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# **BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

**European Coal and Steel Community  
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**Commission of the European Communities  
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# Mr Willy Brandt at the European Parliament

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Speech delivered by the Chancellor of the Federal  
Republic of Germany on 13 November 1973

'A German Chancellor addressing the European Parliament on French soil—that is not an everyday constellation but an event which has its own significance and which I am glad and very grateful to try and do justice to.

I regard this as an important stage which indicates to us how far Europe has progressed along the road to unification since the Second World War, and I should take this opportunity to discuss our views on the continued course of European unification before this knowledgeable Assembly. Yet, you more than anyone else have a right to hear from the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany about his Government's and people's attitude in the crisis of recent weeks.

## I

The tragedy in the Middle East, which is so close to us not only geographically but also culturally and historically, requires of me, I feel, to speak as a German and as a European.

The conflict in the Middle east has put the difficult undertaking of détente to the test. Certainly, the United States and the Soviet Union bear a special responsibility. But the conflict is also a challenge to Europe. What goes on in this agonized neighbouring region affects us directly. Europe must therefore, if it can, contribute towards solving that problem. And this it can only do in the closest of cooperation.

Last week for the first time ever the nine states of the Community set out their position in more detail in a joint paper drawn up by their diplomats. The fact that a certain measure of uniformity now lends weight to the European voice is ultimately also in the interest of the States directly involved in the conflict.

A choir of contradictory European voices is of no help to anybody. But political unity has its price. It demands the discarding of accents which some of the Member States would want to set more strongly than others; this seems to be unavoidable. People will have to get used to this, with us and elsewhere.

Let us see last Tuesday's Resolution as an attempt to make a beginning and break a vicious circle by reasonable arguments. From here we can go on seeking ways and procedures for translating the resolutions adopted by the Security Council into practical solutions.

With regard to German-Israel relations, nobody will be surprised if I say here too that they have a special character. This characteristic remains untouched. For us there can be no neutrality of the heart and the conscience. The Middle East conflict concerns us perhaps more than others; it appeals to our bitter responsibility. But it is for that very reason that we make ours the demand for equitable and durable peace in that region.

If we were allowed indifference we would have less cause to feel so deeply involved. The fact that we cannot be indifferent is also to the benefit of the Arab world, as I would strongly emphasize. For only a lasting peace settlement will make that region, now full of hostility, a viable area whose States will jointly contribute to the welfare of all.

The European Community could constructively participate in such regional cooperation, and I think we should be agreed about our readiness to do so.

This presupposes that the states of Europe and the States of the Middle East try to speak with each other. I have no doubt that the European Community will be prepared to do so; even now it maintains contractual relations with most of the States concerned.

However, threats and blackmail would only disturb constructive developments. This is not the way to make friends—the following suggestion I make to the European Community deserves perhaps careful consideration.

Could the Community, by strengthening the instruments already provided for in the individual treaties, not improve the conditions for restoring peace in that region? I am having in mind food aid, support for the settlement of refugees, and the many and varied possibilities for cooperation which already exist and which we shall continue to seek.

For the benefit of the people in the Middle East the essential point is first to establish peace and then to stabilize it. Europe could help with both tasks.

## II

Let me now speak on European unification and say something I would not have said in this way ten years ago: we can, and we will, create Europe! We have had to put up with delays and setbacks. This has called for criticism partly justified. Also from you, the members of the European Parliament. I understand that, and my Government endeavours to follow your advice as much as possible.

Yet it is true when I say that we have without doubt made progress, thanks not least to the impulses provided by the two summit conferences at The Hague and Paris.

We can, if only we want to, now set out on a new phase of the European journey. I am certain that European union will come, which is why I time and again appeal to our partners throughout the world to regard this as a fact and in this way to anticipate Europe's future, to take it for granted as of now, so to speak.

The move towards European union is indispensable. It alone will offer our peoples the scope their political, economic, social and cultural energies require. The unification of Europe is not merely a question of the quality of our existence. It is a question of survival between the giants and in the rugged world of the young and the old nationalisms.

Only in a Europe that has found its personality can we secure our national identities. The classical nation State belongs to yesterday. While—and maybe for long years to come—we may have to move in narrow fields, our future no longer lies in the isolation of the nation State.

Naturally, European union will not be the outcome of a revolution, of a sudden leap from the nation State to supra-nationality, nor from an up-rooting of boundary posts or from a constitution brilliantly put on paper overnight.



Instead, we have been speaking of the European evolution—the constant, energetic developments in all those spheres already incorporated in the process of integration, and in the other spheres that are not officially considered ‘integrated’. The sum of these measures will one day—probably sooner than some people think—swing the pendulum from quantity to the new quality.

We should shorten the time-limits we have set ourselves—be it for economic and monetary union, be it for what I have termed the social union, be it for political union. According to the Paris summit decision, the European union is to become a reality, within this very decade!

It is of decisive importance that on the road to European union we should have a proper sense of proportion. The proposal of the French President that the heads of Government of the Community should meet at regular intervals to discuss the internal and external problems connected with the growing union intensively and without the burden of a ‘machinery’ certainly is in keeping with that sense of proportion.

This proposal concurs very opportunely, by the way, with the intentions of my Government and with the suggestions of the British Prime Minister. I take this initiative to mean that this body can develop into a kind of regular presidential conference and become an accepted notion of, indeed, a decisive step towards Political union.

Every step forward must be commensurate with the situation and with the necessities; it must equip the Community or the organs of political cooperation with the new powers needed for the fulfilment of the tasks which all agree must be fulfilled at the given time.

It is not so much a question of language than of concrete results. It is a matter of increasing the efficiency both within the Community and European Political Cooperation. The two must now work effectively together.

After twenty years of efforts to achieve European integration we should all by now have learned that the functional rather than the constitutional method is more likely to get us home. I do not mind if one calls this pragmatism. The goal is clear. It is, as I have put it from time to time, a sensibly organized European Government which in the fields of common policies will be able to take the necessary decisions and will be subject to parliamentary control.

The European States will transfer to that government those sovereign rights which in the future can only be effectively exercised together; the remaining rights will stay with the Member States.

In this way we shall both preserve the national identity of our peoples which is the source of their strength, and add the European identity from which fresh energies will ensue.

Such a European Government will be in charge of the economic and monetary community, the social community, perhaps also the educational community, definitely the community of foreign affairs, and—certainly with a cogent logic one day—the community of a security administered under European sovereignty.

Once these spheres have become the responsibility of a European Government, a basic law also will obviously be required which will have to be approved by our citizens.

Up to now we have given them little opportunity to feel themselves to be what they have largely been for some time: citizens of Europe. We know from opinion polls that many of them, like us, regard European unity as the aim of political efforts. But we may have too rarely linked the European consciousness with their everyday lives. This I have pointed out time and again in recent years, if you permit me to say so.

It will be of vital importance for the Community to grow beyond economic cooperation and political organization to become the socially progressive region in the world. European integration must serve the people directly.

I do not mean simply a vague concept of life. Our citizens should physically feel that Europe improves their working and living conditions, that it has an effect on their everyday life. Europe must at long last remove the barriers in the form of frontier checkpoints or aliens law for the many hundreds of thousands who within the Community travel from one country to the other or avail themselves of the right of establishment,

One should not accept the fact that whilst barriers are being reduced the number of customs officers is being increased instead of diminished, that customs regulations are becoming longer instead of shorter, more complicated instead of simpler. If we give our national bureaucracies a European dimension then we shall be making a mistake. It certainly is not the will of our people that we create a Europe in which we err about like citizen K. in Kafka's 'Schloss'.

This is where the political will should at long last carry the day over the many national administrative egoisms which may be justified individually but all in all can no longer be tolerated. What we want is a Europe of daily reason and of common sense.

### III

My Government hopes that at the end of this year a new and clear step forward will be taken along the road to a European Government. This is what is required of us if we are to respect the decisions of the Paris Conference of October 1972.

The dramatic developments on the international scene of recent weeks have demonstrated the inability of the European States to serve as a factor of peace and stabilization in the world as long as they are unable to act as one. People from other continents have felt perhaps more than we that in a world whose destiny cannot, and should not, be determined by two super powers alone, the influence of a united Europe has become indispensable.

In this 'year of Europe' the relationship between the Community and the United States should be defined, and after that, the relationship with Canada and Japan. At the same time the COMECON is seeking contact. A majority of African countries want association agreements, and considerable hopes are attached to European unification also in other parts of the world.

Special importance accrues to the definition of the relationship between uniting Europe and the United States of America. This will be a long-term process which will not come to an end before European union has been completed. We are linked by similar ideals. Our security interests are firmly interlocked through the Atlantic Alliance. America has always come out strongly in favour of European unification. Each of our nations will bring the experience of friendship into the Atlantic dialogue.

On the other hand, Europe has become self-confident and independent enough to regard itself as an equal partner in this relationship and it is as such that it must be accepted. Partnership cannot mean subordination. Partnership proves its value in the balance of interests, in their will jointly to settle their common problems, to fulfil their joint responsibilities by sensible agreement and in reliable mutual respect.

This must become apparent in the declaration which is to lay a new foundation for the relations between the United States and the European Community. In this way we shall be meeting the requirement of the constructive dialogue as expressed in the resolutions of the Paris Conference and which my Government for one has been advocating. A consolidation of the Atlantic Alliance, which needs to be firmly anchored particularly during the phase of détente, will strengthen the common basis.

The practical importance of the Community for cooperation and communication with the East European states and the Soviet Union becomes evident already in the Geneva session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. There and elsewhere our negotiating partners will notice in the daily work that the Community is not encapsulating itself as a 'bloc'.

All-European cooperation is not impaired by West European union. And West European unification must not be held up by all-European cooperation. That it not merely a realization of my Government, it is the attitude of the Community.

Challenges arising from new tasks for the Community can, as a rule, but promote the process of inner consolidation. European political cooperation will be having to stand a test in ever wider fields. The dynamism that is beginning to develop there calls for more intensive and broader consultations. The range of subjects has to be constantly widened. Bilateral negotiations and plans of individual Governments in their relations with other world powers and the Third World should also be reviewed together with partner States.

#### IV

The economic and monetary union of today is the prerequisite of European union of tomorrow. This is where progress must be fastest.

Having gone so much astray in the past years we must now at long last achieve a better harmonization of our cyclical policies, for this is the most important preliminary to common economic policy. A policy of stability cannot be effective or successful in isolation. Either we all submit to the fate of progressive inflation or we resolve to adopt a

joint policy of resistance to the erosion of our currencies—and thus of the achievements of our citizens for which they have worked hard enough.

My Government realizes that we shall not be able to achieve the transition to the second stage as proposed under the original programme by January 1974. The new stage should, I feel, come as close as possible to the content of the original second stage. It will not be enough just to make up the leeway. New decisions are needed, especially for the coordination of economic policy and monetary policy which places more precise obligations on us, and to bind Member States more closely to the economic guide-lines.

At the same time we should further develop the monetary mechanisms created by the Community. The regrettable fact that we are not yet all together in the so-called 'snake' should perhaps not keep us from taking limited decisions at the end of the year on currency support for all Members of the Community.

Economic and monetary union will only prove successful—this we all know—if the Community launches a joint effort patiently to even out the structural differences between Member States, and especially between individual regions of Member States. But the criteria for the promotion of regional projects must be so strict as to ensure that assistance is provided only where it will really serve the rehabilitation of the regions concerned.

Moreover, the Federal Government still regards the common agricultural policy as an important element of European unification and it will pursue any further development in this field in accordance with the agreed principles. In actual fact, for reasons I will not go into now, a larger measure of integration has been achieved with agricultural policy than with any other Community policy. We now have to catch up in the other spheres more rapidly than hitherto.

Taking agriculture itself, we must progressively stabilize markets to establish a better balance between supply and demand. Surpluses difficult to sell on world markets are poor evidence of a purposeful and successful European integration. The Community must also participate in the development of a World Food Programme for it clearly shares responsibility for providing food for the developing countries.

The latest developments have drastically shown how very much we are dependent on mineral oil. Up to now the thought that the Community could afford the luxury of holding different views on the basis and instruments of a common energy policy. Today we know that a common line, precisely in this field, is literally vital. The threatening energy crisis shows that we are all in the same boat. I urgently appeal to the competent institutions of the Community to do everything within their means to mobilize cooperation. Not later than at the Conference of Heads of Government in Copenhagen must we clarify the state of European solidarity.

Before this Assembly, too, I suggest that the financial behaviour in the Community be improved. As long as our citizens—sometimes wrongly—believe that the management of finances is more lax in the Community than in Member States they are unlikely to understand or approve of our allocating more funds to Brussels. As an instrument of control we need an unassailable machinery.

To name only a few salient points: more transparency, more responsibility for the competent Commission Member, a European audit office and, last but not least, wider powers of control for the European Parliament. This sets the road we should take.

Here I would urge speedy and effective decisions. I do know that the European Commission shares this concern, and I should like to thank them for their effort to make new, 'watertight' arrangements in this respect.

Our Community must also prove itself as a social union. In the early years the time was perhaps not yet ripe for greater emphasis on social objectives reaching beyond national boundaries. For too long we have allowed social policy to be a mere appendix to competition. In the Community one seemed to regard social policy mainly as a problem of subsidies. Now we cannot and must not wait any longer. In Paris last year we gave the signal for building social union, and I wish to stick to it.

The European Union we want requires democratic legitimation, an economic basis and its own social policy aims. And there are several reasons for treating social integration as an element in itself: social progress must have the same rating as economic growth because in Europe, too, production and consumption can no longer be regarded as an end in themselves. They must directly serve the well-being of our European citizens. Only thus can Europe overcome the danger of technocracy.

I discern these clear objectives:

- (i) to develop an active Community labour market policy;
- (ii) to overcome the problems of employment for certain categories by improving vocational education;
- (iii) to plan a social policy for migrant workers and coordinate it with third countries;
- (iv) to make a joint effort to ensure humane working conditions governed by common standards;
- (v) to adjust social benefits in each Member State regularly and dynamically to its growing economic strength;
- (vi) to allow for participation and co-determination of workers in enterprises and establishments.

## V

The Federal Government gives a high priority rating to the improvement of the Community's institutional basis. Here, too, the major decisions will no doubt only be taken in connection with the preparations for European Union. All the same, the institutions must be developed and improved in advance, keeping pace with substantive progress.

I referred earlier to President Pompidou's proposal for regular meetings of Heads of State or of Government. These meetings could generate decisive impulses—without giving the responsible institutions an excuse for inactivity. The Heads of State or of Government

should at each meeting take stock and state as exactly as possible the extent of progress towards European unification in all fields, both in the Community and in political cooperation.

This Assembly brings together the representatives of the Member States of the European Community in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties of Rome and Paris. Having seats in their national parliaments, they have a clear democratic legitimation. Moreover, the treaties call for constituting a parliament by general direct elections; that is the aim. But we have no right to relapse into a state of paralysis as long as we have not reached that goal.

Nothing must keep us from progressively adding to the responsibilities of the European Parliament. Its powers must be widened. Parliament needs to have a say in decisions, especially those which, in conformity with the treaties, provide for the substantive extension of the Community's competences without the participation of national parliaments.

