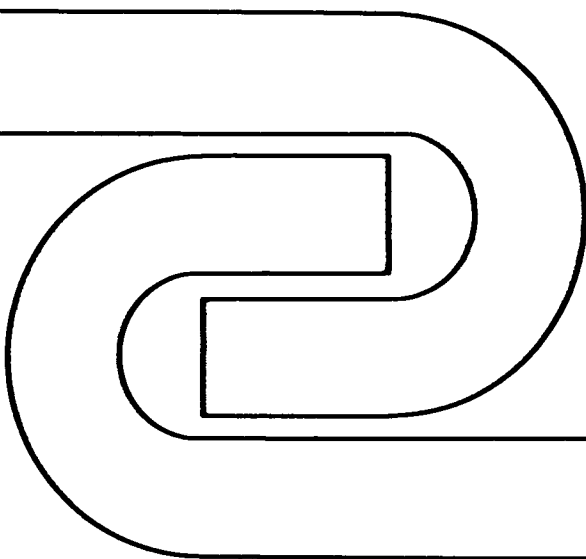


ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BULLETIN



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— I —

CONFERENCE ON THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

On 26 and 27 June 1980, the Economic and Social Committee held an important conference on the enlargement of the Community. The conference — the first of its kind — was attended by leaders of the major socio-economic organizations from the Nine, Greece, Spain and Portugal, the President-in-office of the Council, Mr ZAMBERLETTI, and Mr SPAAK, Commission Director-General in charge of the accession negotiations. More than one hundred people attended this conference which was based on previous work by the Committee and particularly its Opinion on enlargement of 28 June 1978.

Among the European groupings represented at the conference were the following :

UNICE (Industry), Chambers of Commerce, CEEP (public enterprises), ETUC (trade unions), COPA (farmers), COGECA (agricultural cooperatives), UEAPME (small and medium enterprises), SEPLIS (professions), BEUC and EUROCOOP (consumers), and COFACE (families).

The conference sought to explore the various facets of the difficulties thrown up by enlargement. Participants worked together to find how Community policies can develop along lines which will help eradicate regional, economic and social imbalances.

A wide-ranging debate took place on the problems underlying enlargement, including the development of the Community, strengthening the institutions, agriculture, social policy, employment, free movement of workers, industrial policy and regional policy and the implications for Community external relations, particularly vis-à-vis certain non-member Mediterranean countries.

Extracts from speeches

In his opening speech the Chairman of the Committee, Mr VANNI, pointed out that by inviting representatives of economic and social interest groups in the Nine and in Greece, Spain and Portugal to hold a joint discussion on the complex issues of enlargement, the Committee had demonstrated its desire to carry out within the framework of the Community Institutions, its role as the vehicle for the democratic and pluralistic involvement of economic and social interest groups and their representative bodies in the running of the Community.

The aim of the Conference was to help to find solutions to the problems by bringing about an increasingly broad consensus amongst the various interest groups in favour of the development of Community policies designed to help remove regional, economic and social imbalances.

Although it was not the role of the Committee to put forward new policies, it should pinpoint the short and midium-term obstacles to enlargement. The Committee had already given its full political backing to enlargement. By organizing the Conference the Committee wished to reaffirm its support for enlargement, which it regarded as a vital instrument for building Europe on lasting foundations.

The President-in-office of the Council, Mr ZAMBERLETTI, Under-Secretary of State at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, pointed out that the Council had reacted positively to the Greek, Spanish and Portuguese applications for membership. The final stage had been reached in the initial negotiations designed to identify the problems which would be raised by the accession of Spain and Portugal. The work carried out so far had made it possible to assess fairly accurately the impact which Spanish and Portuguese accession would have on the Community. The failure to meet the deadlines set out at the beginning of the period of the Italian presidency, in spite of the Council's commitment, was not due to slowness of work but to the practical difficulties



The Greek Delegation attending the Enlargement Conference.

which had caused considerable delays in the presentation of some of the Commission's proposals. The proposals dealing with agriculture in Portugal, and fishing in Spain and Portugal had still to be submitted. Nevertheless, awareness of the problems had not eroded the political will to proceed with negotiations without a break.

MR ZAMBERLETTI also mentioned the budgetary problem which enlargement would pose for the Community. That problem would make it necessary to reconsider the current « own resources » system.

The speaker thought that both in the Member States and the applicant countries the political will to proceed with negotiations should be accompanied by the will to find the most suitable ways and means of ensuring that the Community would be strengthened by the second enlargement.

Mr SPAAK, the Commission Director-General in charge of the enlargement negotiations, started by pointing out that Greece would become the tenth member of the European Community on 1 January 1981, since all the Member States had ratified the Treaty of Accession signed in Athens on 28 May 1979.

Turning to the negotiations with Spain and Portugal, the speaker reaffirmed the Commission's wish to get down to the detailed discussions in the autumn and bring them to an end some time in 1981. Spain and Portugal would then be able to become members in 1983.

The negotiations would not go far enough to ensure that the Community of Twelve achieved the desirable degree of homogeneity by the end of the transition period regardless of how long that period was. It was vital for enlargement to be backed up by a strengthening of the Community's internal cohesion, which would involve completing the common market and strengthening the common policies.

Depending on the measures taken, enlargement could either worsen the situation in the Community or round off the building of the Community edifice.

After having touched on the agricultural problems with which the Community would have to contend if it wanted to meet the new challenge, Mr SPAAK pointed out that the presence of twelve members would put a considerable strain on the institutions and the decision-making procedures. Hence the need for increased solidarity, which should be borne out in a more frequent use of majority voting whenever the topics under discussion did not touch on vital interests and did not warrant a unanimous decision.

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The representatives of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities said that the Committee had accepted the prin-



The Portuguese Delegation.

ciple of enlargement in an Opinion which had been carried almost unanimously. The Opinion had referred to the institutional and economic problems which the Community had to solve if the second enlargement was to be a success.

Mr Alois PFEIFFER (German member of the Economic and Social Committee sitting on the Workers' Group) summarized the Committee's Opinion and pointed out that the Committee had highlighted the sacrifices and efforts needed to carry the negotiations through to a successful conclusion. The aim was not to weaken but to strengthen the Community. The burdens and problems of adaptation should be borne by all parties acting in a spirit of solidarity.

Economic policy had to contribute towards the implementation of a dynamic employment policy in the Community, for the improvement of general living standards hinged on this. The Community's efforts in the field of regional policy should therefore centre on the creation of permanent jobs.

Mr PFEIFFER, on behalf of the Committee, formally assured the delegates that considerable importance was attached to the smooth integration of the applicant countries into the European Community.

Mr EMO CAPODILISTA (Member of the Economic and Social Committee, Italy — Various Interests Group) put forward the Commit-

tee's view on the agricultural aspect. Enlargement would mean a considerable increase in the proportion of farms requiring structural change and would exacerbate regional imbalances. There was a risk that the enlarged Community would have large surpluses of some Mediterranean agricultural products. At the same time it was possible that the structural surpluses in certain North European agricultural products would merely be reduced, but not eliminated.

It was indispensable that a strategy be worked out with the new Member States for switching to new crops, in particular to crops rich in vegetable protein.

Radical measures were needed; therefore the transitional period must aim to ensure that, before the final phase, there was a real alignment of economic conditions in the Community and in the applicant countries; it should do this by providing adequate safeguard clauses and updating the socio-structural Directives to make them applicable in the Mediterranean regions, thanks to increases in Community funding.

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Speaking on behalf of UNICE, its President, Mr CARLI, stated that his organization hoped the Community could be enlarged. Enlargement must not, however, weaken the Community or downgrade it to a customs union; nor must it lead to protectionism. Enlargement must not endanger the measures taken in respect of non-Community countries, such as the preferential agreements. Its negotiating power must not be weakened. Mr CARLI referred to three main problems : firstly, structural problems, insofar as the Community would be faced by differing levels of development. Secondly, economic uncertainty. Thirdly, institutional procedures would have to be improved and a start made right now on studying this problem.

The Community must make the necessary adjustments so that the acceding countries could fall in line with its existing rules. The Community must avoid protectionist measures, while the applicant countries must resist invoking the safeguard clauses. In short, UNICE favoured enlargement provided that it did not undermine the Community's past achievements.

The point of view of industrialists in the three applicant countries was then put forward :

1. For the Spanish confederation of industrial organizations the conference had been overtaken by recent events.

The Spanish people were impatient for membership and were worried about possible delays in the negotiations.

Spanish industry was ready and willing to adapt so it could come into the Community. It had already begun the requisite economic and

social restructuring, but it asked the Community to assume its responsibilities too.

2. For the Portuguese industrial association, Portugal's entry into the Community was the logical continuation of that country's history and would consolidate democracy in Portugal. Accession meant working out a new development model based on competition and the role of private enterprise. Public corporations would have to adapt to those rules.

Stress was laid on the need for the Community to help Portugal restructure and stimulate the investments essential to economic development.

3. The Greek employers, affirmed that despite the difficulties which some sectors were facing, Greek industry was determined to adapt to the new circumstances brought about by accession.

The Greek people were in favour of accession. Industry had to be restructured to improve productivity. The public sector would have an important role to play in that context.

