1401.

2. Economic and monetary union

Economic, Monetary and Financial Policy

Economic Policy, 1973

2201. In applying the Council Decision of 22 March 1971 on tightening the coordination of Member States' short-term economic policies, the Commission on 21 March sent the Council a Communication on *adjustment of economic policy guidelines for 1973*, as defined by the Council in the Annual Report on the Community's Economic Situation which it adopted on 31 October 1972.

The Commission found that although recent monetary events would not markedly hamper economic expansion and employment development over 1973, the outlook on costs and prices was still alarming. The goal which the Community had set itself for 1973 (a 4% rise in consumer prices between December 1972 and end 1973) was apparently beyond reach. The Commission held that this state of affairs calls for strenuous measures. In future and especially when the second phase of the Economic and Monetary Union begins, the joint guidelines of short-term policy will have to be defined and more strictly applied. Right now, Member States' Governments must relentlessly wage war against inflation and at least take action to slow down the pace of rising prices.

But the problem was not identical for all the Community countries. In States where resources were comparatively underutilized, especially in the U.K., Italy and Ireland, inflation would be cost-oriented. In the other States to a varying extent unbalanced supply and demand must be expected to figure more and more prominently in the inflationary process.

In the latter countries who are in a full-employment or near full-employment situation, monetary, financial and budgetary moves to contain

the growth of internal demand will be the key to the policy to be followed. In the others (U.K., Italy, Ireland) where employment is still a major concern, the monetary and budget policies aimed at raising the level of activity will all the same have to be held within limits.

Throughout the Community but especially in the latter group of countries, concerted action with the representatives of social and economic milieux and aimed at abating the growth of labour and capital incomes must be a vital factor in the battle against inflation. It is only by reducing inflationary expectations and stopping the leapfrogging claims of economic and social groups that we can begin to restore price stability.

To strengthen the joint action of Member States, Community moves in the sphere of commercial trade would be of considerable help in holding prices down.

Lastly, the Community will have to see that the floating of Member currencies did not cause upheavals between exchange rates with the rest of the world and especially within the Community. The Community will have to equip itself with further means to claim greater autonomy on the international monetary scene. This means that between the qualified authorities of all Members close and regular link-ups over monetary affairs will have to be maintained with the priority aim of stabilizing as swiftly as possible the Community currency relationships. The Commission hoped that such concertation would also cover internal economic policies likely to affect exchange rates.

On the basis of the Communication from the Commission, the EEC Council during its session on 22 March chaired by Mr De Clercq, the Belgian Finance Minister, made an initial review for 1973 of the Community's economic situation as envisaged by Article 2 of the Council Decision of 22 March 1971.

2202. During the same session and following what it had agreed in Section X of its Resolution of 5 December 1972, the Council also reviewed the *results of the anti-inflation campaign*. After the debates the following Communication was approved:

'The Council has reviewed the Community short-term economic situation in the light of recent events and the Commission's Communication. The Council finds that many measures have been taken by Member States against inflation. Nevertheless, the rising trends of costs and prices are too high and therefore beyond the objectives previously set. Under the circumstances the Council has urged the Member States through all the means suitable to their individual situation to relentlessly keep up the campaign to slow down the pace of rising prices, as indicated by its Resolution of 5 December 1972.

As decided by this Resolution, the Council is to review in June the joint guidelines for economic and financial policy. With this in mind, it has asked the Short-Term Economic and Financial Policy Coordination Group, the Monetary Committee, the Short-Term Economic Policy Committee and the Budget Policy Committee to submit detailed reports by 1 June 1973 on the follow-up of the recommendations in the Resolution of 5 December 1972. The reports will cover:

(i) techniques for monitoring price and income trends; (ii) application of public budgets and (iii) developments of money in circulation.'

The European Monetary Cooperation Fund

2203. During its session of 22 March 1973, the Council on the basis of a Commission Proposal,¹ finalized the texts concerning the setting up of a European Monetary Coopera-

tion Fund; namely, the Regulation forming the Fund, and its statutes.

The official decision to set up the Fund is to be taken soon, after the question of its location has been settled and at the latest by 2 and 3 April when the Foreign Ministers meeting is held in Luxembourg.²

The Monetary Committee

2204. The Monetary Committee held its 163rd and 164th sessions on 3 and 6/7 March 1973 in Brussels with Mr Clappier in the Chair. During the 163rd session the Committee discussed the situation arising from the recent monetary crisis in order to prepare for the Council meeting of 4 March. At the later session, following the brief given by the Council on 4 March, the Committee scrutinized the various proposals put forward to help in settling the monetary crisis. The Committee also carried on with its projects for reform of the international monetary system.³

The Budget Policy Committee

2205. The Budget Policy Committee held its 50th session on 15 and 16 March 1973 in Brussels with Mr Firmi in the Chair. During this session the Committee took a birds-eye view of the budget situation in the Member States. It was also consulted by the Commission's services on the preliminary draft of the Commission Communication to the Council over adjusting the 1973 economic policy guidelines. Lastly, the Committee made an audit on the application of budgets to see how it

¹ Bull. EC 2-1972, point 2201.

² The expected Decision was taken early in April.

³ Points 1310 to 1314.

conformed with the guidelines of the Council's Resolution of 5 December 1972.

The Short-Term Economic Policy Committee

2206. The Short-Term Economic Policy Committee held its 67th meeting on 21 March 1973 in Brussels with Mr Brouwers in the Chair. It adopted an Opinion on the 1973 economic budgets. The Committee also discussed the draft Communication of the Commission to the Council on adjusting the 1973 economic policy guidelines.

The Community's Economic Situation

2207. Since the end of last year, the short-term upswing has continued in the countries of the enlarged Community.

The swift development of economic activity in the United States and other major industrial countries has accelerated the growth of Community exports. Home demand stimulated over most of the past year by expanding domestic consumption has also been affected over recent months by a sharper trend towards stock-forming and by favourable developments in fixed investments.

Production has made distinct advances with bottlenecks occurring in some individual cases. Growth of imports revived sharply in the Community despite efforts made by many companies to cut down their labour requirements through rationalization.

Prices are still rising rapidly everywhere. This is due in all Member countries to the steady growth of wage costs and the dearer prices of imported raw materials and half-finished products. In several States some conflict can be seen between supply and demand.

The very high growth rate of money in circulation due mainly to a heavy expansion of credit shows that here inflation has not yet felt any lasting abatement.

Although the impact of the February-March monetary crisis is an element of uncertainty which might affect the economic development outlook for the Community, there are many grounds for thinking that the short-term upswing will not appreciably weaken in the next months. But which the competitive position of most EEC countries deteriorating due to changes in the exchange rates, the growth of exports to non-Member countries could, at least volume-wise, be less brisk than originally anticipated.

It should also be mentioned that the upswing in economic activity, especially after the EEC's enlargement, will be conditioned appreciably more by the European internal short-term economic situation, and here the outlook for production, incomes and employment remains by and large favourable. Indeed both the inclination of companies to invest and the growth of consumer expenditure lead one to anticipate a vigorous development in demand. But there is reason to fear that prices throughout the Community will go on rising rapidly.¹

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2208. During its session of 12 to 16 March,² the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution on the Monetary Cooperation Fund stressing that its great value lay 'in the fact that it could develop into a European Central Bank.' The House also considered it 'imperative to increase the authority and monetary striking power of the Fund so that it could have a greater influence on developments in the area of monetary

¹ Source: Quarterly Report 1-1973 on 'The Community's Economic Situation'.

² Point 2423.

policy.' The *Economic and Social Committee*, meeting in plenary session on 28 and 29 March¹ issued an Opinion on the development of the short-term economic situation in the Community over 1973.

Social Policy

Preparing the 'action Programme in social matters'

Implementation of the Summit declaration

2209. Representatives of the trades unions and professional organizations, constituted at the European level, held a meeting in Brussels on 16 March, under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission. Their business was to continue² their examination of the results of the conference of heads of State or government; and to prepare the social conference to be held in Luxembourg on 28 and 29 June next.

There was an exchange of views on the Commission's departmental 'working document on the action programme in social matters prepared in relation to point 6 of the declaration made by the conference of heads of State or government in Paris'. This exchange of views will enable the Commission to take into account the various attitudes of the trades unions and professional organizations represented at the meeting when preparing the subsequent development of its proposals.

Vocational guidance and training

2210. In relation to the Commission communication on the 'first measures towards the

implementation of a joint policy for vocational training' the Council, at its meeting on 25 and 27 March, recorded its agreement to certain priority tasks in the field of professional formation carried out in 1973.

Free circulation of workers and social security for migrant workers

Social security for migrant workers

2211. The 1971 and 1972 regulations on social security for migrant workers, slightly amended on account of the enlargement of the Community, apply to the new Member States as from 1 April 1973.

The two orders in question came into force on 1 October 1972. The first, which is dated 14 June 1971³ relates to the application of social security systems, to wage-earning workers and their families who move from one place in the Community to another. The second, dated 21 March 1972⁴ is an implementation measure.⁵ These regulations replaced regulations 3 and 4, which had been in operation since 1 January 1969, and the regulation of 2 April 1963, applicable to frontier workers which came into force on 1 February 1964.

For migrant workers and their families, the new texts mark substantial progress by comparison with the older regulations. They were, however, drawn up for a European Community of Six nations and they required adaptation on account of the admission of the three

¹ Point 2468.

² Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2208.

³ OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

⁴ OJ L 74 of 27.3.1972.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1972, second part, point 59.

new members. This however, did not affect the underlying principles; for the new members had agreed, as candidates, to accept not only the Community Treaties, but also the law derived from them. The amendment of the 1971 and 1972 regulations therefore called only for technical adjustments on quite a limited scale; and thus amended, they will apply to the three new Member States as from 1 April.

Apart from workers, pensioners, rentiers and members of their families requiring health care during a temporary visit to a Community country, the number of migrant workers in the strict sense concerned in the extension of these regulations is about: (i) United Kingdom: 380 000 workers, including about 200 000 Irish and 180 000 natives of the Six original Community countries, to which must be added a number of natives of Denmark; (ii) Denmark: 10 000 workers and (iii) Ireland: 2 000 workers (excluding British).

There is thus a total of over 400 000 workers from the countries of the enlarged Community whose jobs are in the three new Member States, to which must be added about 40 000 workers from the new Member States whose jobs are in the original Community countries.

The number of wage-earning workers from the Six original members of the EEC who are in jobs in another member of the Six-nation Community, is estimated at around 900 000. Including members of their family, therefore, there are 2 million people in the Six countries who can secure the benefit each year of these provisions of the social security regulations.

The Community regulations on the free movement of workers have applied to the new Member countries since 1 January, and the social security regulations for migrant workers from 1 April. This should facilitate the free movement of manpower in the enlarged Community during the years ahead.

Re-employment and readaptation

2212. During March the Commission took the following readaptation measures under Article 56, paragraph 2 of the ECSC Treaty:

In *Germany*, it decided to contribute DM 14.44 million (or u.a. 3 945 355.19) to the readaptation expenditure for 3 605 workers affected by the final closure of a coking plant and two coal mines. In *Belgium*, it decided to participate to the extent of BF. 69.5 million (u.a. 1.39 million) in the readaptation expenditure for 2 843 workers affected by the final closure of two colliery companies and one further colliery. In both cases the governments concerned are contributing equal amounts to the readaptation costs.

Social security and social measures

European Social Budget

2213. On 12 March, the Commission held a meeting in Brussels of a group of government experts for the purpose of implementing the Council decision concerning the first stage of preparation for the European Social Budget. This is conceived in terms of the present content of the Social Accounts compiled by the Statistical Office of the European Communities, and will include a retrospective section (1970-72) and a forecast (1973-75).

Unanimous agreement was reached of the modifications to be made in the framework of the Budget (expenditure and receipts) concerning the year under consideration for the working out of estimates and the types of economic hypotheses which should be used for the projected receipts and expenditure for 1975. The government experts agreed to deliver to the Commission the results of their national efforts

on this subjected so that the Commission can make a synthesis of the results.

Living and working conditions, industrial relations

2214. Exchanges of views on social problems in the marine shipping industry were held with representatives of the workers on 19 March, and with those of the fleet owners on 22 March. Both parties were in favour of the Commission proposal to form a Joint Committee to deal with social problems in marine shipping. The workers' representatives, however, reserved their attitude regarding the number of members for this committee. The fleet owners said they would consult their colleagues about this, and also emphasized that the committee must remain consultative. They accepted, however, the proposal that the committee should have a right of initiative and a right of concerted approach, provided the right of initiative should apply only when both sides of the industry (fleet owners and sailors) are in agreement.

Both parties, too, considered that pending the formation of this committee, it was desirable to set up an ad hoc Joint Group and begin concrete work on the three following points: (i) preparation of a comparative summary of the social position in marine shipping; (ii) preparation of a study programme on particular problems, indicating the applicable priorities; (iii) defining the comparable statistical requirements.

2215. Social problems in the ports were discussed in two meetings with the workers on 20 March and with the employers on 23 March. The workers were in favour of the Commission proposal to set up a joint Committee on social problems in the ports, but reserved their attitude regarding the number of members of

this committee. The view of the employers on this project were divided; but both parties agreed to begin concrete work on three points which were virtually identical with those chosen for marine shipping. The employers considered, however, that the work should not be initiated in the framework of a joint working group but in separate working groups of 'employers' and 'workers'.

2216. An exchange of views took place in Brussels on 21 March with both sides of the *road transport* industry on the desirability of setting up a joint committee to take over from the existing consultative committee on social problems in this industry. This confrontation of standpoints made it possible to take note of the attitudes of the two parties on this question. The employers expressed a preference for maintaining the consultative character of the committee.

2217. On 5 March, the contact group between the Commission and the Confédération internationale des cadres, discussed the social consequences of international mergers and takeovers. This exchange of views was mainly based on documentation compiled by the CIC. The results will be put at the disposal of the group of government experts, formed by the Commission for preparing a Community, legal instrument providing protection for the interests of wage-earners in cases of international mergers and takeovers.

Safety, hygiene, industrial medicine and health protection

2218. On 26 March, the Commission called a meeting in Luxembourg of a group of those responsible for the national services dealing with safety and industrial medicine. The group adopted a programme of courses in 1973,

which should result in setting up contacts between the six former members and the three new members of the Community in matters of safety and industrial medicine. This programme will be attended by about 50 senior civil servants from the technical and industrial medicine inspectorates in the nine member countries. The meeting also provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on safety and industrial medicine problems in the light of the conclusions of the Summit Conference held in Paris in October 1972.

2219. A group of specialists in the measurement of pollution by the iron and steel industry met in Luxembourg on 7 March, as part of the research programme dealing with technical measures against pollution by the iron and steel industries. A summary report made it possible to work out the general form of the measurement technique—at any rate in regard to dust pollutants—which could be adopted by the Community iron and steel industry.

2220. The committee of experts on problems raised in the campaign against dust at the mine face was held on 12 and 13 March at Hasselt and Zolder (Belgium). The committee took note of the most recent research developments in the Campine basin in relation to the anti-dust campaign, using the method known as *prétélé infusion* and its consequence in the de-gassing of coal seams. Interesting prospects were foreshadowed for the conduct of hewing operations in such a way as to secure simultaneous improvements in yield, hygiene and safety.

2221. On the basis of Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty, the Commission, the 30 March, issued a decision covering general data concerning the project for the evacuation of radioactive effluents of the Doel (Belgium) nuclear centre.

2222. The *European Parliament*, at its session on 12-16 March 1973,¹ adopted resolutions concerned with: the Commission proposal for the alignment of legislations regarding collective dismissals; amendment of the regulation concerning social security for migrant workers; the reports drawn up by the permanent organization for safety and health conditions in coal mines and by the general committee for safety and health conditions in the steel industry. *The Economic and Social Committee*, at its plenary session on 28 and 29 March² gave an opinion on the compilation of uniform statistics regarding foreign manpower.

Environment and consumer protection

Environment

2223. On 5 March, 1973 representatives of the governments of Member States, meeting in Council, approved the *agreement on information to the Commission with a view to possible harmonization for the whole of the Community of emergency measures relating to the environment*³.

Under this agreement the governments of Member States are to inform the Commission as soon as possible of all projected legislative measures, regulations or administrative action and of any international initiative relating to the protection and improvement of the environment. The Commission is to pass on to the other Member States, within the shortest pos-

¹ Points 2424 to 2431.

² Point 2476.

³ OJ C 9 of 15.3.1973.

sible time, the information received in accordance with this agreement.

When the projected measures appear likely to affect the right functioning of the Common Market, and subsequently the execution of the action programme, the Commission is required to signify within two months its intention of putting forward, or of not putting forward, a proposal for a Community measure and, in the former case, it is required within five months to submit a proposal for a directive by Council. The Council is also required to take a decision on the Commission's proposal within five months.

This agreement is the first decision adopted at Community level in relation to the environment, following the first proposals put forward by the Commission to the Council in March 1972.¹

Agricultural Policy

Agricultural price proposals 1973/74

2224. On 23 March 1973, the Commission put forward to the Council its proposal for the fixing for the season 1973/74 of prices applicable throughout the enlarged Community for certain items of agricultural produce, together with various connected measures relating to beef and milk.² The proposal relates to all agricultural produce, but not to fishery products, for which the prices were fixed by Council in December 1972.³

Proposed measure in the agricultural sector in view of the currency situation

2225. Concurrently with the agricultural price proposals, the Commission also put forward to

Council on 23 March 1973, a proposal for a regulation covering measures to be taken in the agricultural sector following the development of the currency situation². In the opinion of the Commission, the machinery which has been set up for dealing with currency imbalances under the Common Agricultural Policy, has become so complex that an important revision is called for. Its proposal accordingly includes provision that the conversion of data connected with the Common Agricultural Policy shall be no longer carried out at theoretical parities, but at central rates of exchange and, for the three Member States of which the currencies are floating independently, at fixed representative rates of exchange. As a result, the monetary compensatory amounts would henceforth be calculated by reference to differences in the price level. These amounts would, in principle, remain fixed. No compensation would be charged or payable within the 2.25% margin of exchange rate fluctuation. For the currencies which are floating independently a mechanism for variable compensation would have to be provided. A further result would be that, in fixing levies and restitutions, the conversion of data relating to the world market would be carried out on the basis of the mean of the effective differences between the currencies in question and each of the currencies of Member States which are floating jointly.

Measures taken following monetary decisions

2226. On 1 March 1973⁴, the Commission issued a regulation laying down the mode of application of the system of monetary

¹ Supplement 5-1972, Bull. EC.

² Points 1101 to 1126.

³ Bull. EC 12-1972, second part, point 58.

⁴ OJ L 64 of 9.3.1973.

compensatory amounts brought into force by the Council regulation of 12 May 1971¹. This text replaces the Commission regulation of 17 May 1971¹ as subsequently amended, and takes into account the different currency situations of the Member States arising through recent monetary events, and more especially the situation of the Benelux countries. It was also considered desirable to emphasize that the monetary compensatory amounts on the one hand, and the levies and restitutions on the other, are not necessarily identical. It was decided that, in principle, a period of seven days should be retained for the ascertainment of the spot exchange rates, the arithmetic mean of which serves for the calculation of the compensatory amounts, and to retain the more representative quotations. Since the trading positions of third countries are broadly similar to those of the new Member States, it seemed possible to apply, in both classes, the same method for calculation of the monetary compensatory amounts. The regulation also provides for the conditions affecting control, for delays in application for payment of the compensatory amount, for a lower limit to the level at which supplies may be offered and, on account of the beef shortage, for the suspension of collection of the compensatory amounts on the import of frozen meat for the production of certain types of preserved meat.

On the same date² the Commission fixed the monetary compensatory amounts; but on 5 March 1973,³ it found it necessary to adjust them because of the fluctuation in spot exchange rates for several of the currencies of Member States during the period 22 and 28 February 1972, which made it possible to eliminate the compensatory amounts for France. In the same way, the level of the different amounts for colza and rape seed was twice adjusted during March 1973⁴. In addition, the Commission made two amendments, dated 8 March and 20 March 1973⁵, to its regulation of July 1972⁶,

in the one case to enable a single control document to be used in the intra-Community trade; and in the other, to adapt it to the regulation of June 1972⁷ defining the mode of application of the system of aid for oil seeds (method of estimating the weight of seed) and to the Council regulation of February 1973⁸ which puts forward the date for the entry into force of the system of differential amounts for colza and rape seed.

Finally, the 23 March 1973⁹, the Commission again adjusted the amounts of monetary compensation by reason of the fluctuations registered during the period 19 to 21 March 1973 in the currencies of Germany, France and Denmark.

On the same date¹⁰ an adjustment of the amounts was decided on in respect of the rules that the compensatory amounts applicable may not exceed the import costs of goods from outside countries and which had not been taken into account in the regulations of the Commission of 1 March 1973² (with effect as from 26 February 1973) and of 5 March 1973³ applicable immediately. The amounts of the adjustment fixed according to these rules will be modified periodically when the evolution of the costs of import from outside countries makes it necessary.

¹ Bull. EC 7-1971, second part, point 39.

² OJ L 64 of 9.3.1973.

³ OJ L 71 of 19.3.1973.

⁴ OJ L 58 of 3.3.1972 and OJ L 76 of 24.3.1973.

⁵ OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973 and OJ L 73 of 21.3.1973.

⁶ Bull. EC 9-1972, second part, point 48.

⁷ Bull. EC 8-1972, second part, point 59.

⁸ Bull. EC 2-1973, second part, point 2220.

⁹ OJ L 79 of 27.3.1973.

¹⁰ OJ L 92 of 7.4.1972.

Application of common agricultural policy measures in the enlarged Community

2227. On 12 March 1973,¹ the Council issued a regulation covering the Community system applicable to trade in agricultural produce with the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

In addition, the Council determined, on 19 March 1973,² the arrangements governing the application of Article 54 of the Act of Adhesion, which permits the United Kingdom, during the transition period and subject to certain conditions, to maintain the system of price guarantees by means of production subsidies. This regulation will apply to wheat, barley, oats, rye, sugar beet, slaughtered pigmeat, beef, eggs and milk. It seeks to define the limit of the measures authorized for the British government in this matter and the methods by which these limits are determined.

Since, too, there had been several changes during March 1973, in the levies applicable in the cereals and rice sectors, the 'adhesion' compensatory amounts for these products, for which the levies are the basis of calculation, underwent corresponding changes. Following the changes in the cereals levy, the Commission fixed the 'adhesion' compensatory amounts applicable in March 1973, to eggs (including egg albumen and milk albumen)³, to pigmeat⁴ and to poultry meat⁵ and during the month of April 1973 for the same sectors⁶.

Common organization of markets

Milk and milk products

2228. Skim milk for animal feed, for which aid is provided under the Council regulation of July 1968⁷ is required to be processed,

including at least the operations of purification, pasteurization and cooling. Since all the dairy centres in the new Member States are not yet in possession of the technical equipment for this processing, the Commission decided on 1 March 1972,⁸ that, in the Member States in question, and until 31 December 1973, those dairy centres which are not in possession of the necessary equipment, shall be granted a transitory derogation dispensing them from the obligation to process the skimmed milk.

On 8 March 1973, too, the Commission amended⁹ its regulation of July 1968¹ on the system of aid for liquid skim milk for animal feed. The new regulation is mainly designed to extend these provisions to skim milk produced in farms which sell cream directly under licence to retailers and consumers.

By a regulation of 1 March 1973,¹⁰ the Commission has decided to grant aid subject to certain conditions, for the private stocking of Emmental and Gruyère cheeses made in the Community. In doing so it was acting in recognition of price movements and the considerable increase in the stocks of these cheeses which might have resulted in market disequilibrium.

As part of the measures for promoting the marketing of butter from the stocks resulting from market intervention, the Commission, under date of 7 March 1973,¹¹ amended its regulation of June 1972¹² on the making of

¹ OJ L 68 of 15.3.1973.

² OJ L 72 of 20.3.1973.

³ OJ L 61 of 7.3.1973.

⁴ OJ L 76 of 24.3.1973.

⁵ OJ L 62 of 8.3.1973.

⁶ OJ L 89 of 5.4.1973.

⁷ Bull. EC 9/10-1968, Chap. II, point 57.

⁸ OJ L 61 of 7.3.1973.

⁹ OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973.

¹⁰ OJ L 58 of 3.3.1973.

¹¹ OJ L 65 of 10.3.1973.

¹² Bull. EC 8-1972, second part, point 56.

butter available at reduced prices to certain processing firms in the Community. The new text extends the delay for the processing of the butter from four to six months. It also simplifies the guarantee system, and makes corresponding adjustments in the customs documents accompanying the product.

In addition, as 19 March 1973,¹ the Commission amended its regulation of January 1973² on the sale of butter from public stocks. On account of the growth in the stocks of butter in the Community, this measure is extended to butter taken into stock before 1 February 1973.

Sugar

2229. In virtue of a Council regulation of 31 January 1973,³ on the prices for the marketing of sugar imported into the United Kingdom under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement, and the measures for facilitating the marketing of sugar produced in the French overseas Departments, a subsidy is provided for raw sugar produced in these Departments and refined in the Community as originally constituted. On 9 March 1973,⁴ the Commission adopted various measures necessary for the application of this subsidy.

By another regulation of 9 March 1973,⁵ the Commission has also laid down some of the arrangements for the operation of the system of quotas in the sugar sector, replacing the regulation of 25 January 1969.⁶ A strict definition is given of the concept of 'production of sugar by a factory or a firm'; and the contribution to production is subjected to arrangements additional to those contained in the basic regulation for the sugar sector.

Wine

2230. The Council regulation of July 1971⁷ fixing the supplementary conditions to which

imported wine for direct human consumption must conform, provides that these supplementary conditions shall come into force as from 1 April 1973. In view of the difficulties experienced in the adoption of some of the Community arrangements, especially relating to the maximum content of sulphurous anhydride, it did not seem possible to conform to this date. The Council, at its meeting on 26-27 March 1973,⁸ accordingly decided to defer it till 1 July 1973.

In addition, the Commission amended, on 14 March 1973,⁹ its regulation of July 1970¹⁰ on storage contracts for table wines. Producers will now be required to provide inspection facilities at all times — i.e. beyond the period of the contract — since experience has shown that this extension is needed.

Hops

2231. The Council made a decision under date of 26 March 1973¹¹ on the granting and repayment of aid given by Member States to recognized groups of producers in the hops sector. This regulation includes arrangements for implementing the common organization of the market for hops, particularly in connection with various calculations to ensure identity in the conditions of granting and repayment of aids for the formation and operation of groups of producers.

¹ OJ L 72 of 20.3.1973.

² Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2218.

³ Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2222.

⁴ OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973.

⁵ OJ L 67 of 14.3.1973.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1969, chap. V, point 33.

⁷ OJ L 168 of 27.7.1971.

⁸ OJ L 86 of 31.3.1973.

⁹ OJ L 69 of 16.3.1973.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 9/10-1970, second part, point 29.

¹¹ OJ L 86 of 31.3.1973.

As of 20 March 1973,¹ the Commission adopted a regulation governing the registration of contracts and communication of the relevant data in the hops sector. This registration of all contracts for the delivery of hops should make it easier to assess the exact position in the marketing of the production. Moreover the Member States are required to inform the Commission before 31 March, each year of all the data regarding the area planted with hops and the harvest in the previous calendar year, so as to enable it to bring forward its annual report on the production and marketing of hops before 30 April.

Seed

2232. Under date of 14 March 1973, the Commission issued two regulations to be applied as part of the common organization of the market in the seed sector. In the first instance it has authorized Belgium and the United Kingdom, as a transitional arrangement for the marketing year 1972-73, to pay up to 20% of the aid to the taker of seed, or the firm of seedsmen² whereas the aid in question should normally be payable wholly to farmer-grower. A similar authorization had previously been given to the Netherlands³.

Secondly the Commission has compiled the new list of late varieties of English Ray-grass, produced in the enlarged Community², replacing the list of late varieties produced in the Community as originally constituted⁴. For this species the regulation provides different amounts of aid, according to whether it is a question of late varieties or others³.

Silkworms

2233. As of 27 March 1973⁵ the Council adopted a regulation modifying the general

rules for the granting of aid in respect of silkworms. The new regulation provides that the system of aid which was originally limited to the 1972-73 season shall continue through the 1973-74 breeding season.