A mediation committee of the kind you have suggested and which exists in Bonn between the Bundestag and the Bundesrat is well suited to preparing budgetary decisions by both the Council and Parliament.

I would also recall the suggestion I made that the political weight of this Assembly should be strengthened by arrangements which would allow leading national parliamentarians to participate in this Assembly's debates, at least at certain times. Parliamentary life contains much routine, but it also requires flexibility. Being an institution does not imply a right to rigidity.

I have noted with gratitude that this Assembly has long become the parliamentary forum for the political unification of Europe. I recall the annual debate on progress towards political union and the colloquia on questions resulting from European political cooperation. I would encourage your every initiative in this field.

You have many possibilities for stimulating of your own accord the construction of Europe and the development of a European policy. The link between Europe and Africa would have been inconceivable without the joint conference of the European Parliament and the parliaments of the Associated African States and Malagasy in 1961.

The European Parliament has a part to play in fulfilling what is surely the most important agreement between the Heads of State or of Government: preparing the comprehensive report on the transformation of the totality of the relations of the Member States into a European Union, which is our declared, our unshakable aim. We want to achieve that goal before 1980.

We are now at the end of 1973, and that means that time is pressing. You know this as well as I do, which is why I ask you to concentrate your efforts on this Report. Allow me to outline the main elements of a European ad-hoc programme which brooks no delay:

(1) By the end of this year we still need to see clear progress towards economic and monetary union, towards a common regional policy, towards a common social policy, and towards the further development of the common agricultural policy.

(2) We need to improve the Community's financial behaviour. Every penny for Europe must be spent to advantage.

(3) We need a decision which will give the European Parliament a say in Community matters.

(4) By the end of this year we still need progress towards the solidarity of the Community in Europe's responsibility for peace and stability in the Mediterranean, in the definition of our relationship with the United States of America, in the cooperation with the Soviet Union and the East European States.

(5) We need more frequent meetings of Heads of Government as suggested by the French President, as I see it in the form of a kind of regular presidential conference which will give decisive political stimulus and thus force all the responsible organizations and bodies to push forward their cooperation.

(6) As soon as possible we need clear and realistic proposals mapping out the way to European Union, respecting fully what exists and what has been achieved in spite of many obstacles in the past 20 years.

In conclusion, let me state quite simply: From what I can see, the Federal Republic of Germany has chosen European Union as its permanent home. In it we seek our future.

This Assembly therefore will always be assured of the support of the Federal Government whenever it presses ahead towards European Union.'







**1<sup>ST</sup> PART**

**DOCUMENTS, FACTS  
AND STUDIES**

# 1. Transition to a Second Stage of the Economic and Monetary Union

Transition to a Second Stage

## The Commission's Proposals

1101. At the Paris Summit Conference of October 1972 the Heads of State or Government had indicated their resolve that the necessary decisions be taken during 1973 for transition to the second stage of Economic and Monetary Union on 1 January 1974 in order to accomplish the Union by 31 December 1980 at the latest. At the end of April 1973 the Commission had sent the Council a Communication taking stock of progress made during the first stage of Economic and Monetary Union and endeavouring to bring out the main lessons to be learnt; the Communication then traced the main lines of an action programme for the second stage and the institutional consequences of accomplishing it.

On 15 November the Commission sent the Council a series of more detailed Proposals concerning implementation of a second phase of the Union.<sup>1</sup> These Proposals which supplement and surround those which the Commission submitted on regional, social and industrial policy cover the major areas where progress must be made over the period 1 January 1974-31 December 1976. Special emphasis was laid on the required cohesion of the various Proposals.

The Commission proposed that by the end of 1973, the Council adopt:

1. A Resolution on accomplishing a second stage towards the Economic and Monetary Union in the Community;
2. A Directive on stability, growth and full employment in the Community;
3. A Decision on achieving a high degree of convergence with regard to Member States' economic policies;

4. A Regulation amending the Council Regulation of 3 April, 1973, setting up a European Monetary Cooperation Fund;

5. A Decision to set up a Committee on Economic Policy.

## Accomplishing a Second Stage of the Union

1102. The draft Resolution proposed by the Commission to the Council indicates the resolve to move into a second three-year stage on 1 January 1974. During this stage Community action will have as priority objectives: the battle against inflation, a balanced and sustained development with as high an employment level as possible, an equitable distribution of the benefits of expansion, an improvement in the quality of life, the reduction of social and regional imbalances within the Community and individualization with regard to the exterior, all prerequisites for cohesion and internal development.

Seeing the importance of a high degree of convergence in the economic and monetary policies within the Community, five major projects will be undertaken:

1. Consultation procedures for short-term policy will be strengthened;
2. Running quantitative forecasts over five years will be started;
3. The range of economic and monetary instruments available in the Member States will be extended and used with more coordination;
4. A European Community Institute will be set up for analysis and economic research in order to deepen the knowledge of problems bound up with economic integration;

<sup>1</sup> Point 2201 and OJ C 114 of 27.12.1973.

5. Basic data will be improved largely through a closer coordination of economic and financial statistics.

The main objectives regarding monetary policy are:

1. A more important role for the Monetary Cooperation Fund;
2. Creation of a Standing Committee directly attached to the Fund;
3. Formation of a joint exchange reserve by initially endowing the Fund with 10% of the reserves held by Member States at the outset of the second stage;
4. The setting up of prior consultation procedures concerning parity adjustments for Community currencies.

Moreover, Proposals will be sent to the Council by 31 December 1974 for equipping the Community with a control mechanism for monitoring external capital movements. These various measures would be capable of easing the liberalization of capital movements within the Community.

Alongside the progress in short-term policy, the Council would stress the importance it attaches to decisions to be taken on structural policy which would lead it to:

- Set up the European Regional Development Fund and the Regional Policy Committee by 31 December 1973;
- See that solid progress was made in social policy and employment;
- Form a homogeneous industrial base throughout the Community so as to ensure sufficient consistency to foster balanced development in both sectors and regions;
- Rule as promptly as possible in the field of taxation on all the Directives submitted by the Commission, especially with regard to VAT, levies and taxation schemes applying to intra-Community mergers.

The draft Resolution provides for the Council to recognize the resolve expressed by the Commission to submit by the end of 1975 a report on results obtained in the accomplishment of the European Union and to assemble new Proposals for complete achievement of the Economic and Monetary Union. During 1976 the Council, on Proposals from the Commission, would adopt all the measures to install all the mechanisms required for running the Economic and Monetary Union anticipated for 1980 in the Council Resolution of 22 March 1972.

### **Stability, Growth and Full Employment**

1103. The draft Directive for promoting stability, growth and full employment submitted by the Commission to the Council is aimed at getting the Member States to equip themselves with the most comprehensive possible range of economic policy instruments so that they can promptly meet the demands of the continually evolving short-term economic picture.

Attaining the objectives of stability, growth and full employment in the Community will only result from a series of projects where success presupposes an ever greater convergence of Member States' economic and financial policies. It is therefore important that by means of adequate preparation on the legislative, statutory and institutional side, Member States be able to implement promptly and effectively decisions taken at Community level.

In this spirit the Commission is proposing that Member States:

- follow economic policies modelled on the guidelines defined at Community level and refer to those guidelines when taking major decisions on the main objectives of economic policy;
- collaborate with both sides of industry on the main lines of economic policy;

- work together on the preparation of medium-term economic policy programmes for the Community by drawing up economic medium-term projections which take account of guidelines adopted at Community level;
- vest their monetary authorities with the necessary instruments to enable them to intervene effectively in the near future in the development of economic liquidity, banking liquidity, the volume of credit and interest rates;
- to adopt the necessary provisions so that governments may, within thirty days, be able to take measures concerning the pace of public expenditure, payments of income tax by individuals and companies, rates for VAT and other levies, the fiscal system and subsidies for company investments and for construction.

The portion of the Directive which covers public finance also bears on the arrangements to be made to freeze temporarily the proceeds from fiscal plus-values and bond issues, and also covers the preparation of investment programmes over a period of five years with possible annual adjustments, both for the central administration and the subordinate public departments. The Directive in short is aimed at getting greater participation from the territorial public administration in implementing guidelines of economic policy; to this end Member States are asked to create the means of containing the debts of those administrations.

### **Achieving Convergence of Economic Policies**

1104. With the aim of achieving a high degree of convergence of Member States economic policies the draft Decision provides for the Council to take a number of decisions on the following points:

- the Council would each month reserve one day to be devoted to meetings on economic and monetary problems;

- an overall review of the Community's economic situation would be made within the Council three times a year;
- at least once every five years the Commission would submit to the Council a draft programme of medium-term economic policy prepared by the Committee on Political Economy;
- an obligatory prior consultation procedure would be introduced between Member States and the Commission to be applied before any change in the parity of a Member State's currency or any action with equivalent effect;
- permanent prior consultations would be brought into the Standing Committee of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund with regard to the policy of Member States' central banks;
- the coordination group covered by Chapter 1, paragraph 2 of the Resolution of the Council and the Member States' Government Representatives of 21 March 1972, would be assigned to set up permanent consultations on the measures of general political economy contemplated by the Member States;
- if, within the compass of these consultations, it should become apparent that the contemplated measures or decisions were provoking serious reservations, or if economic developments in a Member State were to involve appreciable risks for other States or the entire Community, then a Member State or the Commission could ask that the matter be referred to the Council within a maximum 8 day time limit;
- lastly, should a Member State conduct a policy deviating from the guidelines defined by the Council or involving economic risks for the Community, the Commission would address a Recommendation to the Member State in question and might later advise the Council.

### **Amendment of the Regulation forming a European Monetary Cooperation Fund**

1105. The draft Regulation proposed by the Commission is aimed to amend the Council Regulation of 3 April 1973<sup>1</sup> forming the European Monetary Cooperation Fund so as to allow it to help towards establishing the Economic and Monetary Union and thus achieving Community objectives. The provisions of the proposed Regulation are for the main devoted to the arranging of credit, the building-up of an initial nucleus of common reserves and to consultation in matters of monetary policy.

#### *Development of Credit*

1106. The working of the Community exchange system set up by the 1972 Basle Agreement<sup>2</sup> has run up against circumstantial hazards. In fact, although terms for granting very short-term financing have worked satisfactorily, reimbursement has provoked problems with the result that the transfers made under intra-Community regulations have been confined to dollar assets alone. Regarding the other reserve assets (gold and those attached to gold; the reserve positions *vis-à-vis* the International Monetary Fund and the special drawing rights) the Fund has had to hold application of the agreed rules in abeyance for an indefinite period.

Moreover, major loopholes inherent in the Community exchange system have appeared. The basically bilateral character of the Agreement which created a short-term monetary support mechanism<sup>3</sup> has complicated its insertion into a Community scheme based mainly on multilateralism. This is why the Commission in its proposed Regulation advocates the development of short-term credit facilities to ensure, when necessary, the follow-up of very short-term financing which has no limit and lasts for one month. Short-term monetary support would be granted for three months for certain limited sums and be renewable for a further three months to

allow for the needs deriving from the development of trade and the volume of destabilizing capital. The renewal of short-term monetary support would carry a thorough scrutiny of the economic situation in the beneficiary Member State; after six months a decision from the Fund's Administrative Board would be required and after twelve months the Council at the Commission's suggestion would be asked for a ruling.

#### *Forming an Initial Nucleus of Joint Reserves*

1107. The Report of 28 June 1973, submitted by the Commission to the Council on the development of short-term monetary support and the terms for pooling reserves<sup>4</sup> shows that to facilitate settlements under the Community trade system and to ensure that they are completely multilateralized by developing the European monetary Unit of Account (UCME), the process of progressive pooling of reserves in the European Monetary Cooperation Fund needs to be initiated.

To this end the Commission is proposing that on 1 January 1974 Member States transfer 10% of their exchange reserves to the Fund where they will be credited in UCME on the Fund's books. This means a part of the assets in gold, of credits held in the International Monetary Fund (reserve positions and special drawing rights) and in dollars of each Member State in a proportion equal to that which each of these three asset categories represents in its total assets as on 31 December 1973.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 89 of 5.4.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Agreement of 10 April 1972 between the Member States' central banks concerning the shrinking of fluctuation margins for Community currencies.

<sup>3</sup> Agreement of 9 February 1970 setting up a short-term monetary support system between Member States' central banks.

<sup>4</sup> Supplement 12/73 - Bull. EC.

The partial and permanent pooling of these reserves would:

- strengthen the credibility and extend the role of the UCME. Representing, as it does, a 'bunch' of reserve assets according to their average proportion in the overall reserves of Member States, the UCME would become a fully active reserve asset, a preferential instrument for intra-Community settlements and mobilizable in third currencies for financing possible interventions;
- allow the more rational use of reserve elements now frozen for reasons largely outside the Community's control;
- allow Community credit to be completely multilateralized, taking into account the technical link between the development of short-term credit and the pooling of reserves, with the Administrative Board of the Fund responsible for granting it.

#### *Consultations on Monetary Policy*

1108. A more effective coordination of the monetary and credit policies, especially regarding bank liquidity developments, terms for distributing credit and the level of interest rates, would be a major prerequisite for respecting the Community exchange whose smooth running should be ensured by the Fund.

Indeed, stewardship of the Community trade system and coordination of monetary and credit policies conducted by the central banks are closely linked. A permanent and reciprocal information process is also required on all the aspects of running the Community trade system and the monetary and credit policies. These permanent consultations would find their natural surroundings within the Fund; a Standing Committee should therefore be formed within the Fund, a Committee directly responsible to the Administrative Board and which should meet at least once a week.

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In view of the amplified tasks and responsibilities of the Fund, it would have to be vested with a suitable administrative structure and endowed with a capital of 500 million UCME from which the income would enable it to meet, reliably and independently, all its running expenses.

An initial installment of 50 million UCME would be released on 1 January 1974 with fresh installments to follow in proportion to the development of the Fund's activities. The capital would be subscribed by the central banks. It seems normal for them to be the shareholders of an organization which in the main they will be running and which is later to be dovetailed into the Community set-up of central banks.

#### **The Economic Policy Committee**

1109. In its draft Decision forming the Economic Policy Committee, the Commission is proposing to merge the Short-Term Economic Policy Committee, the Budget Policy Committee and the Medium-Term Economic Policy Committee so as to avoid any overlapping of authority and any duplication which have marked the past activities of the three Committees.

Since one of the assignments of the three bodies (to be the centre of prior consultation when running policies were modified) was switched to the Coordination Group for Economic Policies under the draft Council Decision on achieving a high degree of convergence in economic policies, the new Economic Policy Committee will concentrate on analytical thinking and studies in serving as a body for reviewing and scrutinizing Member States' economic problems and with the ability to provide technical advice on specific problems.

The draft assigns the following tasks to the Committee:

- to assist in coordinating general economic policies and implementing consultations between

## 2. The Community and the Multinational Companies

### Transition to a Second Stage

Member States and the Commission as laid down by Article 103 of the Treaty (short-term economic policy);

- to examine and compare Member States' budget policies and their application;
- to prepare the preliminary draft of the medium-term economic policy programme and review the compatibility of Member States' medium-term programmes with the programme adopted at Community level.