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The President of the European Trade Union Confederation, Mr Wim KOK, speaking on behalf of his organization, stressed the impor-



The Spanish Delegation.

tance of accession to the strengthening of democracy in the three candidate countries. Although the economic difficulties of the EEC Member States were serious, the negotiation timetable had to be kept to. One of the factors essential to ensuring the success of enlargement would be the stepping-up of financial transfers from the rich to the poor regions; the amounts provided so far had been quite inadequate for promoting economic development. Such a project for southern Europe could help in getting the Community economy moving again, which was more necessary than ever. The economic and social problems which workers had to face up to, the most serious of which was unemployment, could only be solved at international and Community level. The key instruments for doing this would be improved co-ordination and the convergence of economic policies.

As far as freedom of movement for workers was concerned, the trade union movement considered that this basic right, like the other aspects of Community legislation, had to be granted to citizens of the acceding countries. But the structural unemployment in certain regions would require freedom of movement to be phased in during a transitional period.

The representatives of Greek, Portuguese and Spanish workers stressed that they supported enlargement in principle but also expressed certain concerns. Steps should be taken to see that workers benefited fully from what the Community had achieved. First of all, accession to the Community should improve their living conditions and standard of living. In the field of social policy the most urgent issues were unemployment, the use of the Social Fund, vocational training, helping backward regions, providing freedom of movement for workers in accordance with Community rules and getting these rules incorporated in national legislation.

The unions were worried about the position of multinationals in the Community.

At national level, there had been complaints about an inadequate flow of information between the unions and the authorities responsible for negotiations.

It was hoped that enlargement would further political and economic progress in the new Member States, and help to safeguard workers' interests.

The economies of the applicant countries would have to be restructured, and any delay in the negotiations would create an element of uncertainty.

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On behalf of COPA its Vice President, Mr LUTEIJN, went into the agricultural problems which would be created by enlargement. COPA agreed that further countries should be able to join the Community. But it was essential not to underestimate the difficulties, which had alarmed a number of farmers.

One of the prerequisites was that CAP should not be dismantled — i.e. adequate funds would have to be available. COPA could not agree to CAP guarantees being scaled down. Current production should not be sacrificed. The underlying principles of CAP — uniform prices, preference for Community production and financial solidarity — should be retained.

COPA had always favoured adoption of a fairly long-term socio-structural policy. For the applicant countries that would entail a long transitional period, perhaps comprising three five-year stages.

The representatives of Greek, Portuguese and Spanish agricultural organizations described their national agricultural sectors and the problems they faced.

Special reference should be made to structural weaknesses, the small size of holdings and the inadequate distribution system. Accession should help to remedy those shortcomings. A long transitional period was conceivable, but Community regional, social and political facilities should be fully available from the outset.

The Spanish delegations were very critical about the current treatment of Spanish agricultural produce in the Community. An enlarged Community should condemn violence, it should be a Community of fraternity.

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Before summing up the ESC Chairman, Mr VANNI, stated that, while it was not the task of the Economic and Social Committee to put forward new political assessments, it should nevertheless identify the obstacles to enlargement in the short and medium term and look for ways of overcoming them. The Committee had already given its full support to enlargement and intended to continue to promote this fundamental instrument for lasting European unity.

He then welcomed the broad consensus on the fundamental nature of enlargement. The Conference was pleased that, according to Council and Commission spokesmen, negotiations were on schedule.

Mr VANNI endorsed the wish expressed by several participants that socio-economic interest groups should be more closely involved in negotiations via regular briefings from the appropriate authorities.

In the light of the Conference's findings, the Committee will continue to keep the Community Institutions informed of the views of socio-economic groups and endeavour to strengthen the links between the economic and social interest groups in the Twelve.

— II —

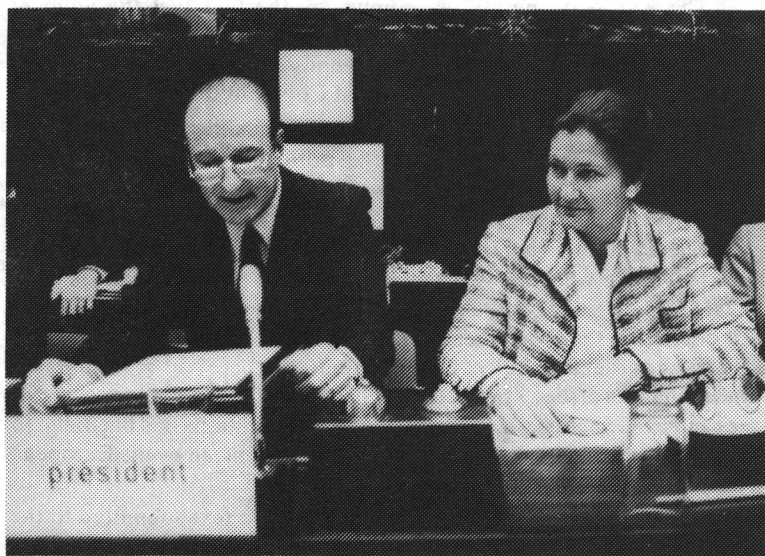
180th PLENARY SESSION

The European Communities' Economic and Social Committee held its 180th Plenary Session at its headquarters in Brussels on 2 and 3 July 1980. Its Chairman, Mr Raffaele VANNI, presided.

The guest speaker at the Session was the President of the European Parliament, Mrs Simone VEIL.

SPEECH BY MRS. VEIL

Mrs VEIL began by saying that for the first time in the Community's history a President of the European Parliament had been invited to address the Economic and Social Committee. She saw her visit as a sign



At the right Mrs. Veil, President of the European Parliament. At the left Mr. Vanni, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, at the Plenary Session.

of the will of the Economic and Social Committee and the European Parliament, while respecting each other's autonomy and character, to work together towards strengthening the Community in the difficult times we were traversing.

After referring briefly to the present situation of the European Parliament and emphasizing that the entry of political forces directly elected by the people on to the Community scene had straight away been a dynamic factor in what had so far been regarded by public opinion as a largely technocratic entity, Mrs VEIL spoke about relations between the Economic and Social Committee and the European Parliament. The European Parliament, she said, wanted increased cooperation between itself and the Committee, as called for in the report of the « Three Wise Men » (the Dell report). The aim of such cooperation had to be to improve the quality and speed of the Community's work, and its principle should be respect for the autonomy of each of the assemblies.

Instead of harming such cooperation, the direct election of the Parliament had made cooperation both easier and more necessary than in the past, inasmuch as it highlighted the distinctions that had to be drawn between a political assembly and an assembly where economic and social interests expressed themselves.

The will to cooperate was shown by the fact that the political committee of the European Parliament, as part of its reflections on inter-institutional relations in the Community, was preparing a report on relations with the Economic and Social Committee.

Mrs VEIL considered that it would be neither realistic nor in accordance with the Treaties (or the principle of autonomy of the institutions) to share the work between ESC Sections and European Parliament committees.

There was however a lot to be said for stepping up the exchange of information between the two assemblies. Much had already been done in this respect : on about ten occasions Rapporteurs had been heard by EP committees and members of the Economic and Social Committee had taken part in the work of those committees; there had been meetings and exchanges of views between the chairmen of parliamentary committees and ESC Sections and, mainly recently, invitations had been sent to ESC Rapporteurs to take part in the hearings organized by the European Parliament.

When an ESC Opinion had been issued on a text submitted to the European Parliament Mrs VEIL thought it highly desirable that this Opinion be pointed out and examined at committee and Plenary Session discussions. The fact that the Rapporteurs of the EP committees could on occasion supplement their reports by the Opinion delivered by the Economic and Social Committee could be of great interest, whether this

Opinion was unanimous, which was a valuable indication, or contained a statement of the minority view.

Special mention had to be made of the cooperation provided for in the Lomé Convention between the economic and social interest groups of the EEC Member States and the ACP States.

For both practical reasons and as a matter of principle it would not be in the interests of either the Economic and Social Committee or the European Parliament to over-formalize mutual contacts; some kind of « method » should probably be introduced taking account of the work programmes of the two institutions.

In conclusion, Mrs VEIL stated that if the ESC and the Parliament succeeded in establishing a flexible, orderly working relationship, those members who, because they had no national counterpart to the Economic and Social Committee or for other reasons, were hesitant about closer cooperation would soon realize the advantages.

If dialogue and comprehension between men and women who respected each other's viewpoints and were fired by the same ideals, were the best ways of solving difficulties and advancing the European Community, there was a good future for links between the Committee and Parliament.

SPEECH BY MR DE PRECIGOUT

Replying to Mrs. Veil's speech, Mr de PRECIGOUT, speaking on behalf of the employers, expressed satisfaction at the direct election of the European Parliament, which had afforded the people of Europe a wider choice in the matter of European integration.

The difficulties facing Europe were a source of serious concern to the representatives of Group I. In this connection, it would be regrettable if doctrinal divergences were to become an excuse for inaction.

Group I was particularly alive to the unfavourable employment situation in the Community, which was liable to jeopardize the protection of liberty.

While stressing the need for the European Parliament and the ESC to preserve their autonomy and their specific functions, Mr de PRECIGOUT expressed himself pleased at the cooperation between the two bodies. By way of example, he drew attention to the importance of the cooperation in the Community's relations with the developing countries. This had made it possible to promote contacts between EEC and ACP economic and social interest groups following an ESC suggestion and an initiative by the European Parliament.