Potatoes

2234. As of 27 March 1973,⁶ the Council adopted a regulation providing for total suspension of the independent duties in the Common Customs Tariff applicable to potatoes under sub-heading 07.01 A III. This suspension of the duty on table potatoes, other than new potatoes, until 1 June 1973, should act as a remedy to the supply difficulties and limit the rise in price.

Products listed in annexe II of the Treaty

2235. The Council, at its meeting on 26/27 March 1973⁷ adopted a regulation making various technical and tariff changes in the Council regulation of June 1968⁸ providing for the common organization of markets for certain products listed in annexe II of the EEC Treaty (the 'remainder regulation'). Since the list of these products had been several times amended since the regulation came into force, it appeared desirable to present it in a new form.

¹ OJ L 74 of 22.3.1973.

² OJ L 69 of 16.3.1973.

³ Bull. EC 9-1972, second part, point 61.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1972, second part, point 60.

⁵ OJ L 86 of 31.3.1973.

⁶ OJ L 82 of 30.3.1973.

⁷ OJ L 106 of 20.4.1973.

⁸ Bull. EC 8-1968, chap. III, point 47.

Fixing in advance of levies and restitutions in different sectors of the Common Market organization.

2236. The currency situation, and more especially the closure of the foreign exchange markets, called for emergency precautions to safeguard the operation of the Common Market organization. The Commission made use of the powers given it by the Council regulation of November 1972¹ and took steps for this purpose under date of 5 March 1973². It suspended for three days (6-8 March 1973) the fixing in advance of levies and restitutions for oils and fats, cereals eggs, poultry meat, rice, sugar, milk and dairy produce, processed produce based on fruit and vegetables and products exported in the type of goods not covered by annexe II of the Treaty. A joint management committee for these different sectors met on 6 March 1973, and considered it necessary for the period of suspension to be extended. In consequence, under date of 6 March 1973³ the Commission issued a regulation relating to the same sectors and suspending the advance fixing from 6 March to 13 March 1973, (for oil seeds from 7 March to 13 March 1973). Subsequently, since the foreign exchange markets remained closed during the week of 12-16 March 1973, the suspension of the advance fixing was also extended until 20 March 1973, by a Commission regulation of 13 March 1973⁴.

Furthermore, the 27 March 1973⁵, the Commission adopted the special dispositions for restitutions and Community aid which had been the object of fixing in advance before the 13 February 1973 (the date of the announcement of the devaluation of the dollar). Exceptionally and in order to avoid notably the repercussion of monetary events causing danger to the whole of the long-term operations already envisaged before the 13 February 1973, it is necessary to increase the pre-fixed restitu-

tions concerning exportation which had not been effected at that date. For the future the interested parties must take the necessary steps to cover themselves against the risk of variations in the exchange rates. The products concerned are those of the oils and fats, cereals, sugar and milk and milk products sectors and also processed products based on fruit and vegetables. For similar products it is also necessary to adapt the pre-fixed amounts concerning aids for oil seeds.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

'Guarantee' section

2237. The Commission adopted, on 5 March 1973⁶ a regulation amending that of April 1972⁶ and relating to the method and rates of interest to be used in calculating the cost of financing interventions in the beef and dairy sectors.

The European Parliament, at its session of 13-16 March 1973, gave a favourable opinion on a draft Council directive relating to mutual assistance in the recovery of sums improperly paid under the Common Agriculture Policy by way of agricultural levies and customs duties.

'Guidance' section

2238. As of 27 March 1973,⁷ the Council adopted a regulation on the granting and

¹ OJ L 62 of 8.3.1973.

² OJ L 61 of 7.3.1973.

³ OJ L 67 of 14.3.1973.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1972, second part, point 47.

⁵ OJ L 82 of 30.3.1973.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1972, second part, point 47.

⁷ OJ L 86 of 31.3.1973.

repayment of aids granted by Member States to recognized groups of producers in the hops sector. As of 12 March, 1973 the Commission decided that Belgium should be repaid, from the guidance section of the EAGGF, the bonuses paid out in 1970 and 1971 for the up-rooting of fruit trees ¹.

Agricultural structural policies

2239. On 6 March 1973, the Commission expressed its opinion on the proposals which the Government of Luxembourg intended to adopt in application of the directive of the Council of 17 April 1972³ concerning the encouragement of the cessation of agricultural activities and the affectation of the areas freed to the amelioration of structures.

The 16 March 1973, the Commission also expressed its opinion concerning the project for the application of the directive of the Council of 17 April 1972³ concerning the modernization of agricultural exploitations, a project communicated by the Netherlands government concerning the exploitation of open air horticultural activities to be developed. This is the third opinion expressed by the Commission concerning the Netherlands projects in the framework of the directive 'modernization of agricultural exploitations' and indeed a communication was made the 1 February 1973 concerning horticultural exploitation under glass.

Alignment of legislation

2240. The 26 March last, the Council made a decision concerning the constitution of a stock of vaccine against foot and mouth disease A 22. The object of this action is to assure Community live stock against the danger coming from certain countries with which

regular trade exchanges are made. It has also been envisaged that if the epizootic circumstances demand, the Community may constitute provisions of vaccines to combat other types of exotic virus.

The action will be extended over a period of two years dating from the time that the contracts for the supply of the vaccines have been concluded and subject to the possibility of further extensions. The Council also adopted five decisions regarding the equivalence of inspection of growing seed-producing crops, carried out in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom and (for the second time) those carried out in third countries; the equivalence of seeds produced in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom and (for the second time) those produced in third countries; and the equivalence of seed potatoes produced in Denmark.

As of 20 July 1972⁴, the Council had taken the first decisions in this field and these apply, also, to the new Member States. Examinations carried out in the meantime by the Commission indicate that these decisions can be completed in relation to Canada, Sweden, South Africa and Hungary. Moreover, various species groups can be introduced for the first time in relation to Finland and Norway.

Following the adhesion of the new Member States, further decisions are required in relation to them. At the same time it is necessary to complete the current catalogue of listed species. The validity of the decisions requires to be limited in time, so that it expires on the date on which the individual States are required to embody the Community directives in their national law.

¹ OJ L 86 of 31.3.1973.

² OJ L 95 of 11.4.1973.

³ Bull. EC 4-1972, part one, chap. I.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1972, second part, point 64.

In accordance with the provisions of Community directives in this field, the seed samples from the third countries concerned will be cultivated and examined in comparable conditions in the Community; and the results thus obtained will complete the previous examinations. To the extent that the results do not conform, or no longer conform, to earlier statements, the decisions which have already been taken will be cancelled or their validity will not be renewed.

Competitive conditions in agriculture

2241. Under Article 93, paragraph 3 of the Treaty, the Commission has defined its attitude about the aid given in the United Kingdom to producers of apples and pears. It has notified the government of this country that it may consider the aid measures provided in the United Kingdom for producers of apples and pears as being compatible with the Common Market, provided the beneficiary proceeds, within twelve months next following the notification that the aid has been granted, to the operation of uprooting.

The Commission has also defined its attitude to an aid to the consumption in Greenland of various forms of agricultural produce (butter, cheese, rye flour and wheat flour). It has informed the government of the Kingdom of *Denmark* that it has no special observation to make regarding the principle underlying this measure.

2242. The European Parliament, at its meeting on 12-16 March¹ adopted a series of resolutions in regard to the following agricultural problems and sectors: the continuation of certain production subsidies in the United Kingdom; coordination of agricultural research; network of accountancy information; measures against foot-and-mouth disease; produce listed

in annexe II of the EEC Treaty; recovery of amounts improperly collected under the Common Agriculture Policy. The *Economic and Social Committee*, at its plenary session on 28 and 29 March² gave opinions on the Commission price proposals for 1973-74 and the recovery of amounts improperly paid over.

Industrial Policy and Technology

Technology

Development of tele-distribution in the Community

2243. By 1980, some millions of European homes will be connected to cable-television networks. Tele-distribution is likely to play an important part from many standpoints; but so far it still confined to limited areas in Europe. It is, however, bound to grow rapidly in coming years, according to a study carried out at the request of the Commission by a specialised research bureau. It therefore seems desirable to prevent this new means of communication from developing along the same lines as television, with the consequences which flow from inadequately harmonized national bases. The study which the European Commission has had made on tele-distribution, and its applications in Community countries, nevertheless shows that in this rapidly growing market, which runs into billions of francs, there is a risk of increased disparities between the equipment and services in the individual Community countries.

¹ Points 2432 to 2437.

² Points 2469 and 2475.

The study deals with three groups of questions:

1. The *chief technical features* of tele-distribution in Europe rank the equipment currently in service as first-generation systems. The material in fact only differs from the collective aerial in the number of programmes carried (usually over six) and the number of households served (between a few hundred and several tens of thousands). Second generation equipment, which provides the possibility of local programme production, is now being installed; and projects for third-generation systems (which will have return channels) are under investigation, pending the arrival of the first prototypes of the fourth generation, which will be fully two-way. The problems to be faced in the technological development of the equipment will be mainly concerned with standardization and the compatibility of the material offered by different manufacturers.

Policy on industry reflects the attitude of the industrial groups concerned with the development of cable television, and that of the authorities which, in Europe act as regulators (standardization) and play a commercial part (public procurement). Depending on the financial strength, the national status and the technological sophistication of the industrial groups, the policies adopted are very different; and this is generally accentuated by the action of the national administrations.

The *political and economic prospects* for the development of tele-distribution in the Common Market therefore vary considerably from one country to another alike in the institutional framework, in the state of development and the attitude to the importing of programmes and local production. There are, however, a number of common factors concerning for example, the introduction of advertising, the part played by public tele-communications authorities, and problems raised by the appearance of local programmes.

The observations contained in this report thus indicate the absence of communication on these problems between the different countries of the Common Market, despite the existence of a set of common problems, such as advertising and local programmes, which are far removed from those governing the development of cable television in the United States. In conclusion, the report recommends a special effort to secure exchanges of information between Community countries, and the coordination of the relevant industrial policies.

Industry

Nuclear industry

2244. The Commission has issued two 'points of view' statements under Chapter IV of the Euratom Treaty, relating to nuclear investments in the Federal Republic of Germany. One is concerned with modifications of the gas-heavy water reactor at the nuclear power station at Niederaichbach; and the other, relates to the extension of the retreatment plant for irradiated fuel at Karlsruhe.

Scientific Policy, Research and Education

Commission action in the nuclear and non-nuclear field

Programme for indirect action

2245. On 14 March 1973, the Commission set before the Council its proposals for a programme of indirect action in research and instruction. These proposals are in the main

based on a four-year period in the nuclear field (3 programmes to run 1 January 1973, to 31 December, 1976) and for a pilot period of three years for the non-nuclear work (2 programmes to run from 1 January 1973, to 31 December, 1975). They take into account the adaptations necessitated by the Council decision of 5 February 1973, on direct action proposed by the Commission in November 1972, for the joint research centre (JRC), and the attitudes adopted by some of the Member States regarding the indirect action proposed by the Commission at the same time. The adjusted proposals are being studied by the competent organizations of the Council in anticipation of the Council meeting to be held on this question in May 1973.

Research

Meeting of senior civil servants on scientific and technical research

2246. The Committee of senior civil servants on scientific and technical research (COST) met in Brussels on 5 and 6 March 1973. It was concerned with the formation of a European Centre for medium-term meteorological forecasting. The committee set to work on drawing up the final texts for the documents on which international agreement has been reached, and which are to be signed by the ambassadors of the participating countries at a formal conference called for 7 May next. Only a few minor points now remain to be settled. The committee has accepted the United Kingdom proposal that the centre should be set up at Reading.

Formation of a European Committee on research and development

2247. The Commission has decided to form a European Committee on research and develop-

ment (ECRD). It is to consist of 21 members chosen for their high competence in scientific, technological and industrial fields. The Commission was mandated by the heads of State or government of the Community countries, at their Paris meeting in October 1972, to take charge of the formulation of a common policy covering the scientific and technological fields, and for this purpose to draw up a programme and timetable to be adopted by the Community institutions before 1 January 1974. It has now decided to provide itself with a suitable instrument for preparing the decisions which will constitute the common research and development policy.

The ECRD will have the task of analysing the technical potential and social-economic requirements as required in defining the research and development objectives of the Community and determining priorities in the light of requirements (e.g. new means of transport); water supplies; environmental protection; energy supplies; health protection; industrial competitiveness and similar items). It will provide the Commission with the necessary elements of interpretation and judgement in working out its opinions and proposals in research and development matters.

Supra-conductor materials

2248. On 15 and 16 March last, the Commission departments organized a meeting in Brussels of experts in the use of supra-conductors for production and transport of electric energy. The first day was devoted to the underground transport of electric energy; and the second, mainly to the question of using supra-conductors for the construction of big alternators.

The discussion brought out the interest for the future of Europe, attaching to the development

of cryoelectric technology. The hope was expressed that it would be possible to organise exchanges of information and a concentration of effort under the aegis of the Commission among all the sectors concerned, including producers and distributors of energy, the makers of cables and alternators, universities and research organizations. Specially urgent importance is attached to fundamental research and to technical-economic studies.

Joint research Centre

2249. The institutional activity of the JRC in March was concentrated on working out the practical effect of the decisions taken by the Council at its meeting on 5-6 February 1973, and their impact on that part of the pluriannual programme (1973-76) which has already been approved¹ and on the part of it for which the themes have still to be selected.

The part consisting of nuclear and non-nuclear direct action programme (known as list A) was worked out with the Council organizations with a view to securing definite approval. The part of the programmes still to be defined (list B) was the subject for detailed technical documentation passed by the Commission to the scientific and technical Committee, the general consultative Committee of the JRC and to the Council, which will have to make the final choice of activities within the limits of the maximum number of staff and the amount of resources laid down on 5 and 6 February 1973. An opinion regarding the various objectives, within the meaning of Article 4 of the Euratom Treaty, was issued by the *scientific and technical Committee*.

The general consultative Committee recommended, on the basis of a proposal by the

Director General of the JRC, the adoption of the following programmes:

| | Staff (number) | Maximum expenditure (million u.a.) |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Environment | 30 | 2.85 |
| Standards and measurements references | 9 | 0.80 |
| Fusion | p.m. | p.m. |
| New programmes | 30 | 3.05 |
| Materials | 50 | 5.10 |
| Production of hydrogen | 70 | 6.70 |
| Support for the Commission | 20 | 2.00 |
| Total | 209 | 20.50 |

At the same time representatives of the Commission and organizations of the Council began the selection work with a view to the definite adoption of programmes. Work was put in hand to secure a provisional estimate of the budgetary effect of these programmes for the year 1973, but it will not be possible to adopt the budget until they have been put on a definite basis. Meantime the resources provisionally put at the disposal of the JRC only make it possible to cover the indispensable expenditure for the maintenance of the equipment, and do not cover the effective working of the laboratories.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2231.

Energy Policy

Energy supplies for the enlarged Community

2250. The position of the enlarged Community for supplies of primary energy is much the same as that of the Six, as described by the Commission in its communication of October 1972 on 'the problems and instruments of energy policy during 1975-85'¹. This is the conclusion of a first examination of energy supply and demand prospects in the three new Member States.

The formation of a bigger market will strengthen the Community's world position in energy matters, but it will make it the more necessary to arrive at a satisfactory supply policy.

The problem of *oil imports* will arise on the Community scale in practically identical terms. Even though the North Sea production might, on the best assumption, lead to the dependence on imported *oil* falling from 65% to 50% in 1985, the reduced percentage would nevertheless call for 1 000 Million tons of oil to be bought from non-Community sources. The security and price factors are thus as important as ever, also is the need for developing a strategy which will make the world oil market as flexible as possible.

For *coal*, the most acute problem is to settle how big a cost the Community and its member States would be willing to face for the sake of maintaining a given level of production. Special importance attaches to the definition of a fuel supply policy to conventional thermal power stations in the enlarged Community, largely because of the respective parts which Community coal and coal from outside sources could play in making up the quantities required.

For *natural gas*, as for oil, the first objective is to develop the Community's own resources

and, at the same time, to decide upon a suitable import policy. Another objective is to secure the best utilisation of the supplies available, in the light of the specific advantages of the gas and the fact that it is comparatively rare. From this standpoint the position raises fewer problems in the United Kingdom, where gas consumption in thermal power stations is on a very limited scale.

The potential contribution of *nuclear energy* is enhanced by the availability of United Kingdom technology. It is, however, more necessary than hitherto to promote the rapid expansion of this energy source. Only thus can the enlarged Community hope to be able, in a not too distant future, to mitigate its undue dependence on imported oil.

Hydrocarbons

2251. On 22 March 1973, the Council adopted a regulation² postponing till 1 July 1973 the applicability to the United Kingdom of the regulations of 18 May, 1972 requiring statements to be communicated to the Commission showing the imports of hydrocarbons³ and investment projects of Community interest in the oil, natural gas and electricity sectors.³ This regulation, which was adopted on the basis of a Commission proposal, results from a request made by the United Kingdom government for technical administrative reasons.

On 16 March 1973⁴, the Commission also approved the operational arrangements for the two regulations of 18 May 1972. The aim of these provisions is to simplify the system of

¹ Bull. EC 10-1972, second part, point 118.

² OJ L 80 of 28.3.1973.

³ OJ L 120 of 25.5.1972.

⁴ OJ L 113 of 28.4.1973.

information on the technical side, and to require the use of questionnaires, so as to provide uniformity in the information communicated.

Coal

Aids for coking coal and coke

2252. On 26 March, the Commission put forward to the Council a new draft decision on coking coal and coke for use in the Community steel industry.

The original draft was submitted to the Council last October.¹ The chief changes the Commission has made relate to the extension of the availability of Community finance to certain internal deliveries; a new system of sharing the cost of Community financing through the use of ECSC funds; and a tightening of the provisions regarding non-discrimination. Under Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty, the draft has been submitted for approval to the Council and for consultation to the Consultative Committee.

Technical research

2253. The coal research committee (CRC) held its first meeting since the enlargement of the Communities in Brussels on 23 March 1973. A large part of its business was to examine requests for aid in the financing of research projects in the budget year 1973, which had been filed conformably to Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty. In the light of the criteria laid down in the 'medium-term programme for aid to technical research on coal (1970-74)' in its revised version², the CRC unanimously approved a selection of projects to be financed in 1973. These are largely angled on increasing production and productivity in the mines; the

mechanized driving of galleries; the pre-heating of coking coal and the making of coke from lignite; studies relating to the physical and chemical processing of coal; and measures to be taken in relation to the environment. In most cases these were joint projects which are to be carried out in close cooperation between research institutes in the various Member countries concerned (United Kingdom, Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands). The CRC also adopted unanimously a resolution emphasising the importance of technical research for the Community coal-mining industry.

Nuclear Energy

Supplies of enriched Uranium

2254. On 27 March 1973, the Commission sent a further communication to the Council about the creation of uranium enrichment capacity in the Community. It was accompanied by a draft for a Council resolution; and it completed and brought up-to-date the proposals the Commission had made to the Council in June 1972.³

Because of increasing requirements, the Community supplies of enriched uranium from existing facilities cannot be guaranteed after 1980. For practical purposes the only supplier to the Community hitherto has been the US Atomic Energy Commission (USAEC); and the new terms it has laid down for enriched uranium supplies after 1981 are likely to raise serious doubts about construction programmes for nuclear power stations in the Community.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1972, second part, point 124.

² OJ C 74 of 10.7.1972.

³ Bull. EC 8-1972, second part, point 80.

The Commission considers the procurement policy to cover foreseeable requirements of enriched uranium, should be determined in the very early future, and at latest by the end of 1973. By this time the necessary decisions will have to have been made on the construction of power stations to be brought into operation after 1980. Failure to deal with the supply question might result in a delay in the turnover to nuclear power, and thus imperil the main objectives of the joint energy policy.

According to the Commission, it is necessary for Community industry to provide itself with a uranium enrichment capacity which, from the beginning of the next decade, will make it possible to cover a substantial and growing part of Community requirements. The scale and dimensions of the plant, or plants, to be constructed, should be capable at least of satisfying the needs of power stations which are to come into production from 1982 onwards. This implies a minimum production by 1981 of 3 000 or 4 000 tons by separation working units and 10 000 tons by 1985.

Important elements in the policy called for should be measures to encourage industrial construction projects leading towards the attainment of these objectives, and arrangements to be made to cover the necessary requirements from sources outside the Community. The aim should be both to guarantee Community users the regular supplies they require, and to ensure the economic operation of the enrichment capacity created in the Community.

The Commission also proposes the setting up of a permanent coordination Committee for uranium enrichment, to ensure a concerted approach by all parties concerned, and the execution of joint studies to facilitate the necessary investment. This Committee will be instructed to prepare a general report which would enable the Commission to formulate its proposals and make it possible for the

Council to state its attitude on the Community procurement policy for enriched uranium by the end of 1973.

Euratom Supply Agency

2255. The Council, at its meeting on 8 March 1973, adopted a decision in conformity with the proposal of the Commission¹ amending the statutes of the supply agency following the accession to the Community of the new Member States.

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2256. The *European Parliament*, in its session of 12-16 March 1973² adopted a resolution 'relating to the creation of a Community capacity for uranium enrichment'.

Transport Policy

Preliminary examination and consultation procedure

2257. The Council decision of 21 March 1962³ instituted a procedure, in relation to transport, for a preliminary examination and consultation on various legislative measures, regulations or administrative action contemplated by Member States. In virtue of this the Italian government has sent the Commission copies of three *draft laws on the organisation of the market for the road transport of goods in Italy*. The new measures contemplated

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2235 and OJ L 83 of 30.3.1973.

² Point 2438.

³ OJ 23 of 3.4.1962.

represent a complete reform of the organization of the national market for the carriage of goods by road. The principal points are:

- (i) the setting up of a national register of carriers of goods by road, and the formation of a central committee, provincial, inter-provincial and regional committees;
- (ii) a new definition of the system of road transport of goods, and the regulation of capacity;
- (iii) the setting up, for road transport inside Italy, of a compulsory system of maximum and minimum rates with a margin of 23%.

The Commission, in a *recommendation dated 19 March 1973*, notes in particular, that the measures contemplated are similar to the main lines of the Common Transport Policy in the matters concerned, as resulting from the general lines laid down by Community institutions; but that the adoption of such measures as part of the national legislation is not likely to promote the operation of a common transport policy. If such a policy is to be successfully instituted and its objectives duly attained, it is important that the measures in question should be adopted at the Community level and as part of the institutional framework of the Treaty of Rome, and that they should be applied at the same time, and in uniform fashion, by all Member States. In regard to the content of the Italian projects, the Commission notes that some of the provisions differ from the measures contemplated at the Community level. These include the conditions for access to the profession of road haulier; the definitions of transport for the haulier's own account and for account of others; the conditions for the granting of licences; and the prevention of special contracts, including prices outside the permitted range of rates which are not in line with the Community measures envisaged.

The Commission accordingly takes the view that the operational introduction of the measures projected by the Italian government should be brought into a Community system by the adoption of measures conforming to the principles defined by the Council in its agreement of 22 June 1965 and conforming to its resolution of 20 October 1966. Moreover, these measures should in any case also be brought into line with the general concepts for the Common Transport Policy which are recalled by the Commission in its recommendation.

Access to the market

2258. On 14 March 1973, the Commission submitted to Council a proposal for a regulation amending the Council regulation of 28 December 1972, on the *Community quota for the transport of goods by road* between the Member States. This proposal calls for a substantial increase in the number of licences to be granted to the new Member States by the initial regulation of 28 December 1972. In this connection account was taken of the growth (since 1969) in the traffic between these countries and the original Community countries. Moreover, the Commission takes the view that the effect of the enlargement of the Community, though beneficial to the transport market in all the Member States, will nevertheless be more definitely marked in the activity of transport firms in the new Member States.

Harmonization of conditions of competition

2259. At the Council meeting of 18 and 19 December 1972, the Danish delegation stated its intention of raising with the Commission the question of refunding Danish

transport firms *part of the road tax levied on diesel vehicles* when these carriers undertake international transport. A meeting was held about this on 19 March 1973. The attention of the Danish government representatives was again called to the fact that the maintenance of the aid in question amounts to a misunderstanding of Denmark's obligations resulting from the Community arrangements in this matter.

Technical harmonization

2260. On 26 and 27 March 1973, the Commission departments organized a meeting with government experts to examine various technical problems raised by the proposal for a Council directive on the *weight and dimensions of utility road vehicles*. These exchanges of views, which will be carried further in subsequent meetings, are intended to enable the Commission to draw up the report on the question requested by the competent organizations of the Council.

Transport prices and conditions

2261. The railway experts concerned with the *ECSC international tariff No. 1001*, held a meeting on 23 March 1973, which was attended by a representative of the Commission departments. The principal purpose of the meeting was to examine the question of revising the uniform nomenclature of ECSC transport, and extending the system of ECSC tariff No. 1001 to railway transport of coal and steel to and from Denmark. So far as concerns the nomenclature of ECSC transport, the discussions were the sequel to the work of a group of railway experts which had met at Tours on 6-8 March 1973. They resulted in unanimous agreement on all the adjustments proposed.

These proposals will be put forward by the railways to their governments, which are then expected to cooperate with the Commission in proposing the measures needed for bringing them into operation. On the question of extending the ECSC tariff No. 1001 system, to the traffic with Denmark, the Danish railways stated that they were willing to apply this tariff as from 1 September 1973. This would be subject to a thorough examination of certain special aspects, but would be without prejudice to the effective introduction of the tariff.

2262. On 30 March 1973 a meeting was held between representatives of the United Kingdom and the Commission on the *extension of ECSC tariff No. 1001 to rail traffic* with the United Kingdom by *train ferry*, and the adhesion of the United Kingdom to the agreements with Austria and Switzerland on the fixing of direct international tariff rates for rail transport of coal and steel between Member States of the Community in transit through these two countries. These discussions will be continued.

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2263. The European Parliament, at its session on 12-16 March 1973, adopted a resolution¹ on the proposals submitted by the Commission to the Council on 'the first elements of common action in relation to air transport'.

¹ Point 2439.

3. External Relations

Mediterranean Countries

EFTA States

The coming into force of the agreement with Iceland

2301. The exchange of instruments of notification in accordance with the procedures laid down in the agreement concluded between the European Economic Community and Iceland took place in Brussels and the agreement was signed the 22 July 1972 and comes into force the 1 April 1973.

Moreover, during its session of 22 March, the Council adopted a decision concerning the delayed application of protocol No. 6¹ of the agreement. This decision has as objective the delaying of the application of concessions for fishery products until a satisfactory solution has been found for the Member States and for the Community of the difficulties arising from the extension by Iceland of fishing limits from 12 to 50 nautical miles. This decision was notified to Iceland on the same day.

Negotiations with Norway

2302. The negotiations between Norway and the European Community opened the 16 February in Brussels², and were continued during the month of March. The two delegations are of the opinion that the negotiations can be brought to a conclusion very shortly.

Implementation of the agreements with States of the EFTA

2303. During its session of the 26-27 March 1973, the Council decided on four regulations¹ concerning the execution of protocol No. 3, concerning the notion of 'products of origin' and methods of administrative cooperation, annexed to the agreements concluded by the

Community with Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

2304. Furthermore, the 22 March 1973, the representatives of the governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community at the meeting of the Council, made decisions¹ concerning the provisional implementation of the reductions of tariffs envisaged in the agreements concerning the products of the ECSC and concluded with Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

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2305. During its session of 12 to 16 March 1973³, the *European Parliament* adopted a 'resolution concerning the agreements negotiated between the Community and the member and associated States of the EFTA which are not candidates for adhesion'.

Mediterranean Countries

Terms for a 'Global Approach' to Relations with the Mediterranean Countries

2306. During its meeting of 5 March 1973 the Council on the basis of an interim Report, made a thorough review of the main problems involved in taking a 'global approach' to relations with the different Mediterranean countries. The discussions went into detail on the problem of reciprocity, and agricultural and cooperation questions. The Council delegated

¹ OJ L 98 of 12.4.1973.

² Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2305.

³ Point 2425.

the Committee of Permanent Representatives to follow up these questions and submit a new Report.

Turkey

2307. The negotiations for conclusion of an additional Protocol to ensure extension of the Association to the enlarged Community took place on 20 and 21 March 1973. Although progress was made agreement could not be reached on all of the issues still pending.