The Committee would be made up of four Commission representatives and four delegates from each Member State. Those appointed by Member States would be selected from people who are involved in preparing the country's short-term economic, budgetary and medium-term economic policies. As a general rule and when it is to discuss general issues affecting both the short-term economic and budgetary policies and problems of medium-term structure or programming, the Committee would meet in full. But when a specific problem concerning a single department of its activities the Committee could meet without all its members. The attendance of one member per delegation, the most qualified to deal with the matter in hand, would then be considered adequate. The office of Secretary for the Economic Policy Committee would be filled by the Commission.

In the Commission's opinion, the reorganized structure would help to cut down the number of meetings by ensuring enhanced efficacy compared with the present position.

1201. Problems arising from the growth of the multinational companies, a subject already under study for some time, were the target of Proposals<sup>1</sup> sent by the Commission to the Council on 8 November 1973.

The multinational expansion of a company meets both the demands for optimum exploitation of economic and social conditions and the need to overcome procedures still blocking the free play of international trade.

In its Memorandum on industrial policy issued in 1970<sup>2</sup> the Commission had already expressed regret that too many European companies were clinging to national proportions and were slow to adapt to the new European area. It had found that all kinds of barriers were still there and that the innovation vital to European industry was being held back for want of a capital market.

1202. But this desirable development can pose economic, social or even political problems in countries where the shadow of multinationals looms too large. These problems have mainly to do with employment, competition, tax evasion, disruptive capital flow and the economic independence of the developing countries.

The fact of the matter is that these companies have reached such a size and geographical span as to render doubtful the effectiveness of customary action by the public authorities and trade union bodies who up to now have been unable to reach an equal standard of European consistency or integration. Some details will help to illustrate the scale of the problem.

The real value of world industrial assets under foreign control can be put for 1972 at 240 thousand million dollars, two thirds of which are in the industrialized countries. The turnover corresponding to this can be estimated at 320

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 15/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> Supplement 4/70 - Bull. EC.

thousand million dollars or the equivalent of world trade. The percentage of foreign investments in the economy of Member States hovers around the 15% mark, but in Belgium for instance amounts to 33%, and some 2/3 of these investments originate from outside the Community.

Scarcely more than a year ago the Commission departments, aware of the size of the problems, began to study possible answers at Community level and the shape that they might take. Last spring a group made up of nine Directors-General were assigned to superintend the finalization of Proposals which were finally sent in to the Council on 8 November. Basically, the Proposals derive from the following considerations.

1203. The Commission holds that the positive economic and social features of the growth of multinational companies are to be preserved. But it feels that the lack of an appropriate political or trade union counterweight allows these companies to produce harmful effects which should be prevented.

This objective cannot be satisfactorily attained by simply specifying a 'code of good conduct' which carries no penalties. Moreover, the answer to these problems does not lie in the adoption of one or two dramatic but isolated measures but rather in the application of a scheme of consistent action embracing the main issues.

The Commission believes that the Community forms a framework capable of ensuring an adequate degree of consistency in applying suitable judicial boundaries. But the Commission is aware that Community action will be fully effective only insofar as identically motivated rules are applied at world level and it intends to direct its efforts to this end within the compass of the work of the United Nations.

The Commission is aiming at the prevention of certain possible abuses which are not necessarily

to be attributed to the multinationals. Its action proposals therefore apply uniformly to individuals and companies whether of national, international, Community, or non-Community stock who might commit such abuses.

1204. The Commission's Proposals have been assembled in relation to seven basic issues:

- (i) protection of the general interest;
- (ii) protection of worker's interests;
- (iii) upholding of competition;
- (iv) company 'buy-back' methods;
- (v) equality of reception conditions;
- (vi) protection of the developing countries;
- (vii) improvement of information.

With regard to protection of the general interest, the Proposals cover the drive against tax evasion (largely through closer cooperation between national administrations), security of supply, monetary speculation, public authority aid and the protection of shareholders and third parties.

To ensure the protection of employees, besides encouragement to form a trade union counterweight which it regards as essential, the Commission is proposing a whole set of measures to guarantee employment, acquired rights and employee participation in the management of the companies.

In the realm of competition the Commission is proposing to make concentration moves subject to compulsory prior notification when they affect companies or groups of companies with a turnover of over a thousand million units of account. The Commission will also keep a close eye on oligopolies.

It is also proposing Community rules and concertation mechanisms for the national bodies responsible for controlling stock exchanges so as to ensure a certain deontology in company 'buy-back' methods.



### 3. Direct Taxes

#### The Multinational Companies

Equality of reception conditions stipulated by various States for foreign investment will have to be sought within the working of the OECD and the United Nations.

The Commission is also submitting different measures to allow the Community to see that investments made by multinationals of Community origin line up closely with the economic and social objectives of the developing countries.

Lastly, the Commission has supported the thinking of the United Nations that fuller information must be made available on the international operations of companies.

It will take several years to implement such measures. Some of the Proposals are already being studied by the Council whilst others covering fiscal, monetary or stock exchange matters will still require many expert meetings before they are finalized.

Moreover, the Proposals on paper to date are not exhaustive and some problems still remain unsolved. But the Commission considers that measures that can be applied need to be put in hand as from now without waiting until every solution has been found to the problems involved. It therefore regards its present Proposals not as an outcome but an outset of action to be started and followed up to completion.

#### Commission Decisions on the Proposals to be submitted to the Council

1301. On 21 November 1973 the Commission adopted the main lines of the Proposals it intends to submit to the Council on harmonizing direct taxes. Under the terms of the Council Resolution of 22 March 1971 the realization by stages of the Economic and Monetary Union implies *inter alia* the harmonization of schemes of tax deduction at source on dividends and debenture interest. These measures raise two basic problems: the choice of a joint taxation scheme for companies and the setting of a common rate for tax deduction at source on debenture interest.

1302. With regard to debenture interest, if one considers solely the Community capital market and the financing costs of companies, the abolition of any deductions at source would be the best solution. But it cannot be reconciled with the needs of fiscal equity and runs counter to the Commission's efforts together with Member States and the OECD to prevent fraud and tax evasion. If it is desired to make further solid progress towards fiscal equity and take into consideration the social preoccupations strongly displayed at the Paris Summit we must opt for the application everywhere of a fairly sizable deduction at source.

The Commission came out in favour of the principle of substantial deductions at source of about 25% but found that at the moment application of such a measure would trigger off a flow of capital out of the Community. In these circumstances the Commission considered that this measure could work only when the Community had been equipped with the mechanism to monitor capital movements towards the outer frontiers. The Commission is proposing to

create this mechanism in the draft Council Resolution on accomplishing the second stage of the Economic and Monetary Union.

1303. Regarding company taxation the issue is basically whether the Commission should propose the so-called 'classical' system which maintains the double economic taxation of dividends or conversely the system of charging which alleviates this double taxation: a proportion of the company taxation having been applied to the distributed profits, represented by a fiscal asset, it is deducted from the shareholders' tax, any possible excess being reimbursed.

From this comparison the classical system is seen to have the advantage of technical simplicity and no discrimination over international relations. On the other hand, the system of charging raises technical problems and regarding international relations can work without discrimination only at the cost of sometimes considerable complications. But this system does offer a whole string of advantages in various fields:

- (i) it is less biased with regard to the various forms of company financing;
- (ii) it is less biased regarding the various legal forms of companies;
- (iii) it has many positive features on the side of fiscal equity;
- (iv) it offers less temptation to very rich taxpayers to evade taxation by means of sham companies;
- (v) it is more likely to attract the thrifty of average or even modest means towards the stock and share market.

Since it is apparently possible to find answers to the technical problems involved in the charging system and since this system seems to offer considerable advantages, it seemed preferable to the Commission to decide in favour of it. Considering the technical work already done with

the help of national administrative bodies, the Commission hopes to be able to send the Council practical Proposals very shortly.

1304. During the same meeting the Commission reviewed the problems arising from international tax evasion, which are getting bigger and bigger and more and more urgent for the Community, especially in view of the increasing activities of the multinational companies.

In its Communication to the Council of 19 April 1973, the Commission had stressed the size of these problems and the need to find solutions to them during the second stage of the Economic and Monetary Union. Moreover, in its report of last June on the fiscal arrangements of holding companies, the Commission had already mentioned the possibility of completing an initial phase through a set of provisions for improving the present situation. It has also delegated Mr Simonet to take the matter up with Finance Ministers so that the Council can discuss the report and the proposed solutions therein.

# 4. Preparation for the Summit Conference

## The Initiative

1401. At his press conference of 27 September, President Pompidou had suggested that the Heads of State or Government of the EEC Member States should meet from time to time to discuss political cooperation. At that time Mr Pompidou had said, 'If, for instance, it is felt that, to develop more rapidly, political cooperation must from time to time—not too often but nevertheless regularly—be discussed between those with the highest responsibility and between them alone, then I support this and am prepared not to take the initiative but to talk about it with our partners.'

1402. Speaking at the Conservative Party Congress at Blackpool on 13 October 1973, the British Premier, Mr Edward Heath, also favoured regular meetings between Heads of Government, possibly twice a year. Mr Heath had this to say:

'I believe that already some of my colleagues as Heads of Government feel the need for us to get together regularly without large staffs so that we can jointly guide the Community along the path we have already set. I would like to see the Heads of Government of the Member Countries of the Community meeting together, perhaps twice a year, as I have said, alone and without large staffs, with the President of the Commission being present, as he was at the Summit, on matters which concern the Commission. I would hope that my partners would respond to an initiative of this kind.

Our purpose in meeting together would be to lay down the broad direction of European policy, to keep up the momentum towards greater unity in foreign policy, to help forward the working out of common internal policies within the Community: and so to agree upon the strategic issues facing the Community as to avoid the damaging controversies which so often appear to the public to dog the deliberations in Brussels...'

1403. In the wake of Middle East developments, President Pompidou on 31 October reiterated the idea he had put forward in September. He had asked his Government to suggest to the other Community Governments that a decision be taken on the principle of regular meetings between Heads of Government, the first of which should be held before the end of 1973. At the Ministers' council, President Pompidou made the following statement which was subsequently published:

'In the light of recent events, we are obliged to find that the cease-fire and the efforts towards opening negotiations were prepared and effected with no participation by Europe in any form whatsoever. This is a dangerous way of doing things since experience has shown that the tête-à-tête of the two major powers, the USA and the USSR, could both serve the easing of tension and lead to a comprehensive confrontation. Moreover, this approach does not tally with the role which should be taken by the European countries who are all the same directly affected by the Middle East both historically and geographically and through all kinds of ties with the Mediterranean countries concerned with basic economic interests. Because of this and many other reasons and in reaffirming the loyalty to our alliances and to cooperation with the East, it seems to me absolutely necessary to provide manifold proof of the solidarity behind the construction of Europe and of her capacity to help in settling world problems.

The French Government therefore intends to propose to its partners:

A. At political level:

(i) that a decision be taken on the principle, according to precise rules, of regular meetings between only the Heads of State or Government, with the aim of comparing and harmonizing their outlooks under the concept of political cooperation. The first of such meetings should be held before the end of 1973;

(ii) that, at this initial meeting, a procedure be finalized which lays down that when crises arise emergency meetings will be held between the representatives of the nine governments assigned to define and adopt as far as possible a joint attitude on the part of those governments.

#### B. At economic and monetary level:

(i) that a forthcoming meeting of Finance Ministers propose to the nine governments the vital measures to ensure the stability of their currency and enable it to resist the currents of speculation;

(ii) that a meeting of Economy Ministers draw up a concerted plan of resistance against inflation, now necessitated more than ever by the rising prices of energy. These two meetings should take place with the usual attendance of the European Economic Commission.'

#### Agreement to hold the Conference

1404. Despite various reservations, Mr Pompidou's proposals were by and large welcomed.

But in Brussels the Commission intimated that it wanted to be brought into any debate between Heads of State or Government which might bear on issues under Community jurisdiction.

On 2 November, Mr Anker Jørgensen, the Prime Minister of Denmark, which is now holding Presidency of the EEC Council, decided to call a Summit Conference for mid-December. According to the Danish Premier, not only foreign policy might be discussed, the meeting should also tackle various economic problems arising in the Community such as oil supplies and the battle against inflation.

Belgium welcomed the move to hold a Summit Conference. But, it was recalled that it was only France who had replied in the negative to a letter from Mr Van Elsende, the Belgian Foreign

Minister, to his counterparts in which on 13 October he had asked that the Nine get together on the Middle East problem.

In Germany, the spokesman of the Federal Government declared that Mr Pompidou's proposal to organize a Summit matched the ideas of the Federal Government. On 7 November Chancellor Brandt expressed his satisfaction that Mr Jørgensen had immediately proposed holding the meeting in Copenhagen. But the Chancellor recalled that Mr Heath and himself had advocated regular 'Summits' before Mr Pompidou's move. Mr Brandt also held that the Commission should not be left out of Community decisions. The Bonn Government further announced that it was ready to accept the regular holding of Summit meetings.

The Dutch Government, while accepting a meeting at Head of State or Government level before the end of 1973, had reservations to make concerning periodic Summits. These reservations mirror the Dutch misgivings over seeing, through such meetings, a 'directory' of major powers set up within the Community.

The proposal for a new Summit Conference was sympathetically received by the other Member States.

1405. Once all the Member States' governments had agreed to hold a new Conference, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine agreed on 5 November to set it for 14-15 December in Copenhagen.

During their Conference in Copenhagen on 20-21 November, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine reached agreement on the organization of the 'Summit'. As the President-in-Office of the Council, Mr Andersen, the Danish Foreign Minister, put it, the December Summit would not have the same 'ambitious and large-scale character' as the Paris and Hague meetings.

### **The European Parliament's View**

1406. During the sitting of 13 November 1973, the European Parliament passed a Resolution on the Summit Conference declaring itself 'profoundly convinced that the international situation and the situation within the Community itself call for the acceleration of the process of European unification which was solemnly decided by the Heads of State or Government at the Paris Conference of 19-21 October 1972 with a view to achieving European unity.' The House noted with satisfaction that a new Summit Conference would be held in December. It summons the Member States to recognize that the European Community must assert its position as a separate entity in the international context and to apply themselves without delay to the task of evolving, in a spirit of solidarity, a Community policy in all areas, including that of foreign policy' and 'emphasizes, in this connection, that the existing Community structures must be utilized effectively and demands that all efforts to achieve European Union shall find their place within the framework of their Community.'

### **Preparatory Work by the Commission**

1407. The Commission actively prepared the Copenhagen meeting with regard to all aspects involving the Community's authority. It made known its Opinions to the Heads of State or Government in two successive Communications; one covered the general development of Community work and the other dealt specifically with the Community's responsibilities in the field of energy.