The Community's international relations formed an important and complex problem. In this connection, the representative of Group I stated that behind the political conflicts there were concrete problems that the economic and social interest groups could help to resolve.

SPEECH BY MR DEBUNNE

Speaking on behalf of the Workers' Group, Mr DEBUNNE expressed the hope that the Parliament would gradually exercise a democratic, responsible control and adopt measures to stimulate the European institutions. He hoped that Mrs VEIL would spearhead the move to give the Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee more influence with the Council of Ministers and the Commission. He was pleased to learn that its President was in favour of cooperation between the Parliament and the Committee based on respect for each institution's autonomy and specific functions.

He rejected the idea of a distribution of tasks between the two institutions. But cooperation and mutual information between the Parliament and the Committee would become more and more necessary. It was important that the majority and minority Opinions of the Economic and Social Committee should not only be taken into account as technical opinions but should also have a real influence on the final decisions taken.

Mr DEBUNNE noted that Mrs VEIL had stressed the need to maintain agricultural incomes. He pointed out that workers were fighting to preserve the rights they had acquired and wanted to ensure that the part of the Treaty dealing with upward harmonization was observed. He warned that unemployment was a dangerous disease for democracy and expressed the hope that the Parliament would take up this question.

SPEECH BY MR GERMOZZI

Mr GERMOZZI, Chairman of the Various Interests Group, stated that this Group which represented small businesses, farmers, consumers, cooperatives and the professions saw Parliament as an essential counterbalance to technocratic dominance and a bulwark against attempts to oversimplify and pigeon-hole all economic, social and even political activity. The Economic and Social Committee was the Parliament's partner and the Various Interests Group stressed the need (a) to

brief Parliamentarians about the Committee's activity and (b) to establish closer links between the Parliamentary Committees and the ESC Sections and between Rapporteurs. The Committee appreciated the Parliament's concern for a direct dialogue with the representatives of economic and social activity. The organizations represented on Group III welcomed dialogue with Parliament which they were convinced must reflect the views of the entire spectrum of economic and social interests.

CONCLUSION BY THE COMMITTEES'S CHAIRMAN, MR VANNI

In conclusion, Mr VANNI declared that he was pleased to hear from Mrs VEIL that the Parliament — like the Committee — was keen on strengthening relations. He was convinced that these relations could be organized more efficiently along non-bureaucratic lines and could be fruitfully developed in the Community's interest.

He thought that, in a nutshell these relations could take the form of (a) rapid and purposeful exchanges of information and documentation and (b) Committee members being asked to address Parliamentary Committees plus contacts between Parliamentary Committees and ESC Sections. If some of the ESC's meetings were of special interest to the Parliament, representatives of the Parliament's Secretariat would always be welcome to attend. He also referred in this context to the extremely beneficial annual meetings between socio-economic spokesmen of the Nine and the ACP States, organized under the auspices of the Joint Committee of the ACP/EEC Consultative Assembly.

The favourable response which the Committee had always given to strengthening its relations with the Parliament had become all the more warranted since the direct elections. By virtue of its nature and its make-up, the Parliament had a top-level political function to fulfil. Its members, elected by the peoples of Europe, voiced the Community's aspirations and problems. However, prior to reaching their decisions, they could learn a lot from the discussions held within the ESC's four walls by the representatives of socio-economic interests. This proposal did not mean that the two institutions' respective roles would become confused.

The serious economic and social problems facing Europe and the need to revitalize the institutions required a universal commitment and institutions capable of creating a new impetus themselves. All the Committee members were grateful for what the Parliament had been able to do in this direction in its first year of work despite a number of practical and organizational difficulties.

Adoption of Opinions

1. AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES

The contribution of the European Communities to the development of air transport services

Gist of the Memorandum

In the Commission's opinion, it is time to discuss the long- and medium-term *objectives* of a Community air transport policy with the circles concerned. Consideration should subsequently be given to *measures* which could usefully be initiated in the short and medium term.

Air transport must be adapted to modern conditions and make use of the significant changes that have taken place recently throughout the world in civil aviation.

In its Memorandum the Commission lays down the major objectives on a future policy for improving the market structure of air transport in the Community and proposes a number of measures for achieving these objectives in the short and medium term. Attached to the Memorandum is an analysis of the present market structure of Community air transport, which forms the background to the Commission's new policy measures.

Objectives and implementing measures

The memorandum proposes four major objectives for the improvement of Community air transport. These objectives are intended to further the interests of users, airlines, staff and the general public and at the same time take account of the Community's overall aims.

Users :

As comprehensive as possible an air transport network with efficient services at the lowest possible prices without discrimination;

Airlines :

Financially healthy airlines, lower operating costs and higher productivity;

Staff :

Protection of the interests of airline workers in the general context of social progress, including elimination of obstacles to free access to employment;

General public :

Improvement of the living conditions of the public at large especially in the areas of health and environmental protection (e.g. aircraft noise, regional development, rational use of energy, etc.).

These objectives take account of the fact that the structure of Community and world air transport is largely determined by State influence in the areas of bilateral agreements, routes, tariffs and capacity. This means that direct price and tariff competition in scheduled air transport is limited, whereas there is severe price competition with other forms of air transport and other transport modes (road, sea, rail). It could be in the Community's direct interest to promote higher productivity in air transport, which could lead to lower tariffs. In the Commission's view, this goal could be achieved by the introduction of several elements of competition and the creation of openings for innovations.

Lower fares and greater flexibility of air transport services

(Introduction of a third-class fare; low tariffs for a limited number of seats, subject to the fare being paid far in advance, with no refund or only partial refund if the passenger postpones his flight; simple ticket from point of departure to destination, with the possibility of purchasing additional services, such as reservation, interchangeability, etc.; offer of a certain percentage of the weekly capacity on particular routes at a fare not exceeding 50 or 60 % of the economy class fare; a European roundtrip ticket; general introduction of standby tariffs, etc.).

Rules of competition

(The Commission does not yet have any practical means of ensuring that airlines observe the rules of competition in air transport).

Measures to reduce airlines operating costs

Staff policy measures concerning the working conditions of aircrew and ground staff. Mutual recognition of the qualifications of staff.

External relations

(Procedure for consultation between the Member States and the Commission on the air transport matters dealt with in international organizations and negotiations with third countries).

Air traffic control measures and impact on the aerospace industry

(A larger volume of air traffic will lead to higher demand for aircraft of European manufacture in the Commission's view, which is why it wishes to encourage research for the development of new aircraft. But a larger volume of air traffic will also lead to greater problems in the area of air traffic control, which the Community must also face up to).

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion on this subject by a large majority (2 votes against and 5 abstentions). It notes the lack of cooperation among the Member States towards setting up a common air traffic control system and improving air traffic control procedures. It calls for measures to be taken under the Community transport policy to promote air transport within the Community and free it of unnecessary constraints and burdens. It expresses its concern about the consequences of this lack of coordination, which has frequently led to considerable disruption of air traffic in Europe and poses a threat to safety.

On the basis of the Commission's extensive Memorandum, the ESC takes the view that, in order to remedy these dangerous shortcomings, the Community should initially concentrate on objectives in the following five areas :

The disruptions affecting air transport are in the main attributable to shortcomings in air traffic control. These shortcomings should be tackled with the following aims in mind : an optimum common organization of the airspace, optimum utilization of existing ATC capacity, development of a homogeneous ATC infrastructure, routes as direct as possible, harmonization of standards for the training of ATC personnel and harmonization of their working conditions. To this end the Committee attaches great importance to the strengthening of the role of Euro-control.

Secondly, it is necessary to simplify procedures so as to obviate drawbacks to air transport users. The airlines should prevent over-booking and improve passenger facilities and services, particularly in the event of diversions. Controls and handling procedures could easily be made more flexible.

On the question of competition, the abortive experiments in the USA should not be copied in the short term. At the same time rules on competition should be more flexible so as to have a more competitive system; this is in the interests both of users and civil aviation.

(*) Doc. CES 658/80

Because of the importance of energy conservation in the Community, aviation authorities and carriers should try to achieve better capacity utilization on existing services; this could have a favourable impact on economic efficiency and prices in air transport.

The rate structure should be as uniform and clear as possible, with simplified conditions of carriage and a reduced number of special fares to make it easier for users to form a picture of what is on offer.

The boom in tourism has enabled charter airlines to expand considerably their share of the Community air transport market. It is in the interests of the public that scheduled and charter air transport operations should encourage this trend whilst retaining their own special features.

The ESC welcomes the fact that the Commission has started to study the question of inter-regional air transport. In the context of regional policy, airports and air links could be developed to improve the situation in regions with poor transport services.

The ESC also calls for the harmonization of labour legislation and the introduction of a regular system of concentration between employers and trade unions.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Transport and Communications under the chairmanship of Mrs. WEBER, Germany — Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr. ZUNKLER — Germany — Employers.

2. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS GOVERNING

WORKING CONDITIONS

(own-initiative Opinion)

Development cooperation policy and the economic and social consequences of the application of certain international standards governing working conditions

Gist of the Opinion (*)

In this Opinion, adopted unanimously less 2 abstentions, the Committee believes that development cooperation policy must be chiefly

(*) Doc. CES 667/80

concerned with promoting economic and social progress in the LDCs and therefore urges the Community to conclude a « social agreement » with all countries with whom it has or may conclude cooperation agreements.