Cyprus

2308. On 28 March 1973 the EEC and Cyprus signed an Agreement stipulating that until 31 December 1973 the provisions of Article 5 in Appendix I of the Association Agreement will not apply to trade between Cyprus and the new Member States.

Morocco

2309. On 2 March a Protocol was signed in Brussels fixing certain provisions concerning the EEC-Morocco Agreement owing to the enlargement. Mr Abdelaziz Jamai, the Moroccan Chargé d'Affaires with the Community, expressed the hope that negotiations for a new Agreement would open soon and on as broad and balanced a basis as possible.

Spain

2310. On 29 March the EEC and Spain advised each other that the necessary internal procedures had been finalized to bring the Protocol into effect fixing certain provisions for the EEC-Spain Agreement owing to the

entry of new Members into the Community. The Protocol signed in Brussels on 29 January¹ came into force on 30 March 1973.²

Israel

2311. On 28 March 1973 the contracting parties advised each other that the necessary internal procedures had been finalized to bring the Protocol into effect setting certain provisions for the EEC-Israel Agreement owing to the entry of new Members into the Community. The Protocol³ signed in Brussels on 30 January therefore came into effect from 29 March 1973.

Jugoslavia

2312. On 23 March the Commission sent the Council a recommended Decision on opening negotiations with Jugoslavia for an Agreement to extend the present trade Agreement up to 30 September 1973 pending conclusion of a new Agreement. The current one signed on 19 March 1970 will expire on 30 April 1973.

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2313. During its session of 12 to 16 March,⁴ the *European Parliament* passed Resolutions on: the Middle East political situation, the effects of the Community's enlargement on its relations with the Mediterranean countries and the EEC-Cyprus Association Agreement.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2304 and OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973.

² OJ L 99 of 13.4.1973.

³ Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2305 and OJ L 66 of 13.3.1973.

⁴ Points 2426 to 2428.

Associated African States and Malagasy and the Commonwealth countries offered Association with the Community

The Yaoundé Convention

Talks between President Senghor and the Commission

2314. Delegated by the AASM, His Excellency Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Senegalese Republic, visited the EEC on 20, 21 and 22 March 1973 to prepare the negotiations for renewal of the Association and which could open in August 1973.

President Senghor was received by President François-Xavier Ortoli and Mr Deniau, Member of the Commission responsible for development and cooperation policy. He was also able to attend working meetings with the Commission and the Committee of Permanent Representatives at which he expressed on behalf of all the Yaoundé Associates the hopes of the African partners vis-à-vis the forthcoming negotiations and their wish to 'grapple with' possible problems in Europe.

He welcomed the Memorandum on a Community cooperation and development policy and the resolve not to compromise what the Community had already gained. Within the expansion of the EDF he hoped that both inflation and deteriorating terms of trade would be reckoned with. He said he was glad that reciprocal trade preferences were running as a key part of the free-trade area. He added that Association did let those who so wanted to grant the same terms to non-Member countries. In conclusion, he said he hoped that the maximum possible number of African countries would share in the fresh negotiations and spoke of his efforts to set up

meetings at Ministerial level between Associates and 'Associables.'

Mr Deniau in Congo-Brazzaville

2315. From 24 to 28 March 1973 Mr Jean-François Deniau, Member of the Commission responsible for development and cooperation policy, visited the People's Republic of the Congo. During his tour he was received by President Marien N'Gouabi. Their talks bore mainly on European Development Fund financing projects in the Congo and looked forward to renewing the Yaoundé Convention.

As the meeting closed, Mr Deniau intimated that it was up to the People's Republic to specify which projects should get priority financing from the EDF and that from talks with Congolese officials he had gathered that they put infrastructures at the top of the list. Renewal of the Convention and ways to enhance it were also discussed. Mr Deniau said that the new Convention should mean that the Community's attainments should not be lost.

Parliamentary Conference of the Association

2316. The annual session of the EEC-AASM Association Parliamentary Conference was held in Kinshasa from 29 to 31 March 1973 after preparation by the Joint Committee in Kinshasa from 26 to 28 March. The Conference unanimously elected Mr Philippe Yace (Ivory Coast), Chairman, and Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer (Netherlands) Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chairman.

Opening the Conference the Chairman welcomed the representatives of the new EEC Members. Representatives from Mauritius and the three Associated East African States of

Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania attended the proceedings as observers.

The Conference was a crucial one, taking place a few months before the negotiations scheduled for the Yaoundé Convention and the Arusha Agreement and for Protocol 22 of the Accession Treaty. The negotiations involve the 18 Associated African States with Madagascar and Mauritius plus the three East African States and the independent Commonwealth countries deciding to join.

In their opening speeches, Mr C. Berkhouwer, Mr P. Yace, together with Mr Bo-Boliko Lakango, Chairman of the National Legislative Council and representing the President of Zaire, General Mobutu Sese Seko, who was away, all emphasized the vital importance of these negotiations. Minister Gashonga of Ruanda, Chairman-in-Office of the Association Council submitted the activity report of the Association Council.

The Conference proceedings turned on two reports prepared by the Joint Committee; namely, Mr François Perret's Report on the eighth Association Council General Activity Report to the Parliamentary Conference and Mr Heinrich Aigner's Report on the EEC Commission's Memorandum concerning a Community cooperation and development policy. The Resolutions on these Reports were passed unanimously by the Conference. During discussion of the Reports the attainments of the Association and the positive guidelines from the October 1972 Paris Summit Conference were emphasized by the European and African speakers in consideration of the modest results of the 3rd UNCTAD at Santiago.

The speakers declared that the new dimension which the Community is to give to its development policy on the basis of the Commission Memorandum could be no substitute for the Association with the AASM but that it could provide useful support in various fields.

Mrs Irène Pétry, Belgian Secretary of State and Chairman-in-Office of the EEC Council, removed all doubt over this when she reminded the Conference that the nine Member States declared in Paris that Association policy is of key importance for them.

Regarding renewal and enlargement of the Association, this issue was the core of the proceedings, the main concern being the welcome of all countries wanting to join the Association without prejudicing the acquired benefits of those already affiliated. Mrs Pétry stressed the value of respecting the date of 1 August 1973 set for the opening of negotiations so that the new Convention could come in on 1 February 1975, that is, the day after the Yaoundé Convention and Arusha Agreements expire. She said she was convinced that Europeans and Africans would find the way to foster a better development and recalled the words of His Excellency President Mobutu: 'It is up to us to plan things out and make ready for the XXIst century by choosing from the fruits of progress those which will not destroy our art of living.'

2317. Mr J.F. Deniau, Member of the Commission, stressed the value of what was at stake in the negotiations. To honour its commitments made, the Community would now have to combine the retention of all the benefits acquired by and guaranteed to the present Associates with a genuine renovation of the Association which through its expansion meant change and addition. The Commission would lay before the Council a Memorandum on the negotiations. The ideas in it would represent the basic characteristics of a model for cooperation which should meet all the requirements of the countries concerned and would form a practical basis to assist the negotiations. On the commercial front the concept of the free-trade area would be retained. In line with the GATT rules, it was

the only guarantee for the Associated States of free access to Community markets and represented the contractual commitment of the Association. But this system was not necessarily to entail preferential treatment in favour of the Community. In fact, it did not cramp the Associated States in their trade policies towards third countries for whose benefit they can, if they wish, extend or negotiate the system applied to the Community. Nevertheless, free-trade alone was not enough to foster a happy economic development in the Associated States insofar as they did not enjoy adequate stability of resources. This brought up the problem of stabilizing their export revenues, especially for the countries with a one-product or non-diversified economy. Therefore, without ruling out the conclusion of world agreements, the setting up of new mechanisms within the Association might be contemplated. Broadly speaking, it would mean bringing in a scheme of compensatory transfers affording the countries concerned the certainty of a stable and adequate income for some commodities (sugar, groundnuts and oils, cotton, cocoa, coffee, bananas, copper) without impairing the standard market mechanisms. The resulting financial commitment for the Community should not come out of the EDF but be added to already contracted obligations.

Within the EDF, much more effort would have to be forthcoming financially in order to maintain the acquired benefits of the current Associates and to see that the new partners were treated in the same way. A special department could be envisaged for boosting regional cooperation. In general, the countries in most need should benefit more and to ensure the continuity of Community aid the principle of EDF budgeting should be brought into being.

At Institutional level, adjustments would have to be made to meet the administrative needs

and provide guidance for the enlarged and renewed Association. Any formalism should be avoided from now on and working methods should be made more flexible so as to give a free rein to consultation and expand cooperation to cover general issues of joint interest transcending the formal framework of the Association. Mr Deniau ended by saying that Europe had to reconcile her individual commitments with her world responsibilities, not by substitution but by addition. A priority had therefore to be kept for Africa who in turn had to clearly express her wishes and her choice.

The Conference reviewed and passed Mr François Bouda's Report on the accounts of the Association Parliamentary Conference for the financial year 1971 and on the estimates for 1973. The Conference also approved Mr Ernest Glinne's Report on 'coordinating the action of the 24 partner States in the Association as part of the international organizations for economic cooperation and development.' The attached Resolutions were also passed. Mr Louis Briot's working paper on development of tourism in Africa was also discussed. This paper will be the topic for the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee, who had a further meeting on 30 March 1973, scheduled its next sessions for late June 1973 in Bruges and for October 1973 in Lome. Mr N'Goo Mebe and Mr Achenbach were reappointed Chairmen.

Conditions for setting up Industrial Concerns within the AASM

2318. Under a schedule of studies to reveal the scope for starting up some industrial export activities in the AASM, the experts delegated with this research have collated a mass of data on forming and running manufacturing companies in those countries. Their research

covered wages, social charges, power costs, land, taxation, etc.

This data, which will be used in sector studies now underway and which might also be of value to those contemplating industrial projects in one of the AASM, has been collated by country in a booklet providing summary information on start-up and working conditions for industrial companies in each Associate State.

The European Development Fund

New Financing Decisions

2319. After the favourable Opinion issued by the EDF Committee, the Commission on 5, 9 and 30 March 1973 took 14 new financing Decisions¹ over non-repayable grants from the 2nd and 3rd EDF for a sum of 52.9 million u.a.

Special Aid of 19 million u.a. for Six Associated States

2320. To alleviate the worst effects of the drought which has hit the Associated States in the Sahel and Sudan regions of Africa during the normal rainy season (July-October) of 1972, six States are to receive special aid, as under:

Mauretania: 730 million CFFrancs. or about 2 629 000 u.a.
 Senegal: 587 million CFFrancs. or about 2 114 000 u.a.
 Mali: 3 958 million Mali Francs. or about 7 126 000 u.a.
 Upper Volta: 310 million CFFrancs. or about 1 116 000 u.a.
 Niger: 780 million CFFrancs. or about 2 809 000 u.a.
 Chad: 893 million CFFrancs. or about 3 216 000 u.a.

The six States hit by this disaster have each received emergency food aid from the Community to the order of 32 000 tonnes of cereals which will swell the 12 500 tonnes of the 1971/72 Community programme. Delivery is underway or forthcoming. This aid is separate from that to be set by the Council under the 1972/73 programme. At the same time some of the Member States (Germany, France and Belgium) have sent or will shortly send cereals and foodstuffs to the six countries.

The Exceptional Community aid consists mainly of: (i) Bearing the cost of fast transport and distribution of food aid from the Community and Member States; (ii) Supply of secondary agricultural products to remedy undernourishment of cattle suffering from the drought (2.9 million u.a.); (iii) Action to increase the health protection of herds (those most prone to disease).

2321. The following decisions were also taken:

Togoland — Improving and asphaltting the Lama Kara-Kandé road (56 km), part of the Ouagandougou-Lomé link: 150 million CFFrancs. or × 540 000 u.a. from the balances of the 2nd EDF and 1 130 million CFFrancs. or ± 4 069 000 u.a. from the 3rd EDF. Under the modernization of the 976 km. long inter-State road link between Lomé, capital of Togoland and Ouagandougou, capital of Upper Volta, the 56 km. stretch between Lama Kara and Kandé via Niamtougou is to be improved and asphalted. When the work is finished 698 km of the inter-State Lomé-Ouagandougou link will have been asphalted, 547 km. having been financed by Community aid for a sum of 23.3 million u.a.

¹ OJ C 17 of 4.4.1973 and C 29 of 12.5.1973.

Burundi — Extension of the Teza Tea Mill: 143.4 million BUFrancs. or \pm 1.51 million u.a. This operation is aimed at raising the processing capacity of the Teza tea mill from 500 to 1 500 tons per year. Output forecasts in the area served by the mill (the original tea-area and family plantations in Muramvya) necessitate this expansion from 1974. The work includes enlargement of the premises, improving the mill production machinery and installing new plant with its accessories.

Burundi — Extending tea-growing and aid for the Tea Bureau: 864.1 million BUFrancs. or \pm 9 096 000 u.a. This plan involving three operations over 7 years includes laying a new plantation of 1.650 hectares of domestic tea bushes, extending the Rwegura plantation from 500 hectares to 800 hectares and technical help for the Burundi Tea Bureau. The job of this agency is to promote tea output and supervise the tea companies already working or to be set up in the country.

Ruanda — Electrical infrastructure; high-tension line (110 KV) between Kigoma and Mururu: 660 million RWFrancs. or \pm 6.6 million u.a. Completion of the electric high tension line (110 KV) between Kigoma and Mururu about 131 km. long will link the Zaire hydro-electric station of Bururu to the transformer plant at Kigoma. It is the final link in the connection between Kigali, the capital, and Mururu. This regional project will connect the stations of Ntaruka in north Ruanda and Mururu on the river Ruzizi, the Zaire-Ruanda frontier, thus integrating the electrical infrastructure of Kiva province (Zaire), Ruanda and Burundi into a single network.

Senegal — Cattle-breeding development in the forest pastoral region- rural hydraulics (initial stage): 1 606 million CAFrancs. or about 5 783 000 u.a. The aim of the project is to

develop breeding in the forest pastoral region. It includes a hydraulic project to create 46 fixed water outlets for better watering of herds and the use of ungrazed pasturage. It is also the initial stage of eventual modernizing operations for Senegalese cattle breeding. This stage includes the creation of a 'pilot area' in the Ferlo and a meat production ranch.

Senegal — Interim agricultural development project in Casamanca: 199 million CAFrancs. or about 717 000 u.a. This aid is to finance an agricultural enclosure project over 16 months. It is an interim operation between rice production projects already financed and being completed and the finalization of an overall agricultural and breeding programme in Casamanca. The total sum amounts to 911 000 u.a. including a balance of 194 000 u.a. available from one of the rice-production plans.

Central Africa — Asphaltting the Damara-Sibut road 111 km.: 11 390 million CAFFrancs. or about 5 005 000 u.a. This project is to asphalt the 111 km. of road linking the towns of Damara and Sibut in the Southern central region. This connection forming a permanent link with the Northern and Eastern regions has already been developed as an unmetalled road through Community aid (1st and 2nd EDF) for a sum of 1 652 000 u.a. The asphaltting will cut transport and maintenance costs burdening the State budget.

Ruanda — Development of pyrethrum cultivation. Further extension: 63.9 million RWFrancs. or about 638 500 u.a. The project was financed by Community aid in September 1966 for a sum of 2 560 000 u.a. as part of aid for diversification. Considering the good results gained by the landmen and extension of the project to bring in new growers, further technical help to finish the programme is now required. The additional plan will cover the costs of a

new drying process involving additional equipment.

Following these Decisions the total of commitments from the 3rd EDF amounts to 521 395 000 u.a. for 193 financing Decisions since the EDF began operating on 1 January 1971.

Meetings and Visits

2322. From 16 to 23 March 1973 a *Senegalese* delegation led by Mr. Ousman Seck, Secretary of State to the Prime Minister and responsible for Planning, had talks with the EDF over projects to be carried out under the 3rd EDF. On 23 March the same delegation met the EDF, representatives of the CCCE, the FAC, the IBRD and the Société Dakar Marine to fix the financing terms for a programme of studies on building dry docks for super oil tanker repairs.

From 7 to 14 March an EDF delegation visited *Mauritius* for the first time since the country applied for Association with the Community. The first meeting with the Mauritian authorities led to setting up a programme of transactions under the 3rd EDF.

On 14 March an EDF delegation led by its Deputy General Director had talks in Ottawa with the Canadian International Development Agency CIDA and on 15 and 16 March with the IBRD in Washington with a view to exchanging data for coordinating investment schemes in the Associated States.

Developing countries

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

2323. The 7th. extraordinary meeting of the Commission for raw material of the UNCTAD

was held in Geneva from the 26 February to the 10 March for the organization of intensive intergovernment consultations concerning the liberalization of trade and price policies for raw materials in conformity with resolution 83 (III) of the Conference. Indeed, the results at stake at this session were very much more considerable for the developing countries and were: to persuade the Western countries to engage themselves during these consultations to make 'concessions' or 'promises of concessions' before the multilateral negotiations of GATT take place. Indeed, the developing countries are seriously preoccupied by the evolution of the international monetary situation and fear that the commercial confrontation which is likely to take place will certainly not be to their advantage and they even consider that their position in world commerce will be considerably weakened. It is for this reason that the developing countries have endeavoured to transform these consultations into de facto negotiations or pre-negotiations. Their efforts have been directed to the mandate of the consultations, the choice of products and, to a lesser extent, to the framework of the consultations. These efforts have not been completely successful. As a result of long negotiations, the Commission for raw materials has succeeded in resolving these problems as follows:

Mandate: the objects of the meeting were the study of the problems arising concerning the liberalization of trade and of price policy, for the presentation of concrete proposals to the governments with the objective of intensifying trade in products which are of interest to the developing countries and which also contribute to the growth of their revenues in foreign currencies and an improved participation in the expansion of markets for those countries.

Choice of products: the General Secretary of the UNCTAD is charged with the determination of the raw materials which are to be the object of consultations taking into consideration the

four lists of products submitted by Africa, Asia, Latin America and the developing countries and after consultation with and the agreement of the interested governments.

Framework of the Consultations: If, in a general manner, the central role of the UNCTAD is recognized, the Commission limits itself to requiring the General Secretary of the UNCTAD to proceed with the necessary coordination in consultation with the General Director of FAO and the heads of the secretariats of the existing autonomous intergovernmental organizations for the various basic products.

Agreement on these three subjects constitutes a perfect compromise for all the interested parties. The action undertaken by the delegation of the Community throughout the sessions contributed very largely to the success of the meetings.

Food aid

2324. During the extraordinary meeting held in London the 21 March 1973, the Food Aid Committee approved the applications for admission to the 2nd. Convention concerning food aid presented by Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom as new members of the Community. Their adhesion implies an increase in the minimum annual contribution of the EEC which should result in an increase in aid in favour of the developing countries which suffer from considerable nutritional deficiencies.

The Commission transmitted to the Council, the 22 March 1973, a communication concerning a *programme of food aid in cereals for the period 1972/73* to be carried out in application of the second convention concerning food aids. This communication concerned not only the 31 applications made direct to the Community but also the applications addressed to the Member States.

2326. In response to the appeal made by the General Secretary of the United Nations and to the request of the government of *Bangladesh*, the Council of the European Communities, on the proposal of the commission, decided the 12 March¹ to grant to this country food aid under the terms of the 1972/1973 programme to the extent of 175 000 tons of cereals, delivered CAF. It is anticipated that this Community aid will also be accompanied by other aids from the Member States undertaken as national actions.

2327. The 5 March 1973, the Commission transmitted to the Council a communication proposing the granting of urgent food aid in favour of the countries of Indo-China, by the intermediary of the International Red Cross Committee. This aid will consist of 30 000 tons of rice, 1 500 tons of powdered skim milk and 600 tons of sugar.

2328. At its session from the 12 to 16 March 1973,² the European Parliament adopted a resolution approving the proposal of the Commission concerning the furnishing to UNRWA of the second and last allocation of food aid in the form of sugar, in execution of the convention concluded with that organization in 1972.

Other non-member countries

United States

2329. In the framework of the regular contacts maintained between the Commission and the American government, a new high level consultation took place in Brussels the 21 and

¹ JO L 74 of 22.3.1973.

² Point 2442.

22 March 1973. The delegation of the United States was led by the Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, Mr William Casey. The following personalities of the Commission were present at the conversations: Sir Christopher Soames and Messrs. Simonet, Denieu, Lardinois and Gundelach.

The conversations covered the preparation by the consulting parties of negotiations of far reaching consequences of GATT and other subjects of common interest such as: (i) relations with developing countries, notable in view of the granting of tariff preferences; (ii) the possibilities of collaboration in the domain of energy; (iii) questions relative to industrial policy.

2330. Previously, the 17 March, Mr George Shultz, *Secretary for the Treasury* of the United States had met Mr François-Xavier Ortoli, the President of the Commission. These conversations were concerned essentially with the Monetary Conference of the 'fourteen' of 16 March in Paris and also concerned 'the commercial relations between the United States and the Community, notably concerning the commercial legislation at present under examination in the United States' as was indicated in the communiqué published after the interview.

Brazil

2331. The negotiations with the Federative Republic of Brazil in view of the conclusion of a non-preferential commercial agreement between the European Economic Community and Brazil were opened on the 26 March 1973.

During the course of the first session, the two delegations examined the different problems to be resolved and stated their position concern-

ing them. The negotiations will be resumed during the month of May.

The Council had authorized the Commission to open these negotiations on 5 March 1973 following the request for the opening up of negotiations made by Brazil in May 1971.¹

Argentine

2332. The Joint Commission set up by the commercial agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Argentine signed the 8 November 1971² and which came into force the 1 January 1973, held its second session the 8 March 1973.

The first reunion of the joint commission held the 6 November 1972, had as object the exchange of views and information concerning the establishment, by the Community, of an annual estimated evaluation of the beef and veal destined for the transformation industry, concerning supplementary possibilities of imports by the Community of frozen beef and veal and also of the means for assuring a better equilibrium of the beef and veal market. The meeting of the 8 March 1973 — devoted to the administration of the agreement and the examination of its functioning — considered especially the evolution of trade exchanges, the import regimes, certain problems concerning maritime transport and cooperation between Argentine and the Community.

For the first point, Argentine registered in 1972, another positive trade balance with the EEC which is by far its best client. The system of generalized preferences set up by the Community since July 1972 in favour of industrial

¹ Bull. EC 12-1971, part two, point 108 and EC 9-1972, part two, point 115.

² Bull. EC 1-1972, part two, point 95.

products originating in developing countries will favour even more the exports of Argentine. The Community is still preoccupied, however, by the many restrictive measures introduced by Argentine which hamper the normal development of its exports to that country. As far as the import regimes in the EEC and Argentine are concerned (especially the problem of deposits in advance demanded for imports by Argentine), the Community, in application of declaration No. 3 of Argentine annexed to the agreement, presented in 1972, a short list of goods for which exemption from the obligation of deposits in advance was requested. The Community was obliged to repeat this request for 1973 since no progress had been recorded. As far as the declarations of Argentine annexed to the agreement concerning maritime transport of goods were concerned, since no satisfactory solution had been found, the Community again insisted that Argentine should honour its engagements. Finally, the joint Commission examined the problems posed by cooperation in the domains envisaged by the agreement.

Commercial policy

Preparing and Mounting the Common Commercial Policy

2333. During its session of 26 March 1973, the Council on a Proposal from the Commission adopted three further 'instalments'¹ of coverage of other products by the Appendix to the Regulation of 19 December 1969² which set up a joint system for *imports from State-trading countries*. The Appendix includes the list of products for which imports from these countries are decontrolled.

2334. On 5 March 1973, the Council, on a Commission Proposal, authorized the introduction of *quantity restrictions on German imports of certain types of timber*. This measure, exceptional and temporary, was taken as a departure from the Regulations of 19 December 1969 and 25 May 1970 which laid down a joint system for imports from both State-trading countries and non-Member States.

2335. On 9 March 1973³ the Commission amended its Decision of 12 May 1971⁴ authorizing Member States to take *conservative protection measures over imports of certain products* originating from non-Member countries and in free circulation in another Member State. Actually, until then for products under non-contract quotas and in free circulation Member States could not insist on an advance import certificate before 80% of the quota had been used up. With monitoring a practical impossibility owing to no prior control, the new Commission Decision authorizes Member States to demand the import certificate alone and obliges them to issue them automatically. The conservative protection measures will not apply until the quota is exceeded.

Individual Commercial Policy Measures

Cotton Textiles

2336. The Commission decided the 8 March 1973⁵ on autonomous increases in Community imports of cotton textiles coming under *self-limiting Agreements made with some non-Member countries* (India, Pakistan, Egypt,

¹ OJ L 98 of 12.4.1973.

² OJ L 19 of 26.1.1970.

³ OJ L 80 of 28.3.1973.

⁴ OJ L 121 of 3.6.1971.

⁵ OJ L 94 of 10.4.1973.

Korea, Japan, Hong-Kong). The aim of the Decision is to make exports possible to the new Member States by adjusting ceiling quantities in the Agreements concerned to the needs of the enlarged Community. The extra quantities were set in proportion to the trade flow between the new Member States and each of the non-Member exporters without impairing the agreed relationships holding before the date of Accession.

2337. Negotiations begun between the EEC and *Jugoslavia* for concluding an Agreement over cotton textiles were wound up on 1 March with the initialling of the Agreement. It will allow *Jugoslavia* to enjoy generalized tariff preferences for cotton textiles. In its offer the EEC had indicated that for cotton textiles the preferences would be reserved for signatories to the long-term agreement on the cotton textile trade but could also be granted to non-Member countries not party to the Agreement, as *Jugoslavia* for instance, but who would make 'similar commitments.' The provisions of the initialled Agreement which include these similar commitments and by and large repeat the content of kindred Agreements already made by the Community with the main suppliers under the provisions of Art. 4 of the long-term Agreement, stipulate:

- (i) the waiving of quantity limits now in force in the Member States and while the Agreement lasts;
- (ii) the self-limiting of *Jugoslavian* exports at an agreed level;
- (iii) application of ceilings under the dual monitoring system.

Steel

2338. The Commission took a Decision to derogate¹ from Recommendation 1/64 of the High Authority in order to allow the indepen-

dent application of reduced duties provided in the Agreements signed on 22 July 1972 between Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland and the ECSC Member States. Until then the 'notification of finalization of the procedures needed to implement the Agreements' had not occurred and the Government representatives had decided on 22 March to apply independently from 1 April the first instalment of cuts scheduled in the Agreements. The Commission's Decision to derogate from the Recommendation setting the minimum duties was the act needed to apply the Decision over independent cutting of duties.

Sector problems

Basic products and world agreements

UNCTAD Commission on basic products

2339. The basic products committee of the United Nations conference on trade and development held its 7th meeting at Geneva from 26 February to 10 March, 1973.² Its work led to the specification: — of the mandate to be given to the bodies which will handle the inter-government consultations connected with trade liberalization and price policy: — the nature of these bodies; and — the list of products to which these consultations should relate.

Olive oil

2340. The international olive oil agreement expires on 31 December, 1973; and a United Nations conference, held in Geneva on 19-

¹ OJ L 120 of the 7.5.1973.

² Point 2323.

23 March, 1973 voted for its renewal. The Community and the member countries played a decisive part in negotiating the protocol providing for this renewal. The international agreement, as amended in the renewal protocol, should be effective until 31 December, 1978. The protocol thus agreed, is open to signature by the EEC governments until 30 October, 1973; and the Commission intends to recommend the Council to adhere to it and thus to the international olive oil agreement.

Cocoa

2341. On the invitation of the UNCTAD Secretary General, Mr Peres Guerrero, the interim committee, set up by the United Nations Cocoa Conference, met in Geneva on 12-16 March, 1973. It consists of representatives of the governments, including the Community, which signed the International Cocoa Agreement of 1972. The committee examined the questions with which the International Cocoa Council will have to deal at its first meeting after the entry into force of the agreement, and fixed in principle for 30 June, 1973. The interim committee reached agreement on the broad principles for determining the rules which will govern the operation of the agreement.