**2<sup>ND</sup> PART**

**COMMUNITY  
ACTIVITIES  
IN NOVEMBER  
1973**

# 1. Functioning of the Common Market

## Free Circulation of Goods

### Creation of an Advisory Committee on Customs Matters

2101. The Commission decided on 7 November 1972<sup>1</sup> to set up an Advisory Committee on customs matters to enable its departments to have regular contacts with customs experts and to obtain their opinions on problems arising from the functioning of the Customs Union. This Committee meets the wishes expressed by representatives in the economic field and takes account of recommendations made by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

The Committee of 33 members will include representatives of the various economic, trade and social sectors: industry (3 seats), handicrafts (1 seat), agriculture including agricultural cooperatives (3 seats), commercial organizations (4 seats), Chambers of Commerce and Industry (3 seats), rail transport (1 seat), road transport (1 seat), sea transport (1 seat), inland waterway transport (1 seat), air transport (1 seat), banking institutions (1 seat), insurance companies (1 seat), customs brokers and shipping agents (3 seats), tourist organizations (2 seats), workers (4 seats), consumers including consumer cooperatives (3 seats).

Committee members will be appointed initially for three years by the Commission and may be reappointed thereafter. The Committee will give its views on matters raised by the Commission and will report to the Commission and, if necessary, to the Council. There will be no vote.

### Tariff Economy

#### Tariff Quotas

2102. On 6 November 1973,<sup>2</sup> the Council adopted, on a Proposal by the Commission, a

Regulation on opening, distribution, and administering of a Community tariff quota for various operations on Community outward processing traffic for certain *textile goods* (Switzerland) exempt of customs duty, for an added value of 1 870 000 u.a. This quota, available for the period 1 September 1973 to 31 August 1974 is divided among three types of operations. A first portion of 1 650 000 u.a. is allocated to Member States of the Community as originally constituted, the second portion of 220 000 u.a. is a reserve subdivided into the same types of operations as the first portion. If the need should arise in the new Member States, they can draw on reserves as required from 1 January 1974.

2103. The Council decided on 9 November 1973<sup>3</sup> to increase from 13 000 to 20 180 tonnes the Community tariff quota for *crude magnesium*. The first portions of this additional tonnage amounting respectively to 180 tonnes for unalloyed crude magnesium and 7 000 tonnes for crude magnesium alloy are distributed amongst the Member States; the second portions (30 tonnes and 1 000 tonnes) go to the Community reserve set up under the original Regulation.

### Customs Procedure for Circulation of Goods

#### Transit

2104. The Commission decided on 16 November 1973<sup>4</sup> to extend by two years, i.e. till end December 1975 the procedure for international carriage of goods by road as it applies

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 321 of 22.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 309 of 9.11.1973.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 313 of 14.11.1973.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 334 of 5.12.1973 and L 337 of 6.12.1973.



to traffic between Member States. On 18 March 1969 the Council had set up a Community procedure on circulation of goods in the Community, adapted to the special requirements of the customs union. In the interest of users, it was important that there should be one single transit system for carriage of goods between Member States. For this reason, a time limit of four years, expiring on 31 December 1973, was laid down, beyond which international carriage of goods by road starting and ending in the Community could no longer be made under cover of a TIR carnet. Nevertheless, authority was given to the Commission to extend the transitional period by a maximum of four years.

Because, on the one hand, of the enlargement of the Community and the coming into force (on 1 January 1974) of Agreements concluded with Switzerland and Austria on the application of the Community transit regulations and the fact that, on the other hand, it is proposed to simplify further the functioning of Community, the Commission has considered to maintain the coexistence of the two procedures for some time by postponing the end of the transitional period until 31 December 1975.

### Origin and Methods of administrative Cooperation

2105. On 22 November 1973, the Commission adopted a Regulation,<sup>1</sup> on the concept of 'products originating' for the application of preferential tariffs granted by the Community to certain textile goods from developing countries.

This Regulation allows the application of the appropriate Community rules on origin to imports of certain textile goods from Yugoslavia and other developing countries recently granted preferential tariffs by the Community. It incorporates essentially the provisions of the previous Regulation adopted by the Commission and

which defined the concept of origin of goods eligible for preferential tariffs early in 1973. Therefore only the temporary arrangements necessitated by the inclusion of new countries in the list of beneficiaries were modified.

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2106. During its session of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution defining the Community's customs territory and a further Resolution on the Commission's Proposal for opening a Community tariff quota for hazelnuts from Turkey. The *Economic and Social Committee*, meeting in plenary session on 29-30 November 1973 issued an Opinion on the definition of Community customs territory as well as an Opinion on tariff treatment applicable to agricultural products held in passengers' personal luggage.

## Competition Policy

### Restrictive Agreements, Concentrations, Dominant Positions: Specific Cases

#### *Concentrations in the Iron and Steel Industry*

2107. The firms of Montan Staal BV of the Hague and Mitsubishi Corporation of Tokyo are contemplating forming a steel trading company at Moerdijk under the name of 'Namascor BV'. The two founder companies will hold respectively 51% and 49% of the new firm's capital thus enabling them to control it jointly. It will therefore amount to a concentration between Namascor and each of the founder companies.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 323 of 24.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 316 of 17.11.1973.

Namascor will cut up broad hot-rolled strips supplied by the parent companies in order to sell them as heavy sheets. Namascor's share of the market in heavy sheets will be about 2% for the Community of Six and 8% for the Dutch market. The Commission authorized this operation having found that it complied with the authorization requirements of Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty.

2108. The iron and steel company *Dunford & Elliot Ltd.* of Sheffield is contemplating acquiring the nominal capital of another steel firm, *Brown Bayley Steels Ltd.* of Sheffield. This operation will amount to a concentration between the two in the sense of Article 66, paragraph 1, of the ECSC Treaty. The two firms manufacture special steels and their output in the alloyed steel trade represents about 2.3% of Community production.

2109. The Société Métallurgique de Normandie S.A. of Paris and the Korf Industrie und Handel GmbH & Co. KG of Baden-Baden are contemplating the joint foundation of the Société des *Acéries de Montereau S.A.* in Montereau with a capital of 29.3 million FFrs. The two founders will each hold 50% of the shares of the joint subsidiary. The operation amounts to a concentration between Normandie and Montereau and between Korf and Montereau.

The new firm will be engaged in the manufacture, processing and sale of rolled steels and rolled steel products. The crude steel output of the three companies represents about 1.2% of Community output and the rolled merchant steel about 2.8% of Community production.

Scrutiny of these two operations revealed that they complied with the authorization criteria of Article 6 paragraph 2 of the ECSC Treaty and the Commission granted both the authorizations requested.

## State Aid

### Regional Aid Schemes

#### Principles of Coordination

2110. During a review of the Decision taken by the Commission on 27 June 1973 regarding application of Article 154 of the Accession Treaty,<sup>1</sup> Member States expressed the wish to receive a Commission Proposal enabling them, prior to the precise definition of the new coordination principles announced by the Commission, to pass a Resolution promptly indicating their resolve to respect the coordination principles of regional aid schemes throughout the enlarged Community.

After consulting national experts on aid, the Commission duly outlined the main lines to guide the work undertaken by the Commission, in close collaboration with the national administration; to define by 31 December 1974 at the latest the coordination principles valid for all regions of the enlarged Community.

These guidelines covered by a fresh Communication submitted by the Commission to the Council on 29 November 1973 are as follows:

- The coordination principles valid for all regions of the Community will take effect from 1 January 1975.
- Coordination of regional aid schemes will be carried out in compliance with the principles embodied in the 1971 Resolution for the various categories of region to be specified and will in particular entail:
  - (a) Ceilings on regional aid throughout the Community, allowing for problems besetting the various regions;

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1973, point 2114.

(b) Methods to make regional aid assessable throughout the Community.

- Pending implementation of the coordination principles valid for all Community regions, no new opaque aid will be introduced and the renewal or modification of existing aid schemes will be an opportunity to adjust them towards effective transparency.

In this Communication to the Council, the Commission also expressed the hope that Member States by a Resolution would mark their agreement of the main guidelines defined above.

## Italy

2111. On 13 November 1973 the Commission decided to close the procedure under Article 93 paragraph 2 of the EEC Treaty opened in July 1971 concerning the laws of the independent region of *Friulia-Venetia-Julia* (nos 18/1966 and 39/1970) prescribing extraordinary interventions made by the finance houses of Friulia and Friualia-Lis in the field of industry.<sup>1</sup> The Commission had invoked this procedure because it considered that through the agency of these finance houses State aid was being granted generally and punctually and that it was serving at least to some extent as a rescue operation for firms in trouble.

Since investigation of the records confirmed in some cases at least the supposed incompatibility of these interventions with the common market the Commission decided on 14 July 1972<sup>2</sup> that such rescue operations should cease and that regarding the other interventions, application of the regional laws in question should be subject to regular *a posteriori* inspection. The Italian Government having since complied completely with the Commission's conditions, the latter was able to wind up the procedure.

2112. The Commission had to rule on draft law (No 14/73) of the independent region of *Val*

*d'Aosta* transmitted to the Commission under Article 93, paragraph 3, which prescribes the granting of low-interest credit for promoting, within the region, economic projects in industry, tourism and agriculture.

At the outset problems arose for the Commission from the fact that the legal provisions in question could in the end contravene the principles for coordinating general regional aid schemes in the central regions of the Community<sup>3</sup> which include *Val d'Aosta*. The Italian Government, now closely watching these problems, has since advised the Commission of its formal commitment to honour the 'coordination principles' in the practical application of the aid envisaged. On 9 November 1973 the Commission also advised the Italian Government that in view of the economic and social conditions in the region, it was giving a favourable Opinion on the aid schemes for industry and tourism.

## Fiscal Policy and Financial Institutions

### Taxation

#### Direct Taxes

2113. During its meeting of 21 November 1973 the Commission adopted the main lines of the Proposals it intends to submit to the Council on the harmonization of direct taxation.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 9/10-1971, point 19.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 9-1972, point 20.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 111 of 4.11.1971.

<sup>4</sup> Points 1301-1304.

## Approximation of Laws and Creation by Convention of European Law

### Elimination of Technical Barriers to Trade

2114. During November the Council adopted five Directives on the approximation of Member States' laws as part of the overall programme of eliminating technical barriers to trade. Two concern detergents, two cover measuring instruments and the fifth one concerns marks for cables, chains and hooks.

#### *Detergents*

2115. The Directives affecting detergents were adopted on 22 November by the Council<sup>1</sup> on a Proposal from the Commission. The first one which covers *detergents in general* was designed with a view to complete harmonization and fixes the average rate of biological breakdown for detergents at 90%. Up to now no international body had set such a high breakdown rate and except for a gentlemen's agreement observed in the United Kingdom the levels indicated in national regulations were lower than that. The question of the biological breakdown of detergents is one feature of a far more extensive and present day problem over pollution of the natural environment in general and the contamination of water in particular.

Biological breakdown means the decomposition of an organic compound, notably a synthetic surface agent by micro-organisms. This problem has not been ignored and many efforts have been made at international level, most frequently as part of the overall campaign against water pollution.

The second Directive concerns methods for monitoring the biological breakdown of *anionic surfactants*. It lays down two Community monitoring techniques and in the event of dispute a reference method embodying the confirmation procedure laid down by the OECD. Moreover, the Commission departments, again in close touch with the OECD, are working out methods for monitoring the biological breakdown of other surfactants, especially the non-ionic. These methods will be covered in a later Directive. Lastly, the Commission departments are carrying on with the studies being made on the toxicity of detergents with regard to fish and waters.

#### *Measuring Instruments*

2116. The two Directives on measuring instruments adopted by the Council on 19 November<sup>2</sup> are based on the general Directive of 26 July 1971<sup>3</sup> on approximation of Member States' laws relating to provisions common to measuring instruments and methods of metrological control. The Directives define the applicable procedures and terms for the sectors concerned. One of them lays down the technical specifications for the construction and working of *non-automatic weighing machines*.

It sets out the criteria for obtaining the marks and approval seals which these instruments must bear in order to be freely marketable throughout the Community.

The other Directive which concerns *materialized measures of length* sets out the technical specifications to be complied with for these items to be freely imported, marketed and used after undergoing inspection and award of the prescribed

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 347 of 17.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 335 of 5.12.1973.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 202 of 6.9.1971.

marks and seals. The criteria laid down concern the quality of material used, the clarity of gradation and numbering, information to be inscribed on the length measures and a condition that any inscribed publicity matter shall not interfere with the use of the instrument as a measure.

### Cables

2117. The fifth Directive adopted by the Council on 19 November<sup>1</sup> bears on the approximation of Member States' legal and administrative provisions and regulations concerning the certification and marks for cables, chains and hooks.

### Motor Vehicles

2118. On 7 November 1973<sup>2</sup> the Council amended the Council Directive of 6 February 1970<sup>3</sup> on exhaust sound levels and silencers of motor vehicles. This is the first 'adaptation to technical progress' in line with the procedure laid down by the 1970 Directive on the acceptance of motor vehicles and trailers. It had been agreed at the time that provisions adopted for silencers equipped with fibre absorbants would soon be inadequate, for this type of appliance was going through a phase of continental technical development.

The need had therefore arisen for the Commission to invoke the procedure of the Committee for Adaption of Directives to Technical Progress in order to amend the provision adopted by the Council. Technical progress having allowed the contemplated amendments to be finalized and with the Committee concerned giving a unanimously favourable Opinion, the Commission was able to use the scope available to it.

This Directive defines the tests to be undergone by absorbent fibre silencers. They include run-

ning road trials and special bench tests, which are regarded as equally important. The aim of these new stipulations is to ensure that the makeup of silencers allows vehicles to respect the permissible sound levels of road traffic and do so for a reasonable period of time.

The date from which these provisions will apply has been set for 1 October 1974 which means that to obtain Community acceptance for silencers any vehicle from then on will have to be equipped with a silencer which meets the amended Community specifications. The Commission considers that these new provisions back up the various measures adopted at Community level to combat the nuisance of noise generated by motor vehicles.

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2119. During its sitting of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution on the Commission Proposal concerning the interior fittings of motor vehicles (resistance and anchorage of seats) and asking for a Community acceptance procedure be laid down as soon as possible 'for vehicles with a maximum speed of less than 25 km-hour, tractors, agricultural machines and public works equipment.'

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 335 of 5.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 321 of 22.11.1973.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 42 of 23.2.1970.

## 2. Economic and Monetary Union

### Economic, Monetary and Financial Policy

#### Transition into a Second Stage of the Economic and Monetary Union

2201. Following its Communication of 30 April 1973<sup>1</sup> the Commission on 15 November 1973 sent the Council a package of more detailed Proposals on implementing the second stage of the Economic and Monetary Union. The Proposals which supplement those submitted on regional, social and economic policy cover:

- (i) implementation of the second stage of the Economic and Monetary Union over a three-year period;
- (ii) stability, growth and full employment in the Community;
- (iii) achieving a high degree of convergence between economic policies;
- (iv) organization and resources of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund;
- (v) formation of an Economic Policy Committee.<sup>2</sup>

Complying with what the Council agreed during its session of 9 November 1973, when Mr Haekkerup the Danish Foreign Minister, was in the Chair, these Proposals will be the subject of a report which the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Group for Coordination of Short-Term Economic Policies have been instructed to submit to the Council.