In view of the failure of previous attempts to insert minimum social standards in agreements, the Committee has adopted a completely new approach and defines the objectives of incorporating rules on working standards in agreements on cooperation and international trade. It then suggests ways of achieving these objectives.

EC-LDC cooperation should cover all aspects of development (social, cultural, economic, etc.) and should pave the way for the structural changes required to fulfil the needs of the population and to create as many jobs as possible. The Committee warns against using minimum social standards for protectionist ends.

The Committee examines the measures taken by the ILO, GATT, the EEC and the UN and proposes that the social situation in the LDCs should be harmonized upwards. The industrialized nations should make the necessary adjustments to cope with the industrialization of the Third World. Minimum social standards conducive to justice, freedom and human dignity must be defined and implemented without infringing national sovereignty.

The Committee feels that a social agreement is the most appropriate way of achieving the proposed objectives. The Contracting Parties should give undertakings on the following issues :

- Ratification of ILO conventions on equitable working standards conducive to social protection (conventions on trade union and collective bargaining rights, non-discrimination in employment, restrictions on child labour, etc.).
- Behaviour of companies investing in LDCs. Such companies would have to undertake (a) to comply with the tripartite declaration of principle on multinationals and social policy, particularly the sections on the promotion of full employment and job security, consultation of workers, (b) to guarantee proper working, health and safety conditions, (c) not to downgrade the environment or living conditions.
- Workers from LDCs to enjoy the same rights as EEC nationals when working in the Community (this clause is already contained in the second Lomé Convention).
- Cooperation on technical aid and staff training in environmental protection and the improvement of working conditions.

In conjunction with the ILO and in the light of consultations with the social and economic interest groups, the parties to development cooperation agreements would consider cases of noncompliance with

ILO standards and commitments arising from the « social agreement », and would draw the appropriate conclusions, bearing in mind the level of development of the countries concerned.

In the spirit of the 1977 ILO Resolution, aid policy and the benefits granted to LDCs could be modified if it were established beyond doubt that they had violated labour and trade union rights or commitments under the « social agreement ».

This Opinion was based on work done by the Section for External Relations under the chairmanship of Mr. de PRECIGOUT — France — Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr. SOULAT — France — Workers.

3. RADIATION PROTECTION

The Draft Proposal for a Council Directive laying down basic measures for the radiation protection of persons undergoing medical examinations or treatment

Gist of the draft proposal

The main aim of the Commission's proposal is to bring the radiological examination of people within the scope of EURATOM's basic safety standards; these stipulate that :

- medical exposure to radiation must be kept as low as possible;
- the exposure of operators to radiation must be justified by the advantages which it produces.

The proposal thus stipulates that operators must have the competence and experience required to ensure that radiation is not used inappropriately.

The technical quality and radiological safety of all installations in operation must also be closely monitored and any obsolete or inadequate equipment must be replaced.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority (2 votes against and 3 abstentions). It welcomes the Commission's endeavours to tackle the problem of radiological examinations in view of these examinations importance for public health.

There may be a substantial reduction in unnecessary exposures to radiation if doctors and technicians receive suitable initial and in-service training and if information about radiological examinations undergone previously by patients is passed on.

The Committee also emphasizes the problem of mass radiological examinations carried out as preventive measure and examinations undergone at the request of insurance companies. In both of these cases it is vital for the examinations to be authorized by a doctor or another competent body.

As regards the surveillance of radiological installations, it is necessary to compile an inventory of all installations in order to check that they comply with current radiation protection standards.

This Opinion was based on work prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Miss ROBERTS — United Kingdom — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. von der DECKEN — Germany — Various Interests.

4. BIOMOLECULAR ENGINEERING

The Proposal for a multiannual Community programme of research and development in biomolecular engineering

Gist of the proposal

This proposal concerns an indirect action programme (i.e. the Commission will award research contracts to various research institutes) covering the period from 1981 to 1985. It is motivated by the need to allow the optimal exploration by man of the fundamentals of modern biology and to stimulate in the Community certain applied fields where

(*) Doc. CES 656/80

advances have been made in recent years, primarily by the USA and Japan. The two main elements to the programme concern the development of enzyme reactors useful for European industries and the application of genetic engineering methods to organisms of importance for certain industries. The programme consists of six different projects all within this field.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

In an Opinion, adopted unanimously, the Economic and Social Committee stresses the importance of biomolecular engineering in the decades ahead and endorses a proposed programme by the EC Commission to foster research and development in this field. Furthermore, it would like to see encouragement for research into biomolecular engineering and faster application by industry of new discoveries so as to make up the ground already lost by the Community.

Among the points made by the Committee are the following :

- Enzymes, which are already used in a rudimentary way in baking and brewing, could shortly be used on a far greater scale in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries and in processes to eliminate toxic substances.
- Moreover, new discoveries will make it easier to produce organisms with new and important genetic properties, making it possible to transfer genes, produce improved strains of plants and create cereals which are specially geared to climatic conditions (particularly those of the developing countries, which do not have such crops).
- To ensure that any risks which might arise are eliminated, an assessment of the risks to workers' safety and the protection of the environment must be undertaken at the same time as the projects in the proposed programme. The Commission should prepare a new research project centred on safety problems, especially those arising when research findings are applied in industry.
- The Committee concludes its Opinion by saying that it attaches a great deal of importance to the public being informed in good time about all developments to do with the proposed programme and by regretting the inadequacy of the funds available for carrying it out.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions under the chairmanship of Mr. HATRY — Belgium — Employers. The Rapporteur was Mrs. HEUSER — Germany — Various Interests.

(*) Doc. CES 655/80

5. OILS AND FATS — PRODUCER GROUPS

The Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation no. 136/66/EEC on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats and supplementing Regulation (EEC) No. 1360-78 on producer groups and associations thereof.

Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission amendments solely concern the operation of olive oil producer groups and their associations. These amendments seek to :

- confer wider supervisory powers on producer groups and associations;
- enable such associations to accept, for the purpose of granting production aids, individual membership applications from producers who do not market their own produce;
- speed up the payment of aid;
- extend Regulation 1360/78 on producer groups and associations to cover French olive oil production.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority (2 votes against and 6 abstentions). It approves the Commission proposal but would like to see associations also composed of producer groups including olive growers whose production is intended for their own consumption.

The Commission proposal should place an obligation on intervention agencies to accept the pressed olive oil of Community origin offered by the producer groups and associations recognised under Regulation No. 360/78/EEC.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. RAINERO — Italy — Various Interests.

(*(Doc. CES 660/80

6. WINE MARKET

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 337/79 on the Common Organisation of the market in wine

Gist of the Commission's proposal

It is proposed that certain additions be made to EEC Regulation No. 337/79 in readiness for Greek accession. The main object is to arrange for resinated wines to come under Community rules. For this purpose the Commission has drafted special provisions which are to apply to these products and, in particular, to the oenological practices admitted and the ban on blending with other wines.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously. It considers that Greek resinated wine ought to be treated as an aromatised wine and not, as the Commission proposes, as a table wine. This would be more consistent with the relevant Community legislation.

Nevertheless, resinated wine should enjoy the same guarantees as table wine and be subject to the same pricing arrangements.

The Committee would like the Commission to consult the Scientific Committee for Food on the adding of Aleppo pine resin.

Resinated wine should only be marketed under a special name to prevent any confusion with traditional table wines or quality wines p.s.r.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. OGNIBENE — Italy — Various Interests.

(*) Doc. CES 661/80

7. VINES

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 456/80 on the granting of temporary and permanent abandonment premiums in respect of certain areas under vines and of premiums for the renunciation of replanting

Gist of the Commission's proposal

The object of the Commission's proposal is to make applicable in the delimited production area for spirits with the designation « Armagnac » the general system of temporary abandonment premiums provided for in Regulation (EEC) No. 456/80 (OJ No. L 57 of 29 February 1980).

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously less 3 abstentions. It approved the Commission's proposal and asked that the grubbing-up operations in the Armagnac area be carried out as far as possible in those vineyards which were least suited to producing quality spirits.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. LAUGA — France — Various Interests.

8. LESS-FAVOURED AREAS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) for the stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of Northern Ireland

Gist of the Commission proposal

Given the particularly depressed state of farming in the less favoured areas of Northern Ireland, the deficiencies of agricultural structures

(*) Doc. CES 662/80

and the dependence of these areas on beef cattle and sheep production, the Commission proposes for the less favoured areas of Northern Ireland three specific measures :

- the improvement of agricultural and local roads;
- land improvement, including field drainage, land reclamation and pasture improvement;
- the development and orientation of farm production.

A 50 % Community aid is proposed because of the acuteness of the problems of this peripheral region of the Community.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously. It acknowledges the economic and social difficulties of the agricultural sector in Northern Ireland and in the less-favoured areas in particular and therefore welcomes the Commission's proposal to provide aid to this area.

The Rapporteur-General was Mr. HALL — United Kingdom — Various Interests.

9. CATTLEFEED SECTORS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on a common measure to improve the conditions under which agricultural products in the eggs, poultrymeat, cereals and cattlefeed sectors in Northern Ireland are processed and marketed

Gist of the Commission proposal

Given the unfavourable conditions for major crop production in Northern Ireland, many farm holdings have concentrated on intensive breeding such as pigmeat production, eggs and poultry. They are facing particularly serious problems with 85 % of supplies of feedingstuffs for poultry coming from outside and about two-thirds of outlets overseas, and with very tight profit margins.