Coffee

2342. The executive committee of the international coffee agreement met in London from 26 February to 2 March, 1973. On the basis of a report by the Executive Director, this meeting should have facilitated progress towards the re-negotiation of the international agreement of 1968, which expires on 30 September, 1973. In practice, because of the gap between the attitudes of producing and consuming countries regarding the basic principles for such an agreement, the work of the committee was

mainly devoted to the problem of extending the existing agreement for a period to be determined by the ICO Council at its forthcoming extraordinary meeting to be held in April. The Council will also have to decide on the amendment, or suspension, of the articles relating to the economic machinery of the agreement.

Butter oil

2343. By a decision of Council on 27-28 October, 1972, the Commission was appointed to negotiate in GATT an international arrangement regarding butyric fats, completing the GATT agreement on powdered skimmed milk. Following this decision the GATT working party on milk products met in Geneva in December 1972 and February 1973 and prepared a draft for an arrangement on butyric fats (butteroil and ghee). The Council, at its meeting on 26-27 March, 1973, authorized the Commission to take part in the final phase of the negotiations, on the basis of new directives relating, in particular, to the minimum price levels to be fixed. A further meeting of the GATT working party has been called; and the Commission thinks this meeting should make it possible to reach a definite agreement among the principal parties interested.¹

Sugar

2344. On 29 March last, the Commission put forward to the Council a communication on the attitude which should be adopted by the European Economic Community and its member States at the United Nations conference on sugar, which is to meet in Geneva on 7-30 May next.

¹ This agreement was indeed reached at the beginning of April.

Scientific and nuclear agreements

Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

2345. The agreement negotiated between the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), its seven member States not equipped with nuclear weapons and the international atomic energy Agency (IAEA) under the Treaty for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons was formally approved by the Communities' Council at its meeting on 22 March. The agreement provides that the Community of the first part and IAEA for the second part, shall apply their 'guarantees' (security control measures) in agreed conditions, so as to ensure that on the territories of the States which are parties to the agreement, fissile material is not diverted from its peaceful utilisation into the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other apparatus for nuclear explosion.

The agreement takes into account the existence of the Euratom security control and the special nature of the institutions responsible for it and its operation. It is so drawn up as to enable the Community and the IAEA to discharge their own particular responsibilities while avoiding the useless duplication by the agency of the Community control activities, and thus reducing to the necessary minimum the charges to be borne by the operators of nuclear installations.

2346. In addition, the Commission submitted to Council on 16 March, a communication relating to the admission of Denmark and Ireland to the agreement negotiated with IAEA under the non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). The Act of Adhesion provides that the new member States undertake to adhere to conventions or agreements made by the original member States, jointly with any one of the

Communities, and more particularly the agreement with IAEA.

Cooperation agreement Euratom-United States in nuclear matters

2347. The amendment to the additional agreement of cooperation between the United States and the European Community for Atomic Energy (EURATOM) which was signed in Washington on 20 September, 1972 has been in force since 1 March, 1973. An exchange of letters between the American authorities and the head of the Commission delegation in Washington, confirms that the respective internal procedures required for the entry into force of the amendment have in fact been completed, and that under Article VII of the amendment, it accordingly comes into force.

International Organizations

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

2348. The renegotiations of Art. XXIV § 6 of GATT necessitated by the Community enlargement and through the adoption of the CCT by the three incoming countries, moved into an active phase with the initial bilateral meetings that the EEC has had with several of its partners, in particular with the USA, Canada, Japan, Australia, India and Brazil.

The Commission's delegation which led the proceedings for the Community reminded its partners that application of Art. XXIV § 6 has a narrow but nonetheless important objective; namely, to put and keep in the tariff of the enlarged customs union the standard levels of tariff concessions previously granted in the

customs tariffs of the Six and the three new Members. In the Commission's view, the EEC's offer¹ is an entity wherein each country concerned could be compensated against the adjustments to duties necessitated by the national charges with the common tariff.

For their part, several of the Community's partners were not satisfied with this offer in connection with setting compensation in line with the provisions of Art. XXIV § 6 and they put forward their list of demands over the concessions of the three new Members.

Bilateral technical meetings are taking place to specify provisionally the negotiating rights which our partners are claiming and to settle the many problems due to discrepancies in statistical and customs nomenclature between the EEC and the three new Members.

The United Nations' Economic Commission for Latin America

2349. The Community attended as an observer the 15th session of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) held in Quito from 23 to 30 March 1973. During the meeting the ECLA made a regional appraisal of international development strategy. On this occasion the Community stressed the value of its market for Latin American exports and spoke of steps taken to ease access which include renewing for the current year the generalized tariff preferences scheme adopted by the Community in favour of the developing countries.

Community diplomatic relations

2350. On 5 March, 1973² the President in office of the Council and the President of the

Commission received H.E. Wan Bok Choi, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, who handed them his credentials as head of his country's mission to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EURATOM).

The new Ambassador succeeds H.E. Il Yung Chung, who has been recalled for transfer to other duties.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2327.

² OJ C 15 of 30.3.1973.

4. Activities of the Institutions of the Community

European Parliament

European Parliament

March Session

2401. The European Parliament met in plenary session in Strasbourg from 12 to 16 March 1973.¹ Of central importance in the deliberations was election of the President and Vice-Presidents of Parliament, membership of the Committees, the question time, exchange of views between Council, Commission, and Parliament, the monetary crisis, the European Monetary Cooperation Fund, and pluri-annual financial forecasts for the European Communities' budget.

The European Parliament also dealt with social affairs and public health, a proposal concerning the number of Committees and their membership, the Franco-Polish Economic Agreement, common structural policy, the agreement negotiated with the non-applicant EFTA Member States, the political situation in the Near East, the EEC/Cyprus association, relations with the Mediterranean countries, agricultural questions, duty-free entry of small consignments of Community goods, external trade policy, the Community's uranium enrichment capacity, and the common approach to air transport.

Parliament also ratified the appointments of the following members newly appointed by the Parliaments of the Member States: *Delmotte* (S), appointed by the Belgian Senate; *Harmegnies* (S), appointed by the Belgian Chamber of Deputies; *Achenbach* (L), *Adams* (S), *Aigner* (CD), *Arndt* (S), *Artzinger* (CD), *Bangemann* (L), *Behrendt* (S), *Blumenfeld* (CD), *Burgbacher* (CD), *Cortier* (S), *Fellermaier* (S), *Flämig* (S), *Frehsee* (S), *Früh* (CD), *Gerlach* (S), *Härzschel* (CD), *Jahn* (CD), *Kater* (S), *Klepsch* (CD), *Krall* (L), *Lange* (S), *Lautenschlager* (S), *Lücker* (CD), *Memmel* (CD), *Müller* (S), *Mursch* (CD), *Mrs Orth* (S), *Schmidt* (S), *Schulz* (CD),

Schwabe (CD), *Schwörer* (CD), *Seefeld* (S), *Springorum* (CD), *Starke* (CD), *Walkhoff* (S), and *Mrs Walz* (CD), appointed by the Federal German Parliament; *Baas* (L), *Mrs Barendregt* (S), *Berkhouwer* (L), *Broeks* (S), *Brouwer* (CD), *Eisma* (S), *Van der Gun* (CD), *De Koning* (CD), *Mommersteeg* (CD), *Pronk* (S), *Schuijt* (CD), *Van der Stoel* (S), and *Vredeling* (S), appointed by the two Chambers of the Dutch States-General.

Letter from the President of the Council on the introduction of question time (12 March)

2402. The Parliamentary President *Behrendt* read a letter from the president of the Council dated 6 March 1973 on the introduction of question time:

'In a letter dated 19 January 1973, you forwarded the resolutions adopted by the European Parliament on 18 January 1973 with regard to the introduction of an hour to be set aside for question time.

I hereby inform you that the Council welcomes this initiative on the part of the European Parliament and understands the reasons which inspired it, and would like to assure you that it will make every effort to take part in this new procedure. The Council will reply to these questions within the framework of the provi-

¹ The present report was prepared on the basis of the German edition of 'Informationen' published by the general secretariat of the European Parliament.

Party affiliation and country of origin of the members taking part in the debates are given in parentheses behind their names. The political groups of the European Parliament are abbreviated as follows: CD (Christian Democratic Group), S (Socialist Group), L (Liberal and Allies Group), C (European Conservative Group), DE (European Democratic Union Group).

The full text of the resolutions passed by the European Parliament during the March session is published in the Official Journal C 19 of 12 April 1973.

visions of which I informed you in a letter dated 12 June 1972 concerning replies to oral questions.

In view of the duties of the President of the Council, however, I should remind you that the Council would like those items on the agenda of the European Parliament for which the presence of the Council is necessary to be grouped together as much as possible. Finally, in certain cases, the Council might have difficulty in examining the questions within the short interval of one week provided for between their transmission to the Council and their inclusion in the agenda for the parliamentary session. The Council would therefore appreciate it if the European Parliament would forward these questions not less than five working days before the session for which question time is to be included in the agenda, in order that it may reply to these questions in due time.'

Setting-Up of an Inter-Parliamentary Relations Board (March 12)

2403. President Behrendt announced that at its meeting of 26 and 27 February 1973 the enlarged Bureau had decided to set up an Inter-Parliamentary Relations Board to serve it in an advisory capacity. It is the Board's task to keep under review parliamentary relations with non-Member States, except for those in respect of which provision was made for special parliamentary bodies within the framework of association agreements. The Board would also be responsible for links with international parliamentary institutions.

The Board comprises: the chairmen of the political groups, the chairmen of the Political Affairs Committee, the Committee on External Economic Relations, and the Committee on Development and Cooperation as well as a further member, elected by the abovementioned

Board members from the Members of the European Parliament, to act as the chairman of the Board. The members of the Board are allowed to be represented by deputies.

Number and Membership of the Committees (March 12).

2404. At the request of the chairmen of the political groups, *Lücker* (CD, Germany), *Corona* (S, Italy), *Berkhouwer* (L, Netherlands), *Kirk* (C, Great Britain), and *Triboulet* (DE, France) Parliament resolved to form the following Committees for the 1973-1974 session: Political Affairs Committee, Legal Affairs Committee, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Committee on Budgets, Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Regional Policy and Transport, Committee on Energy, Research, and Technology, Committee on Public Health and the Environment, Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth (each with 29 members), Committee on External Economic Relations, Committee on Development and Cooperation (Each with 35 members), and to appoint delegations for the Joint Committee of the Association with Greece, the Joint Committee of the Association with Turkey (each with 15 delegates, which are full members of the Committee on External Economic Relations), and the Parliamentary Committee for the Association with the East African Community (12 delegates, which are full members of the Committee on Development and Cooperation). The European members of the Joint Committee appointed by the EEC-AASM Parliamentary Conference shall be full members of the Committee on Development and Cooperation.

Address by the President (March 12)

2405. As his term of office was drawing to a close, President *Behrendt* gave a brief address.

He pointed out the various organizational innovations which had recently been introduced in Parliament to enable it to cope with new tasks and the increased work load.

Mr Behrendt further emphasized the necessity of constantly improving Parliament's work methods and called on all members to support the working party set up for this purpose to the best of their ability. He termed important the creation of an Inter-Parliamentary Relations Board. In conclusion, Mr Behrendt assured his listeners that he would again join the ranks of the simple members in the struggle for Parliament's reputation and unreservedly support his successor.

Opening of the Annual Session (March 13)

2406. *Address by the Oldest Representative*

The oldest Representative, the Belgian delegate *Lefèbvre* (L), declared opened the 1973-1974 annual session of the European Parliament. He began his address by expressing to President Behrendt the thanks and acknowledgement of his colleagues for all he had done in the service of Parliament over the past two years. Then he outlined the latest developments in the political sphere from the standpoint of the European Parliament, dwelling in particular on the problems arising in connection with the current grave monetary crisis. The oldest Representative called for greater powers and direct election of the European Parliament as well as closer relations between the European Parliament and the national Parliaments.

Election of the President

2407. Parliament elected the Dutch Liberal delegate, Cornelis *Berkhouwer*, as the new President of the European Parliament.

Berkhouwer obtained 85 votes, one more than was required for an absolute majority on the first ballot. *Berkhouwer's* opponent, the Dutch Christian Democratic delegate, *Willem Schuijt*, obtained 71 votes, and Mrs *Tilde Iotti* (non-attached, Communist, Italy) ten votes.

President *Berkhouwer* began his acceptance speech by thanking his colleagues for the confidence they had placed in him and expressing high regard for his predecessor in office, Mr *Walter Behrendt*. He then briefly outlined the main tasks he felt had to be tackled during his term of office and hoped that it would soon be possible for Members of the European Parliament to be elected by direct universal suffrage by the citizens of all Member States of the Community. He promised to work aggressively in the interests and for the rights of Parliament. For the rest, he called for a fruitful dialogue between the Institutions of the Community.

The President of the Commission, *Ortoli*, assured the parliamentary President of the Commission's cooperation for the coming legislative period and thanked the past president, Mr *Behrendt*, for his activity in the service of the European cause.

Election of the Vice-Presidents

2408. The political groups had nominated eleven candidates, namely the delegates *Bersani* (CD, Italy), *Behrendt* (S, Germany), Lord *Bessborough* (C, Great Britain), *Rivière* (DE, France), *Burgbacher* (CD, Germany), *Corona* (S, Italy), Sir *Anthony C. Esmonde* (CD, Ireland), *Dalsager* (S, Denmark), *Dewulf* (CD, Belgium), *Wohlfart* (S, Luxemburg), and *Colin* (CD, France). Parliament elected the named members as Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

Membership of the Committees

2409. Parliament appointed the members of the committees and the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association as recommended by the enlarged Bureau.

Appointment of the General Rapporteur
(March 15)

2410. On a proposal from the President and pursuant to its Resolution of 15 February 1973¹ on the procedure for reviewing the Sixth General Report of the Commission on the activities of the Communities in 1972, Parliament appointed Mr Seefeld (S, Germany) as general rapporteur.

Question Time
(March 14)*Relations between the European Communities and the United States—Liberalization of World Trade*

2411. Lord O'Hagan (non-attached, Independent, Great Britain) asked the Commission how it intended to improve relations between the Community and the United States. Mr Berkhouwer (L, Netherlands) further asked whether the Commission had studied the contents of the Foreign Trade and Investment Act, or Burke-Hartke Bill, now before the United States Congress and the effect passing of this bill could have on the economic relations between the USA and the Community.

In his answer, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice President of the Commission, expressed the hope that the forthcoming GATT negotiations will improve trade relations with the USA and that the respective appeals will be heeded on both sides of the Atlantic. At the beginning of April, the Commission will present the Council

with a work paper on negotiations between the Community and the USA, which will result in the required basis for discussion, he said. Lord O'Hagan called for a more comprehensive debate on the question. Since the Commission had announced submission of a work paper the President proposed deferring the debate until April. Cousté (DE, France) expressed the desire to include monetary aspects in the debate.

Proceedings against exponents of anti-fascism in Greece—Human rights and democratic freedoms in Greece

2412. Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli (non-attached, Independent Left, Italy) asked concerning the Commission's position in connection with the problems of the EEC/Greece association arising from the recent trials of exponents of anti-fascism in Greece.

Cifarelli (S, Italy) asked the Commission whether it considered the latest events in Greece an indication that the government in Athens respects human rights and democratic freedoms as required in the preamble of the Treaty of Association.

In response, Soames stated that, pending re-establishment of democratic structures, the relations of the Community to Greece were limited to current business. Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli asked whether the Commission did not intend to intervene to re-establish democracy in Greece. To this Soames replied that he declared once and for all that the Commission condemned all encroachment on human rights and all violation of democratic principles no matter where they occurred, from which Cifarelli (S, Italy) concluded that the EEC/Greece association agreement was put on ice for the future; Soames confirmed this.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2403.

Rights of Migrant Workers

2413. In reply to the question by Lord O'Hagan (non-attached, Independent, Great Britain) as to what the Commission intended to do to improve the social situation of migrant workers in the Community, the Vice President of the Commission, Hillery, termed the question of the rights of the migrant workers an essential aspect of the common social policy. They are entitled to the same compensation as the indigenous workers; also important is the education of their children. All discrimination must be eliminated. Lord O'Hagan further wanted to know what position the Commission takes to third countries who send migrant workers into the Community. Bro (C, Denmark) drew attention to the problem of schooling the children of migrant workers. Hillery stated that the Commission would soon submit a paper on this question. Cousté (DE, France) inquired whether the Commission had worked out a special statute for migrant workers coming from countries outside of the Community. To this Hillery replied that the Commission did not want two sets of regulations; this problem is still being examined. Fellermaier (S, Germany) asked whether the money provided in the framework of the Special Fund was adequate. Frehsee (S, Germany) inquired whether there was discrimination between the single categories of migrant workers. Hillery replied that discrimination had occurred only in isolated cases within private undertakings, for which the authorities were not responsible. Jahn (CD, Germany) asked the Commission whether it would soon publish a paper on the situation of migrant workers in the single Member States. To a question by Marras (non-attached, Communist, Italy) Hillery replied that the migrant workers were also at a disadvantage when discharged. In response to a further question by Giraud (S, France) concerning the position of migrant workers who illegally move to another Member

State, Hillery emphasized that these migrant workers could not claim protection on the basis of any statute.

Stabilization of Food Prices in the Community

2414. In response to the question by Mr Brewis (C, Great Britain) concerning the Commission's recommendations for stabilizing food prices in the Community, Commission member Lardinois announced that the Commission would submit proposals in about ten days relative to the Council's decision of 1 October 1972. Brewis also wanted to know whether the Commission intended to promote the production of feed. Lardinois replied that the prices would probably be very high in 1974 and the Commission did not think additional measures would have to be taken. Vredeling (S, Netherlands) inquired concerning the share that expenditures for food make up in the living costs of a household. In Lardinois' view food costs will drop in relation to total expenses but they will continue to be a heavy burden to small households. Vetrone (CD, Italy) asked whether the producer prices for agricultural products had had a stabilizing effect.

Aids to Farmers' Incomes

2415. Cipolla (non-attached, Communist, Italy) asked whether the Commission had studied the problem assistance to farmers' incomes and submitted a pertinent report to the Council. Lardinois replied that the Commission was examining the problem and would table a detailed report on the occasion of the fixing for the next fiscal year. Income assistance is taken into account when the prices are fixed. Vetrone's (CD, Italy) question as to whether the Commission would put into operation the instruments at its disposal for bringing wages into line was answered in the affirmative by the Commission member.

Regional Development

2416. In response to a question by Mr *Johnston* (L, Great Britain) as to what progress had been made since the Summit Conference in setting up a Regional Fund, Commission member *Thomson* stated that the Commission would submit a report on regional development to the Council in April; as resolved at the Summit Conference, the Fund can begin to operate before 31 December 1973. He said, the Committee on Regional Development in particular has the task of coordinating the regional policies of the Member States and the measures of the Community. Responding to an additional question by *Johnston* concerning the size of the Fund, *Thomson* was reluctant to make any estimates, but he thought the financial resources should be adequate for the proposed tasks. *Jahn* (CD, Germany) asked whether the announced report included information concerning the date on which the Regional Fund would take effect as well as the areas to be promoted and the priority structure of this promotion. *Thomson* replied that his colleague *Hillery* was responsible for this question. *Brewis* (C, Great Britain) inquired whether the Commission will take into account the decline in population beside employment as criterion for the regional policy. *Thomson* said that the report already announced dealt with these questions, in particular migration movements. In response to a further question by *Pounder* (C, Great Britain) *Thomson* replied that the report would give a broad outline; the national parliaments and the European Parliament would be given the opportunity to express their views on the matter. *Dewulf* (CD, Belgium) asked the Commission whether single regions would receive competences and *Leonardi* (non-attached, Communist, Italy) inquired concerning differences in regional development.

Release of Information

2417. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) asked whether, in the interest of good working relations with Parliament, the President would in future arrange to have important policy proposals of the Commission announced to Parliament before informing the press.

Replying for the Commission, *Scarascia Mugnozza* said that it was sometimes necessary to inform the press in order to remove misunderstandings. In general, however, the Commission is constantly in touch with the Committees of Parliament for immediate giving of information. *Scott-Hopkins* regretted the fact that the parliamentarians are in part informed later than the press; he urged that in future the delegates be informed first concerning the most important decisions. *Vredeling* (S, Netherlands) also called for appropriate giving of information to Parliament and the general public. *Fellermaier* (S, Germany) suggested that each day, after a decision-making session of the Commission, the President of Parliament be sent a brief communiqué to enable him to inform delegate via the committees concerning the political contents of the Commission's session. *Triboulet* (DE, France) asked whether in future the Council also would inform Parliament earlier than the press.

Obstacles to natural gas deliveries from the Netherlands to the Federal Republic of Germany

2418. *Springorum* (CD, Germany) asked whether the Commission had examined the compatibility with the EEC Treaty of an order by the Dutch Government that natural gas from the Dutch continental shelf bought by three German energy supply undertakings from a Dutch firm should not be exported to the Federal German Republic but delivered for domestic use in Holland.

Commission member *Gundelach* declared that the prohibition to export issued by the Dutch Government on 22 December 1972 was not in accordance with Article 34 of the EEC Treaty. If the Dutch Government does not change the situation, the case will be brought before the European Court of Justice. In a supplementary question, *Springorum* asked how much time the Commission needed for formulating its position as provided in Article 169. *Burgbacher* (CD, Germany) asked whether the Dutch Government's action in reserving the right to interfere in existing supply contracts within Europe had not already violated the Treaty and was hence illegal. *Lange's* (S, Germany) query whether the Commission considered the Member States' share in the continental shelf as belonging to the Community was answered in the affirmative by *Gundelach*. *Behrendt* (S, Germany) asked when the Commission would conclude its judicial inquiry, to which *Gundelach* replied that the examination was not yet completed. *Fellermaier* (S, Germany) wanted to know why the Commission had so far left unanswered the written inquiries by delegates *Wolfram*, *Gerlach*, and *Fellermaier* concerning natural gas.

Common Agricultural Policy

2419. To the question by *Vredeling* (S, Netherlands) whether the fact that the Commission has asked the national authorities in the Member States to take over part of the complex calculations involved in establishing the compensatory amounts relating to trade in agricultural products does not constitute a retrograde step towards nationalization of the Common Agricultural Policy, Commission member *Lardinois* replied that that was out of the question. No transferring of Community policies to national authorities is involved, only making of the calculations according to an accurately prescribed formula.

The case of Europemballage Corporation, Brussels, and Continental Can Corporation Inc., New York, versus the Commission of the European Communities

2420. Sir *Derek Walker-Smith* (C, Great Britain) asked whether the ruling of the Court of Justice in the case of *Europemballage and Continental Can versus the Commission* leads to changes in the practice and policy of the Commission in applying Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty regarding restrictive practices and the abuse of a dominant position within the Common Market. The interrogator also asked for an explanation regarding interpretation of the above-mentioned Articles taking this ruling into account.

Answering for the Commission while deputizing for *Borschette*, Vice President *Haferkamp* said the ruling was of considerable importance. It substantiates the interpretations given Article 86 by the Commission. According to this ruling, the fact can no longer be contested that amalgamations of undertakings with a dominant position within the Common Market represent the abuse of such a dominant position if they cause a considerable change in competition within the Common Market. The Commission will see to it that the undertakings active within the Common Market observe the stipulations of Articles 85 and 86. Sir *Derek Walker-Smith* (C, Great Britain) also wanted to know whether it was possible to avoid distortions of competition, which *Haferkamp* affirmed. *Couté* (DE, France) asked why the Commission is preparing a regulation in accordance with Article 86 of the EEC Treaty, and the Dutch delegate *Vredeling* (S) wanted to know whether a more flexible procedure could be adopted.

Debate immediately after Question Time
(March 14)

2421. In accordance with the request by the Conservative Group, Parliament decided to

hold a debate on the Commission's reply to the inquiry by Mr *Brewis* (C, Great Britain) concerning the stabilization of food prices in the Community.

Brewis pointed out that the expenditures for food make up 30% of the household expenses, in the case of less well-to-do families even 40%. He asked the Commission whether it preferred giving assistance for fertilizer or raising agricultural prices; he mentioned that there was unemployment in certain areas because of the lack of stability in agriculture. *Vetrone* (CD, Italy) said he thought the cost of services had affected consumer prices, and *Marras* (non-attached, Communist, Italy) asked who in the Community attended to protection of the consumer.

Mrs *Orth* (S, Germany) considered this problem very important and urged that Parliament arrange for a more comprehensive debate at a given time. *Frehsee* (S, Germany) drew attention to the increase in food prices, which raises living costs. The British delegate, Lady *Elles* (C), pleaded for a coherent monetary policy and harmonization of the varying rates of value added tax in the Community. *Jakobsen* (S, Denmark) thought the Committee on Agriculture had so far not dealt adequately with the question. Commission member *Lardinois* supported the French delegate *Vals* (S) in his view that all elements should be taken into account when fixing the prices. In Great Britain, price increases in particular are attributable to increases in wages and devaluation, less to the Common Agricultural Policy.

Exchange of views between Parliament, Council, and Commission (March 14 and 15)

2422. The exchange of views concerned implementation of the resolutions of the Paris Summit Conference, in particular with respect to economic policy, monetary stability, and the fight against inflation. In the framework of

this item on the agenda Parliament also dealt with the inquiry by the Liberal and Allies Group concerning the monetary crisis as well as the inquiries by Mr *Glinne* (S, Belgium) on behalf of the Socialist Group concerning the Franco-Polish Economic Agreement, Mr *Mitterdorfer* (CD, Italy) on behalf of the Committee on Economic Affairs concerning the Community structures policy, and Sir John *Peel* (C, Great Britain) on behalf of the Conservative Group concerning the relations between Europe and America.

On opening the exchange of views with Parliament, the President-in-Office, the Belgian Foreign Minister *van Elslande* announced that the Council of Ministers had the intention of concluding the setting up of a European Monetary Cooperation Fund for 1 April 1973 at its meeting on March 12. Van Elslande termed the erection of this Fund a step on the road to the Economic and Monetary Union, the end of which must be an independent EEC monetary structure with the central banks organized on the Community level. The outcome of the Council's meeting on March 11 showed that the Community was determined to cooperate as closely as possible and proceed on the road leading to the Economic and Monetary Union. Van Elslande admitted that the latest monetary crisis had made the fight against inflation in the Community more difficult because the purchases by Europe's central banks to support the dollar had created additional liquidity to the amount of 10 billion dollars. Inflation has particular characteristics in each Member State, so that the measures to be taken vary from country to country. All Member States, however, consider the fight against inflation a priority goal. The results of the measures taken cannot yet be evaluated; a supplementary program beside the anti-inflation program decided on by the Council of Ministers on 31 October 1972 in Luxemburg is a possibility.

Continuing his remarks, Van Elslande in particular dealt with the Community's relations with the United States, the Mediterranean countries, and Eastern Europe.

Replying to an oral question by Mr Glinne, the President-in-Office of the Council asserted that the cooperation agreement between France and Poland signed on 5 October 1972 and communicated to the Council for information does not contradict the stipulations concerning co-ordination of the Common Trade Policy. Van Elslande conceded, however, that it will presumably become necessary to take precautionary measures so that cooperation agreements negotiated by Member States, which are not subject to consultation procedure, do not contradict the Common Trade Policy. The Council of Ministers is cognizant of the Commission's communication of 20 December 1972 concerning inclusion of the cooperation policy in the Common Trade Policy and will thoroughly study the Commission's proposals. *Bousquet* (DE, France) also emphasized that a form of consultation for such agreements must be found; he objected to trade relations between the Community and COMECON and expressed support for the intensification of commercial cooperation between the Community and the single state-trading countries. Some time before, the Communist member *Amendola* (non-attached, Italy) had advocated clarifying the relations between the EEC and COMECON and finding a formula for overcoming thinking by blocs at the Conference for European Security and Cooperation (KSZE) in Helsinki.

Sir John *Peel* (C, Great Britain) warned of the danger of a diminished presence of the US in Europe if the Community does not take a greater share of the defence burdens and meet America's wishes in matters of trade. Following a Mediterranean policy directed against the trading interests of the USA is impossible if a US military force of 300 000 men is to be maintained in Europe. He warned against

taking literally official American affirmations that there is no direct connection between defence, on the one hand, and trade and monetary questions, on the other hand. There are numerous voices in the US Congress, he said, which establish a connection and expect Europe to make a greater contribution to defence. The Council President said that this question was outside of the Council's jurisdiction and hence he could give no answer; he recommended raising it in the framework of political cooperation at the semi-annual exchange of views between the Committee on Political Affairs of Parliament and the Foreign Ministers.