This report must also consider the opinions expressed within the Council at its session of 9 November 1973 on the Commission's report concerning the adjustment of short-term monetary support and the terms for pooling reserves.<sup>3</sup> It will also have to take into account the opinions expressed on the Commission's Communication concerning '(a) the account of

progress made during the first stage of the Economic and Monetary Union, (b) the assignment of responsibilities and authority between the Community institutions and Member States required for the Union to run smoothly and (c) the measures to be adopted during the second stage of the Union'.<sup>4</sup>

#### Coordination of Short-Term Economic Policies

2202. During its session of 9 November the Council carried out its third annual review of the short-term economic situation in the Community in the light of the latest available data. It paid particular attention to the battle against inflation and to the measures taken in the Community to implement the Resolution of 28 June 1973.<sup>4</sup>

The Council acting on a Commission proposal at the same time adopted the Third Annual Report on the Economic Situation in the Community.<sup>5</sup> In addition it has decided:

- (i) to attach, when the report is forwarded by the Governments to the national Parliaments, the Resolution of the European Parliament on the subject;
- (ii) to forward the report for information to the European Parliament and subsequently publish it in the Official Journal.

The communiqué at the close of the Council proceedings declares:

'The Annual Report stresses that the battle against inflation remains the main economic policy goal in the Community. All available instruments should be deployed by the authori-

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 5/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> Points 1101-1109 and OJ C 144 of 27.12.1973.

<sup>3</sup> Supplement 12/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 75 of 19.9.1973.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 9-1973, point 2201 and OJ C 107 of 8.12.1973.

ties acting along convergent lines and with due regard for Community solidarity so that the action initiated can be maintained and intensified.

Thus, in the budgetary field, all the Member States should in accordance with the above-mentioned Resolutions scale down the growth rate of central government expenditure within next budgets and ensure that an appreciable improvement in the budget balances is achieved.

In the countries where the budget is at present showing a deficit, it should to the maximum extent possible be financed by long-term borrowing, particularly in those countries where monetary financing of the deficit was large in 1973. The policy of freezing liquidity through the Treasury should be continued in Member States where it is applied and, if possible, practised by other Member States.

It is essential that local and other public authorities should adapt their financial management to the requirements of the battle against inflation. Where necessary, the central government should use the means at its disposal to induce these authorities to cooperate.

In the monetary field the measures taken pursuant to the Resolutions of 20 October 1972<sup>1</sup> and 28 June 1973 should be continued; they should be strengthened in those Member countries where the money supply is still expanding too rapidly. In particular, the excessive expansion of bank lending should be curbed. A high level of interest rates is still necessary; policy in this field must be closely coordinated at Community level. To make saving sufficiently attractive, the deposit interest rates should take greater account of monetary erosion.

For a strict monetary policy to be effective Member States must continue in concert the measures they have taken to stem the undesirable inflow of liquidity from abroad.

In compliance with the Resolution of 28 June 1973 the anti-inflation campaign must be supported by a positive policy on competition and price surveillance and by an improved distribution of new investment among regions.

It is important that the different economic and social groups contribute to the battle against inflation taking full account of the economic and social effects of excessive increases in nominal incomes and by further moderating their income and price claims.

As the battle against inflation goes on and its scope widens, more attention must be given to the question of achieving a fair division of the efforts and sacrifices which must be agreed to in the common interest, particularly so as to protect as far as possible the economically weakest sections of the population.

The Council has approved the guidelines for economic policy presented in the Annual Report for 1974.

Considering, however, that developments over the course of the next months will be particularly important for the fight against inflation, the Council decided to examine again, at its meeting on 3/4 December, the situation in the Member Countries with a view to the adoption, on the basis of Proposals to be made by the Commission, of the necessary complementary measures in the battle against inflation which will be implemented in parallel without delay in the various countries of the Community on the basis of Commission Proposals.<sup>2</sup>

### The Battle against Inflation

2203. The Commission has in fact on 29 November 1973 sent a Communication and Proposals to the Council concerning an emergen-

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 133 of 23.12.1972.

cy programme for the first six months of 1974, *with regard to the campaign against rising prices* and for maintaining a high level of employment in the Community. In its Communication with an attached draft Resolution and draft Proposal, the Commission says:

'Early in the autumn it was anticipated that economic activity, after the brisk upswing of 1973, would continue at a steady pace over the first half of 1974. No doubt the pressure of demand had already started to slacken in some sectors, especially in Germany and the Netherlands. But there were no grounds in the short-term for forecasting a reversal of the basic trend towards expansion in the Community countries.

But now, owing to the very heavy rise in prices of oil products and problems over supplies of energy products, the risk of a fresh impetus to rising prices in the Community has distinctly sharpened. Furthermore, upheavals can be expected with regard to the development of activity and employment. It is still hard to assess their proportions, but it is to be feared that on many markets over the early months of 1974 at least the imbalance between the still rapid development of overall demand and the more limited scope of growth for supply will get worse. Since the development of incomes could well adapt itself to the new conditions after a certain time lag, the appearance of bottlenecks in energy products will have only an overdue braking effect on the expansion of incomes and overall demand. Furthermore, the thrust of costs is likely to gain strength not only because of a slackening off in productivity earnings now colouring economic developments in most Community countries but also owing to the predictable continuous increases in import prices due in turn to the impact of more expensive other basic materials and the hardening of the dollar rate. It is therefore to be feared:

- that the heavy rise in oil product prices will bring about a deterioration of the Community's

trade balance vis-à-vis non-Member countries. It is also likely to affect the competition capacity of European companies all the more if shortages in energy products reduce available resources for export or if it entails further increases in nominal increases in incomes within the Community;

- that at the same time fiscal revenue will be less than anticipated; these minus values will necessarily have an impact on budget balances and because of this may feed inflation;
- that a prolonged shortage of energy products will have repercussions on employment which cannot be alleviated by a policy of reboosting demand since, owing to the curbs imposed on production by energy supply bottlenecks, this would intensify inflationary trends even more thus prejudicing the competitiveness of Member States economies. Therefore, to ensure the level of employment we will have to turn to a selective policy for investment finance and allocation of energy resources.

In these circumstances both the overall and sectoral adjustment of nominal demand to the more limited scope of supply and the moderation of rising prices and costs within the Community must, with the resolve to keep economic development at the highest possible level, be the priority goals of Community economic policy during the early months of 1974. We need to overcome the inflationary trends in order to dampen the anticipations of economic agents, maintain the competitive capacity of European companies vis-à-vis the exterior and thus preserve the level of employment within the Community. This assumes the active participation of all economic and social groups who must contribute by considerably tempering their income demands. To this end the Commission is proposing a series of measures to be brought in forthwith and simultaneously within the Community countries.

But owing to the great uncertainty surrounding the difficulties over oil, the Commission con-



siders that economic developments must be closely watched and the short-term economic policy be swiftly adapted should conditions change.<sup>7</sup>

### *Council Resolution*

2204. With regard to the campaign against rising prices and the upkeep of a high level of employment in the Community, the Council after reviewing Commission Proposals agreed the following Resolution at its meeting of 3-4 December 1973:<sup>1</sup>

#### I

'To resist inflation and thus ensure the imperative conditions for a high level of employment, the Council agrees that Member States and the Community will in parallel take suitable priority measures to implement, during the early months of 1974, strenuous action to moderate the rise in costs and prices.

#### II

Regarding budget expenditure Member States will:

- (i) during the first quarter limit as strictly as possible any increase in current expenditure, in particular by staggering part of their purchases of goods and services and by deferring possible growth in the manpower of officials and staff in the public services;
- (ii) re-scrutinize subsidies to the economy;
- (iii) slacken, where necessary and in proportion to available capacity, the pace of public investment expenditure especially in the construction sector.

Regarding fiscal revenue Member States will refrain from any fresh adjustments to taxation which might in the first quarter accentuate the

growth of public demand; if possible, they will speed up the gathering of taxes.

In those Member States where the State budget has a debit balance, Governments will strive to finance it by greater recourse to medium and long-term loans.

Member States will see to it that the management of public administrative finance and where necessary the stewardship of public company finance and that of the social security organizations all contribute towards resisting inflation.

#### III

Member States will maintain a monetary policy which helps to hold back the rising prices in the Community. They will develop concerted action to this end particularly with regard to interest rates.

According to the scope available to them, they will utilize the following means:

- (i) quantitative controls on the mass of money in circulation and especially on the volume of credit;
- (ii) an effort at greater selectivity in the granting of bank credits, in favour of productive investments, especially in the energy sector, and against credit which stimulates consumption;
- (iii) non-compensation against the effects of shrinkage of internal liquidity, deriving from sales of foreign currencies by the monetary authorities;
- (iv) encouragement to save by adjusting the structure of credit rates.

<sup>1</sup> Formally adopted on 17 December: OJ C 116 of 29.12.1973.

## IV

On prices, Member States will utilize one or several of the following methods:

- (i) close supervision of price forming conditions for products and services with possible limits on profit margins;
- (ii) prior notification of price rises;
- (iii) strict or tighter application on rules governing display and publicity of prices, for both goods and services;
- (iv) freezing the public service tariffs during the first quarter of 1974 at the levels of 1 December 1973;
- (v) strict or tighter application of national provisions concerning the control of abuses deriving from a dominant market position;
- (vi) an information drive on the ruling prices for staple consumer goods, if need be with the assistance of the consumer protection association, by exploiting all useful informatory media.

The Council is asking Member States and the Commission to organize as swiftly as possible regular exchanges of all useful and specific data on the trends and comparison of prices in Member States.

Member States will facilitate for the Commission the economic and commercial research implied by the systematic application of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty.

## V

The successful outcome of the battle against inflation hinges largely on the behaviour of the various economic and social groups. The Council is asking them to help by considerably tempering their attitudes on incomes (including industrial and commercial profits, wages, services and farming incomes, dividends and

rents). Member States, according to the means of their disposal, will take all useful measures to achieve this end as swiftly as possible.

## VI

The Council finds that for a sizable number of products such as cereals (including rice) and sugar, application of the mechanisms of the common agricultural policy, especially the export measures, helps to protect the consumer from appreciable price rises on the world market.

The Council supports the Commission's intention to submit price-setting Proposals for the 1974/1975 campaign which are compatible with the general Community policy of resisting inflation and it will ensure that compatibility.

## VII

Member States will re-scrutinize the quantitative restrictions now applied to imports of certain products from third countries, in order to make their restrictions more flexible and thus increase the supply of those products. The Council hopes that any consultations opened under the Council Decision of 19 December 1973 (which determined certain temporary measures for progressively standardizing Member States' import systems vis-à-vis third countries)<sup>1</sup> will be conducted within an exceptionally short time. Member States will facilitate the widest possible use of quotas during the first half of 1974.

The Council will rule by 31 December 1973 on the Proposals laid before it by the Commission with regard to the application, through 1974, of generalized preferences in favour of developing countries.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

### The Monetary Committee

2205. The Monetary Committee held its 183rd meeting in Brussels on 14 November 1973 with Mr Clappier in the Chair. On the basis of a note drawn up by the Commission departments, the Committee examined the monetary repercussions of the oil supply situation. The Committee also discussed international monetary issues.

### The Short-Term Economic Policy Committee

2206. The Short-Term Economic Policy Committee held its 71st session in Brussels on 5 November 1973 with Mr Brouwers in the Chair. On the basis of a questionnaire compiled by the Commission departments and papers submitted by certain delegations, the Committee got down to a discussion of price policy in line with Point VI of the Council Resolution of 14 September 1973. The Committee transmitted its conclusions to the Commission in the form of a report.

### The Medium-Term Economic Policy Committee

2207. The deputies of the Medium-Term Economic Policy Committee met on 28-29 November 1973 to prepare the Committee's 56th plenary meeting. They had an initial discussion on the 'report on medium-term problems of progress towards Economic and Monetary Union 1973-1978' which the Committee intends to submit to the Commission and Council in the first half of 1974.

In this report the Committee will emphasize the major economic and social changes underlying the development of European integration and which consequently form a framework for pro-

gress towards Economic and Monetary Union. It will also stress the likely development over the period 1973-1978 of certain important indicators.

The deputies also prepared a draft Committee Opinion on the Commission's social policy Proposals to the Council.

### The Study Group on Medium-Term Economic Prospects

2208. As part of the preparation of the 1973-1978 projections the Study Group on Medium-Term Economic Prospects met in Brussels on 30-31 October with Mr Kervyn de Lettenhove in the Chair. The main points on the agenda were the comparison of tentative rough drafts per country at Community level and the preparation of central projections. The need to engage a vigorous battle against inflation, but without compromising the economic growth of Community countries led the Group to decide to draw up medium-term macro-economic projections by examining two prongs of a price fork corresponding to a more or less rapid brake on inflationary phenomena. These two projections are to illustrate the problems, risks and advantages of two alternative stabilizing policies. They will be backed by qualitative notes on economic policy.

### Expert Group on 'Short-Term Surveys on Heads of Companies'

2209. The Expert Group on 'Short-Term Surveys on Heads of Companies' met in Brussels on 9 November 1973 to study certain problems involved in the monthly survey in the original Member Countries and to review the status of participation by the three new Member Countries (United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland).

### The Expert Group on 'Short-Term Consumer Surveys'

2210. The Expert Group on 'Short-Term Consumer Surveys' met in Brussels on 8 November 1973 to prepare the 6th and 7th standardized consumer surveys in the countries taking part and the introduction of this survey into the new Member States from 1974.

### European Economic Integration and Monetary Unification

2211. At the end of 1972 the Commission had asked a number of economists and scientists to think over the development process of the Economic and Monetary Union.<sup>1</sup> The outcome of this project, which is the subject of a report, obviously in no way commits the Commission and does not in any way anticipate the Commission's future stance. But it is an interesting contribution to the formation of concepts and public discussion.

The report is in two parts. The first is a summary of the overall proceedings and work of the group, edited by three rapporteurs. Since this summary could not reflect all the opinions expressed it is a general synopsis which commits only the rapporteurs. The second part covers the individual contributions from group members. The main points of this summary are as follows:

In the first place it stresses that the construction of the Economic and Monetary Union requires simultaneous progress in a whole series of disciplines: internal and external monetary policy, short-term economic policy, regional, social, industrial and budgetary policy.

Regarding monetary policy the report comes out in favour of an exchange rate system with the features of limited intra-Community flexibility, combined with joint fluctuation towards the exterior.

It is also proposed to create very quickly an additional European currency defined, as a 'basket' (panier) of national currencies. In order for this European currency to do its intended job, it would have to be more than an instrument for official settlement. But at the outset its use would be confined to what is jointly called a 'cambial currency'. The role of this European currency would be to some extent comparable with the Euro-dollar with possibly extra functions. Its introduction assumes an issuing body, empowered to implement a 'creation policy' for this new European currency and to activate the pooling of reserves.

The headway already made in monetary unification should be backed up by adequate progress in economic integration.