(*) Doc. CES 663/80

Rationalization and modernization necessitates substantial aid, particularly in Northern Ireland where the economic situation makes self-financing very difficult.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously. It approves the proposals while suggesting the addition of pig meat to the sectors covered. It also requests the Commission to examine means of providing more immediate aid than that proposed, given the urgency of the problems in Northern Ireland.

The Rapporteur-General was Mr. HALL — United Kingdom — Various Interests.

10. TEXTILE NAMES

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 71/307/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to textile names

Gist of the proposed Directive

Council Directive 71/307/EEC which introduced compulsory uniform labelling of textile products on the basis of their fibre content (both quantitative and qualitative), made it possible to bring about the free movement of these products within the common market. It also ensured to a great extent the information of the consumers who are today able to ascertain the composition of the articles available for sale.

It has emerged, however, that there are many differences in the application and interpretation of this Directive; in some cases there is a risk that these differences will restrict the free movement of textile products, reduce or jeopardize information for consumers or place the industry in a difficult position.

The main reasons for this situation are that the Directive is ill-suited to new products, the Community regulations are incomplete, some definitions or exceptions are ambiguous and general (which has meant that they have sometimes been applied and interpreted differently in the

(*) Doc. CES 664/80

Member States), some of the provisions do not make sufficient allowance for the typical features of some branches of the textile industry or marketing practices for certain products, etc.

The present proposal aims as far as possible to eliminate these obstacles by amending Directive 71/307/EEC and Annexes III and IV.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

In its Opinion, adopted unanimously, the Committee welcomes the Commission's proposal for a Directive, particularly the suggested inclusion of strips and tubes and the mention, in certain cases, of percentage composition and permitted tolerances.

Nevertheless information given on labels should always be positive. It also regards as just the right of Member States to require that textile products sold on their territory be labelled in their national language insofar as this is necessary for consumer information and for textile fibre names which have negligible differences. Nevertheless the Committee recognizes that the practice « negligible differences » may be exploited as coined names for imitation products, particularly for luxury fibres.

It is therefore opposed to the whole of Annex V which lists names that have to be accepted if given in any one of the six languages of the Community.

For synthetic fibres, the problem is somewhat different because people are not yet used to these names; the sensible way to harmonize names would be to have one common name for each fibre in all countries.

The use of the word « minimum » after the names of mixed fibres which are known as to quality and quantity and which constitute not less than 40 % of the finished product, is bound to create doubts in the minds of the majority of consumers about the real percentage of the fibre or fibres indicated.

Finally, the Committee urges rapid adoption of the Directive and stresses the need to set up effective bodies to monitor its implementation.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr van CAMPEN — Netherlands — Employers. The Rapporteur was Miss ROBERTS — United Kingdom — Various Interests.

(*) Doc. CES 666/80

11. SWINE FEVER

Proposal for a Council Directive prolonging certain derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom in respect of swine fever

Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission proposes that the derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom in respect of swine fever under Council Directive 80/218/EEC should be extended until 31 October 1980; this is to give the Member States sufficient time to implement the measures necessary for the adoption of the Common rules proposed by the Commission to combat this disease.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously less 3 abstentions. It notes that, concurrently with this proposal, the Commission has submitted proposals intended to ensure that the present level of protection for Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom is maintained.

The Committee will endeavour to issue an Opinion on these proposals so that the general programme of the Commission and the Council is not delayed.

Subject to these comments, the Commission's proposal is approved.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. WICK — Germany — Employers.

12. SAFETY BELTS

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 77/541-EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Safety Belts and Restraint Systems of Motor Vehicles;

(*) Doc. CES 659/80

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 76/115-EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Anchorages for Motor-Vehicle Safety Belts;

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 74/408-EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to the Interior Fittings of Motor Vehicles (Strength of Seats and of their Anchorages).

Gist of the Commission proposals

Directive 77/541/EEC —

Safety Belts and Restraint Systems

The Directive concerns vehicles of category M1 (vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and comprising no more than nine seats, including that of the driver). But as two Member States have recently said they intend to make safety belts compulsory on the front seats of vehicles in categories M2 and N1 (vehicles used for the carriage of passengers, comprising more than nine seats and having a maximum weight not exceeding 5t, and vehicles used for the carriage of goods and having a maximum weight not exceeding 3.5t respectively), and it is in the general interest that the Directive's scope be extended to all vehicle categories, the Commission proposes making belts compulsory on vehicles in categories M1, N1 and M2. Manufacturers of vehicles in other categories will have the chance of obtaining EEC type approval for vehicles fitted with safety belts. In view of the competition in this sector, this would certainly promote the fitting of safety belts to such vehicles.

Directive 76/115/EEC — Safety Belt Anchorages

The Commission is proposing to extend the scope of the present Directive to cover vehicles other than those in category M1, so that in future they will incorporate anchorages for certain types of safety belt, at least in the case of front seats and any seat which has no other seat in front of it.

Directive 74/408/EEC —

Strength of Seats and Their Anchorages

This Directive does not allow EEC type approval of a vehicle if its seats incorporate built-in seat belt anchorages. But for some time now European Manufacturers have increasingly favoured the attachment of anchorages to the seat itself. This improves the fit of the belt for the wearer and the comfort of the belt, thus making it more acceptable to a greater number of motorists.

As this has a direct and positive effect on passenger safety, it seems advisable to encourage manufacturers to fit anchorages in such a way by giving them the opportunity of obtaining EEC type approval for vehicles which are so equipped.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

In its unanimous Opinion the Committee approves the principle behind these three proposals for Directives which, by bringing all categories of motor vehicles within the scope of the previous Directives, will help to increase safety for vehicle drivers and passengers.

However, in view of the fact that the technical annexes to these Directives only concern vehicles of category M1 and that they need amending in the light of the proposed extension of the Directives themselves, the Committee considers that this extension should not enter into force until the amended technical annexes are ready.

Furthermore, the Committee would like to see certain technical points in the Directives clarified.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr. van CAMPEN — Netherlands — Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr. MASPRONE — Italy — Employers.

13. FLAX AND HEMP

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1308/70 on the common Organization of the Market in Flax and Hemp

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the Measures Encouraging the Use of Flax Fibres for the 1980/1981 and 1981/1982 Marketing Years

Gist of the Commission proposals

The first proposal is intended to supplement Regulation (EEC) No. 1308/70 by encouraging the use of textile flax in the Community via advertizing campaigns on flax qualities beamed at Community users and, also, by seeking new outlets and improved products. These mea-

(*) Doc. CES 651/80

asures will be applied whenever the Council ascertains or fears a prolonged supply/demand imbalance. Each time it decides to apply such measures, the Council will also set the overall amount for financing them. It is proposed that flax growers and Community flax fibres producers should contribute to this financing. In this connection, the Council will also decide what proportion of the aid granted for flax (maximum 5 % of the aid in force) would not be paid to beneficiaries but allocated to the financing of these measures. The overall amount would not be more than double the financial contribution of the beneficiaries of the aid for such measures. The Commission will submit an appropriate programme whenever the Council decides to avail itself of such measures.

In view of the market situation, the Commission also proposes that, for the 1980/81 and 1981/82 marketing years, measures should be taken to encourage the use of flax fibres in the Community, as laid down in Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No. 1308/70.

Considering the time necessary for setting up and carrying out these measures, there is a case for proceeding step by step not only as regards the overall amount to be allocated but also for the financial outlay to be borne by the beneficiaries.

With this in mind, it is proposed :

- to earmark 600,000 ECU for the 1980/81 marketing year and 1,200,000 ECU for the 1981/82 marketing year;
- that the proportion of aid not paid out to be beneficiaries should be 7.755 ECU/ha for 1980/81 (3 % of aid for that marketing year) and 12.40 ECU/ha for 1981/82 (4-8 % of aid for 1980/81).

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee/ unanimously adopted its Opinion endorsing the first proposal.

It feels that the funds earmarked in the second proposal, for the 1980/1981 marketing year should be more on a par with those earmarked for 1981/1982.

While stopping short of the ceiling specified in Article 2 (2) of Regulation 1308/70, as amended, the Commission contribution could be more or less the same as the amount deducted from aid.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. BERNAERT — Belgium — Employers.

(*) Doc. CES 652/80

14. PREMIUM FOR THE BIRTH OF CALVES

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the Grant of a Premium for the Birth of Calves during the 1980/81 Marketing Year

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Continuing for the 1980/81 Marketing Year the Premium for the Slaughter of Certain Adult Bovine Animals Provided for in Regulation (EEC) No. 870/77

Gist of the Commission proposal

During the discussion by the Council of the proposals fixing the prices for certain agricultural products and certain related measures (Doc. COM(80) 10 final) a large consensus emerged for the continuation of the two systems of premium in force in the beef sector (premium for the birth of calves and a slaughter premium for certain bovine animals).

These proposals will permit the Council to adopt this measure formally.

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. SCHNIEDERS — Germany — Employers.

15. HOPS

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1979 harvest

Gist of the Commission proposal

In view of developments on the Community and world hops markets, the Commission has proposed the following amounts of aid for the 1979 harvest :

(*) Doc. CES 653/80

<u>Group of varieties</u>	<u>Aid in ECU/ha</u>
Aromatic varieties	250
Bitter varieties	200
Other varieties	250

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission proposal.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr. EMO CAPODILISTA — Italy — Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr. BERNAERT — Belgium — Employers.