Explaining the motive for his oral question, *Mitterdorfer* (CD, Italy) expressed regret at the lack of aggressive decision-making in the area of regional structures policy. Sixteen years of sporadic activity had prevented the European Community from achieving a balanced structure which alone can ensure the changeover to the Economic and Monetary Union. The lack of leadership in economic policy can no longer be countenanced, for a European policy directed to growth is first and foremost a regional structures policy on the European scale.

In his reply, the Council President referred to the resolutions of the Paris Summit Conference on regional policy and stressed the Council's determination to implement these resolutions. In conclusion, *Van Elslande* emphasized the Council's political will to make progress in this area that will be of fundamental importance to the harmonious development of the Community.

The British Minister responsible for European affairs, *Davies*, took a stand for strengthening the European Institutions, emphasizing that Parliament in particular must furnish appropriate impulses for reform of the Institutions. Commission President *Ortoli* deplored the fact that the Nine had not found a common solution to the monetary crisis. The Commission will

keep to the schedule set up at the Summit Conference and be careful to preserve the overall character of Community resolutions, he said.

On behalf of his group, Mr *Bertrand* (CD, Belgium) deplored the fact that the Council had defined no common anti-inflation policy on 31 October 1972. On behalf of the Socialist Group, *Lange* (Germany) averred that there should have been greater solidarity of action in the monetary sphere. The Economic and Monetary Union must be developed into a social union; it cannot become a purely commercial undertaking. He further urged that suitable instruments for a common economic policy be created and the policies of the individual Member States harmonized. As long as economic differentiation between single areas continued to exist no genuine Community policy could be arrived at. Required now was a common cyclical, structural, and regional policy to undergird a monetary policy on the Community level. *Federspiel* (L, Denmark) urged the governments to assume their responsibility for the monetary policy and agree on an effective anti-inflation police. Sir *Brandon Rhys Williams* (C, Great Britain) termed the monetary question a problem of world-wide importance, in the solving of which the interests of the developing countries should not be overlooked. *Burgbacher* (CD, Germany) termed the monetary question an economic problem of a general nature. In this connection, beside referring to the American trade balance deficit, he also pointed out the other factors, in particular the quantities of dollars arising by way of deposit money. Concerning a solution of the monetary crisis, he warned against a 'European solution', instead recommending an 'Atlantic solution' arrived at by agreement with the USA and, if possible, Japan. *Cifarelli* (S, Italy) expressed dissatisfaction with the statements on regional policy made by the Council President. On behalf of

his group, *Bro* (C, Denmark) termed the Brussels resolutions the beginning of an Economic and Monetary Union; perhaps Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and Austria should be included in future negotiations.

Sir *Douglas Dodds-Parker* (C, Great Britain) stressed the necessity of a common energy policy and the inclusion of crude oil imports in this policy; as *Burgbacher* before him, he emphasized the effects of crude oil imports on the monetary policy. *Boano* (CD, Italy) termed the relations with the USA in the framework of the GATT negotiations the core of the Common Trade Policy and urged all Member States to reach a common view on the question. A genuine Mediterranean policy must be found on the basis of a peaceful balance. *Petersen* (L, Denmark) called for a concerted plan for the developing countries that takes into account all conditions of economic activity. The reason for the young people's sceptical attitude toward the EEC is, above all, the imprecise definition of European goals. The Vice President of the Commission, *Haferkamp*, referred in particular to the statements on energy policy and expressed the conviction that stronger cooperation with the producing regions must be achieved in this field. With respect to external relations, the Community must contribute to the harmonious development of world trade while preserving its own achievements.

Setting up of a European Monetary Cooperation Fund (March 15)

2423. Mr *Arndt* (S, Germany) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Economic Affairs Committee, on the proposal from the Commission for a decision setting up a European Monetary Cooperation Fund. Concerning its proposals on further development of the Fund expected for 30 June 1973, the rapporteur

advised the Commission definitely to 'reach for the stars' and recommend very extensive amalgamation of currency reserves and very extensive competences for supporting Community currencies. *Haferkamp*, Vice President of the Commission, maintained that it was particularly important that the Fund be set up now so that it would be available as instrument. Of course, its headquarters must be within the Community. Determining the location of the headquarters is up to the governments in the framework of the 1967 Treaty on the fusion of European Institutions. *Haferkamp* emphasized that, although the Fund will have to operate according to the general economic guidelines of the Council, it cannot be bound to the decisions of the Council in its day-to-day business.

The spokesman of the Gaullist Group, *Bousch* (France) gave his support to the proposal. Although the resources of the Fund are still inadequate, the creation of this instrument is important particularly in view of the ever more frequent occurrence of monetary crises. Mr *Fabbrini* (non-attached, Communist, Italy), by contrast, said that he and his political friends abstained from voting because the Fund had the effect of further reinforcing the 'autocratic and anti-democratic' structures of the Community since it was hardly subordinate to the Council and still less subject to the democratic control of the European Parliament. The spokesman of the Conservative Group, the Briton Sir Brandon *Rhys-Williams*, warned emphatically against stipulations that could curtail the autonomy of the Fund and that of the central bank governors entrusted with its direction. Council and Parliament must exercise restraint relative to operation and control of the Fund since it is autonomous and must make quick decisions minute by minute. The Fund must soon be provided with adequate maneuverable resources. *Rhys-Williams* advocated setting up rules in the framework of the

Fund for step-by-step parity adjustments within the Community, which will eventually become necessary. He said that in some respects the old rules of the European Payments Union (EZU) were clearer than those of the Fund. In the EEC, the negotiation of ad hoc decisions was too prevalent; instead, clear rules should be set up at the outset, which could then be applied without discussion.

Artzinger (CD, Germany) spoke in support of the proposal tabled by the Committee on Budgets that the resolution emphasize the parallelism between monetary and economic policies. Connection of the six currencies relative to outside countries, the common floating as a bloc, also requires the harmonization of economic policy, in particular internal monetary policy. *Lange* (S, Germany) asked *Artzinger* to withdraw the amendment proposal since the Fund for Economic Cooperation can only be used to promote monetary policy and hence its function relative to monetary policy should be stressed. Accordingly, *Artzinger* withdrew his amendment proposal, which was deplored by the Luxemburg delegate *Astrid Lulling* (S).

The Resolution, unanimously approved by Parliament with abstention of the Communist members, emphasizes that the Fund must function independently of the Council and that its importance lies less in the functions set out in the Commission's proposal than in the possibilities of its development into a European Central Bank. Parliament considers it necessary for the Fund to have wider powers and greater resources available so that it can exercise more influence on the development of monetary policy and hopes that the Fund will develop a multi-currency system of intervention in European currency markets, and will act to ensure the stability of European currencies in relation to other major world currencies.

Pluri-Annual Financial Forecasts for the Communities' Budget (March 15)

2424. Mr *Arndt* submitted a further report to Parliament, drawn up on behalf of the Committee for Finance and Budgets, on pluri-annual financial forecasts for the budget of the Communities (1973, 1974, and 1975). On behalf of the Committee, the rapporteur moved a recommendation that the Commission have these forecasts corrected. He also urged that the next pluri-annual financial forecasts be tabled promptly, that is, at a time when the 1974 budget is still in preparation and not already passed.

Commission member *Deniau* reminded Parliament that setting up of pluri-annual forecasts on the Community level is considerably more difficult than on the national level since many more factors must be taken into account than in the national sphere, and the Community is constantly developing. Consultation of the Committee on Budgets provided for in the Resolution of 21 April 1970 also poses timing problems. *Deniau* deplored the fact that it had been impossible to make Parliament's examination of the budget and the pluri-annual forecasts coincide in time. He shared the view of the rapporteur, however, that such simultaneousness must be achieved. The delegates *Houdet* (L, France), *Vredeling* (S, Netherlands), and *Vetrone* (CD, Italy) proposed an amendment in which it was pointed out that, taking into account extra-Community factors (such as prices on the world market), the forecasts in the area of EAGFL could be undetermined in nature. The rapporteur replied that, if it is established that 90% of the Community's budget is indeterminable because of the imponderables in the area of world market prices for agricultural products, medium-term forecasts for the entire budget are also indeterminable, and the Council's resolution to set up

medium-term forecasts and examine the budget is meaningless. The amendment proposal cannot be accepted, for it is practically a licence for the extrapolation of future agricultural expenditures and income, which would make all the work on medium-term forecasts useless.

After *Houdet* had withdrawn the amendment proposal, Parliament adopted a Resolution in which it deplored the fact that the financial forecasts for the years 1973 to 1975 were not submitted until the budgetary procedure for 1973 had already been completed in Parliament. Parliament rejected the policy of the Commission and Council whereby only those items of expenditure for which official proposals have been submitted to the Council are included in the forecasts, and urged that future forecasts also include resources for activities with financial repercussions planned by the Commission.

Agreement between the Community and the Non-Applicant EFTA Member States (March 15)

2425. Mr *Christian de la Malène* (DE, France) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the agreement negotiated between the Community and the EFTA Member and Associated States which have not applied to join the Community.

The rapporteur praised the agreements with regard to their political and economic import. He stated that they accord with the rules of Gatt. It is regrettable, however, that Parliament is given no part in the negotiation of such agreements. Mr *Boano* (CD, Italy) deplored the fact that Parliament is not better informed about the concrete results of these agreements. He urged that the Community find a special solution for Icelandic fishery products and

advocated intensifying relations with Finland. *Vredeling* (S, Netherlands) supported Boano in his remarks on Iceland and Finland. He asked the Commission why the text of the agreement with Portugal differs somewhat from that of the other agreements. Thomsen (Denmark), on behalf of the Conservative Group, subscribed to the text of the rapporteur. Lord *Mansfield* (C, Great Britain) referred to the importance of negotiations with Norway. Sir Christopher *Soames*, Vice President of the Commission, told Parliament that the Commission must conclude an agreement with Norway by April 1. He alluded to the role of Parliament in the concluding of agreements, an important question which had already been debated on the occasion of the tabling of the Giraud Report¹ and was being discussed further. *Vredeling's* remark that certain texts are worded carelessly was rejected by *Soames*. Variations in texts can be explained by the fact that certain partners expressly speak about economic interests while others only mention general interests.

Parliament adopted a comprehensive Resolution in which it approves the agreements and stresses that the abovementioned agreements—while making allowance for the present economic situation and requirements—establish clearer and more equitable trade relations which are beneficial to all the partners, while fully respecting the independent decision-making power of each contracting State and complying with the respective rules laid down in Gatt. Parliament reserves the right to consider at a later stage the institutional and procedural aspects in particular concerning the European Parliament's participation in the formation and implementation by the Community of acts under international law, more especially those which have a bearing on the Community's own resources. Furthermore, it calls on the Commission of the European Communities to examine the problem of parliamentary ratification of the trade agree-

ments signed by the Community and to make proposals on this subject by 31 December 1973.

EEC/Cyprus Association (March 15)

2426. Mr Peter *Kirk* (C, Great Britain) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee, on the agreement establishing an association between the EEC and the Republic of Cyprus.

Although the Committee could not completely rid itself of misgivings regarding possible discrimination between the two population groups for implementation of the association between the Community and Cyprus, it endorses approval of the agreement. The rapporteur stated that the Community could not concern itself with the constitutional problems of the island and must accept the Government of Cyprus as fully qualified partner. It could only seek to prevent discrimination against minorities. The Committee suggests sending a delegation to Cyprus which, together with parliamentary representatives of the Greek and Turkish population groups, would study ways of achieving the parliamentary cooperation without discrimination provided for in the agreement. In any case, the agreement is of vital importance to the Cypriot population irrespective of racial origin.

Vice President of the Commission, *Soames*, who is responsible for external relations, endorsed this standpoint. The Community must realize that shifting of the agreement will not reduce the tensions on Cyprus. Besides, the principal advantages arise in the sphere of agriculture, and agricultural production is largely in the hands of the Turkish minority. The Community will strive to achieve cooperation between the two population groups when im-

¹ 1973 February Session, cfr. Bull. EC 2-1973, point 24.

plementing the agreement. The advantages arising therefrom could influence the overall problem. *Vetrone* (CD, Italy) also said he thought everything must be done to help both population groups benefit from the advantages of the agreement. *Broeks* (S, Netherlands) considered it better not to ratify the agreement but first send a delegation to Cyprus. He too thought the economic requirements were more important than the constitutional ones. *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) deplored the absence of the chairman of the Political Affairs Committee and the Christian Democratic Group.

In the Resolution, Parliament approves the agreement and underlines the need for the Association to benefit the whole Cypriot population without discrimination. Parliament considers it desirable to explore the most appropriate way in which parliamentary contacts can be established between Cyprus and the European Parliament and instructs its Political Committee to study this question.

Consequences of the Enlargement of the Community for its Relations with the Mediterranean Countries (March 15)

2427. The French member *de la Malène* (DE), deputizing for the rapporteur, Mr *Rossi* (L, France), submitted a report to Parliament on the consequences of the enlargement of the European Community for its relations with the Mediterranean countries. He in particular underlined the global approach adopted by Commission and Council in their work for determining a common Mediterranean policy.

Commission member *Deniau* admitted that the liberalization of trade in agricultural products was not without problems in some areas of the Community. Since the Mediterranean countries are still largely agriculture-oriented it is impossible, in *Deniau's* view, to exclude

agriculture from the agreement. Nevertheless, 'organized liberalization of trade' must be achieved so that the Mediterranean countries can obtain the maximum of advantages with a minimum of disadvantages to their EEC partners.

Deniau also discussed the problem of the migrant workers broached by the Socialist speaker *Vredeling* (Netherlands). In no case can the Community ignore the problem of 7 million migrant workers, 2 million of which come from Mediterranean countries. The Community must examine the possibility of training these workers before they are recruited in the homeland, or they must at least be offered appropriate training possibilities during their stay. *Deniau* welcomed the suggestion of a type of Marshall Plan for the Mediterranean area, but the Community must be careful to incorporate such action into its entire external relations program so that no disadvantages accrue to the AASM. In conclusion, *Deniau* touched on the trade aspect of relations with the Mediterranean countries; for a zone, roughly 70% of whose exports go to the Community, a free trade zone or a customs union are the only solutions that conform to GATT.

In the debate, the Conservative speaker Lord *Mansfield* (Great Britain) voiced criticism. It is inappropriate for the Community of the Nine to concentrate its action exclusively on a few zones; the Caribbean Islands and other countries must not be discriminated against. *Vetrone* (CD, Italy) drew attention to the political scope of the Mediterranean policy. *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) expressed the hope that generosity would be shown in dealing with the return preferences for agricultural products from this area. As *Vredeling* had done before her, *Astrid Lulling* (S, Luxembourg) raised the problem of migrant workers and demanded the same rights for them as for

other workers. *Broeksz* (S, Netherlands) also called for just treatment of the workers in the Community, especially the women.

In the Resolution, Parliament expresses gratification at the fact that Council and Commission are striving for a 'global solution' in Mediterranean policy, which aims for a liberalization of trade in this area as well as close cooperation for development. Parliament is convinced that, by the promotion of trade and by cooperation in development, after its enlargement the Community as a multi-national unit is in a better position than anyone to make an essential contribution to the establishment of a zone of peaceful co-existence and progress around the Mediterranean. In view of the problems that can arise in certain areas of the Community because of liberalization of the agricultural imports from the Mediterranean countries, Parliament considers it necessary for all Member States to display solidarity in order to ensure that both the advantages and the burdens which may result from the implementation of a joint Mediterranean policy are fairly shared and to solve the difficulties which may arise in the agricultural regions more directly concerned, particularly by the execution of a Community policy of regional development.

Political Situation in the Middle East (March 15)

2428. Mr *Scelba* (CD, Italy) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee, on the political situation in the Middle East. He said, the present proposal is based on the conviction that all Member States and the Community as such are particularly concerned that a peaceful settlement should be brought about as rapidly as possible in the Middle East. The Community, however, can initiate action only if the

Member States have first decided on a common policy. This is a unique opportunity for the Community to make its debut in the field of European foreign policy.

Mommersteeg (CD, Netherlands), on behalf of his group, expressed several reservations to the proposal and deplored the fact that no representative of the Council was present for discussion of such an important question. Mr *Broeksz* (S, Netherlands) supported the proposal on behalf of his group but could not agree with all the oral representations of the rapporteur. There is no indication of a genuine concern for peace before the opposing parties sit down at the negotiating table. Lord *Gladwyn* (Great Britain) supported the proposal on behalf of the Liberal and Allies Group although it certainly did not promise to have any great effect on the Council or the course of events. The Community cannot join issue with affairs in the Middle East before it has agreed on a common policy concerning current problems in the area. In the opinion of Mr *de la Malène* (DE, France) the Community must take an initiative; since, in contrast to individual Member States, its past is untrammelled it can play a special role in the situation. *Brewis* (C, Great Britain) insisted that Europe had just as important interests in this part of the world as the USA and the Soviet Union. Delegate *Lulling* (S, Luxembourg) thought that the text in hand reflected weakness rather than determination on the part of the Community.

Commission member *Deniau* stated that the utmost must be done to improve the situation in this part of the world. The Community can help lay the foundation for a political settlement of the conflict. Beside relieving human distress of the refugees, however, the Community can apply its resources in the Middle East only in the framework of its Mediterranean policy.

In the Resolution, Parliament called on the governments of the Member States, having regard to the possibilities of Community action to bring about a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, to lay down a Community policy and appropriate instruments to be suitably used at the time judged most opportune; this Community policy must in particular include provisions for peaceful reconstruction, in the social and economic spheres, of the countries concerned.

Social Affairs and Public Health (March 12)

Social Security of Migrant Workers

2429. Mr Adams (S, Germany) presented Parliament with a report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Public Health, on the proposal by the Commission for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 574/72 of the Council of 21 March 1972 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EEC) No. 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, changes to the legal basis of the proposal, and the addition to be made to the proposal.

The rapporteur pointed out that the basic regulation concerning the social security of migrant workers had been changed following enlargement of the Community, hence the implementation regulation must also be changed, Adams endorsed the Commission's proposal but called for a change that would make advance payments on claims possible. The rapporteur especially took exception to the fact that Parliament had not been heard concerning the changes to be made in the basic regulation but was now being consulted in

summary process on the purely technical adjustments of the implementation regulation. In conclusion, Adams declared himself in favor of approving the Commission's proposal. Speaking on behalf of the Conservative Group, Lady Elles (Great Britain) seconded the proposal. Vice President of the Commission, Hillery, endorsed the proposed changes.

Activities of the Mines Safety and Health Commission and the General Commission for Industrial Safety and Health in the Iron and Steel Industry

2430. As rapporteur for the Committee on Social Affairs and Public Health on the Ninth Report of the Mines Safety and Health Commission and the Third Report of the General Commission for Industrial Safety and Health in the Iron and Steel Industry, Pêtre (CD, Belgium) drew attention to the importance that the European Parliament attaches to industrial safety and health. Pêtre remarked that the Committee was concerned at the increase in work accidents and urged the General Commission to study the question whether there is a causal connection between increased production and reduced personnel, on the one hand, and the increase in accidents, on the other hand. Pêtre further dealt with accidents suffered by foreign workers; the Committee wondered whether the lack of proper training and instruction in the native language of the workers hampered the application of safety regulations. The Luxemburg member Lulling approved the proposal on behalf of the Socialist Group. Beside the usual tasks, in future more attention should be paid to the problem of air pollution caused by the iron and steel industry. Marras (non-attached, Communist, Italy) likewise expressed concern at the increase in work accidents. Bersani (CD, Italy) called for a more effective and more concrete social policy on the Community level. Hillery, Vice

President of the Commission, announced more intensive research into the causes of accidents. *Hill* (C, Great Britain) urged that Parliament be better informed in coal mining problems. *Romualdi* (non-attached, MSI, Italy) seconded the proposal for improving industrial safety and health in the iron and steel industry.

In its Resolution, Parliament thanks the two Commissions for their work during the period under review and disapproves of the inadequate staffing of the secretariats. Parliament is concerned at the increase in work accidents, requests that more attention be paid to the training of foreign workers, and asks the two Commissions to investigate to what extent the wage systems in use tend to increase accidents.

Directive on Corporate Redundancies

2431. Mr *Libero Della Briotta* (S, Italy) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Public Health, on a Directive for the approximation of Member States' legislation concerning corporate redundancies. The rapporteur stated that the social consequences are the most serious problem connected with corporate redundancies, and the Commission has acted rightly in submitting a draft directive on the question. On behalf of the Christian Democratic Group, *van der Gun* (Netherlands) endorsed additional measures because legal provisions in the Member States still differ widely. *Marras* (non-attached, Communist, Italy) stated that every European company must adopt a policy of restricting discharges to a minimum. The British member *John Hill* (C) thought the proposed directive still contained obscure clauses which the Commission should eliminate. *Cifarelli* (S, Italy) termed the periods in which the directive is to take effect too short. *Girardin* (CD, Italy) asked that the vote be deferred to allow further study of the question. *Thomsen* (C,

Denmark) said his country used a much more progressive procedure than that provided for in the proposed directive. *Hillery*, Vice President of the Commission, pointed out that the aim of the directive is to establish a minimum standard applicable in the entire Community. That would be a small initial step toward the solution of a very comprehensive problem.

In the Resolution, Parliament welcomed tabling of the proposed directive, which will make possible progressive approximation of the Member States' legislation in the important question of corporate redundancies. It regretted the lack of information concerning the three new Member States, however, and invited the Commission to submit detailed information in this respect as soon as possible.

Agricultural Questions (March 16)

Coordination of Agricultural Research

2432. As rapporteur for the Committee on Agriculture, *Vetrone* (CD, Italy) presented Parliament with a report on the proposal by the Commission for a regulation on the coordination of agricultural research. He underlined the importance of modern agricultural research. *Scott-Hopkins* (Great Britain), as spokesman for the Conservative Group, termed agricultural research one of the most difficult problems confronting parliaments since parliamentarians are no experts in this field, yet it affects the life of the citizen to a considerable degree. There could be no overlapping of basic research and applied research, and the Commission should assume the role of coordinator. The Irish member *McDonald* (CD) referred to the problem of shortage of workers in agriculture and advocated the exchange of agricultural experts. Commission member *Lardinois* as-

sured Parliament that is given a say in all decisions on special measures. The Commission is also careful to take into account all financial aspects of agricultural research.

In the Resolution, Parliament supported, in its main lines, the initiative taken by the Commission and approved the basic features of the proposed regulation as regards both permanent measures and the possibility envisaged of taking specific measures backed by Community funds.

Organization of the Market for Certain Agricultural Products

2433. Mr *Brouwer* (CD, Netherlands), deputizing for the rapporteur, Mr *Baas* (L, Netherlands), introduced the report drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the proposal by the Commission for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 827/68 and Regulations No. 1009/67 (EEC), No. 950/68 (EEC), and No. 2358/71 (EEC). He drew attention to the Member States' export assistance schemes and urged harmonization particularly in the beef sector. The British member, *Scott-Hopkins*, on behalf of the Conservative Group, asked the Commission to take into account certain special problems of Great Britain. Because of the shortage of beef, a uniform Community policy would be highly desirable. Commission member *Lardinois* declared himself in agreement with the explanations of the rapporteur and the contents of the report.

In its Resolution, Parliament on the whole approved the Commission's proposal.

Production Subsidies in the United Kingdom

2434. Mr *Héger* (CD, Belgium), deputizing for the rapporteur of the Committee on Agricul-

ture, *Richarts* (CD, Germany), submitted a report to Parliament on production subsidies which the United Kingdom is authorized to retain for certain products. The rapporteur pointed out that the present examination of the matter is a purely formal procedure since, in principle, the Council has already decided. *Héger* announced that the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee for Finance and Budgets supported the proposal. *Scott-Hopkins* endorsed the regulation on behalf of the Conservative Group. Commission member *Lardinois* emphasized that this regulation will shape an important part of British agricultural policy in subsequent years.

In the Resolution, Parliament approved this proposal by the Commission, which lays down the provisions for implementing Article 54 of the Act concerning the Conditions of Accession of the new Member States. Parliament pointed out that marketing regulations exist for certain agricultural products in the United Kingdom for which the Community has not yet set up any market organization and therefore once more urges the Commission to submit appropriate proposals on these products as soon as possible.

Agricultural Accountancy Data Network

2435. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture, on the proposal for a regulation amending Regulation No. 79/65/EEC regarding the field of survey and number of returning holdings to be included in the farm accountancy data network of the EEC. The rapporteur termed the proposal well-balanced and asked Parliament to accept it. He expressed the hope that in future the report on the Community's agricultural income would be available in time to be taken into account for the annual fixing of agricultural

prices and called for coordination of beginning and final dates of the agricultural accounting year in the Member States. Commission member *Lardinois* endorsed the contents of the report and promised to work for better coordination.

In the Resolution, Parliament stresses the importance of the EEC's farm accountancy data network whose creation has made it possible, for the first time, to get a clear picture of the income of the various categories of agricultural holdings and hopes that the network can also be developed into a source of up-to-date information to which reference can be made whenever decisions have to be taken on agricultural commodity prices.

Measures Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease

2436. Mr *Durand* (L, France) submitted a report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Public Health, on the proposal by the Commission for a decision on measures against foot-and-mouth disease. Parliament accepted a resolution approving the Commission's proposal without debate. It urged the Commission, however, to submit its report on implementation of the decision not only to the Council but also to the European Parliament.

Recovery of Sums Paid in Error in Connection with the Common Agricultural Policy (March 16)

2437. Mr *Aigner* (CD, Germany), deputizing for the rapporteur, Mr *Durand* (L, France), submitted a report to the plenum, drawn up on behalf of the Committee for Finance and Budgets, on the proposal for a directive on mutual assistance for the recovery of sums paid in error in connection with the Common Agricultural Policy, and of agricultural levies

and customs duties. The rapporteur pointed out that this directive closed a gap in the existing legal provisions. The Committee is engaged in discussions with the other Institutions of the Community for finding suitable means for stricter control of Community income and expenditures. He expressed hopes that the Committee would soon submit proposals providing such control. *Héger* (Belgium) endorsed the proposal for the directive on behalf of the Christian Democratic Group but termed it ineffective with respect to criminal law. Commission member *Lardinois* welcomed the Committee's amendment proposals as representing an improvement.

In the Resolution, Parliament emphasizes that, because of the Community character of the expenditure and revenue that may give rise to the claims referred to in this proposed directive and because of the need to ensure equal treatment for all national and legal persons in the Community, provisions on mutual assistance for the recovery of these sums be adopted on the Community level.

Creation of a Community Uranium Enrichment Capacity (March 16)

2438. Mr *Noè* (CD, Italy) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Energy, Research, and Atomic Problems, on the proposal by the Commission for a resolution of the Council on the creation of a Community uranium enrichment capacity. The rapporteur recalled that Parliament had often taken a stand for diversification of the energy supply, which in particular involved the problem of the supply of enriched uranium. *Springorum* (CD, Germany) said that at present the question of uranium enrichment was not critical but shortages would begin to be evident as early as 1980. Europe needed to pass a

resolution today not in 1974, so that the electricity producers might know that from 1980 on they would be supplied with European enriched uranium. He said that it was basically irrelevant by what process this uranium is enriched. Speaking in behalf of the Conservative Group, Lord *Bessborough* (Great Britain) did not consider it necessary for the Community to make comparative studies since two recognized organizations in Great Britain were already engaged in comparing the advantages and disadvantages of the two methods of isotope separation. *Flämig* (S, Germany) welcomed the Commission's action to ensure a supply of uranium. He pointed out the increasing importance of nuclear energy in the framework of the Community's energy supply, which had also been an important topic at the 1972 Summit Conference. Besides, he saw the problem from the viewpoint of the Community's present dependence on the USA for enriched uranium.

The Vice President of the Commission, *Simonet*, confirmed the rapporteur's statements and announced that the Commission had worked out new proposals, among them a quantitative goal for the years 1980/81, which is to enable the Community to ensure an adequate supply of enriched uranium. He advocated setting up a standing testing committee for uranium enrichment. *Bousch* (DE, France) termed the Commission's statements realistic and urged that the Community define its policy for the supply of enriched uranium at the latest by 1974.