The progress thus made towards the Economic and Monetary Union should generate closer compatibility of short-term economic cycles within the Community. The policy of overall control should with regard to monetary policy mainly rest on instruments applied at European level. Conversely, for budgetary policy, the policy of control should be conducted at Member State level by providing a sufficient degree of flexibility on the fiscal side.

Regarding regional problems the dominant idea is the urgent need for a regional policy on a broad scale, at Community level. To facilitate the application of such a policy the list of criteria for determining 'problem regions' should be very short and quite straightforward and be confined to income and unemployment levels. The aid programmes, however, should be made up of a whole range of instruments meeting the specific needs of the regions concerned.

For social policy, it was emphasized that the consequences for labour of industrial reorganization could take on new proportions. Whatever

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2202.

the individual measures to be adopted in this field, financing based on the principle of 'fair returns' was to be avoided.

Most of these proposals and especially the most important ones require financial resources far exceeding the Community budget in its present proportions or as can be anticipated for the years immediately ahead. Proposals were made by certain members of the group to expand the budget substantially which now represents about 0.5% of the Community GNP, in order to raise it to 3% of the Community GNP in 1980.

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During its sitting of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed a 'Resolution on the state of progress towards the Economic and Monetary Union'.

## Regional Policy

### Financing New Activities

2213. Under Article 56 paragraph 2 a) of the ECSC Treaty the Commission decided, pending a decision by the Council,<sup>1</sup> to grant a loan for redevelopment of 5 million FF (0.9 million u.a.) to the Société 'Tubes de la Providence' in the department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, *France*.

This investment project fits into the company's overall extension and development programme and concerns the Lexy plant. The plant will thus be able to boost its production of hollow, square and rectangular sections used in the metal construction trade and to reduce the cost prices of its standard products. The investments envisaged will mean the creation of 51 new jobs between now and the end of the year which will be reserved for workers laid off from the local iron and steel industry.

The Commission also decided to grant a redevelopment loan of 10 million DM (2.74 million u.a.) to 'Flachglas AG Delog-Detag' of Gladbeck-Reutford (Nord Rhineland/Westphalia), *Germany* for construction of a new mirror-glass plant using the 'Float' process. This new installation will provide 700 jobs, 540 for workers and 160 for technical, management and marketing personnel. 150 jobs will be reserved for former miners and iron and steel workers.

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2214. During its session of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament*, after a debate<sup>2</sup> on regional policy passed a Resolution on Proposals prepared by the Commission for regional policy. They cover mainly the formation of a Regional Policy Committee and a European Regional Development Fund.

The *Economic and Social Committee* meeting in plenary session on 29-30 November issued an Opinion on the Proposals concerning the list of priority agricultural regions and zones likely to benefit from EAGGF, Guidance Section, credit and concerning the list of regions and zones which could benefit from interventions by the European Regional Development Fund.

## Social Policy

### Social Action Programme

2215. The Commission adopted and sent to the Council several Proposals concerning the first *priority projects* written into its social action programme.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 117 of 31.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> For an account of this debate, see the section 'European Parliament'.

These Proposals cover:

- (i) European Social Fund interventions in favour of migrant workers and handicapped workers as under Article 4;
- (ii) an action programme for the reintegration of disabled workers into normal economic life;
- (iii) a Directive to ensure more effective application of the principle of equal pay for men and women;
- (iv) general application of the forty-hour week and four weeks paid annual leave;
- (v) formation of an Industrial Safety Committee and more extensive authority for the Mines Safety and Health Commission;
- (vi) a revised proposed Directive on harmonizing laws governing collective lay-offs;
- (vii) a Proposal concerning the creation of a European Foundation for improving living and working conditions.

### **Free Movement of Workers and Social Security for Migrant Workers**

2216. The first meeting of the *ad hoc Group on migrant workers' problems* was held on 27 November with Dr Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission in the Chair. This Group made up of Member States' representatives was set up to help the Commission in preparing Proposals to be submitted to the Council as part of the Social Action Programme and concerning coordination of 'migrant' policies and improving the working and living conditions of migrant workers.

2217. The *Administrative Committee for Migrant Workers' Social Security* which held its 134th meeting on 22-23 November reviewed several questions on interpretation of Community rules. It also got down to an initial discus-

sion of problems involved in computing benefits owing to the revaluation or floating of some currencies. This matter will be reviewed again by the Audit Committee.

### **Social Fund, Re-employment and Re-adaptation of Workers**

#### *Preparatory Work for Fund Interventions*

2218. After consulting the Committee of the European Social Fund the Commission decided to propose that within the specific projects based on Article 4 of the Council Decision of 1 February 1971, the Council should authorize the Fund to intervene in favour of disabled persons and workers who relocate within the Community.

For *handicapped persons* the main idea is to link the Fund's interventions with the Community action programme ('employment of the handicapped in a free economy') for the social, occupational and medical integration of the handicapped. It is a question of the Community countries contributing to solid progress towards improving the quality of existing techniques and resources so that a growing number of handicapped people can carry on an occupation in conditions as near normal as possible.

Regarding *workers relocating within the Community*, the Commission is aiming to put the Social Fund interventions into the body of an overall policy thus linking the action for labour and employment with the demands of regional and industrial development.

#### *Social Fund Aid*

2219. On 23 November 1973 the Commission approved grants of Social Fund aid to Belgium, Germany, France and Italy against expen-

diture incurred by occupational reeducation and rehabilitation projects. The total of this aid amounts to 19 574 874 u.a.

The aid from the Fund, granted under Article 125 of the EEC Treaty, has been allocated as follows:

*Belgium*—Outlay from the National Fund for the Social Resettlement of the Handicapped for occupational rehabilitation projects: 1 539 273 BF (30 785 u.a.);

*Germany*—Expenditure for projects by the Land of Rhineland and North-Westphalia; 111 155 DM (30 370 u.a.); rehabilitation projects borne by the 'Berufsgenossenschaften' (BG); by the 'Bundesknappschaft', by the 'Landesversicherungsanstalten' (LVA), by the 'Bundesbahnversicherungsanstalt' and the 'Seekasse': 43 589 440 DM (11 909 683 u.a.);

*France*—Projects by the Ministry of Agriculture: 221 825 FF (39 938 u.a.);

*Italy*—Expenditure for occupational rehabilitation projects by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and several other Italian bodies: 4 727 560 247 Lire (7 564 096 u.a.).

#### *Re-adaptation Measures*

2220. During November the Commission decided, as an application of Article 56, paragraph 2, of the ECSC Treaty to contribute up to 68 500 000 BF (1370 000 u.a.) in Belgium towards the cost of re-adapting 2 772 workers hit by the permanent closure of a mining company and two colliery locations. In each case the Government is contributing an equal amount of credit to meet the expenses.

## **Social Security and Social Action**

### *Social Budget*

2221. On 12 November the Commission called together the group of government experts assigned to draw up the European Social Budget. It was decided that the national delegations would prepare finalized national reports to allow for legislative changes and economic postulations linked to the medium-term forecasts. On the basis of these finalized reports the Commission after consulting the national delegations will prepare a summary which will represent the 'hub' of the first European Social Budget. This summary must be available by the end of June 1974.

### *Forecast Revenue and Expenditure for Social Security*

2222. On 26 November the Commission called together in Luxembourg the independent expert group assigned by the Commission to draw up forecasts on the medium-term development of revenue and expenditure for social security. During an initial stage the group will set up a methodology for forecasting social expenditure, analyze through surveys already made the internal and external factors affecting the development of this expenditure and the financing of it, and thirdly identify the specific sectoral indicators of expenditure covered by the Social Budget. The purpose of this work is to provide a more detailed analysis of general data appertaining to the European Social Budget. In a second stage the group will try to determine by using models the interrelationship of social security and the economy in their various components. These deliberations will contribute to a more accurate appraisal of social policy and will yield information to help the Community authorities assess possible future reforms.

### Housing

2223. As part of the first instalment of the 7th 'standard' programme of financial aid for housing for mining and steel industry personnel in the countries of the Community, the Commission approved the following projects, in the Federal Republic of Germany:

*Steelworkers:* 226 dwellings, including 16 individual houses 66 flats and 144 dwellings for single workers for a sum of 385 000 DM.

*Aachen miners:* 12 individual houses for a sum of 66 000 DM.

*Ruhr miners:* 748 dwellings, including 18 individual houses, 280 flats and 450 dwellings for single workers for a sum of 1 911 000 DM.

### Living and Working Conditions Industrial Relations

2224. As part of its draft 'Social Action Programme' the Commission on 19 November sent the Council a proposed Council Directive on approximation of Member States' laws on application of the principle of *equal pay for male and female employees* as under Article 119 of the EEC Treaty. The content of this Directive is aimed at general application of certain standards of minimum protection and to specify certain methods to facilitate the application of wage equality. Implementation of the rules laid down by this Directive necessitates, for some Member States, amendments to their legal provisions. In compliance with Article 100 of the EEC Treaty consultation with the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee is obligatory.

2225. On 22 November 1973 the Council decided to run a *survey on labour costs*<sup>1</sup> in the

wholesale and retail trades, banks and insurance companies. The survey will be made in 1975 by the Commission and will be based on accounting data for 1974.

### Safety, Health, Industrial Medicine and Health Protection

#### *Campaign against Pollution from Steelworks*

2226. The Research Committee on the 'campaign against pollution from steelworks' held a meeting in Luxembourg on 16 November. It reviewed an initial batch of projects to be included in the 1974 research budget. These projects are mainly concerned with the precipitation or processing of fluorized compounds, the burning off of waste emulsion from cold-rolling installations, purification of toxic vapour generated by granulation of slag, monitoring dust emission during charging of pre-heated coke blends and improving working conditions in a pelletizing factory.

#### *Campaign against Accidents in the Iron and Steel Industry*

2227. Starting from the premise that some accidents do not cause injury, some Community steel companies have undertaken action to investigate more closely the causes of accidents so as to avoid them by organizing an accident prevention policy. These studies have been given the name of Damage Control.

On 12 November in Luxembourg under the activities of the Steel Industry Safety and Health Commission, the EEC Commission organized a

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 326 of 27.11.1973.



meeting of senior factory executives with some experience in this field and assigned an expert to analyse the results obtained.

### *Health Protection*

2228. During a meeting of national experts in Luxembourg on 14-16 November a report on pollution of the environment by inorganic micro-pollutants was adopted. The report has assembled some 77 000 entries of information from the Community countries on antimony, arsenic, barium, bismuth, boron, bromine, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, fluorine, iron, lead, manganese, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, silver, strontium, tin, titanium, vanadium, zinc, zirconium. The data concerns the levels of all these substances in eleven areas of the environment: river water, sea water, river sediment, ocean sediment, live fresh-water organisms, live sea-water, organisms, drinking water, foodstuffs, air, earth, etc.

This inventory fits in with the projects in the programme on the environment, projects which are mainly involved with objectively assessing the dangers of pollution for man and the environment. During the same meeting the national experts investigated an initial approach from the toxicological angle to the problems arising from micro-pollutants.

### *Euratom Basic Norms*

2229. On 22 November the Commission adopted the draft of a proposed Council (Euratom) Directive to amend existing Directives setting the 'basic norms regarding health protection for the general population and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation'. The aim was to put into the norms, set in 1959 and revised in

1962 and 1966, a certain number of concepts for improving the organization of radiation protection so as to provide better safeguards and meet the needs more effectively.

### **The Paul Finet Foundation**

2230. During the annual meeting of the Administrative Board of the Paul Finet Foundation, the Executive Committee presented the Foundation activity report for the past academic year. The report indicated that over that period 1 139 applications from France, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Italy were reviewed; financial assistance was granted to 795 cases for a total sum of 6 366 821 BF.

Since the inception of the Foundation on 30 June 1965, 4 543 applications have been received and a total of aid amounting to 25 398 253 BF has been granted.

Contact was made with senior officials of the National Coal Board, the British Steel Corporation, the British Independent Steel Producers Association, the National Union of Mine workers and the Steel Committee of the TUC to publicize the Foundation in the United Kingdom. British children who lose their fathers through an industrial accident or occupational disease can after 1 January 1973 apply for Paul Finet scholarships. Informatory meetings with Irish and Danish officials will be arranged shortly.

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2231. During the plenary session of 29-30 December 1973, the *Economic and Social Committee* issued an Opinion on the draft Council Resolution concerning a Sozial Action Programme drawn up by the Commission.

## Environment and Consumer Protection

### Environment

#### *Declaration on the Action Programme*

2232. During its session of 22 November 1973 the Council formally adopted<sup>1</sup> the 'Declaration of the Council of the European Communities and of Member States' Representatives meeting within the Council' made on 19 July 1973<sup>2</sup> concerning an EEC Action Programme for the Environment.

#### *Environment Information Procedure*

2233. On 19 November the Commission sent the Council a Communication outlining the projects of the Environment Action Programme, projects for which the Commission desired application of the procedure prescribed in the Agreement of 5 March last<sup>3</sup> by the Member States' Government Representatives meeting within the Council. This procedure concerns 'information for the Commission and Member States for the possible harmonization of priority measures to protect the environment'. In this instance the application terms of the procedure need to be clarified.

#### *Prevention of Telluric Ocean Pollution*

2234. On 15 November the Commission sent the Council a proposed Decision on EEC participation in the negotiations for an agreement to prevent telluric pollution of the ocean. The Proposal based on Article 235 of the EEC Treaty provides for the Commission to conduct the negotiations in consultation with Member States'

representatives. The working out of this agreement forms the proceedings of a Conference of which the first round was held in Paris on 17-21 September 1973 with the second round scheduled for December.

Eleven countries are taking part: Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Five others (Finland, Luxembourg, Iceland, Italy and Switzerland) are sending observers together with the Commission, the Council of Europe and the United Nations (Environment Programme). The aim of the Conference is to fill a sizable gap in the overall scheme of ocean protection. Existing international arrangements do not in fact cover one key source of ocean pollution; this concerns pollution spilled into the sea by rivers, estuaries, pipelines or discharges made directly from the coastline. The agreement for which the Paris Conference began preparations will cover these sources.

### Consumer Protection

#### *Initial Meeting of the Consumer Advisory Committee*

2235. The first meeting of the Consumer Advisory Committee set up by the Commission on 25 September 1973<sup>4</sup> was held on 19 November in Brussels. Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, welcomed the Committee members to this inaugural meeting. He explained that he saw this first meeting of the Consumer Advisory Committee as a

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 112 of 20.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2224.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 9 of 15.3.1973 and Bull. EC 3-1973, point 2223.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 283 of 10.10.1973 and Bull. EC 9-1973 point 2215.

new phase of Community life with its emphasis on the human aspect.