16. BIODEGRADABILITY

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants and amending Directive 73/404/EEC

Gist of the Commission's proposal

This proposal for a Directive ties in with Directive No. 73/404/EEC relating to detergents.

It stipulates that a non-ionic detergent must not be placed on the market if it is determined that the level of biodegradability of the non-ionic surfactants it contains is less than 80 %, and provides that the methods used for this determination shall be those of the OECD, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

It gives temporary exemption for certain uses (unavoidable for technical reasons) of non-ionic surfactants with a biodegradability of less than 80 %.

Finally, a procedure to be followed in the event of dispute is laid down (OECD confirmatory test).

(*) Doc. CES 654/80

Gist of the Opinion (*)

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

It recognized that it was advisable and necessary to issue directives designed to ensure better protection for the environment and lead to a standardization of methods of analysis and accepted the temporary exemption (until 31 December 1984) for certain uses of non-ionic surfactants with a biodegradability of less than 80 %.

However, as it was stated in the recitals of the proposal that « small quantities of certain non-ionic surfactants of low biodegradability must be used for some purposes because of technical problems and in order to prevent other undesirable effects on health and the environment », the Committee wondered why provision was made for a very general exemption in Article 4.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr. van CAMPEN — Netherlands — Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr. RAMAEKERS — Belgium — Various Interests.

CHANGES TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Committee also adopted certain changes to its Rules of Procedure designed to improve the way in which it operated and make the purpose of its work clearer.

From now on, any member of the Committee who is unable to participate in its proceedings may arrange to be represented by an alternate for the proceedings of the study groups to which he belongs. The alternate must be a national of the same Member State and belong to the same category of economic and social activity as the member of the Committee. He is to carry out the same duties in the study groups as the member whom he replaces.

In addition, when one of the Groups formed within the Committee or one of the categories of economic and social activity represented thereon adopts a divergent but uniform standpoint on a matter submitted to the Plenary Session for examination, their position can be summarized in a brief statement to be appended to the Opinion, where the debate on the matter in question has been concluded by a roll-call vote.

(*) Doc. CES 657/80

— III —

EXTERNAL RELATIONS**Statement by the Chairman**

Between the 179th and 180th Plenary Sessions the Chairman of the Committee, Mr Raffaele VANNI, met the following people and attended the following meetings :

- Meeting between ACP and EEC social partners

On 30 and 31 May a Committee delegation led by the Chairman attended the meeting in Geneva between ACP and EEC social partners under the auspices of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly. The Committee had been closely involved in the organization of the meeting and one of its members, Mr MARGOT, presented a working document entitled : « Small and medium-sized enterprises within the context of ACP-EEC industrial cooperation » on behalf of the ESC delegation.

This annual meeting which exists as a result of close cooperation between the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, was devoted for the first time this year to the discussion of a specific problem. This was in accordance with the wishes expressed by participants at the previous year's meeting.

The appropriate authorities of the Committee will no doubt be called upon to give consideration — in the light of the positive but unavoidably limited experiences so far — to the role the Committee can play to ensure that the new Lomé Convention is implemented more satisfactorily.

- Meeting with Mr. Blanchard, Director-General of ILO

At the same meeting the Committee Chairman also had the opportunity to meet the Director-General of the ILO, Mr BLANCHARD. In view of the ILO's long experience with problems facing the developing countries, the Chairman invited Mr BLANCHARD to participate in the work of one of the next Plenary Sessions of the Committee.

- Visit to Portugal

The Chairman gave the official opening address at the CIRIEC Congress (Centre International de Recherches et d'Information sur l'économie publique, sociale et coopérative) held in Lisbon on 2 June.

In his speech the Chairman laid great emphasis on the role of the public and cooperative sectors of the economy in finding a way out of the present economic crisis.

The Chairman's presence in Lisbon gave him the opportunity to meet representatives of the Portuguese Government and the various socio-economic interest groups in Portugal. Talks with these representatives mostly dealt with the objectives of the enlargement conference being arranged by the Committee.

- Visit to Strasbourg

Within the context of relations with the European Parliament, the Chairman was invited to speak at meetings of the following parliamentary groups : the European Democratic Group and the Communist and Allies' Group.

The aim of the Chairman's introduction and of the speeches of various parliamentarians was to strengthen relations between the Parliament and the Committee. The possibility which the Committee Chairman had to meet various parliamentary groups — a possibility which had not been given before — was particularly valuable because it gave members of the European Parliament ample opportunity to become familiar with the role and activities of the Committee.

Whilst in Strasbourg the Chairman had talks with the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Mr KARASEK, who was warmly thanked for helping to reinforce the links between the Council of Europe and the Economic and Social Committee. The Chairman invited Mr KARASEK to attend the Committee's Plenary Session during the drawing up of the Opinion on the « Memorandum on the Accession of the European Communities to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms ».

- Meeting with EEC permanent representatives

The Chairman of COREPER, Ambassador PLAJA, invited the Committee Chairman to meet the Permanent Representatives to the European Community. This meeting gave the Committee Chairman the opportunity to express his satisfaction with the efforts made to put relations between the Council and the Committee on a more systematic footing. He was also able to draw the attention of the Permanent Representatives to the need to (a) consolidate the improved relations between the Council and the ESC and (b) give the Committee the means it needed to be able to satisfactorily perform the functions assigned to it under the Treaties.

In addition to this representative meeting, the Chairman also had talks with the Permanent Representatives of the following Member States : the Netherlands (Ambassador RUTTEN), Italy (Ambassador PLAJA), Ireland (Ambassador DILLON).

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The Chairman also met the following personalities : Mr CARLI (President of UNICE), Mr BLUME (President of the Consumers' Association) and Mr STINGL (President of the Federal Institution for Labour Affairs).

The Chairman also attended the 14th Congress of the CGT-FO Confederation (Bordeaux, 17 June); the seminar organized by the European Circle in Rome on industrial relations in the Community; and the General Assembly of SEPLIS.

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— IV —

NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

During the month of June, the Council requested the Committee to deliver Opinions on :

Proposals for Council Directives applying to :

I. Electric washing machines

II. Electric dishwashers (cold water feed only)

III. Refrigerators, freezers and combined refrigerator/freezers

Council Directive 79/530/EEC concerning energy consumption labelling

(COM(80) 193 final).

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 65/64/EEC and 75/319/EEC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions on proprietary medicinal products

(COM(80) 277 final).

Proposal for a Council Directive determining the scope of Article 14 (1) (d) of Directive 77/388/EEC on exempting from value-added tax certain definitive imports of goods

(COM(80) 258 final)

Proposal for a Directive on the evaluation of the environment impact of certain public and private works

(COM(80) 313 final).

Draft Council Directive approximating the laws on aromatics used in food and in the ingredients from which food products are made

(COM(80) 286 final)

Draft Council Regulation amending, with respect to private-sector employees, the provisions of Regulation No. 1408/71 on social security arrangements for wage-earners and members of their family who move from one Member State to another

(COM(80) 312 final).

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK**September 1980 Plenary Session****Opinions requested by the Institutions**

- Transport infrastructure support
- Development of transport infrastructures
- Regional transport statistics
- Saint-Geours Report (long-term energy consumption)
- Performance of heat generators
- Second Lomé Convention
- Quota-free aid — Regional Policy (Additional Opinion)
- Whale products
- Scientific and technical training
- VAT-final importation of goods

October 1980 Plenary session**Opinions requested by the Institutions**

- Income tax provisions with respect to freedom of movement for workers
- Legal expenses insurance
- Pesticide residues in cereals
- Dangerous substances
- Recovery and re-use of waste paper
- Proprietary medicinal products
- Energy consumption of household appliances
- Annual report on the economic situation

Later Plenary Sessions

- Conservation of wild animals
- Measures to combat swine fever
- New information technologies
- Flavourings
- Environmental impact of public works

Own-initiative Opinions

- Competition policy
- European Regional Development Fund annual report

Studies

- DNA conjectural risks (genetic engineering)
- Consistency of external policies
- Integrated Operations — Regional Policy
- Turkey
- Agricultural aspects of the negotiations with Spain

Information report

- Common agricultural policy

MEMBER'S NEWS**Mr. Hatry appointed Belgian Minister of Finance**

The Committee, meeting in Plenary Session on 2-3 July, applauded the appointment of one of its members, Mr Paul HATRY, to the post of Belgian Minister of Finance.

While regretting the loss of one of its leading members, the Committee's Chairman, Mr Raffaele VANNI, praised the work of Mr HATRY who, as Chairman of the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions, had played a very important role in Committee proceedings.

Mr HATRY, in turn, was grateful for the experience he had gained on the Committee in the fields of industrial relations and European affairs. That experience would be of great help in his new post, he said.

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New Committee member

The Council of Ministers has appointed Mrs. S. LOCCUFIER a member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of the late Mr. DE RIDDER.

Mr. LOCCUFIER is a professor at the Free University of Brussels. He will be a member of the Committee's Group III (Various Interests).