After accepting two amendments motions, Parliament adopted a resolution in which it pointed out the need for the Community to ensure that its fuel requirements arising from the foreseeable development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes can be met; Parliament welcomed the fact that the Commission had submitted a proposal to the Council outlining the way in which this aim might be achieved, bearing in mind the necessity for a decision

to be taken by the end of 1974 regarding a common strategy for enriched uranium supplies.

Various Topics

Common Approach to Air Transport (March 16)

2439. At its sitting of 17 January 1973 Parliament had considered the report drawn up by Mr *Noè* on the proposal from the Commission for a decision on initial measures for a common approach to air transport. In view of the large number of amendments that had been tabled on it for that sitting, the report had been referred back to the Transport Committee, which now submitted a supplementary report to Parliament.

Rapporteur *Noè* (CD, Italy) pointed out that regular and chartered flights must operate side by side; he recommended that Parliament accept the proposal. Sir Anthony C. *Esmonde* (CD, Ireland) urged the founding of a European airlines company. James A. *Hill* (C, Great Britain) called on his group to abstain from voting.

In the Resolution, Parliament reaffirmed the view it had already put forward a number of times that a common European air transport policy must be developed as an integral part of the common transport policy.

Duty-Free Entry for Small Consignments of Community Goods (March 16)

2440. Mr *Wohlfart* (S, Luxemburg) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee for Finance and Budgets, on the proposal for a regulation on the duty-free entry within the enlarged Community of small consignments of Community goods of

a non-commercial nature. The rapporteur welcomed the regulation because it brought home to the citizens the fact that the Community exists and continues to develop. Commission member *Lardinois* thanked Parliament for showing interest in this question.

In its Resolution, Parliament approved the proposal by which the conditions of the customs union between the nine Member States are to be realized for small consignments of non-commercial goods.

The Community's External Trade Statistics
(March 16)

2441. As rapporteur for the Committee on External Economic Relations, Mr *de Koning* (CD, Netherlands) submitted a report to Parliament on the proposal from the Commission for a regulation on the statistics of the Community's external trade and of trade between the Member States. Parliament approved the Commission's proposal in a resolution accepted without debate.

Sugar Deliveries to UNWRA (March 16)

2442. Mr *Vredeling* (S, Netherlands) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission for a regulation on the supply of sugar to UNWRA as food aid pursuant to the agreement with that agency dated 18 December 1972. Parliament adopted a resolution without debate in which it declared itself willing to cooperate in supplying the second and last instalment of food aid to UNWRA in the form of sugar, in accordance with the agreement concluded with that agency in 1972.

Outward Processing Traffic (March 16)

2443. Mr *Baas* (L, Netherlands) introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission for a directive concerning the harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation, or administrative action in respect of outward processing. Parliament approved the Commission's proposal without debate and emphatically pointed out the economic importance of outward processing traffic for the effective distribution of labour between countries inside and outside the Community.

Council

In March the Council held seven sessions dealing with the examination of the monetary situation with general questions, economic and financial matters and agriculture.¹

230th Session dealing with the examination of the monetary situation
(Brussels, 4 March 1973)

2444. *Chairman:* Mr *De Clercq*, Belgian Minister of Finance.

Commission: Mr *Ortoli*, President; Mr *Haferkamp*, Sir *Christopher Soames*, Vice Presidents; Mr *Lardinois*, Member.

Member States Governments were represented by: Messrs *De Clercq*, Minister of Finance, *Vande Putte*, Governor of the National Bank

¹ For the various items examined by the Council during its sessions, see the Chapters of this Bulletin corresponding to the Questions dealt with.

(for Belgium); Messrs *Haekkerup*, Minister of Finance, *Hoffmeier*, Governor of the National Bank (for Denmark); Messrs *Schmidt*, Minister of Finance, *Pohl*, Secretary of State for Finance, *Schlecht*, Secretary of State for Economy, *Emminger*, Vice President of the Bundesbank (for Germany); Messrs *Giscard d'Estaing*, Minister for Economy and Finance, *Wormser*, Governor of the Bank of France (for France); Messrs *Colley*, Minister of Finance, *Whitaker*, Governor of the Central Bank (for Ireland); Messrs *Malagodi*, Minister of the Treasury, *Carli*, Governor of the Bank of Italy (for Italy); Messrs *Werner*, Head of Government and Minister of Finance (for Luxembourg); Messrs *Nelissen*, Minister of Finance, *Zijlstra*, President of the National Bank (for the Netherlands); Messrs *Barber*, Chancellor of the Exchequer, *O'Brien*, Governor of the Bank of England (for the United Kingdom).

Also present: Messrs *Wormser*, Chairman of the Committee of Governors of Central Banks; *Clappier*, Chairman of the Monetary Committee; *Baeyens*, Chairman of the Short-Term Economic and Financial Coordination Group.

On Sunday 4 March 1973, the Council held a meeting to examine the monetary situation. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Council issued a statement.¹

231st Session on general questions (Brussels, 5 March 1973)

2445. *Chairman*: Mr *Van Elslande*, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Commission: Mr *Ortoli*, President; Mr *Haferkamp*, Sir *Christopher Soames*, Mr *Hillery*, Vice Presidents; Messrs *Deniau*, *Spinelli*, *Borschette*, *Gundelach*, Members.

Member States' Governments were represented by: Mr *Van Elslande*, Minister for Foreign

Affairs (for Belgium); Messrs *Nørgaard*, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs, *Christensen*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (for Denmark); Mr *Apel*, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (for Germany); Mr *Burin des Roziers*, Permanent Representative (for France); Mr *Lenihan*, Minister for Foreign Affairs (for Ireland); Messrs *Medici*, Minister for Foreign Affairs, *Pedini*, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (for Italy); Mr *Thorn*, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (for Luxembourg); Messrs *Schmelzer*, Minister for Foreign Affairs, *Westerterp*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (for the Netherlands); Sir *Alec Douglas-Home*, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr *Davies*, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (for the United Kingdom).

The Council heard a statement by the Commission on recent talks it had with the United States Government concerning the preparation of multilateral trade negotiations for the GATT.

On relations with Turkey, the Council adopted new directives for the Commission enabling it to reopen negotiations with that country for an additional protocol to the Ankara agreement owing to the enlargement of the Community.

After hearing a message by the Commission on the present state of negotiations with Norway, the Council was glad to note that progress had been made and expressed the hope that they may be concluded very shortly.

The Council gave its agreement on the decision concerning the opening of trade negotiations with Brazil and on negotiation directives to the Commission.

¹ For the full text of this declaration, point 1303.

As regards the Council's relations with the European Parliament, it expressed its satisfaction on the Parliament's initiative to set aside one hour for questions¹ and it has decided to participate. A letter has accordingly been sent to the Parliament's President.²

In the framework of the Convention on food aid and the 1971/1972 performance programme, the Council adopted the decision for concluding an agreement between the EEC and the world Food Programme for supplies as food aid of cereals to underdeveloped countries.

The Council adopted the decision placing quantitative restrictions on imports of types of timber.

Representatives of Member States Governments meeting in the Council have finally adopted two agreements, one amending the agreement of 28 May 1969 on the status quo of the Commission's information on removal of technical obstacles to trade; the other, on the Commission's information on the eventual alignment, in the Community as a whole, of urgent measures concerned with environment.

232nd session concerned with the examination of the monetary situation
(Brussels, 8 March 1973)

2446. Chairman: Mr De Clercq, Belgian Minister of Finance.

Commission: Mr Ortoli, President; Mr Haferkamp, Sir Christopher Soames, Mr Simonet, Vice Presidents; Mr Lardinois, Member.

Member States' Governments were represented by: Messrs De Clercq, Minister of Finance, Vande Putte, Governor of the National Bank (for Belgium); Messrs Nørgaard, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs, Hoffmeier, Governor of the National Bank, Christensen, Secretary of State for Foreign Economic Affairs (for Denmark); Messrs Pohl, Secretary of State for

Finance, Schlecht, Secretary of State for Economy, Emminger, Vice President of the Bundesbank (for Germany); Messrs Wormser, Governor of the Bank of France, Burin des Rozières, Permanent Representative (for France); Messrs Kennan, Permanent Representative, Whitaker, Governor of the Central Bank (for Ireland); Messrs Malagodi, Minister of the Treasury, Carli, Governor of the Bank of Italy (for Italy); Mr Werner, Head of Government and Minister of Finance (for Luxembourg); Messrs Nelissen, Minister of Finance, Zijlstra, President of the National Bank (for the Netherlands); Messrs Barber, Chancellor of the Exchequer, O'Brien, Governor of the Bank of England (for the United Kingdom).

Also present: Messrs Clappier, Chairman and Oort, Vice Chairman of the Monetary Committee.

The Council again reviewed the monetary situation and prepared a joint stand which the Chairman for the session presented in the name of the Community during the meeting in Paris on 9 March 1973 with the other Members of the Group of Ten.³

The Council finally adopted the decision amending the statutes of the Supply Agency following the enlargement of the Community.

233rd session concerned with the examination of the monetary situation
(Brussels, 11 and 12 March 1973)

2447. Chairman: Mr De Clercq, Belgian Minister of Finance.

Commission: Mr Ortoli, President; Messrs Haferkamp, Simonet, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice Presidents; Mr Lardinois, Member.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1973, point 2423.

² Point 2402.

³ Points 1304, 1305 and 1312.

Member States' Governments were represented by: Messrs *De Clercq*, Minister of Finance, *Vande Putte*, Governor of the National Bank (for Belgium); Messrs *Haekkerup*, Minister of Economy, *Nørgaard*, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs, *Christensen*, Secretary of State for Foreign Economic Affairs, *Hoffmeier*, Governor of the National Bank (for Denmark); Messrs *Schmidt*, Minister of Finance, *Klasen*, President of the Bundesbank, *Pöhl*, Secretary of State for Finance, *Schlecht*, Secretary of State for Economy (for Germany); Mr *Giscard d'Estaing*, Minister for Economy and Finance (for France); Messrs *Colley*, Minister of Finance, *Whitaker*, Governor of the Central Bank (for Ireland); Messrs *Malagodi*, Minister of the Treasury, *Carli*, Governor of the Bank of Italy (for Italy); Mr *Werner*, Head of Government and Minister of Finance (for Luxembourg); Messrs *Nelissen*, Minister of Finance, *Zijlstra*, President of the National Bank (for the Netherlands); Messrs *Barber*, Chancellor of the Exchequer, *O'Brien*, Governor of the Bank of England (for the United Kingdom).

Also present: Messrs *Wormser*, Chairman of the Committee of Governors of Central Banks; *Clappier*, Chairman of the Monetary Committee; *Baeyens*, Chairman of the Short-Term Economic and Financial Coordination Group and *Ossola*, Chairman of the deputies in the Group of Ten.

The Council met to examine measures to be taken to face the international monetary crisis, particularly as a result of the meeting of the enlarged Group of Ten which was held in Paris on 9 March. At the conclusion of the session, the Council issued a statement.¹

234th Session concerned with agricultural matters

2448. *Chairman*: Mr *Lavens*, Belgian Minister of Agriculture.

Commission: Mr *Lardinois*, Member.

Member States' Governments were represented by: Mr *Lavens*, Minister of Agriculture (for Belgium); Mr *Frederiksen*, Minister of Agriculture (for Denmark); Messrs *Ertl*, Minister of Agriculture, *Rohr*, Secretary of State for Agriculture (for Germany); Mr *Chirac*, Minister of Agriculture (for France); Mr *Gibbons*, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (for Ireland); Mr *Alesi*, Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture (for Italy); Mr *Ney*, Minister of Agriculture (for Luxembourg); Mr *Van Nes*, Deputy General Director for Agriculture (Netherlands); Mr *Godber*, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (for the United Kingdom).

The Council gave its agreement in principle on provisions for applying Art. 54 of the Treaty of Accession authorizing the United Kingdom to retain, under certain conditions and during the transitional period, the system of guaranteed prices by means of production subsidies. It is agreed that no definite stand shall be taken on the Commission's proposal in this matter until the Parliament's opinion is known.

The Council adopted the regulation amending EEC Regulation 1464 on the opening, distribution and administration of a Community tariff quota on 20 000 heifers and cows; it also adopted a regulation on Community rules to apply to the Channel Islands and to the Isle of Man concerning agricultural produce.

In the framework of the convention concerning food aid and the 1972/1973 application schedule, the Council adopted the decision on the Community financing certain expenses for food aid to Bangladesh.

¹ For the full text of the Council's statement, point 1307.

235th session concerned with economic and financial matters

(Brussels, 22 March 1973)

2449. *Chairman:* Mr De Clercq, Belgian Minister of Finance.

Commission: Messrs Haferkamp, Simonet, Vice Presidents.

Member States' Governments were represented by: Messrs De Clercq, Minister of Finance, Claes, Minister for Economic Affairs, Vande Putte, Governor of the National Bank (for Belgium); Messrs Nørgaard, Minister for Foreign Economic Affairs, Hoffmeier, Governor of the National Bank, Hansen, Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (for Denmark); Messrs Friderichs, Minister for Economic Affairs, Schlecht, Secretary of State for the Economy, Schuler, Secretary of State for Finance (for Germany); Mr Giscard d'Estaing, Minister of the Economy and Finance (for France); Messrs Ryan, Minister of Finance, Whitaker, Governor of the Central Bank (for Ireland); Mr Bombassei de Vettor, Permanent Representative (for Italy); Mr Werner, Head of Government and Minister of Finance (for Luxembourg); Messrs Nelissen, Minister of Finance, Longman, Minister for Economic Affairs, Zijlstra, President of the National Bank (for the Netherlands); Mr Davies, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (for the United Kingdom).

Also present: Messrs Wormser, Chairman of the Committee of Governors of Central Banks, Baeyens, Chairman of the Short Term Economic and Financial Coordination Group, Brouwers, Chairman of the Economic Policy Committee and Firmi, Chairman of the Budgetary Policy Committee.

Based on information by the Commission, the Council made a first examination of the economic situation in the Community during 1973; it also examined results of measures for the anti-

inflationary programme. At the conclusion of the session, the Council issued a statement.¹

As regards the European Fund for Monetary Cooperation, the Council vetted the regulation establishing the Fund and its statute; the location of this organism is still to be decided.

The Council adopted the decision approving the agreement between Belgium, Denmark, the German Federal Republic, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the European Atomic Energy Community and the International Agency for Atomic Energy applying the Treaty on non-Proliferation by Nuclear Arms. It also adopted the regulation deferring till 1 July 1973 the application in the United Kingdom and in Ireland of EEC Regulations 1055/72 and 1056/72 concerning data for the Commission of hydrocarbon imports and investment schemes for oil, natural gas and electricity.

Representatives of the ECSC Member States, meeting in the Council adopted decisions on the temporary application of lower tariffs provided for in the agreements with Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland and relating to ECSC products.

236th Session concerned with agricultural matters

(Brussels, 26 and 27 March 1973)

2450. *Chairman:* Mr Lavens, Minister of Agriculture for Belgium.

Commission: Mr Lardinois, Member.

Member States' Governments were represented by Mr Lavens, Minister of Agriculture (for Belgium); Mr Frederiksen, Minister of Agriculture (for Denmark); Messrs Ertl, Minister of Agriculture, Rohr, Secretary of State for

¹ Points 2201 and 2202.

Agriculture (for Germany); Messrs *Chirac*, Minister of Agriculture, *Pons*, Secretary of State for Agriculture (for France); Mr *Clinton*, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (for Ireland); Messrs *Natali*, Minister of Agriculture, *Alesi*, Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture (for Italy); Mr *Ney*, Minister of Agriculture (for Luxembourg); Mr *Boersma*, Minister of Agriculture (for the Netherlands); Mr *Godber*, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (for the United Kingdom).

The Council had a first general exchange of views on the Commission's proposals concerning the fixing of prices for the 1973/1974 campaign of various agricultural produce, certain related measures and the proposed regulation on measures to be taken in the agricultural sector as a result of the development in the monetary situation.

In the beef and veal sector, the Council adopted two regulations extending till 29 April 1973 the 1972/1973 marketing campaign and till 30 April 1973 the milk campaign. It also adopted the regulation extending till 29 April 1973 the system of discontinuance of import contributions and compensatory amounts in the beef and veal sector.

The Council adopted a regulation on technical and tariff amendments to regulations concerning joint organization of markets for various produce listed in Appendix 2 of the EEC Treaty ('Balance' settlement). It adopted a regulation amending the general rules for granting aid for silk worms. In the hops sector, it adopted the regulation for granting and refunding aid given by Member States to acknowledged groups of growers.

The Council authorized the Commission to participate, on the basis of new directives, to the final stage of the GATT negotiations in view of reaching an international agreement on butteroil and it adopted the regulation on

total discontinuance of independent duties in the Common Customs Tariff applicable to eating potatoes till 1 June 1973.

Moreover, the Council adopted two regulations on wines imported for direct human consumption and the prior fixing of restitutions on sugar, cereals, and rice; it adopted a decision on a measure against foot and mouth virus and several decisions concerning equivalence of inspection of seed producing standing crops carried out in Denmark, Ireland, the United Kingdom and in third countries, concerning equivalence of seeds produced in Denmark, Ireland, the United Kingdom and in third countries and the equivalence of potato patches in Denmark. Regarding the communication on first measures for applying a joint policy on vocational training, the Council agreed on the fulfilment of priority actions in 1973 in this sphere.

Finally, the Council adopted a directive concerning the Inward Processing Traffic system, four regulations on the concept of native products, methods of administrative cooperation in the agreements with Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland, a regulation on application of social security systems to wage-earning workers and their families moving in the Community, and three regulations on the joint system applicable to countries with State-controlled trade.

Commission

2451. Following the entry into effect of the Treaty of Accession, the Commission made several structural changes to its departments. These now include the following administrative units:

General Secretariat
Legal Department

Spokesman Group

Statistical Office

Administration of the Customs Union

Environment and Consumer protection

- DG I — External relations
- DG II — Economic and financial affairs
- DG III — Industrial and Technological affairs
- DG IV — Competition
- DG V — Social affairs
- DG VI — Agriculture
- DG VII — Transport
- DG VIII — Development and cooperation
- DG IX — Personnel and administration
- DG X — Press and information
- DG XI — Internal market
- DG XII — Research, Science and education
- DG XIII — Dissemination of information
- DG XV — Financial institutions and taxation
- DG XVI — Regional policy
- DG XVII — Energy and Euratom safeguards
- DG XVIII — Credit and investments
- DG XIX — Budgets
- DG XX — Financial control

Joint Research Centre

Supply Agency

Security Office

Court of Justice

New Cases

Case 9/73—Firma Carl Schluter, Osnabruck vs. Hauptzollamt Lorrach

Case 10/73—Firma Rewe-Zentrale-Ag, Cologne vs. Hauptzollamt Kehl

2452. The Finanzgericht of Baden-Württemberg filed a request with the Court of Justice

for two preliminary rulings on the validity of Regulation 974/71 concerning measures of economic policy to be taken in the agricultural sector as a result of the temporary widening of fluctuation margins of certain Member States currencies.

Case 11/73—Getreide-Import-Gesellschaft mbH, Duisburg vs. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel, Frankfurt (Main).

2453. On the occasion of a dispute concerning the calculation of rates of levies on cereal imports, the Finanzgericht of Hassen filed a request for a preliminary ruling with the Court of Justice on the interpretation of provisions contained in Regulation 19 on the joint organization of markets in the cereal sector and of Regulation 61 laying down quality standards for cereals and coefficients of equivalence between these standards and those laid down for national target prices.

Case 34/73—Ditta Fratelli Variola, S.p.A., Trieste, vs. Amministrazione delle Finanze italiana

2454. A ruling by the Trieste Tribunal was referred to the Court for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of 'tax of an equivalent effect' in Articles 9 and seq. of the EEC Treaty, Articles 18 and 20 of Regulation 19 and Articles 18 and 21 of Regulation 120/67 on the joint organization of markets in the cereal sector.

Case 35/73—Mr Ludwig Kunz, Amsterdam, vs. Bundesversicherungsanstalt für Angestellte, Berlin

2455. The Bundessozialgericht asked the Court for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation to be given to Article 22 of Regulation 3 on social security for migrant workers.

This article concerns the grant of allowances in kind for sickness insurance to pensioners and persons of independent means.

Case 40/73—Cooperatieve Vereniging 'Suiker Unie' U.A., Rotterdam vs. Commission

Case 41/73—S.A. Générale Sucrière, Paris, vs. Commission

Case 42/73—N.V. Centrale Suiker Maatschappij, Amsterdam, vs. Commission

Case 43/73—Société des Raffineries et Sucrieries Say, S.A., Paris, vs. Commission

Case 44/73—Société F. Beghin, S.A., Thumeries, vs. Commission

Case 45/73—Zuccherificio del Volano S.p.A., Genoa, vs. Commission

Case 46/73—Societa Agricola Industriale Emiliana (AIE), Bologna, vs. Commission

Case 47/73—Raffinerie Tirlemontoise S.A., Brussels, vs. Commission

Case 48/73—S.A. Sucres et Denrées, Paris, vs. Commission

Case 50/73—Societa SADAM, S.p.A., Bologna, vs. Commission

Case 54/73—Suddeutsche Zucker-Aktiengesellschaft, Mannheim, vs. Commission

Case 55/73—Sudzucker-Verkauf GmbH, Oberursel, vs. Commission

Case 56/73—Firma Pfeifer & Langen, Cologne, vs. Commission

Case 111/73—Cavarzere Produzioni Industriali, S.p.A., Padua, vs. Commission

Case 113/73—Societa Italiana per l'Industria degli Zuccheri S.p.A., Rome, vs. Commission

Case 114/73—Societa Eridania Zuccherifici Nazionali, S.p.A., Genoa, vs. Commission

2456. Sixteen companies, the main producers and sellers of sugar in the Community, filed appeals with the Court of Justice seeking cancellation of the Commission's Decision of 2 January 1973 concerning application of procedure under Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty (IV/26,918—European sugar industry) and the reduction of the fine imposed on each company by the Commission.

Cases 52, 53, 57 to 104, 116 and 117/73—Commission officials vs. Commission

2457. These are appeals for backward payment of allowances for living abroad and the cancellation of the Commission's decisions withdrawing the benefit of this allowance from plaintiffs and/or refusing it for the period prior to 1 July 1972.

Case 110/73—Mr Gerd Fiege, Bad Pyrmont, vs. Caisse Régionale d'Assurance Maladie de Strasbourg, Strasbourg

2458. On 22 March 1973, the French Supreme Court of Appeal filed with the Court of Justice a request for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Community regulations on social security for migrant workers, particularly as regards transfers of incapacity pensions.

Cases 112 and 115/73—Commission officials vs. Commission

2459. These appeals seek the cancellation of the examination procedure.

Case 118/73—Commission officials vs. Commission

2460. This case concerns an appeal against the marking procedure.

Judgements

Case 37/71 Rev.—Commission officials vs. Commission

2461. The request to review Decree 37/71 involving a problem of career was rejected as inadmissible.

Case 37/72—Commission officials vs. Commission

2462. This appeal, seeking the cancellation of an examination notice, was adjudged as being justified.

Case 57/72—Firma Westzucker GmbH, Dortmund vs. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Zucker, Frankfurt/Main

2463. On 4 August 1972, a suit was filed with the Court of Justice requesting a preliminary ruling on appropriateness of Articles in Regulations 354/69 and 833/68 concerning sugar denaturing.

In its ruling of 14 March 1973, the Court stated that examination of the questions asked showed no element of a nature to affect the validity of Article 1, § 1, nor of Article 2 of Regulation 354/69, nor of Article 2, § 2, phrase 2 of Regulation 833/68.

Case 61/72—Maatschappij P.P.W. International N.V., Bladel, vs. Hoofdprodukschap voor Akkerbouwprodukten, The Hague

2464. On 31 August 1972 College van Beroep voor het Bedrijfsleven filed with the Court a

request for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of terms appearing in Regulations 1009/67 on the joint organization of markets in the sugar sector and 1373/70 on joint conditions for applying the system of import and export certificates and prefixing agricultural produce which come under a single price system. This concerns more particularly the transfer of certificates.

In its ruling of 14 March 1973, the Court stated that the provisions in question must be interpreted in the sense that if they leave to the national authorities concerned the choice of ways and means to be used for transfer of a prefixing certificate or a part of it to the applicant, the need to deliver or cede the certificate or a part of it implies the authorities' obligation to ensure that the document does, in fact, reach the applicant.

Case 62/72—Firma Paul G. Bollmann, Hamburg, v. Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Waltershof

2465. By order of the Bundesfinanzhof, a request was filed with the Court of Justice on 11 September 1972 for a preliminary ruling on the question of ascertaining if the settlement and recoverable nature of expenses incurred by parties to a national lawsuit in a preliminary procedure before the Court should be assessed in relation to Community or national law.

In its decision of 1 March 1973, worded as follows:

'Article 103, § 1, of the regulation on the Court's procedure does not apply to the procedure for settling expenses nor to the assessment of the costs incurred by parties to the main litigation and necessary for the preliminary procedure. The assessment and settlement of these costs must be determined according to rules of the national law applicable to the main litigation.'

Case 72/72—Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel, Frankfurt/Main vs. Firma Baer-Getreide GmbH, Import-Export-Großhandel, Kunzelsau

2466. On 3 October 1972 a suit for a preliminary ruling was filed with the Court of Justice by Bundesverwaltungsgericht on the validity of the Commission's Decision of 8 May 1969 authorizing the German Federal Republic to limit its intervention purchases of certain cereals.

In its decision of 22 March 1973, the Court declared that the examination of the question placed before it does not show elements of a nature to affect the validity of this decision the only effect of which is to authorize the recipient Member State to act in such way that its appropriate authorities adopt the necessary measures.

Case 73/72—Ing. Hubert Bentzinger, Weil am Rhein, vs. Steinbruchs-Berufsgenossenschaft, Karlsruhe

2467. On 11 October 1972, Landessozialgericht of Baden-Württemberg filed a suit for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Article 13, § 1 (c) of Regulation 3 concerning the social security of migrant workers.

The Court, in its decision of 1 March 1973, replied as follows: 'Article 13, § 1 (c) of Regulation 3 is to be interpreted to mean that it applies independently of the fact that the worker exercises his activity with one or more employers.'

Economic and Social Committee

The 110th plenary session of the Committee was held in Brussels on 28 and 29 March 1973 under the successive chairmanships of Mr Lappas, President, and Mr Canonge, Vice

President. Mr Lardinois, Member of the Commission, attended the part of the session dealing with agricultural matters. During the session the Committee prepared nine opinions and one study on reports concerned with the agricultural situation and with agricultural income.

Committee's opinions

Opinion on the '*economic development in the Community in 1973*'

2468. In this opinion based on the Mr Malterre's report (France, various activities) and adopted by 84 votes against 6 and 9 abstentions, the Committee stresses the conditions for continued growth, the fight against inflation and the monetary problems. He hopes the monetary crisis will soon be overcome and asks for greater cooperation between Member States of the Community. The Committee considers, moreover, that the fight against inflation must be the main objective of those responsible for economic policy, as recommended by the Commission, and it must be pursued and possibly intensified in months ahead, taking into account this year's price increases.

Opinion on the '*Commission's proposal to Council on fixing prices of certain agricultural produce and on certain relevant measures*'

2469. This opinion, prepared on the basis of a report by Mr Clavel (France, various activities) was adopted by 62 votes against 1 and 13 abstentions. The opinion approves the system proposed by the Commission for reconversion of the agricultural unit of account which preserves the market unity and, therefore, the common agricultural policy but stresses that this system may seriously affect farmers' income in certain countries and the position of

consumers in others. The Committee notes that price proposals do not take economic elements into consideration; had they done so, they would have produced a more equitable general level of prices for growers; it considers these proposals therefore as unacceptable unless they are matched by compensatory measures to counteract the negative effects they would have especially on the least favoured growers, consumers and agricultural workers. The Committee wishes that a detailed examination be carried out on the medium-term outlook for agriculture and asks the Commission for a study on the connexion between the common agricultural policy and prices of foodstuffs to the consumer.