The Committee elected as Chairman and Chairwoman Mrs Groes (European Bureau of Consumer Unions—BEUC), Chairwoman of the Danish Consumer Council and Formand Forbrugerradet, former Minister of Commerce. Vice-Chairmen appointed were: Mr Gilles (Committee of Family Organizations for the EEC-COFA-CE), General Secretary of the Belgian Ligue des Familles, Vice-Chairman of the Belgian Consumer Council; Mr Spallone (European Community of Consumer Cooperatives—EURO-COOP) Chairman of EURO-COOP, former member of his country's Parliament. The Bureau also includes: Mr Meis (European Confederation of Trade Unions—CES), General Secretary of the Luxembourg CGT; Mr de Grave (European Organization of the World Confederation of Labour—EO-WCL), study dept. of the Belgian CSC and member of the Economic and Social Committee; Mrs Mabile (Liaison Bureau—WCT-CGIL) member of the WCL Executive Committee, General Secretary of the Commercial, Distribution and Service Personnel Federation (Fédération du personnel, du commerce, de la distribution et des services); Miss Lulling, member of the European Parliament. Mrs Möller (EEC Commission) will be responsible for the Committee secretariat.

The Committee's first task was to review and give its opinion on a working document prepared by the Commission for the preparation of a consumer programme. The draft programme carries three main headings: consumer protection, consumer advice and consumer representation. It also defines a number of priority projects to be undertaken in this field.

The Committee was also asked to appoint as swiftly as possible representatives on the various agricultural Advisory Committees. The Committee's Bureau is to meet shortly to define and plan its future work programme.

## Agricultural Policy

### Improvement of the Common Agricultural Policy

2236. The Council held a preliminary exchange of views on 20 November 1973 concerning the Commission's Memorandum on the improvement of the Common Agricultural Policy.<sup>1</sup>

The Members of the Council expressed their appreciation of the work carried out by the Commission which was submitted at an appropriate moment. On the basis of the lines of thought and suggestions worked out by the Commission, taking into account the experience acquired over ten years of putting the common agricultural policy into practice, the Council will be able to examine some of the mechanisms of this policy with a view to adapting them to the changes in the situation which have taken place both inside and outside the Community.

The discussions which took place at this meeting were of an exploratory nature and will be continued at the meeting on 10 and 11 December. Not until a later stage, and on the basis of the proposals which will be submitted by the Commission, will the Council examine the provisions to be adopted in order to make any improvements in the Common Agricultural Policy mechanisms that might prove useful.

The discussions have confirmed that these improvements can only be made in conformity with the principles on which the Common Agricultural Policy is based, i.e. the Community preference, financial solidarity and a price and market policy supplemented by a dynamic socio-structural policy. In this connection, consideration should also be given to maintaining

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, points 1101 to 1105 and Supplement 17/73 - Bull. EC.

farmers' incomes, to the interests of consumers, to the importance of relations with non-Member countries, and indeed to practical achievements under other Community policies.

The Council decided to forward the Memorandum for information to the European Parliament and to the Economic and Social Committee.

### Measures taken in connexion with the monetary situation

2237. The Council adopted a Regulation on 19 November 1973<sup>1</sup> on measures to be taken in agriculture following the rise in the central rate for the Dutch florin. The Regulation authorizes the Netherlands to grant aid to Dutch farmers over a period of seven months ending on 30 April 1974. The aid is to be granted in the form of compensation of up to 2% of the selling price to go to the agricultural producer on the sale of the products through the value added tax. The European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund contributes to the financing of these measures by paying the Netherlands an amount of five million u.a.

This Regulation also authorizes the Netherlands to grant aid for butter and cream stocks which just before the central rate of the florin was revalued were covered by storage contracts made with the intervention agency. This is special aid to compensate the loss in value deriving from application of the representative conversion rate to be fixed for this currency under the CAP. The EAGGF is sharing in the financing of these measures by remitting a sum of 3.5 million u.a. to the Netherlands.

2238. In accordance with the existing regulations the Commission fixed in November the *monetary compensatory amounts* applicable in trade in agricultural produce in general<sup>2</sup> and in the colza and rape seed sectors.<sup>3</sup> As was already

the case in October, a certain stability was noted in the spot rates of the Lira and the Pound sterling. At the time of fixing, the new representative rate for the Italian Lira which entered into force on 1 November 1973 was taken into account.

On 29 November 1973<sup>4</sup> the Commission also amended the individual application terms of compensatory amounts set on 30 May 1973.<sup>5</sup> This means applying the corrective coefficient adopted as part of the compensatory amounts, not only to import charges as was the case up to now, but also to export levies. Applying from 1 December 1973 this measure on the request of the interested party can be made retroactive as far back as 14 August 1973, which date corresponds to the first setting of an export levy in the cereal sector. The sectors now concerned are those of cereals, rice and sugar.

### Application of Agricultural Policy Measures in the Enlarged Community

2239. On 1 August 1973<sup>6</sup> the Commission had authorized the *United Kingdom* to suspend fully from 1 August to 31 October 1973 customs duty on imports from other Member States of various products of the oils and fats sector (seeds and fruit of oil plants, flours and oilcakes made from same). By its Regulation of 13 November 1973,<sup>7</sup> the Commission decided to extend the period during which the United Kingdom was authorized to suspend the customs duty, owing to the situation in the world market.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 321 of 22.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 309 of 9.11.1973 and L 315 of 16.11.1973.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 311 of 12.11.1973 and L 317 of 19.11.1973.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 331 of 1.12.1973.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 6-1973, point 2228.

<sup>6</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2230.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 313 of 14.11.1973.

## Joint Organization of Markets

### *Cereals and Rice*

On 12 November 1973<sup>1</sup> the Commission laid down the tendering conditions for export levies in the cereals and rice sector. The object of this Regulation is to establish the framework in which tendering for export levies can take place. This tender is one of the measures provided for by the Council Regulations of 19 July<sup>2</sup> and 8 October 1973<sup>3</sup> when the cereals and rice markets are disturbed. The Commission during November several times set export levies for the two sectors in question.

### *Milk and Dairy Produce*

2241. The Commission amended on 14 November 1973<sup>4</sup> its Regulation of 13 September 1973<sup>5</sup> on prior fixing of refunds and the validity of export certificates in the milk and dairy produce sector. This Regulation excludes the prior fixing of refunds for butter and milk powder exported to the United States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto-Rico. In view of the situation of the market in the United States, it seemed opportune to include also butteroil in the list of products for which refunds cannot be fixed in advance. The prefixing period has, moreover, been extended from five to 12 months for liquid milk and from 15 to 30 days for skimmed milk powder. Finally, for skimmed milk powder exported by tender, the validity of export certificates has been extended but not more than 12 months.

The Commission has also extended by two and a half months the measure, originally limited to the period 10 October-15 November 1973, adopted on 8 October 1973<sup>6</sup> for the sale of butter held by the intervention agencies at the intervention price plus 3 u.a. per 100 kilos, to allow for shortages in certain regions of northern

Germany. One thousand tonnes of butter were taken out of stock in the United Kingdom on the basis of this Regulation and it has seemed useful, in order to restrict the price increase of butter in that Member State, to extend the measure beyond the end of year holidays (until 31 January 1974) so as to ensure supplies at reasonable prices on the market.<sup>7</sup>

### *Pigmeat*

2242. An Amendment to the Council Regulations of 13 June 1967<sup>8</sup> on sluice-gate prices and to the system known as 'pilot and derived products' in the pigmeat sector, was adopted by the Council on 19 November 1973;<sup>9</sup> it sets up a specific tariff category for boned and deep-frozen pigmeat and provides a sluice-gate price and a levy for this new category through a coefficient reflecting the comparison in value between this meat and pig carcasses. The Amendment is aimed to bring in greater flexibility in the application of supplementary amounts in the pigmeat sector.

Also on 19 November 1973<sup>10</sup> following the enlargement of the Community, the Council completed its Directive of 31 July 1972<sup>11</sup> with additional provisions on Member States surveys on pig production with a view to subdividing the 'constituencies' specified for statistical purposes in the new Member States.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 319 of 20.11.1973 and L 326 of 27.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2228.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2234.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 314 of 15.11.1973.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 9-1973, point 2220.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 282 of 9.10.1973.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 316 of 17.11.1973.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 120 of 21.6.1967 and 122 of 22.6.1967.

<sup>9</sup> OJ L 322 of 23.11.1973.

<sup>10</sup> OJ L 326 of 27.11.1973.

<sup>11</sup> Bull. EC 9-1972, point 54.

During the 1973/74 campaign, the principle of increasing intervention and purchase prices to be paid in Italy by a corrective amount equal to 1% will apply to the pigmeat sector. The marketing campaign in this sector starts on 1 November so that for the period 1 November 1973 to 31 October 1974 the purchase price of slaughtered pigs of standard quality is raised by 1% in Italy. The Commission adopted a Regulation accordingly on 31 October 1973;<sup>1</sup> it stipulates the terms of application of the Council Regulation of 10 May 1973<sup>2</sup> in the pork sector.

### *Sugar*

2243. The Commission adopted a Regulation on 21 November 1973<sup>3</sup> fixing a special levy on exports of white and raw sugar. This is provided for under the Council Regulation of 18 December 1967<sup>4</sup> on the joint organization of markets in the sugar sector. Owing to the risk of not obtaining sugar supplies within threshold price limits in certain regions of the Community and on account of the surplus disposal situation for the first time the Commission has fixed for the sugar sector special export levies of 3.00 u.a. per 100 kilos for white sugar and 2.76 u.a. per 100 kilos for raw sugar.

### *Olive Oil*

2244. The Council agreed on 21 November 1973 to fix the target price for olive oil for the 1973/1974 marketing year at 95 u.a./100 kg. The intervention and threshold prices will be adapted accordingly, i.e. 87.75 u.a./100 kilos and 93 u.a./100 kilos respectively. The Council decided to establish a buffer stock, the maximum amount of which was not to exceed 75 000 tonnes. It also decided that 1% of the aid to be paid to producers will go to financing the setting up of the olive grove register in the Community.

The Regulations formally adopting the prices and aid in question date from 27 November 1973<sup>5</sup> as do the Regulations setting, for the 1973/1974 campaign, the monthly increases of those market target prices, intervention and threshold prices and the flat rate sum (0.5 u.a./100 kg) to secure a preferential position for Greek oil on the Community market.

The target price of 137.17 u.a./100 kilos for olive oil had been fixed on 28 April 1973<sup>6</sup> when common agricultural prices were fixed for the 1973/1974 campaign in general.

### *Wine*

2245. During its session of 19 and 20 November 1973 the Council took note of the Commission report<sup>7</sup> on foreseeable changes in vine planting and replanting in the Community and on the ratio between production and utilization in the vine-wine sector, and also of a statement by the Commission announcing that it would submit to the Council before the end of the year Proposals for improving the running of Community regulations in force in the vine-wine sector.

On 6 November 1973<sup>8</sup> the Commission noted that the average price of table wine of the type RIII (red) had remained below the release price for two consecutive weeks and granted aid for private storage of this type of wine.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 303 of 1.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 5-1973, point 2220.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 321 of 22.11.1973.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 308 of 18.12.1967.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 327 of 28.11.1973.

<sup>6</sup> Bull. EC 4-1973, point 2219 and OJ L 141 of 28.5.1973.

<sup>7</sup> Bull. EC 9-1973, point 2222.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 307 of 7.11.1973.

*Seeds*

2246. The Commission adopted a Regulation on 14 November 1973<sup>1</sup> on notifying the necessary data for applying the Regulation of 26 October 1971<sup>2</sup> setting up a joint organization of the seed market.

The Regulation stipulates the information necessary for the efficient management of the seed market and the dates by which this information must be sent to the Commission by Member States. It concerns in particular the controlled acreage, quantities harvested, prices paid to growers, imports, exports, stocks and the free frontier price of hybrid Indian corn for sowing.

fixed on 27 November 1973 the contractual amounts for financing net losses by intervention agencies in the milk and dairy produce sector from 29 July 1968 to 31 December 1972, while on 28 November 1973 it fixed the contractual amounts for financing net losses by intervention agencies in the cereals, rice, oils and fats and sugar sectors for 1973.

*Guidance Section*

2248. On 31 October 1973<sup>3</sup> the Commission granted 77 240 997 u.a. for 236 schemes under the *second and last instalment for 1972*. The grant is distributed as follows:

	Number of projects	Grant in national currency	Grant in u.a.
Germany	66	81 518 428 DM	22 272 790
Belgium	43	364 507 257 BF	7 290 145
France	31	93 028 242 FF	16 749 195
Italy	80	15 469 087 529 Lit.	24 750 541
Luxembourg	5	45 355 619 FLg	907 112
Netherlands	11	19 081 802 Fl.	5 271 214
	236		77 240 997

**European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund***Guarantee Section*

2247. Following the Opinion of 6 November 1973 by the EAGGF Committee the Commission

In *Germany* amongst the 23 schemes for improving productive structures for which 27 032 661 DM have been granted, 11 concern land impro-

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 314 of 15.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 12-1971, point 46.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 104 of 29.11.1972.

vement work; seven of these are in Schleswig-Holstein (3 242 000 DM) whilst eight apply to hydraulic work. Amongst the 43 schemes for marketing improvements (54 485 767 DM) the dairy sector received an important share with 19 584 456 DM including 11 164 000 DM for seven schemes in Bavaria. Four factory trawlers (with modern refrigerating, filleting and fish meal processing equipment) and two deep-sea fishing cutters have benefited from a grant of 19 744 000 DM. Six schemes concern the meat sector (5 371 605 DM). In the fruit and vegetable sector eight schemes, including four in Bavaria, received grants of 5 440 237 DM. Lastly, amongst the five schemes in the vine-wine sector (3 974 000 DM) four cellars are located in Baden-Württemberg at Oberkurch, Oberrotweil, Sasbachwalden and Kiechlinsbergen am Kaiserstuhl; the fifth cellar is at Ilbesheim in the Rhineland Palatinate.

Of the 20 *Belgian* schemes for improving productive structures (150 770 000 BF), 15 are concerned with rural road and water supply and receive the major share, i.e. 136 747 000 BF. Amongst the 22 marketing schemes, seven in the dairy sector receive the main share i.e. 136 747 000 BF.

Contrary to the first instalment for 1972, the 20 *French* schemes for improving production structures receive the major share with 75 172 000 FF including 27 200 000 FF for three schemes concerning the supply of drinking water in Deux-Sèvres and Côtes-du-Nord. Substantial grants were also made for a new schedule of work for improving the amenities of the Provence Canal in the Var and for drainage work in the Wateringues area of the Nord and Pas-de-Calais. Three mixed projects concerning beetroot dehydrating plants received aid of 3 206 000 FF for works at Seclin, Escaudœuvres (Nord) and Ardres (Pas-de-Calais). Finally, of the eight marketing schemes (14 650 000 FF) four concern the dairy sector (8 548 000 FF).

In *Italy*, rural roads received the major grant with 3.6 thousand million Lire (23 schemes) out of a total EAGGF grant of 11 138 683 000 Lire for 51 schemes for improving productive structures. Nine schemes cover a group of measures (roads, water supply, electrification, vine planting, improvement of pasturage, construction of shepherds huts) received grants of 5 428 280 000 Lire.

Of the 24 schemes for improving marketing structures (3 251 495 000 Lire) the ten in the vine sector received the major share for enlarging or setting up cellars and bottling plants. In the fruit and vegetable sector, nine schemes received a grant of 1 006 066 000 Lire.