Handelsblatt 30.6.80 FINANCIAL TIMES 27.6.80

EG-Erweiterung

Wirtschaftsverbände und Portugal to join EEC antworten positiv

HANDELSBLATT, Sa 7/So, 28/29.6.1980
c.e. BRÜSSEL. Kein Zweifel an dem „Ja“ zur Süderweiterung der EG ist bei der zweitägigen Konferenz lautgeworden, die der Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuss der EG (WSA) jetzt mit etwa 100 Spitzenvertretern der Verbände und Organisationen der Sozialpartner, der Industrie, der Landwirte, des Handels und der Verbraucher aus der EG und den drei Beitrittsländern in Brüssel durchgeführt hat.

Der WSA selbst steht, wie sein derzeitiger italienischer Präsident, Raffaele Vanni, einleitend versichert, als Vertretung aller relevanten Berufsgruppen in der Gemeinschaft nach wie vor hinter seiner mit großer Mehrheit abgegebenen positiven Stellungnahme zu den Beitrittsanträgen. Dieser breite Konsens zur Grundsatzfrage hat sich auch während der jetzigen Konferenz bestätigt, da ihr nicht politische Bekenntnisse, sondern die Erörterung konkreter Schwierigkeiten zur Aufgabe gestellt war. Dabei standen die Beitritte Spaniens und Portugals im Vordergrund. Der griechische Beitritt ist bereits für den 1. Januar 1981 endgültig beschlossen und wird derzeit so intensiv vorbereitet, daß in vielen Dingen schon vorgegangen wird, als sei Griechenland bereits Mitglied.

Expres
28.6.80

Τὸ συνέδριο τῆς διεύθυνσος τῆς Ε.Ο.Κ.

ΒΥΡΕΛΛΕΣ (ΑΠΕ) — Τελικὸν ὄψος τῆς ἀποφασῆς τοῦ συνέδριου καὶ ἀποβῆς τῆς ἔκτασης καὶ Κοινωνικῆς Ἐπιτροπῆς καὶ Ἐπιτροπῆς Κοινωνικῆς (Ο.Κ.Ε.) σὲ Βρυξέλλες πρὸς τὴν διεύθυνσος τῆς Κοινότητος. Ἐπὶ συνέδριον ἐκδόθη ἄρθεσ ἐπισημαστικῶς ποσοτικῶν ἀποφασῶν τῶν ἑπισημαστικῶν καὶ τῶν διαπονητικῶν καὶ ἐπισημαστικῶν (ἰσχυρῶν, ποσοτικῶν).

‘Political need’ for Spain and Portugal to join EEC

BY GILES MERRITT IN BRUSSELS

THE RISK that Spain and Portugal might slide back into totalitarianism unless the EEC sticks closely to the negotiating timetable that will bring them into the Community by 1983 was openly emphasised yesterday in Brussels.

Fears that recent French Government doubts over the effects of enlarging the EEC to 12 members emerged as a key concern among employers and labour representatives from Spain and Portugal at a conference on enlargement held by the EEC Economic and Social Committee.

Mr J. L. Carrion, of the Spanish Employers' Confederation, the CFEI, said that as a result of the doubts now being raised, Spanish industry felt confused. He insisted that the EEC economic and social partners represented at the conference

should unequivocally express their attitude to enlargement.

Mr A. de Carvalho, of Portugal's AIP industry body, urged the EEC to respect the timetable already agreed on, which he said was vital to resisting a return to totalitarianism. Sr Manuel Simon, of Spain's socialist trade union confederation the UGT, warned of the same political threat in Spain.

Mr Wim Kok, the Dutch trade unionist who is president of the ETUC grouping of EEC unions, made it plain that support for the enlargement timetable was necessary to "strengthen young democracies", and added that in addition to membership transition periods, Greece, Spain and Portugal required a special aid "action plan" to be implemented by the Nine.

IL POPOLO 28.6.80

Sul problemi dell'allargamento dibattito al Cas

Zamberletti: Europa a 12 nonostante le difficoltà

BRUXELLES — Rappresentanti del mondo imprenditoriale, dei lavoratori e di varie organizzazioni socio-professionali della Comunità europea si sono riuniti per due giorni a Bruxelles per discutere assieme ed esponenti di Grecia, Spagna e Portogallo i problemi legati all'impiego della CEE da nove a dodici Stati. Un dibattito di particolare attualità dopo le prese di posizione francesi per un rallentamento del processo. La Conferenza era organizzata dal Comitato economico e sociale (CES), l'organo consultivo della CEE che rappresenta le varie parti sociali.

Ai lavori ha preso parte Giuseppe Zamberletti, sottosegretario agli esteri, nella sua qualità di presidente di turno del consiglio CEE. «La consapevolezza dei problemi che comporta l'allargamento a dodici — ha detto — non ha intaccato la volontà politica di procedere nel negoziato».

Dopo aver ricordato le recenti dichiarazioni del presidente francese Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in favore di una pausa nel processo di allargamento, il sottosegretario agli esteri ha affermato che «queste non vanno interpretate come una battuta di arresto in la».

Fra le difficoltà la superrare con le nuove adesioni, Zamberletti ha citato le incertezze sul bilancio comunitario in particolare nel settore

agricolo, a cui bisognerà rispondere con un riesame dell'attuale sistema delle risorse proprie della Comunità (dazi doganali, aliquota sulle importazioni, prelievi alle esportazioni). Tuttavia, ha concluso, «il nuovo ampliamento, se seriamente impostato, può costituire un rilancio della Comunità».

La posizione degli industriali europei è stata illustrata da Guido Carli, presidente dell'Unione delle industrie della CEE (UNICE). «L'allargamento della CEE — ha detto Carli — non deve né indebolire la Comunità né trasformarla in una semplice unione doganale. Esso non deve neanche mettere in discussione la ragione comune già intrapresa con i paesi terzi. Carli ha poi fatto tre con-

siderazioni, di ordine strutturale, congiunturale e istituzionale. L'allargamento della CEE pone in primo luogo delle difficoltà strutturali a causa dei diversi livelli di sviluppo dei paesi candidati rispetto alla media comunitaria».

In secondo luogo, i problemi saranno maggiormente sentiti nei paesi della CEE che si trovano già confrontati a difficoltà congiunturali (disordine monetario, inflazione, disoccupazione, ecc.). Le istituzioni comunitarie, infine, dovranno essere migliorate in vista delle nuove adesioni. L'insieme delle riforme istituzionali deve incominciare subito — ha detto Carli — di modo che le nuove strutture possano entrare in funzione al più tardi al momento dell'adesione».

Mardi 1er juillet 1980

Lloyd Anversois

Au Comité économique et social de la Communauté

EXAMEN A DOUZE DES OBSTACLES A L'ELARGISSEMENT DE LA CEE

L'adhésion de trois nouveaux pays exigera un recours plus fréquent au vote majoritaire

Décèler les obstacles qui s'opposent à court et à moyen terme à l'élargissement de la Communauté pour contribuer à les surmonter, tel est l'objectif que s'est assigné le Comité économique et social en invitant à une rencontre de deux jours avec leurs homologues de la CEE les représentants des employeurs, des syndicats de l'industrie et du commerce d'Espagne, du Portugal, et de la Grèce (la question de l'adhésion de pour ce dernier ne se pose toutefois plus puisqu'elle deviendra effective au 1er janvier 1981).

Dans son discours d'ouverture le président du CES M Raffaele Vanni a souligné l'actualité de cet objectif en précisant que la vocation du CES en la matière est de favoriser un consensus social toujours plus aisé en faveur du développement des régions communautaires qui doivent contribuer à l'élimination des déséquilibres structurels économiques et sociaux.

Enchaînant sur cette déclaration, A Renaud, vice-président, fit état des attentes exprimées par les représentants des organismes socio-économiques d'Espagne et du Portugal à l'égard de leurs interventions respectives. Auxquels ils répondent qu'il ne pas les avoir suffisamment traités sur les problèmes de l'élargissement. On lui a nécessité alléguée par les ES de mieux associer dorénavant ces

médiums économiques et sociaux au déroulement des négociations d'adhésion par le biais d'une information continue qui devrait leur être fournie par ses instances compétentes. Quant aux négociations menées la Conférence a pris acte avec satisfaction des déclarations du Conseil et de la Commission selon lesquelles celles-ci se poursuivront conformément aux modalités prévues.

Néanmoins M Zimbardo, président ex-aequo du Conseil et sous-secrétaire d'Etat au ministère italien des Affaires étrangères fut amené à souligner pourquoi l'adhésance prévue au titre de la présidence italienne n'avait pu être respectée. Ce retard est dû aux difficultés concrètes qui ont forcé la Commission à présenter ses propositions dans certains cas avec un

par L. VAN HUFFEL

caractère considérable et c'est ainsi que les propositions relatives au secteur agricole pour le Portugal et au secteur de la pêche pour le Portugal et l'Espagne doivent continuer à soumise au Conseil.

De son côté M Fernand Sisaak, directeur général de la Commission chargé des négociations sur l'élargissement, a réaffirmé la volonté de la Commission d'observer jusqu'au bout les discussions avec l'Espagne et le Portugal dès l'automne et sur celui de les conclure au cours de 1981 afin que ces deux pays puissent commencer à adhérer en 1983. Pour le représentant de la Commission, il est clair que les négociations en cours ne seront pas suffisamment poussées, même à l'issue de la période de transition et quelle que soit le temps le degré d'homogénéité souhaité par les pays de l'Europe à douze.