Speaking before the Committee, Mr Lardinois, Member of the Commission, insisted on explaining in the following terms the outlook of the Commission's proposals: 'Structural policy is a necessary extension of price policy and must lead to a satisfactory position in 1980;' he also stressed the fact that the Commission's proposals were made with the main purpose of safeguarding the common agricultural policy, an important feature of European integration.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed directive on alignment of Member States legislations concerning interior layout of motor vehicles (driver's protection against controls in case of collision)'

2470. This opinion, prepared from Mr Renaud's report (France, employers), was unanimously adopted and the Committee approved the proposed directive.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed directive on alignment of Member States legislations concerning safety glass for motor vehicles'

2471. This opinion, also prepared on Mr Renaud's proposal (France, employers),

was unanimously adopted. The Committee approved the proposed directive but considered there should be complete alignment from 1 October 1976; this, according to the Committee, is the date when the glass and motor industries will be in a position to fulfill the directive's requirements.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed directive on alignment of Member States' legislations concerning a protective device against unauthorised use of motor vehicles.'

2472. This opinion, prepared from Mr Renaud's report (France, employers), was unanimously adopted and the Committee approved the proposed directive.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed regulation on entry free of customs duty within the enlarged Community of Community goods in small parcels of no commercial aspect'

2473. In this opinion, prepared on Mr De Grave's report (Belgium, workers), and adopted unanimously, the Committee approved the Commission's proposal; the Committee would have preferred, however, the overall value per consignment to be fixed at 120 units of account. It pointed out, moreover, that the aim can only be achieved through removal of the customs clearance tax collected by postal authorities on trade between the Community.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed regulation on the system authorizing the processing of bonded goods prior to their being released for consumption'

2474. The Committee adopted unanimously this opinion prepared from Mr De Grave's report (Belgium, workers). The Committee approved the proposed regulation. It felt, however, that the latitude given Member

States may weaken the application of the regulation and wished the Commission to make proposals at a later date to extend the proposed regulation's appendix.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed directive on mutual help for recovering unpaid agricultural levies and customs duty in the context of the common agricultural policy'

2475. This opinion was also unanimously adopted. It had been prepared from Mr De Grave's report (Belgium, workers); the Committee asked that the sphere of application of the directive be extended to all public credits, especially those relating to VAT and other taxes on consumption.

Opinion on the 'Council's proposed (EEC) regulation on uniform statistics concerning foreign labour'

2476. The Committee adopted this opinion, prepared on the basis of Mr Bodart's report (Belgium, various activities), with a majority; there were 5 votes against and 15 abstentions. The Committee adopted the Commission's point of view contained in the proposal. It pointed out, however, that the proposal is limited to foreseeing an obligation for Member States to prepare statistics on entries, exits and manpower based on data supplied by social security institutions without any obligation about the means to be used. It suggests that other sources might be used if they supply information at least as valid and which ensures the same degree of uniformity.

2477. On Mr Clavel's proposal (France, various activities) the Committee prepared, during this session, a 'study of the 1972 annual report on the agricultural situation and on agricultural income.' The Committee unanimously adopted this study and decided to send it to other institutions of the Community.

ECSC Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee held its 154th session in Luxembourg on 9 March 1973 under the chairmanship of Mr Hawner. The agenda included the Commission's report on its activities under the ECSC Treaty and the examination of the programme of coal estimates for 1973.

2478. In the Commission's report under the ECSC Treaty, the Commission's representative stated that in the iron and steel sector, the interior market of the Community shows for recent months an exceptional rate of increase of orders for finished products with resulting increased delays in supplies and sharp rises in sales price. Regarding the system applicable to imports of iron and steel products from countries with State-controlled trade, the Council must state its opinion on the inclusion of new Member States in this system. For coking coal, the need to adopt a specific system of aid seems certain but the amount of Community aid and its finance are still to be decided. The Commission insists on keeping or even intensifying the Community aspect of the system. Supplies of scrap iron to the Community raises serious problems as internal resources are inadequate to meet demand. The deficit will be reduced only when British surplus can move freely in the Community. The freezing of steel and coal prices in Great Britain led to two breaches of Treaty regulations: British authorities not being able to maintain this freeze as from 1 January 1973, the Commission has already intervened with the British Government. This first breach led to a second one: because of the price freeze, British producers were unable to publish their price lists. According to annual investigations on investments, the Community's iron and steel industry is maintaining a fast rate of development. In other respects, the Commission increased its

borrowing powers and granted many loans to collieries, the iron and steel industry, the building of homes and to reconversion products.

During the debate, speakers insisted on the urgency of a solution for aid to coking coal and expressed their concern on the still unforeseeable outcome of the monetary crisis.

2479. Next, the Committee examined the programme of coal estimates for 1973. The Commission's representative, examining the general energy situation in the first place noted that in 1972 the market had been relatively quiet. In 1973, the enlarged Community will import about two-thirds of its total energy requirements. Covering these requirements will be assured as to 62% by oil products, 21% by solid fuels and 12% by natural gas, the remainder represents imports of hydraulic electricity and mainly nuclear energy. The enlargement of the Community has sharply raised the rate of cover for demand from interior production. In the energy field, production of nuclear energy has seen a spectacular growth and, within the Six, production has almost doubled between 1971 and 1973. Concerning electricity production in the enlarged Community, the share of oil products in thermal stations will, for the first time, exceed that of coal. As regards the coal situation in 1973, production is likely to reach 260 million tce. Quantitatively, the rate of regression would be less for British collieries than for the Six. Qualitatively, the financial situation in coal fields has deteriorated considerably through a sharp increase in the cost price. Imports from third countries will remain about the same at 30 million tons. The United States will lose ground to the benefit of Poland and Australia. In conclusion, the Commission's representative noted that the devaluation of the U.S. Dollar and the monetary troubles will weaken the competitive position of Community coals and weigh heavily on the subsidy problem.

During the debate, the eventual crisis in energy resources which seems to be looming ahead for the whole world was touched upon. It seems that the main difficulty might concern oil supplies with increase in prices as a result; in this context, it is regretted that the Community does not use all its energy resources rationally and the need was stressed for the Community to prepare a true energy policy.

European Investment Bank

Loans granted

Turkey

2480. The European Investment Bank concluded a loan to Turkey for 23.5 million u.a. for the partial financing of a scheme to convert the Turkish railways to diesel operation at a cost estimated at 76 million u.a. This scheme, to be carried out by the State Railway Company (TCDD), is part of an important modernization programme and involves the assembly and putting into service between 1973 and 1976 of 140 diesel-electric locomotives. These will be built from parts supplied by a European construction group and from others manufactured locally; the share of the latter will gradually increase.

The loan is for financing imported parts, for the equipment of the assembly plants and the cost of suppliers' technical assistance. It is granted to the Turkish State for a period of 30 years, 8 of which are deferred, at 2.5% p.a. interest. The funds will be lent by the State to the TCDD (Turkish Railways) on terms based on economic and financial aspects of the scheme.

This is the third occasion on which the Bank intervenes for the Turkish railways. A first loan of 11 million u.a. was made at the end of 1968 for financing the start of the Diesel conversion programme. A second loan of 4.35 million u.a. was granted on 12 February 1973 as a contribution towards the electrification of the Istanbul-Adapazari line which carries heavy traffic. The new loan, thus makes the Bank's total intervention for modernization of the Turkish railways of 38.85 million u.a.

The Bank intervenes at present in Turkey under the second financial EEC-Turkey agreement which came into effect on 1 January 1973 and provides for loans on favourable terms to Turkey till May 1976 of up to 195 million u.a.

These loans are granted under authority of the Member States of the Community from resources they place at the disposal of the Bank. At the moment, this concerns authority of the Six founder Members; the provision concerning the participation in financial aid to Turkey by new Member States have not yet taken effect.

Taking into account the four operations concluded on 12 February 1973, to which has to be added the above loan, total loans granted to date to Turkey under the second financial agreement amount to 51.25 million u.a.

Financing Community activities

Budget Matters

Draft proposal of Supplementary Budget No 1

2481. In view of the need for new departmental structures, the Commission had to present to Council a supplementary budget draft

proposal. In fact, as a result of the enlargement of the Communities, a set of measures has been applied bearing on the one hand on departmental structures for which the distribution of assignments and authorities must consider the new dimensions and predictable developments in activities and, on the other hand, the inclusion of new Member States' nationals amongst high officials responsible for administrative units.

Thus, a new arrangement of the establishment table should allow the definite positioning of new structures; the Commission restricts its request to setting up of a few posts in category A, a small increase in A/1 employments justified by service needs and keeping during a maximum period of three months higher officials due for release simultaneously with their successors.

This supplementary budget will not require an increase of credits already authorized.

Pluriannual budget estimates

2482. During the March session, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on pluriannual income and expenditure estimates of the Communities for the period 1973-1975⁽¹⁾.

ECSC Loan Transaction

2483. In March 1973 the Commission concluded two operations concerning loans:

(a) A loan for 800 million Luxembourg Francs, i.e. the counter-value of 16 million u.a. This is a private investment in the international capital market, contracted for a period of 12 years at 7% p.a. This loan, floated at

¹ Point 2424.

99% contains a clause prohibiting the sale to Belgian and Luxembourg nationals.

(b) A loan for 150 million D. Marks, i.e. the counter-value of 40.9 million u.a. This binding loan for a duration of 15 years underwritten fully by a consortium of German banks carries interest at the rate of 6.50% p.a. and was offered to the public at an issue price of 100%.

As a result of these operations the total amount borrowed by the ECSC, since its activities started, reaches to this date a counter-value of 1 334.8 million u.a.



3RD PART

**INFORMATION
AND SOURCES**

1. From Day to Day

From Day to Day

1 March 1973

3101. The British Prime Minister, Mr *Edward Heath*, went to West Germany on a two-day visit. He met the Federal Chancellor, Mr *Willy Brandt*. The talks centred on EEC-USA relations.

2 March 1973

3102. Speaking at the annual dinner of the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium, *Sir Christopher Soames* said:

'On our brand new desks in the Berlaymont we have come across some files marked "urgent." They concern GATT in Geneva and the world negotiations opening on 12 September in Tokyo. The American administration is preparing the draft law on commercial trade which it hopes to lay before Congress in the spring. At the same time our Commission is studying the negotiation position which it will put forward for the Community. I earnestly hope that the Council of Ministers will allow us a wide margin for manoeuvre so that a big stride forward can be made towards freeing world trade.

I am convinced that during this year, which he has called "the year of Europe," Mr *Nixon* will do all in his power, certainly considerable, to smooth out the difficulties which have arisen between the USA and their longstanding friends in Europe. We should join our efforts to his and work with the same singlemindedness and spirit towards the same objectives. There have been other talks and I can feel that now the constructive dialogue advocated by the October Paris Summit is beginning to unfold.'

3103. Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg gave an audience to Mr *Walter Behrendt*, President of the European Parliament, whose mandate expired on 13 March 1973. President *Behrendt*

gave the Grand Duke the European Parliament's Gold Medal awarded to Heads of State.

3104. During a White House press conference, Mr *Nixon* speaking on international monetary relations said:

'There will be no further devaluation of the dollar... We are going ahead with our efforts to get the other countries to cooperate with us in developing an international monetary system flexible enough to cope with these kinds of speculative raids.'

4 March 1973

3105. During a speech the Norwegian Foreign Minister, Mr *Dagfinn Vaarvik* said:

'Norway will not accept that concessions from the EEC in the fishery section would have to depend on appreciated concessions in the (Norwegian) agricultural section.' He also said an industrial free-trade agreement would not give the necessary balance in view of the structure of Norway's exports to the Community.

5 March 1973

3106. A Liaison Committee for the national Conferences of Community University Rectors, Presidents or Vice Chancellors was formed in Brussels where it will officially sit.

3107. Mr *Van der Meulen*, Belgium's Permanent Representative with the EEC, addressing Member States' diplomats said: 'The Nine will speak with a single voice when negotiating in Paris with the super-rich members of the Ten Club, the organization which also includes the Japanese, the Swiss, the Swedes and the Americans.'

3108. The United States' Finance Minister, Mr *George Shultz*, said in Washington:

'We shall make a contribution in seeking a solution to ward off the monetary hazards threatening the EEC. If a general conference is called, we shall certainly be there.'

3109. According to a commentary on monetary problems published by the Soviet daily 'Izvestija' the gradual breakdown of a monopoly of one or more currencies in the international monetary system could lead to a more normalized situation.

6 March 1973

3110. Mr *Kiichi Aichi*, Japan's Finance Minister, announced in Tokyo that Japan will take part in the international conference proposed by the Community Finance Ministers.

3111. The Sonning Prize for 1973 of 200 000 Danish crowns has been awarded to Mr *Karl Popper*, Professor of Applied Logic and Scientific Theory, at London University. The Sonning Prize named after a Danish businessman and journalist is awarded yearly to a European who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of European civilization. Sir Winston Churchill was the first to win it. Of German origin, Mr Popper has been teaching at London University since 1949.

3112. Asked about the action the United States will take if approached by European officials to accept massive loans of European currency in a move to defend the value of the dollar, the United States Under Secretary to the Treasury, Mr *Paul A. Volcker*, replying in Congress, said:

'I think we ought to go to the meeting and see what they have on their minds, and then we will discuss the situation.'

3113. In the House of Commons, Mr *Anthony Barber*, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, indicated the terms on which the British Government would agree to reset the parity of the pound. It would need in exchange 'unlimited and unconditional' support from the Community members and their acceptance of Britain's right to change the parity later after conferring with the Community Council of Ministers.

3114. The American weeklies '*Time*' and '*Newsweek*' informed their readers that in future they will devote more space to European affairs. '*Time*', now entering its fiftieth year, is bringing out a new edition, '*Time Europe*', also issued in Africa and the Near East, which will carry special pages on the EEC news. This material will be edited by a special team in Paris. '*Newsweek*' is taking on four European journalists. They will write a column for '*Newsweek*' commenting on European affairs.

3115. During a press conference where he was asked about the status of inter-Nine discussions on relations to be established with the Mediterranean countries and in particular about the outcome of the Ministerial session the day before, Mr *Deniau*, Member of the Commission, said he was concerned to find that some Member States, impressed by Washington criticism were ready to jeopardize commitments made by the Community since the Rome Treaty and reaffirmed repeatedly afterwards and especially during the Accession negotiations.

8 March 1973

3116. The International Economic Affairs Sub-Committee attached to the *United States Congress Joint Economic Committee* published

a Report entitled 'A New Initiative to Liberalize Trade' in which it states:

The United States should initiate negotiations on the reform of agricultural income support programmes with the objective of replacing price supports by direct payments to farm families with substandard incomes. As a result of this shift in the method of support, the United States and Japan could gradually abolish their quotas and the European Economic Community could eliminate its variable levy on imports of farm products. The desired outcome of these changes would be an expanded volume of trade in agricultural products, lower food prices for consumers, and an increased degree of international specialization promoting the efficient production of agricultural commodities.

Congress should promptly enact generalized tariff preferences giving imports of manufactured products from developing countries with appropriate safeguards duty-free entry into the United States market. The Administration should also urge a more liberal application of tariff preferences by Japan and the EEC..'

3117. Mr *George Thomson*, Member of the Commission, said at a press conference in Brussels that: 'there should be Community rules to prevent national Governments outbidding each other for industrial investment. Proposals for coordinating the regional policies of the member States would be a major element of the draft for a Community regional policy he is now preparing. He also indicated that he hoped to make the Community less rigid on the forms of regional aid it allows.'

3118. In an interview with the Belgian daily 'La Dernière Heure', Mr *Albert Borschette*, Member of the Commission speaking about

the case of Continental Can, said, 'We have lost a case but gained a doctrine. "Continental Can" was a test case for us. Our aim was to "provoke" an interpretation of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty. We know now that the Court of Justice supports our broad interpretation. It has vindicated us in essence and to such an extent that we could take up the case again with a good chance of seeing the American company's appeal quashed. Obviously we are pleased but will only be entirely satisfied when we have an a priori control on concentration moves. All too often we have had to start at the bottom of the hill. The Commission has now ordered a study on a notification document for contemplated concentration transactions. It remains for us to set the criteria to identify those transaction which must pass through this channel.' Noting that the Rome Treaty allowed the Commission real powers only in the competition sector, Mr Borschette added, 'from this angle the Commission will strive to get the Parliaments of the Nine to finalize their relevant legislation so that a least all the European companies will be treated equally. I will not hide the fact that it will be a long job. Some countries, and not the smallest, are behindhand and above all more reluctant.

But I do not despair of reaching my goal. In two years the political climate has appreciably improved. This is proved by the unanimous acceptance, be it noted by all political shades represented, that there should be a control.'

9 March 1973

3119. The French Finance Minister, Mr *Valéry Giscard d'Estaing*, in his statement at the Conference of Fourteen, that is to say, the enlarged Group of Ten, said: 'We are seeing the new phenomenon of speculation which, although not deriving from existent

economic imbalance, is trying to jeopardize the basis of our international monetary cooperation meaning the existence of a stable and regular system of exchange rates.

In this situation both our European partners and ourselves can see that to give in to this speculation pressure could have crippling results for the whole international Community. The EEC has just recently given careful thought to the way in which a balanced exchange system should be safeguarded.'

3120. Concerning the monitoring of capital, the Belgian Finance Minister, Mr *Willy De Clercq*, explained that in the Community's view it might be necessary to consider obliging international undertakings in the countries where the parent and subsidiary companies are located to declare the value and makeup of the company treasuries. The companies would have to undertake not to change the makeup of their treasuries to any great extent. 'Europeans must realize that they have only themselves to rely on for getting out of the monetary crisis,' said Mr De Clercq.

3121. France laid before the Council of Europe the instruments of approval for the *European Social Charter*. The Charter already running in the nine Council of Europe countries will take effect in France from 9 April next.

3122. *Baroness Adolphe Bentinck*, widow of the Netherlands Ambassador in Paris, announced that a prize of 15 000 FFrs. would be awarded annually by a jury made up by representatives from the nine EEC Members for work towards promoting European cultural solidarity or economic, social and political cooperation.

3123. Mr *Willy Brandt*, the Federal German Chancellor, said of the monetary crisis, 'I favour

a joint European solution because I think it would be of the most value for us Germans, as for our partners. Maybe this will not be appreciated at once by those who think only in terms of immediate advantages. But in the medium and long-term only joint European action will enable us to move forward. This is why the Federal Republic cannot support unilateral concepts.'

3124. Mr *Hans Friderichs*, the Federal Republic's Minister of the Economy, said over German television, 'Bonn would not take unilateral decisions to stop the monetary crisis.' The Minister held that concerted floating of Common Market countries in relation to the dollar would be 'the best European answer' and that the Nine 'or the greatest number of them' would 'definitely agree' next Sunday in Brussels to adopt a joint attitude.

12 March 1973

3125. The report '*GATT 1972 Activities*' which has just come out, states: 'The most significant acts of regional commercial integration accomplished since the EEC and European Free Trade Association were formed in the late fifties have been decided in 1972 and have come into effect in 1973.' All the countries concerned are member of GATT and the Secretariat stresses in its report that by virtue of the widespread range of the new European arrangements, 'their review by GATT will be an onerous and complicated job which is also of crucial significance. The countries involved are major trading partners of all parties to the General Agreements and interests at stake are therefore vital.'

3126. Mr *Helmut Schmidt*, West Germany's Finance Minister, said to the press in Bonn

that the Brussels agreements over solving the present monetary crisis meant the end of the Bretton Woods system.

Mr Schmidt then explained that the block float by the six in relation to the dollar did not amount to progress towards European monetary integration. It merely safeguarded what had already been gained, added the Minister. 'We have high hopes,' he went on, 'that other countries (Austria, Switzerland, the Scandinavian countries) will make parallel agreements and support us in jointly floating the currencies in relation to the dollar.' The Minister took the view that Italy's attitude was disappointing and Great Britain's reasonable.

Mr Schmidt indicated that the United States agreed with the Sunday night solution in Brussels. He added that the United States have intimated that they were not prepared to prop the dollar massively. The floating of the six strong currencies meant that the various central banks would not be compelled to prop the rate of American currency. But, said the Minister, the Europeans together with the United States could intervene on the market to avert too wide a gulf.

3127. Mr *De Clercq*, the Belgian Finance Minister, declared after the 'Fourteen' meeting, 'We had hoped that in this crisis Europe could have made a major step forward by acquiring the required instruments for monetary cohesion. We did not get that far. Perhaps we erred on the side of caution. But I hope that this summer we shall take the brave decision which must be made after the Commission has submitted by 30 June its report on developing short-term monetary support and the gradual pooling of reserves.

Belgium has advocated this bold policy for a long time. Although this advance was not made this weekend we are convinced that Europe will soon acquire the instruments

needed to ensure her own monetary cohesion and more firmly assert her own personality. The outcome is therefore neither entirely satisfactory nor altogether disappointing.

3128. Mr *Valéry Giscard d'Estaing*, France's Minister of Finance and Economy, said, 'Europe has progressed in comparison with what should have happened and did in fact happen in the 1971 crisis. The main thing is keeping the "snake" (the narrow fluctuation margin between six of the nine European currencies). It will be all the easier for not having to prop the dollar. The European central banks will remain free to act when and how they want.'

Mr Giscard d'Estaing reiterated that the six European currencies to float jointly should stay close to their current level in relation to the dollar. 'The basic value of currencies matches current economic reality. With the scope for intervention which we have kept for ourselves, the "snake" can carry on.'

13 March 1973

3129. The *Italian and Spanish Foreign Ministers* had a series of talks on several political problems of mutual interest and in particular on the discussions now underway in Helsinki, on the political aspect of international monetary events and on the development of relations between the EEC and Spain. They both stressed that the Mediterranean was a zone where any effort must help in consolidating peace and promoting still more vigorous and effective collaboration in view of the worrying Middle East situation.

3130. The President of the Commission, Mr *François-Xavier Ortoli*, made the following statement to the press at the close of the EEC Finance Ministers' meeting: 'The Commission feels that the arrangements

made and which will prevent a scattered float, will ward off the dangers of speculation.

But the Commission regrets that the Council could not decide on the measures in which all members of the Community would have joined, as the Commission had proposed. The Community must make for economic and monetary union. Therefore as soon as possible the Nine must get into a Community exchange system as was agreed a year ago.

This is why the Commission puts the greatest value on the mandate it was given to make proposals to this end. It also sets great store by the proposals it is to make on the pooling of reserves and on short-term support.'

3131. The Netherlands Government decided not to revalue the florin. Mr *Nelissen*, the Finance Minister said: A 'revaluation of the florin should be justified by major considerations. They do not exist at the moment.'

Mr *Nelissen* did not know when Great Britain and Italy would join up with the countries on fixed parity currencies. 'It depends on their economic situation.'

He felt that the Germans were now in the most favourable position and that they could revalue again. In this connection he mentioned the new investment drive and Germany's labour market situation.

3132. After a meeting of the Belgian Ministerial Select Committee, Mr *Edmond Leburton*, the Prime Minister, read the following communiqué:

'We think that maintaining the parity is the most appropriate solution for the Belgian franc. But after the events of last Sunday, we felt we had to review all sides of the problem facing the Belgian Government. We decided not to adjust the parity of the Belgian franc. We have also stayed in touch with the Luxembourg

and Dutch Governments with a view to a joint attitude.'

3133. Sir *Christopher Soames*, Vice President of the Commission, speaking to journalists during his visit to Bonn, said that a genuine and permanent dialogue across the Atlantic was necessary. It would need political goodwill and understanding. It would be no use if the parties simply stood by their positions.

'A liberalization of world trade had to be striven for as the most important target, regardless of present currency decisions,' Sir *Christopher* said. Europe could and should be able to speak with one voice in the coming international trade discussions in which agriculture would play a key part.

14 March 1973

3134. In an interview with the magazine 'Time' concerning issues affecting Europe's future, Mr *François Xavier-Ortoli*, President of the Commission, said that the 'tide of Japanese exports is the problem of international trade and that it must be solved if we are to fix lasting and balanced conditions in this field.

We must find a balance between the amount of Japanese exports and her imports of European goods. Some of our industries are threatened and that raises the key question: how do we protect them?'

Mr *Ortoli* also felt that the excesses committed by the multinational companies were threatening the security of investment. 'The main problem,' he added, is that to some extent this power can be controlled only by some public authority. These companies should continue to share in the construction of Europe — with guarantees in their own interest — and

to respect the regional and social needs in each Community country.'

Lastly, concerning trade between the EEC and the USA, Mr Ortoli felt that 'the one potential danger is that the two super-powers are seeking to solve their problems without consulting other countries or are trying to solve the problems of others.'

Mr Ortoli wanted to see the EEC's progress speeded up. He regretted that Europe's younger generation was not taking an interest in the prospective European union. Many youngsters seem to think that the EEC is merely a 'group of weary ministers spinning yarns about carrots and endives at four o'clock in the morning.'

3135. The Governor of the Bank of Japan, Mr *Sasaki*, said:

'Japan should indicate how she can support the joint float of six Common Market currencies at the next Paris meeting of Finance ministers on Friday.

Now that the six EEC nations have decided to float their currencies against the US Dollar, it was the turn of other countries such as the United States and Japan to clarify what steps they can take to cooperate.'

Mr Sasaki said he told the last Paris meeting of Finance ministers last Friday that Japan was hoping to revert the floating yen to a new fixed rate when the international currency situation became stable again.

3136. In an interview with the Yugoslavian Tanyoug Agency, Mr *Muhamed Hadžić*, Yugoslavia's General Secretary for External Trade, announced that a new Trade Agreement between his country and the EEC would shortly be signed.

3137. Two major Italian papers '*La Stampa*', owned by Mr Agnelli, the President of the largest private group in Italy, and '*Il Globo*' which belongs to the biggest State group, the E.N.I., have both expressed the same fears, that Italy is moving away from the Common Market and is even tending to invalidate it.

These strongly worded verdicts are based on Rome's behaviour over the last monetary crisis, on her refusal to share in a joint float by the original Six as well as on Italy's very withdrawn attitude in Brussels over the major agricultural issues.

3138. Speaking at Caserta, the President of the Italian Senate, Mr *Fanfani*, made the following comments:

'The monetary commitments made by the Six Community countries highlight the varying degrees of development in the different Community areas now. This shows up the growing disparity between Italy and her partners over the objectives of multi-annual programme objectives per sector and territory, over educational, economic, financial, fiscal and social policy, the trade union's struggle and civil life.'

3139. In a press article, Mr *Giulio Andreotti*, Chairman of the Italian Council, said:

'Europeanism is a basic ingredient of our political concept (...). We do not accept the weeping and wailing of those wishing to accuse the Government of not accepting Community formulae which for Italy would have provoked a terrible pounding from speculation which would have been hard to cope with. The fact that we are in the same position as Britain should make some people a bit more careful.'

3140. After the French Ministers' Council meeting, Mr *Jean-Philippe Lecat*, the Govern-

ment spokesman, commenting on the monetary problems, said, 'It is a vital matter for the European economy in general and the French economy in particular, and all the Ministers have acknowledged that the decisions taken on 11 March in Brussels were the best possible in the present situation.'

15 March 1973

3141. The German Chancellor, Mr *Willy Brandt*, told the Bundestag that in promoting the floating of European currencies his Government had tried to strengthen the Community and speed up its monetary union by averting a mortgage on relations between the USA and Germany.

3142. Mr *Ugo La Malfa*, leader of the Italian Republicans, affirmed that the gap between Italy and the other European countries was getting more and more serious owing to the Italian structural crisis. Italy, said Mr La Malfa, was now heavily discredited in Europe. There were several reasons for this but the major cause in his view was the short-term economic and structural crisis which Italy could not overcome.

3143. In an interview with the daily 'Luxemburger Wort' Mr *Pierre Werner*, President of the Luxembourg Government and Minister of Finance, said concerning the monetary crisis, 'In the first place we have averted the worst which would have been separate floating by the EEC currencies in relation to the dollar. A solid nucleus of Community currencies has now been formed and the main job in the first stage of the Monetary Union Plan, that is shrinking of margins between European currencies is going on. World inflation is now an upsetting factor in orderly integration. This is why I believe that the measures for monetary balance at the world Community

and national levels need priority.' As for setting up European institutions in Luxembourg, Mr Werner believed that, 'The European capital markets, far from converging in one city, will more and more emerge as a network in which each centre will play a part fitting its vocation, its traditions and its speciality. This is why I am confident of Luxembourg's future place in finance in an evermore "Community" framework. My belief is strengthened by the special role assigned to Luxembourg by the decision taken unanimously by the Member States in 1965 and through which Luxembourg was given preference to house the financial bodies created by the Community.'