Donc, la nécessité d'un renforcement parallèle interne de la Communauté passera par l'achèvement du Marché commun et l'approfondissement des politiques communes.

En outre la présence de douze membres soumettra les procédures de décision à des termes considérables. Ce qui exigera selon M Sisaak un effort de solidarité accrue entre tous les gouvernements qui devront notamment se rallier dans un effort plus fréquent au vu de la majorité pour des questions qui n'engagent pas d'intérêts très importants et qui ne justifient pas collectivement l'unanimité.

Mundo Obrero 28.6.80

El Comité Económico y Social apoya la ampliación

El Comité Económico y Social de la CEE confirmó su «completa apoyo» a la ampliación de la Comunidad, como «instrumento fundamental para la reconstrucción europea».

El presidente del CES, Raffaele Vanni, puso fin con estas palabras a la conferencia que por primera vez y durante dos días reunió a todos los representantes de los nueve países comunitarios y los tres candidatos al ingreso: España, Grecia y Portugal.

El propio presidente del comité

— institución de la CEE que invite a representantes de los empresarios, sindicatos y gobiernos — reconoció en su discurso la prensa las principales conclusiones de los debates.

— Comunidad sin interrupción de las negociaciones en curso con España y Portugal, según las modalidades y etapas ya convenidas.

— Fortalecimiento y profundización de las estructuras comunes básicas actuales, para garantizar el éxito de la ampliación.

— Necesidad de asociar mejor las fuerzas vivas de los países candidatos a las negociaciones, mediante una información continua de las instancias competentes.

El debate se centró en los problemas de fondo que plantea actualmente la ampliación de la CEE, especialmente el fortalecimiento institucional de la Comunidad, la agricultura, la política social de empleo, la libre circulación de trabajadores y la política regional.

LE SOIR 6/7. 7. 80 De nouvelles initiatives en Europe pour baisser les tarifs aériens

Tout le monde en convient, les tarifs aériens dans l'espace européen sont trop élevés. Il est normal un effet dissuasif sur la clientèle qui préfère utiliser les transports de surface sans doute plus lents, mais de toute manière moins onéreux. Cette situation a déjà fait l'objet d'un rapport de la commission de Marchés commun qui a regretté que l'aviation civile ne joue pas suffisamment son rôle dans les échanges entre les pays de la Communauté.

Cette semaine le comité de concertation des compagnies européennes, qui révisait la demande pour baisser sur la nécessité de promouvoir le transport aérien en réduisant les entraves douanières. D'abord sur la plan technique en réduisant la sécurité des vols et en assurant le développement homogène des infrastructures de contrôle et qui ne dans le sens d'un appui indirect. Européen qui n'a sûrement pas démontré l'existence de la sécurité en assouplissant certaines règles et en favorisant le développement de certaines lignes - à la fois plus simples et plus claires ainsi mieux adaptées aux usagers.

Tout en souhaitant une libéralisation du marché le groupe de travail européen ne croit cependant pas qu'il soit utile de proposer court terme ce qu'il appelle les expériences malheureuses de l'USA - Selon lui, il est de l'intérêt du public de maintenir même d'encourager la collaboration des vols réguliers et réguliers pour autant que subsistent les caractéristiques propres à deux modes de transport.

Les propos des autorités européennes sur la démocratisation

des tarifs aériens ont suscité davantage de réactions en Grande-Bretagne qu'ailleurs. Peut-être en raison de la situation instable du pays sans qu'on puisse en tirer argument sur l'esprit européen des Britanniques.

Il y a plusieurs mois déjà que la compagnie nationale, British Airways a fait des propositions à ses divers partenaires auxquels elle est liée par des accords bilatéraux, propositions qui n'ont pas toujours reçu l'accueil attendu. La compagnie privée British Caledonian ne s'est pas montrée moins active en offrant de fortes réductions sur ses liaisons avec le continent. Cette semaine on apprend qu'elle serait même disposée à émettre un nouveau type de billet coûtant environ mille francs pour un voyage simple entre Londres et Bruxelles. Ce n'était évidemment qu'une suggestion, parce qu'une initiative bilatérale ne suffit. Il faut encore obtenir l'accord du voisin.

La Sabena interrogée à propos de ces rumeurs de tarifs réduits répondit qu'elle n'avait pas eu de contact à ce sujet et qu'elle n'en avait pas avant une conférence qui se tiendra à l'automne prochain à Londres. Sans contester l'utilité de tarifs promotionnels destinés à élargir la clientèle la Sabena n'est évidemment pas disposée à sacrifier aux appétits des Britanniques son marché long courrier. Elle ne peut pas accepter que ces bas tarifs entre Bruxelles et Londres ne contribuent à détourner vers la Grande-Bretagne, une part de son trafic naturel vers les pays les plus éloignés. C'est évidemment ce trafic qui est le plus rentable pour les compagnies aériennes.

Quoi qu'il en soit, les tarifs aériens entre Bruxelles et Londres ont atteint des niveaux que certains jugent insupportables. Tout le monde en est bien conscient d'autant que la concurrence que font subir, dans la traversée de la Manche les aéroglisseurs et ce nouveau venu qu'est le jet-floot, se fait plus vive. Un jour ou l'autre il faudra bien diminuer les tarifs.

Le bouillonnant Freddie Laker l'inventeur du « sky train », qui se trouvait ces jours-ci à Paris n'y a pas été par quatre chemins. Les tarifs aériens entre Londres et le continent européen n'ont dit, sont deux fois plus élevés qu'ils ne devraient l'être.

Partisan d'une « délégalisation totale », dans les transports aériens Freddie Laker a annoncé qu'après être arrivé à ses objectifs sur l'Atlantique Nord, il tentera d'offrir des tarifs 40 % moins chers que les existants, le territoire de l'Europe est engagé. Pour le gagner le moyen est simple - il faut contourner une Partie de gros porteurs plus rentables que les petits courtiers aériens. Laker, qui espère déjà une Note d'avis à la fin de l'été - DC-10 - perdra environ de cinq unités supplémentaires à la fin de l'année. Vers la même époque il recevra les premiers exemplaires des dix « Airbus » qu'il a commandés.

Sans doute Freddie Laker n'a-t-il pas obtenu des autorités de son pays, autorisation d'ouvrir trente-cinq lignes sur des destinations européennes mais tout en se déclarant très optimiste, ce fait est hélas peu sûr. Il faut attendre la Cour européenne de Strasbourg.

C'est optimisme se fonde sur le succès de ses lignes, mais sur l'Atlantique Nord où il a transporté 300.000 passagers en 1978 et espère arriver au double cette année ce qui le place septième au 8^e rang des trente transporteurs en compétition sur l'Atlantique Nord.

Un service moins sophistiqué

Sur son réseau européen l'éditeur Laker ne prévoit pas à bord de ses avions un service simplifié sans repas, petite hotte d'alimentation, mais ne s'attend pas à accompagner avec une crew de la compagnie aux tarifs aériens existants.

C'est une obligation à laquelle n'échappent pas les passagers plus « riches » de la compagnie. Les repas sont de qualité et le service est impeccable. Un indicateur de la plus de vingt à bord de l'Airbus sera rempli de nourriture pour se « jamber ». On pourra aussi en acheter à bord, mais le prix est élevé. Si l'on veut que les deux hommes puissent se faire un verre il leur faut acheter deux verres supplémentaires.

Si l'on veut que les deux hommes puissent se faire un verre il leur faut acheter deux verres supplémentaires.

L'Echo de la Bourse 6. 7. 80

Le budget communautaire adopté en juillet

Mme Simone Veil a confirmé que le C.E.E. sera doté d'un budget pour 1980 en juillet et a déclaré que « le nouveau projet de budget (...) n'était guère différent de celui que le Parlement européen a rejeté à la fin de l'année dernière », alors qu'elle était revenue officiellement sur le Comité économique et social de la C.E.E. à Bruxelles.

Mme Veil a souligné l'ampleur des changements apportés au budget de la Communauté depuis six mois à la demande de Parlement. « Il est maintenant une détermination politique claire (...) nous d'attacher aux problèmes budgétaires posés par la politique agricole commune ». Elle a ajouté que l'Assemblée a montré la volonté de réclamer des réformes économiques et sociales en « développant des actions structurées dans la C.E.E. ». L'entourage de Mme Veil a confirmé le désir de l'Assemblée de laisser s'ouvrir cette semaine un dernier débat, en session plénière à Strasbourg, sur le budget plutôt que le Farteur elle-même, comme elle en a statutairement le droit.

LE FIGARO 4. 7. 80

SIMONE VEIL - LE BUDGET 1980

DE LA CEE EST PRÊT. Simone Veil a confirmé que le CEE sera doté d'un budget pour 1980 en juillet et a déclaré que « le nouveau projet de budget n'était guère différent de celui que le Parlement européen a rejeté à la fin de l'année dernière ». Pour la première fois, le président de l'Assemblée des Communautés était reçu officiellement par le Comité économique et social de la CEE à Bruxelles. Mme Veil soulignera les changements apportés au budget de la Communauté depuis six mois à la demande du Parlement. Mme Veil a encore affirmé que le premier Parlement européen élu sur suffrage universel introduit dans la Communauté un « dynamisme » face à des mécanismes considérés comme largement technocratiques.

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