3144. Mr *G. Trincard*, Secretary of the European Committee of Transport Trade Unions, CGT-CGIL, told the press of the Committee's position on Community transport policy.

In his view the Community transport policy was a failure. He held that the common policy should cover:

- (i) adaptation to regional, national or international needs and developments over co-operation;
- (ii) rational use of existing infrastructures;
- (iii) obligations and relationships, to be set out on a complementary basis between the forms of transport;
- (iv) recognized priority for collective and public transport;
- (v) protection for national undertakings in the public and nationalized sector.

Concerning social measures for workers in this sector the Committee asked for guarantees on employment, remuneration and, in particular, effective rules on working hours. Since Community Regulation 69/543 on driving spells, working hours and rest periods was

apparently ineffective, the Committee also asked for genuine and extended rights for the unions which would ensure their presence by law on the national or international transport bodies and their legal affiliation to committees of enquiry, etc. examining health and safety hazards.

16 March 1973

3145. In an interview with the daily 'Dernières nouvelles d'Alsace' Mr *François-Xavier Ortoli*, President of the Commission, when asked about its role, said: 'If it was not there, the creative role could not be played in the same way and as effectively. We should be operating solely on the level of inter-Government cooperation.' But Mr Ortoli did not regard the Commission as the embryo of a future European Government. 'I am no high priest. I am not sure that the founders themselves of the Rome Treaty want to see that happen. To change the Commission into a Government would be to alter the whole institutional system. This is not of the moment.' Over and above solving the political and technical problems, Mr Ortoli has as his goal 'getting people more interested in Europe... The citizens of the Nine must be aware that Europe directly concerns them, that the construction of Europe is not merely a chain of mechanical and technical measures.'

17 March 1973

3146. An official communiqué issued in Vienna after a meeting of the Austrian monetary authorities says: 'Austria was in principle always ready to associate herself with the joint monetary measures of a group of European countries,' but had set no dates for this, 'which depends on market developments and the practical conditions' of the intervention system of the European monetary bloc.

3147. In a statement to the 'Echo de l'Industrie' the organ of the Luxembourg Industrialists Federation, Mr *Werner* said: 'with the Belgian Finance Minister, I have heartily endorsed the Commission's constructive Proposals for speeding up the process of monetary union, one of which concerns making a start in pooling monetary reserves. But allowance must be made for some social and economic phenomena in three Member States. This is why I feel that we can consider the results gained as positive. In the first place we have averted the worst which would have been separate floating by European currencies in relation to the dollar. A solid nucleus of Community currencies has now been formed and the main job of shrinking the margins between European currencies is going on. Moreover, I am sure that technical side alone of a joint defence of parities vis-à-vis third currencies will develop the spirit of Community solidarity in that sphere. In the months ahead and with the authority and resources assigned to it, the European Monetary Cooperation Fund will play but a self-effacing role, all the more in that the European currencies bound together form a group of strong currencies. It would have been otherwise if Great Britain, Ireland and Italy had straightway been in the scheme.'

19 March 1973

3148. Japan will have to cooperate in consolidating dollar balances if such a measure is deemed 'imperative action' to settle the international monetary crisis, said Mr *Kiichi Aichi*, the Japanese Finance Minister, who was speaking on Monday to the Budget Committee of the Chamber of Counsellors.

The Minister stressed the need to restore fixed parities and reform the international monetary system so as to ensure lasting stability.

3149. Mr C. Berkhouwer, President of the European Parliament, said that he saw in the recent election results of various EEC countries signs which should prod the Europeans MP's into hard efforts to get European integration speeded up. Mr Berkhouwer was thinking mainly of the stronger liberal current throughout the Netherlands, West Germany and France. For Mr Berkhouwer it is especially France where the stronger liberal trend could make the Governments' attitude more flexible towards European problems. He could see a second factor for speeding up Europe's integration; namely, the mandate given to the four Institutions (Parliament, the Commission, the Council, and the Court of Justice) to sketch independently the outline of the political union which, under the decisions by the Paris Summit last year, should emerge in 1980.

3150. In an interview with 'Agence Europe' Mr Ivar Nørgaard, the Danish Minister for External Economic Affairs, said he was glad that the EEC countries had resolved to maintain a joint attitude towards the monetary crisis. He stressed that a joint attitude did not limit Denmark's freedom of choice for in practice it would be impossible to get sound results through unilateral action, through devaluation for instance. For Denmark, stability in international monetary relations was vital, for without stable conditions, the common agricultural policy could not possibly be applied.

Commenting on criticism of the Danish Government over aid it was granting to Norway during the talks now running, Mr Nørgaard emphasized that Denmark supported the terms offered to EFTA over Norway. (Implying thereby that Norway should not hope for the advantages of a fully-fledged member until she had joined completely).

Concerning the multinational companies, Mr Nørgaard held that the latest monetary crisis had pointed still more clearly towards con-

trolling multinational companies and their operations. All transactions of these firms should be made transparent. This measure as well as the direct controls to follow would curb international tides of speculation.

Broaching the subject of regional policy, Mr Nørgaard explained that the Danish Government favoured cutting the German regional aid to Schleswig-Holstein as a region adjoining the Democratic Republic of Germany. The Community should distinguish between regions with serious regional problems such as southern Italy and regions where there was some unevenness at national level as was the case in Germany. He added that Denmark would not accept increased regional expenditure if the economic farming benefits for Denmark were reduced in this way.

Concerning the Community information policy, Mr Nørgaard favoured a decentralized and diversified policy. He also said that decision taking at all Community levels should be made as transparent as possible. Along these lines the Danish Parliamentary Committee for Community Questions had been turned into a knowledgeable body helping to form better informed political opinions.

As for the overall future of economic integration, Mr Nørgaard said he favoured a flexible and open system with some decentralization of authority economically speaking.

3151. Mr Matteo Matteotti, the Italian Minister for External Trade, reaffirmed Italy's European role at the closing ceremony of the Verona International Agricultural Fair. 'We are accused of lukewarm Europeanism or even anti-Europeanism by those very people who fought the "Community" experiment tooth and nail, considering it to be a painful choice', he explained. 'The Community has not and probably will not evolve in a straight line. It has zig-zagged in order to allow for the

interests at stake. The Paris Summit concerned major objectives of mutual interest which Italy approved wholeheartedly. The driving and wearying urgency of the monetary crises has brought out particular concerns which the Italian Government, seeing the delicate position of the Lire, did not want to take on. It is a case where the steps we have been recommended to take have been adjudged as out of proportion. One can disagree with that assessment but must acknowledge that it is plausible.'

'In any case', added Mr Matteotti, 'this is a phase. Our European role and our basic options cannot be questioned because of that. There have been other critical moments in the Community's past which have been successfully dealt with thanks to our help.'

3152. Sir *Geoffrey Howe*, Britain's Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, said at a Brussels press conference:

'Britain wants more women to get the chance of senior jobs in the Common Market civil service', the British Minister said here on Monday.

'Britain is stressing the need to open up the EEC hierarchy to women. There are many women at the lower levels in the Commission', Sir *Geoffrey* said, 'but very few higher up in top positions.'

3153. Mr *Nello Celio*, Head of the Swiss Finance Department, speaking to the Lower Chamber of the National Council, confirmed Switzerland's decision to let its currency float separately from the European monetary bloc. 'Our export economy must be ensured acceptable and reliable exchange rates. We must also take precautions against the invasion of speculative capital which could increase economic overheating', explained Mr *Celio*. For the Swiss Government the floating rates were

only a 'temporary solution pending a new stability', and could not become permanent or else international relations would fall apart.

20 March 1973

3154. Before visiting Brussels, the President of the Senegal, Mr *Léopold Sedar Senghor*, said in an interview published by the French daily 'Le Figaro':

'I am not going to Brussels only as Chairman of OCAM but as spokesman for 18 of the 19 countries associated with the Common Market. They have agreed that I coordinate the moves for renewing the Yaoundé Convention which associates them with the Common Market. In Brussels I shall explain our ideas on Euroafrica and in particular on the new chance for the English-speaking States to join us. I have always supported Britain's joining the EEC, much less for Britain's sake who does not need me than for the sake of the twelve Commonwealth African States, for it will make for easier progress towards forming a West African Common Market. We hope they will come to Yaoundé III. Having had long talks with General Gowon, President of Nigeria, I know that Nigeria will sign no more than a plain trade agreement. It is not Yaoundé, but on my intervention we are now willing to talk informally with the English-speaking peoples that we call "associables". It is up to them to bear their responsibilities.

The Yaoundé Convention sets up a free trade area between Europe and each of the African States. The preferences have in my opinion two "raisons d'être." Legally they are the cornerstone of any free trade area and above all morally they create the dignity of the Euroafrican association so that no one enters as a beggar. It is said that we will accept the aid of the European Fund. It is true, for Europe is thus repairing part of the damage

she causes us through deterioration of the terms of trade. You know that some members of the Community are both for and against this Association of the African States with the EEC and would like to see aid to the underdeveloped countries allotted at world level. This is unfair. Firstly, because for three and a half centuries, Europe indulged in the slave trade which had a death toll of two hundred million. She owes us redress. Then to leave Africa to the mirages would be unrealistic on the part of the Europeans. Africa could then swing towards America or Asia and then what would Europe amount to against America, the USSR and the Comecon and China who is coming to terms with Japan? I must add that most of the EEC Commission Members support the Euroafrican association with its characteristic special relationships. Moreover, there is Protocol 22 signed when Britain joined the Community and which guarantees those relationships.'

3155. Mr *John Davies*, the British Minister for European Affairs, said to journalists in Bonn that:

he had dispelled West German doubts about the sincerity of Britain's wish to participate in the joint float of European Common Market currencies.

He told journalists that in two days of talks here, West German officials had agreed on the urgency of examining Britain's terms for joining the float.

The British Minister, now visiting European Community countries, said that once they fully understood Britain's desire for assurances that Sterling would be protected in the float, the way would be clear for Britain to join in. He repeated that Britain was anxious to participate in the float—decided by Common Market finance ministers earlier this month as a counter-

measure to the recent monetary crisis—but would want the mobilization of European reserves to protect Sterling. At the same time, Britain would retain absolute autonomy in determining the parity of Sterling in response to economic pressures within the Community, Mr Davies said.

3156. Mr *Raymond Barre*, a former Vice President of the Commission, speaking to the European Institute of Advanced International Studies in Nice, said concerning the recent monetary decisions: 'The decision of 11 March in Brussels by six of the nine EEC Members to let their currencies float together was regarded as a stabilizing factor in an utterly chaotic international monetary system... We must be careful not to overstate the virtues of that decision. In the first place it allows an immediate or future extra exchange advantage to the USA. Secondly, the joint fluctuation is technically fragile.'

3157. From a fresh opinion poll, 57% of the *Norwegians* expressing an opinion are now in favour of Accession and 43% are against it. Asked on their choice between Accession or a trade agreement, 59% preferred Accession and 41% a trade agreement. In the September referendum, the noes had carried the day by 52% against 48%.

3158. Mr *Pierre Werner*, the President of the Luxembourg Government and Minister of Finance, said in Luxembourg: 'For the Luxembourg Government it is a question of principles: We cannot imagine setting up a European Monetary Cooperation Fund without settling the question of its location. For myself, it is a painful dilemma. I set as much store by the 1965 agreements (on the merging of institutions and the distribution of sites) as I do by the formation of this Fund.'

21 March 1973

3159. Speaking to the Budget and Finance Committees of the Italian Senate meeting in joint session, Mr *Malagodi*, the Treasury Minister, said, 'We did our duty in preventing Italy from being exposed to unforeseen blows which could prejudice the revival of the economy.' The Italian Government had proposed to attach the Lire to the concerted fluctuation of the other European countries provided that the European Monetary Co-operation Fund had sufficient resources. The agreement was not possible because France and the Netherlands rejected the proposal. These countries felt that they were 'strong enough' and did not want for the time being to submit to the disciplines of a Fund which should have worked through majority decisions, and this would have rekindled the quarrel over the political sovereignty of the various countries, added Mr *Malagodi*.

3160. Speaking to a Committee of the United States Senate, Mr *Burns*, President of the Federal Reserve Board, said he was optimistic over the development of American external trade. He was betting on a solid surplus in 1975 and admitted that 'European exports' might 'suffer a lot'.

3161. Mr *Jean-François Deniau*, Member of the Commission, indicated during his visit to the People's Republic of the Congo that it was up to that country to specify which projects should get priority financing by the European Development Fund. 'But, added Mr *Deniau*, my talks with the Congolese authorities show the "top priority" to be infrastructures'. Regarding the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention, Mr *Deniau* explained that his talks had focussed on the resources to improve it. The new Convention, he added, should mean that results already achieved by the Community were not lost.

3162. During a Brussels press conference, the Senegalese President, Mr *Senghor*, said, 'We are hoping that the Association Agreement will be improved to allow for the deterioration in terms of trade (prices of commodities exported by the Africans were at a standstill while those of the industrial products they bought were rising). The subsidies and loans granted by the EEC to its African associates were a valuable support but trade problems were also of paramount importance. Something must be done to stabilize our export receipts. I do not want it said each time we go to Paris that here come the beggars of the Elysée.' The free trade area with the reciprocal preferences involved was the legal and moral basis of an association to which everyone contributes.

The English speaking African countries knew almost nothing of that side. This was why an information campaign would be maintained so as to tell them of our experiences over the ten years of life with the EEC.

22 March 1973

3163. The President of the United States, Mr *Richard Nixon*, sent a report into Congress on the state of the international economy in which addressing Japan and Western Europe he says that the time has come 'for everyone to sacrifice a little of his own interests for the interests of the world.' The report criticizes in particular Japan and the EEC. The common agricultural policy also comes under fire since it is hampering the sale of American wares in Europe.

3164. Mr *Emilio Colombo*, former President of the Council of Italy and a former Treasury Minister, in a statement to the revue 'L'Europa' said that 'for Italy the choice of Europe was the natural development of her history and a permanent national interest... this choice cannot be

disputed without jeopardizing the very foundations of democratic life.' We must 'immediately resume the construction of the Community to counter any discouragement and also to allow for the dialogue, which must not be held up, with the United States over monetary and trade affairs and international economic policy (...). It is imperative to put more trust in the European institutions who beginning with the Council must, however, work as Community bodies and not wear themselves out in pointless conflict.'

23 March 1973

3165. During a press conference Mr *Barzel*, leader of the German CDU Party, said that the Community should attend the CSCE 'ready and willing to cooperate,' regardless of how it was represented at the Conference. When economic questions came up, the Community would have to speak with a single voice. It was important for the Conference to gradually achieve the free movement of people, ideas and information. Speaking about the construction of Europe, Mr Barzel deplored the delay in the development of economic union compared with monetary union. The time had come for Germany to be the driving force in the construction of Europe. Mr Barzel rejected any suggestions of tripartite or bipartite meetings over issues concerning all the Community countries. He came out strongly in favour of respecting the equality of Member States. He also supported Luxembourg who had asked that the pledge to install the European Monetary Cooperation Fund there be honoured.

3166. Mr *Altiero Spinelli*, Member of the Commission, accusing an article published by the daily 'Il Globo' condemned the birth of Italian neo-nationalism which claimed that Italy should cast off Community links to enable her to strengthen her economy and then return to the Community. Mr Spinelli stressed that this

argument was based on two far-fetched theories. The first was that Italy had the strength to bridle the Community integration process in order to come in again when she felt ready and the second was to imagine that Italy could find at home the necessary resources whilst it was through confrontation with the other economies and through commitments linked with the adoption of common policies that her economy and structures could be renewed.

24 March 1973

3167. During a press conference for foreign correspondents, the President of Mexico, *Luis Echeverria*, explained that the main reason for his forthcoming visit to Europe was to help Mexico diminish her economic dependence vis-à-vis the United States. He stressed that Mexico's trade with the EEC was currently in deficit and that it was vital for Mexico to improve it.

25 March 1973

3168. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the first post-war contact between France and Italy was celebrated by Mr *Andreotti*, President of the Council of Italy and Mr Charles Lucet, France's Ambassador to Rome. In his speech Mr Andreotti said, 'It would be better if someone explained the reasons why there is developing in France a French and German economic supremacy while we are trying to clear the way to that brotherly cooperation for the sake of which de Gasperi and Bidault came together at Crea.'

3169. The *Joint Economic Committee of the United States Congress* published its annual report in which it urges President Nixon to meet the European and Japanese leaders as soon as possible in order to finalize a long-term reform

of the international monetary and trade system. The report makes three recommendations: (i) conclude a firm agreement to fully indemnify the United States, immediately and in cash, for the expense incurred in overseas expeditions to help the defence of the free world; (ii) finalize monetary reforms which, allowing swift adjustment of parities, would avert balance of payments crises; (iii) draw up the blueprint of an agreement which in the next ten or twenty years would do away with customs tariffs on manufactured goods, remove non-tariff trade barriers and recast the mechanisms for agricultural support.

26 March 1973

3170. On an official visit to Italy, Mr *Patrick John Hillery*, Vice President of the Commission, said in a statement to the 'Corriere della Sera' concerning the process of European integration, 'It is no longer simply a matter of achieving an economic Community. That is not enough... the fact that no agreement could be reached over monetary policy shows up the need to give priority to the Community social policy... a policy likely to reduce the economic and social disparities.'

3171. Mr *Joseph Luns*, the General Secretary of NATO, said in Amsterdam when addressing the Transatlantic Conference held from 26 to 28 March that differences between Europe and the United States on economic problems should not endanger their security link. Dr Luns said he wanted to sound 'a low but clear note of warning to some of my fellow Europeans.' It was true, he said, that Western Europe was growing more united and more prosperous. 'But let us not forget that prosperity is not a substitute for security, nor does prosperity of itself add to security. Indeed prosperity is conditional upon security and as we grow more

prosperous so our security should become more and more important to us,' the NATO Secretary General added. Dr Luns said that West European prosperity might provoke the envy of the Communist world and it would become more attractive as a target. The Soviet Union and her Warsaw Pact allies continued to increase their military power far beyond anything which could be required for purely defensive purposes. He said the might and power of the United States was essential to Europe, and a free Europe was equally important to the security of North America. 'I deprecate statements on both sides of the Atlantic to the effect that the United States defence effort in Europe is only in the interest of either Europe or the United States, depending on the geographic place of the speakers,' he said. Europe's prosperity, said Dr Luns, should not become a source of conflict and dispute between the partners in the Atlantic Alliance.

3172. Taking the floor at the Conference, Mr *François-Xavier Ortoli*, President of the Commission, highlighted the interdependence of action on both sides of the Atlantic which was now obvious and declared he wanted to ensure that relations between the United States and Europe 'be frank and realistic but also the best possible. I shall do so all the more sincerely in that I am convinced that good relations are needed and that they are possible.' Without turning a blind eye to the existing differences which in his view mainly stemmed from each of our societies wanting to give priority to settling its own problems, Mr Ortoli said that the United States as much as Europe could preserve their system of values only insofar as they were seen to be just not only by their own people but less well-off nations. A convergence of values should be made, taking precautions against anything which might threaten it, Mr Ortoli ended by saying that it was because the Commission was aware that that which unified was

vital that it put great value on frequent contact, clear relationships with clearly expressed positions and no misunderstandings.

3173. The Conference closed with a speech by Mr *Ball*, former United States Under-Secretary of State, who said, 'Doubt is spreading in United States' Government circles that the European Community can rise above the status of a trade bloc, basically hostile to American interests.' It seemed for Mr *Ball* that 'the progress towards European unity has been regrettably slow and insubstantial which makes the United States lean not towards classic isolationism but towards an insidious variant of Gaullism "a l'américaine". Protectionism is gaining ground in the United States whilst Europe is showing more recrimination than understanding.'

28 March 1973

3174. In an interview with the French paper 'Combat' the President of Senegal, *Léopold Sedar Senghor*, said that Great Britain 'officially wanted as many as possible of the African Commonwealth States to associate with the EEC' but that in point of fact the British were acting behind the scenes to dissuade their African partners from subscribing to the basic principle of the Yaoundé Convention. In the President's view, India still interested the British more than all the twelve Commonwealth African States. Mr *Senghor* also stressed that the Europeans were underestimating the growing influence of the United States and China in black Africa.

3175. After a short debate, the *United States Senate* passed a Resolution supporting the federation of North America with Western Europe. The Resolution provides for the formation of an 18 member American delegation assigned to call a meeting of United States,

Canadian and West European delegates to discuss setting up a federation. The Resolution was referred to the Chamber of Representatives where some hundred members support it. In the Chamber, its main champion is Mr *Paul Findley* (Republican, Illinois) who supports the formation of an Atlantic Union covering the armed services, foreign policy, commercial trade and monetary issues including the creation of a joint central bank. The project also has President *Nixon's* support.

29 March 1973

3176. Mr *Hugh Scanlon*, Chairman of the British Metalworkers Union said he accepted the fact that Britain was now in the Community and that the unions must adapt to the situation as it was.

3177. Mr *François-Xavier Ortoli*, President of the Commission, said in Bonn that we should seek a 'genuine reciprocity in the constructive dialogue' to be set up between the Community and the United States in developing international trade within a new framework.

30 March 1973

3178. The American authorities have started a survey on the preferential agreements negotiated between the EEC and some European countries. The department of Mr *William Eberle*, President *Nixon's* special representative for trade negotiations, announced that they were going to hold a series of hearings in May on the consequences for the USA of Association Agreements negotiated by the EEC with countries such as Sweden, Austria, Switzerland, Portugal and Iceland.

As in the case of the Community enlargement, it will be a case of appraising the prejudice to American products and, if need be, asking for

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compensation. Special attention will be given to the 'rules of origin' which reserve remission of customs charges for products whose chief components were made in those countries and do not come from outside countries and which are consequently a hindrance to exports of American products.

3179. Mr *Thorn*, the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, spoke to journalists in Luxembourg on the question of siting the Monetary Cooperation Fund: 'There is only one country who opposes our application. It certainly cannot be the Grand Duchy who is responsible for any deadlock.' After casting doubts 'on the validity of certain arguments,' concerning objections made over the correct running of the Fund in Luxembourg, Mr *Thorn* declared. 'It upsets me to hear and read that there are senior partners in the Community. This implies that there are also juniors.' According to Mr *Thorn*, the arguments brought up today for not respecting the 1965 decision on temporary sites could be put forward in other areas by each Member State. So the argument against Luxembourg would equally apply against Strasbourg. In closing, the Minister said that it would be a serious matter if the rights of the small Community countries were less respected than those of the bigger ones. 'Its a matter of political morality for the spirit of the Community,' he said.

31 March 1973

3180. Experts from thirty-eight African countries adopted an 'economic charter.' It will be laid before the Conference of African Ministers due to meet in Abidjan in early May. It 'recommends the conclusion of a general agreement on trade and economic and technical cooperation between the EEC and Africa.'

This tabulation covers the numbers of the Official Journal published during March 1973. The publications since 1 January 1973 have appeared in English in the Official Journal, which has been published in the English language from that date.

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Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Monday, 12 February 1973
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Resolution on the First Report of the Commission of the European Communities on policy with regard to competition

Oral Question 25/72 with debate, by Mr *Cipolla*, Mr *Amendola*, Mrs *Carettoni Romagnoli*, Mr *D'Angelosante*, Mr *Fabbrini*, Mrs *Iotti*, Mr *Leonardi*, Mr *Marras* and Mr *Sandri* to the Commission of the European Communities: Barriers to free competition in intra-Community trade in sugar

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Questions put to the Commission of the European Communities:

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(ii) 31/72 from the Conservative Group: Importance and urgency of Community action in the field of regional development policy

(iii) 28/72 by Sir Tufton Beamish: Extension and improvement of regular consultation by the Commission of the European Parliament and its Committees

(iv) 29/72 by Mr Löhr and the Committee on Energy, Research and Atomic Problems: Measures for the renewal of aid arrangements for coking coal and coke for the Community's iron and steel industry

(v) 30/72 by Messrs Jahn, Meister, Memmel, Richarts, Riedel and Schwörer: The Community's relations with the People's Republic of China

(vi) 32/72 by Mr Normanton: Importance and urgency of Community action in the field of Foreign Trade Relations

(vii) 33/72 by Mr Springorum: Call for tenders by ACEA, Rome, for the construction of a power plant

Resolution on procedures for participation by the European Parliament in the conclusion of trade agreements between the Community and third countries

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Opinion on the proposal for a regulation amending Article 6 (2) and Article 9 (1) of Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) 2/71 of 2 January 1971 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources

Resolution on the proposal for a financial regulation authorizing a departure (for the 1972 financial year) from Article 9 (3) of the EAGGF financial regulation of 5 February 1964

Opinion on the proposal for a directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on the internal fittings of motor vehicles (protection of the driver against the steering column in the event of collision)

Opinion on the proposal for a directive on the right of citizens of one Member State to remain in the territory of another Member State after the cessation of activities as self-employed persons

Opinion on the proposal for a directive extending the validity of the Council Directive of 25 February 1964 on the coordination of special provisions restricting the entry and sojourn of foreign nationals on grounds of public policy, public security or public health, to nationals of Member States who avail themselves of the right to remain in the territory of a Member State after

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Resolution on adaptation of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure to the new situation resulting from the enlargement of the European Communities

Opinion on the proposal for the financial regulation applicable to the budget of the European Communities

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Resolution on the economic situation in the Community
Resolution on the latest developments in the international monetary sphere

Resolution on recent monetary developments

Resolution on the procedure for reviewing the Sixth Council Report of the Commission of the European Communities on the activities of the Communities in 1972
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Resolution on the amendments proposed by the Commission to the proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of Member States legislation on cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption
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(ii) a resolution temporarily suspending the customs duties applicable to certain varieties of fresh vegetables and fruit, originating in the Republics of Tasmania, Uganda and Kenya

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Subject: Carriage of dangerous substances

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Written Question 409/72 by Mr Müller to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Carriage of dangerous substances

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Written Question 394/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Council of the European Communities
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Written Question 421/72 by Mr Dewulf to the Council of the European Communities
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Written Question 427/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities
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Written Question 444/72 by Mr Oele to the Commission of the European Communities
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Written Question 418/72 by Mr Glinne to the Council of the European Communities
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Written Question 435/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Council of the European Communities
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Written Question 455/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Council of the European Communities
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Extension of the validity of the recruitment reserve list drawn up pursuant to Open Competition PE/6/A—administrators—published in *Official Journal* C 68, 10 June 1970
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Regulations

Règlement (CEE) 2842/72 du Conseil, du 19 décembre 1972, portant conclusion d'un accord entre la Communauté économique européenne et la république d'Islande et arrêtant des dispositions pour son application (Council Regulation (EEC) 2842/72 of 19 December 1972 on concluding an Agreement between the EEC and Iceland and adopting provisions for its application)
Accord entre la Communauté économique européenne et la république d'Islande (Agreement between the EEC and Iceland)
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Règlement (CEE) 2843/72 du Conseil, du 19 décembre 1972, relatif aux mesures de sauvegarde prévues à l'accord entre la Communauté économique européenne et la république d'Islande (Council Regulation (EEC) 2843/72 of 19 December 1972 on protection measures prescribed in the EEC-Iceland Agreement)
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Règlement (CEE) 2844/72 du Conseil, du 19 décembre 1972, portant conclusion d'un accord entre la Communauté économique européenne et la république portugaise et arrêtant des dispositions pour son application (Council Regulation (EEC) 2844/72 of 19 December 1972 on concluding an Agreement between the EEC and Portugal and adopting provisions for its application)

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(ii) Echange de lettres relatif à l'article 2 du protocole 8 (Exchange of correspondence over Article 2 of Protocol 8)

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Règlement (CEE) 2864/72 du Conseil, du 19 décembre 1972, modifiant le règlement (CEE) 1408/71 relatif à l'application des régimes de sécurité sociale aux travailleurs salariés et à leur famille qui se déplacent à l'intérieur de la Communauté (Council Regulation (EEC) 2864/72 of 19 December 1972 amending Regulation (EEC) 1408/71 on application of social Security schemes to wage-earners and their families who relocate within the Community)
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