Amongst the five *Luxembourg* schemes, three in the dairy sector received most of the grant with over 39 million LF for plant modernization of various dairies. The two other schemes cover an exhibition and sales hall for animal products in Luxembourg and a warehouse for high quality wines at Wormeldange.

Three regrouping schemes in the *Netherlands* received a grant of 8 960 957 Fl. i.e. Oost en Westdongeradeel (Friesland), Meidijk and Zieuwent-Harreveld (Gelderland). Among the schemes for marketing structures, three concern the dairy sector (4 015 000 Fl.) and three the meat sector (4 074 000 Fl.).

2249. The Commission on 9 and 12 December<sup>1</sup> adopted several Decisions on the EAGGF, 'Guidance' Section refunds:

- (i) on 9 November 1973, premiums paid for slaughtering cows and for the non-marketing of and dairy products in the Netherlands in 1971 and in Luxembourg in 1972;
- (ii) on 12 November 1973, allowances paid for uprooting apple trees, pear trees and peach trees in Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg in 1972.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 336 of 6.12.1973 and L 346 of 17.12.1973.



## Structural policy in Agriculture

2250. The Council reached agreement on 20 November 1973 concerning the Directive on *hill-farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas*.<sup>1</sup> To ensure the continuation of farming and thereby maintain a minimum population level or conserve the countryside in certain less-favoured areas, Member States are authorized to introduce a special system of aid to encourage farming and to raise farm incomes in these areas.

The special system may include the following measures:

- (i) the grant of an allowance to compensate for permanent natural handicaps;
- (ii) the grant, under specific conditions, of aid to farms suitable for development;
- (iii) the grant of collective investment aid;
- (iv) the grant, under specific conditions, of national aids to farms for the purpose of attaining the general objectives of the Directive.

Member States must advise the Commission about the limits of the areas where they intend to apply the special system of aid and which are likely to be included in the Community list, taking into consideration the characteristics covered by Article 3 of the Directive.

The Directive fits into the 'joint action' plan for the modernization of farms; it provides an adequate solution for the specific case of hill-farming and farming in other less-favoured areas, in particular by strengthening the system of aid in the Directive of 17 April 1972<sup>2</sup> on the modernization of farms.

The Community list of less-favoured agricultural areas (within the meaning of Article 3 which specifies the criteria for such areas) the rate of refund by the EAGGF, Guidance Section of eligible expenditure concerning the compensa-

tory allowance and other necessary financial provisions will be adopted by the Council at a later date.

The Commission gave a favourable opinion on 27 November 1973, completing its opinion of 20 July 1973<sup>3</sup> on provisions for applying the Council Directive of 17 April 1972 on farm modernization, notified by the *Danish* Government.

## 1973 Report on the Agricultural situation

2252. In an annex to the Memorandum on the common agricultural policy,<sup>4</sup> the Commission submitted its 1973 annual report on *'the agricultural situation in the enlarged Community*.' The report, in three parts (synthesis, analysis and tables), provide detailed information on all elements linked with agriculture: production, prices, markets, structures, financial aspects, etc.

The development of farm income in 1972 was very favourable. The largest increase for persons in agriculture, in terms of purchasing power was registered in Ireland (26%); in most of the other Member Countries there was an increase of 10 to 15%. In Denmark and Italy it was less high with 7 and 5% respectively.

Amongst the basic factors for this development, the Commission mentions the rise in production prices of agricultural products; these were far more important than the increase in prices of production factors. The increase in 1972 of production prices in the Community of 'Six' was 12.2% whilst the general increase in the level of prices and wages and the crisis in certain world markets, that of cattle food (soya, etc. in particular) resulted in an increase of 5.1% in prices of

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2228; 4-1973, point 2221 and 5-1973, point 2229.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chapter I.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2239.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, points 1101 to 1105 and Supplement 17/73 - Bull. EC.

production factors. The trend towards a rise in production prices was maintained early in 1973; where figures are available, the Commission has noted increases of 18.5% in Belgium, 14.6% in France and 12.5% in Germany (second quarter of 1973 compared with the second quarter of 1972). In the United Kingdom and Denmark, higher figures are recorded with respectively 23.5 and 33%. In this respect the Commission points out that the rise is mainly due to developments in agricultural markets in 1972 and 1973, particularly in world markets, and not to the increase of about 5% in common prices (i.e. prices guaranteed to producers). The same observation applies to production prices in the new Member States where the average increase was much higher than that resulting from the gradual adaptation of prices to the level of common prices in these countries. The first alignment was made in 1973 and covered only one-sixth of the existing difference between the two price levels.

Another important factor in the increase in farm income is the continued and accelerated reduction of farm workers which encouraged structural improvements. During the period 1971/72, 601 500 left agriculture in the Community of Nine, or 5.9% of the working population in agriculture; in 1970/71 the figure was 3.5%. This trend was more accentuated in Denmark (10.2%), Italy (8.1%) and Germany (7.1%); it was less marked in the United Kingdom (0.7%), the Netherlands (1.6%) and Ireland (2.2%). The other countries record between 4 and 6%. The Commission observes that this is due mainly to the accelerated departure of farmers and family helps.

For 1973 the Commission anticipates a slowing down in the reduction of the agricultural population due to the sharp increase in farm incomes. It expects for the current year moreover a sizable increase possibly of the same order as in 1972, in such incomes.

### The Community's Protein Supplies

2253. The recommendations made by the Commission in its Memorandum on the improvement of the common agricultural policy<sup>1</sup> so as to increase the Community's production of proteins are based on the analysis included in a report submitted to the Council on 16 November 1973. This document has been prepared in response to the Council's request following this year's events in the world market resulting in certain countries like the United States and Brazil limiting their exports of protein substances.

Statistics show the seriousness of any measure limiting exports of protein substances to the Community. In 1971/72, the European Community imported from third countries mainly the USA, 80% of its protein requirements (expressed as protein concentrates: 8.8 million tonnes; imports: 7 million tonnes). In oilcakes which cover more than 70% of protein requirements, the Community depends almost entirely on third countries since it produces only 4.3% of its total consumption. The 20% of total requirements which the Community can cover concern mainly meat meal, milk powder and to a lesser extent fish meal, grass meal and field beans.

The Commission's estimate in world protein requirements shows an increase of 3% per annum till 1977/78. To meet this demand, world production (55.6 million tonnes in 1971) will have to increase by 2 million tonnes per annum. If steps are not taken, the possibility of satisfying world demand in protein will according to the Commission be largely dependent on increased soya production. Other protein substances (ground nuts, fish meal, grass, etc.) are unlikely to make an important contribution.

The possibilities of developing soya production seem also limited. The Commission points out

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, points 1101 to 1105 and Supplement 17/73 - Bull. EC.

that in recent years production of soya cake has not followed the increase in demand and stocks in the USA, the main supplier to the Community, dropped sharply between 1968/69 and 1972/73, i.e. from 7.2 to 1.4 million tonnes. Whilst in 1973 the USA had an excellent crop this was due to a number of favourable circumstances unlikely to recur in future. Even if the 1973 level of production was to be maintained in years ahead, it would not be sufficient to meet foreseeable world demand. According to the Commission's calculations, soya sowings should increase by 1 350 000 hectares per annum to cover increased requirements. In its Memorandum, the Commission wonders whether American farmers will be tempted to sow soya instead of crops such as corn and cotton since the prices of both these products are invariably more interesting than the record prices for soya in 1973. Moreover, American farming cannot expand indefinitely the areas under soya even on virgin soils. Regarding the potential expansion of this crop in Brazil, the Commission believes that it may be used for interior consumption by that country.

Under these conditions, the Commission notes that in the general interest, an effort should be made in the Community to try and avoid that its dependence on imported protein produce supplies should increase excessively over the next five years. To this end, the Commission in its Memorandum proposes a series of measures to stimulate protein production in the Community. Concerning soya, the Commission considers that by including this product in the support system now granted to oil seeds, the Community production could reach 100 000 tonnes in 1977/78 but this is only 1.7% of Community requirements. The Commission considers that the present system of free imports in the Community should not be changed.

On other protein produce, the Commission's proposals are:

(i) to encourage sunflower production by increasing its price in relation to that of rapeseed;

(ii) to encourage dehydration of forage crops such as alfalfa;

(iii) to reduce the price of selected leguminous fodder such as peas and field beans;

(iv) to set up a research programme for developing new seed varieties, especially field beans and grains with a high protein content;

(v) acceptance of urea in animal feed by all Member States;

(vi) survey of other techniques for the production of proteins.

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2254. During its session of 12 to 16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed Resolutions concerning the Commission's Proposals on certain deadlines for grants by the EAGGF, 'Guidance' Section, on target and intervention prices of olive oil for the 1973/1974 campaign, on marketing forestry reproductive material and on preserving agents fit for human consumption. The last item was also the subject of an Opinion by the *Economic and Social Committee* which met in plenary session on 29 and 30 November; the Committee also gave an Opinion on a proposal concerning the tariff treatment of agricultural products included in passengers' personal luggage.

## Industrial and Technological Policy

### Industry

#### Multinational Companies: Commission Communication

2255. On 8 November 1973 the Commission sent the Council a Communication on 'multi-

national companies and Community regulations.' This document accompanies a draft Council Resolution on measures to be taken to solve problems arising from the development of these companies.

The Commission considers that international economic interpenetration can help towards a better distribution of labour and technical knowledge and help to harmonize social conditions. The Commission finds, however, that the scale of this interpenetration is provoking concern with regard to employment, competition, tax evasion, disturbing capital movements, security of supply for raw materials and the economic independence of the developing countries. This is why in the draft Resolution sent to the Council the Commission said: 'it is crucial that the Community institutions take the required action so that the multinational companies can carry on their activities with due respect for the Community's economic and social objectives.'

2256. The Proposals made on this matter were expounded by Mr Spinelli, Member of the Commission, on 15 November in Geneva when he addressed a group of 20 people appointed by the United Nations General Secretariat to study the role of the multinationals and their impact on the development process (especially with regard to the developing countries) and their effect on international relations. Some 35 people representing government departments, business, trade unions, academics and other groups directly concerned were invited to the talks.

## Technology

### The Main Lines of a Community Data-Processing Policy

2257. On 22 November the Commission sent the Council a Communication illustrating the

basis of what could be 'a Community data-processing policy.'

In this paper the Commission found that the effective application and industrial development of data-processing were vitally important to Europe both economically and socially. This industry was now moving into third place in the world. It was entering almost every sector of activity and in Europe its annual growth rate was 20%. But on the world scale it was dominated by a single company, controlled from outside Europe and absorbing 60% of the market.

The Commission contended that in the face of this unbalanced world competition, special measures must be applied. A Community data-processing policy must be grounded on two basic objectives: consolidation of the European-based industry to make it and keep it more competitive and promotion of data-processing application to boost its effective use.

Industrial consolidation could be achieved in two stages: (i) limited collaboration (already prepared for) to be fostered as a means of bringing companies closer together with a view to eventual group formation, (ii) an organized programme for promoting Community data-processing.

Such a policy would have to allow for the needs of the peripherals, electronic components and software industries which were taking an ever-increasing share of the cost of data-processing systems.

With regard to '*applications*' the Commission considered that profitable collaboration could be started at three levels: in applications of an international nature, for which a careful choice of projects should help to develop the companies based in Europe; in areas where similar needs tackled jointly would yield substantial scale

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 15/73 - Bull. EC.

savings; in sectors where coordination of national policies would boost efficient use. In its Communication the Commission asked the Council to consider a limited number of carefully chosen projects, giving priority to the subject matter therein, with an eye to joint financial aid to support cooperative industrial development in key areas.

Lastly, the Commission drew the Council's attention to the social problems implied in such a policy and highlighted the need to protect private individuals confronted with the development of data-processing; the Commission would like public hearings to be held on this subject.

In the draft Resolution attached to the Communication, the Commission proposed that the Council decide to foster and support greater association between companies, to give Community guidance to data-processing promotion and incentive policies (especially through collaboration on policies for purchasing, norms and applications) and to adopt a limited number of major joint development projects before the end of 1974. The Commission would submit a report on the development of this sector by end 1975 with the main aim of creating a strong and viable industry based in Europe by the early 1980's.

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2258. During its session of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution 'on the need for a joint policy in the field of technology.'

The *Economic and Social Committee* during its session of 29-30 November 1973 issued an Opinion on the 'Commission's Communication concerning the programme of industrial and technological policy'<sup>1</sup> submitted to the Council in May 1973.

## Science, Research and Development, Education, Scientific and Technical Information

### Science, Research and Development

#### *Hydrogen Production by Chemical Cycles*

2259. Some thirty Community organizations, companies and institutes took part on 12 November 1973 in a meeting of specialists. The aim of the meeting was to organize a concerted effort bearing on hydrogen production through the process of water dissociation by chemical cycles, in order to *extend the application range of nuclear energy*. The meeting was held as the result of an invitation by the Commission at the end of 1972, in a 'Communication concerning the application range of nuclear energy'<sup>2</sup>.

During the meeting the three programmes in which the Commission is taking part, were presented and discussed, namely:

- (i) Joint Research Centre (JRC) projects at the Ispra establishment;
- (ii) Thermo-dynamic computations at the Technische Hochschule, Aachen, and
- (iii) Engineering projects at the Kernforschungsanlage (nuclear research installation), Jülich.

A collaboration Agreement was signed between the TH of Aachen, the KFA of Jülich and the Commission with the objective of determining the optimum chemical cycles of hydrogen production by nuclear power. The Agreement can be extended to include any organization wishing

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 7/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 125 of 1.12.1972.

to contribute to the development of research in this field. The discussion also highlighted the keen interest of the UKAEA (United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority) in this subject. Part of the meeting was devoted to commentary and discussion on similar work done in the United States.

#### *The Biology and Health Protection Programme*

2260. The Consultative Committee on running programmes (CCMGP) for the indirect biology and health protection project met in Brussels on 26-27 November 1973. The 'radiation protection' section of this programme was amended following the Council Decision of 14 May 1973, so as to bring in an effective participation by laboratories in the new Member States; the Committee studied 45 research projects submitted by these laboratories.

The projects cover the sectors of dosimetry, transport of radionuclides, short and long-term hereditary effects, ionizing radiation and radioisotopes. The total cost of research proposed for 1974-1975 amounted to more than 2.5 million u.a.

From the discussion by the CCMGP of these 45 projects the Commission representatives proposed to accept 36 of them which fit completely into the programme now running and for which the Commission would provide approximately 0.8 million u.a. in the shape of contracts, to help finance them. The CCMGP unanimously agreed this proposal. The Committee also reviewed and approved the 1974 programmes of the various contracts now running for both 'radiation protection' and 'applications of nuclear techniques to agronomic and medical research' which are included in the programme.

#### *Medical Research*

2261. Several medical research specialist Committees met in November, largely under the aegis of the PREST Group (Scientific and Technical Research Policy).

The Medical Research and Public Health Committee (CRM) of the PREST Group met on 13 November 1973. It finalized its internal set up and appointed the members of its Working Parties. The 'Surgical and Respiratory Intensive Care' Group, which will also have the status of a Working Party, had held a meeting on 5 November devoted to discussing an initial draft report on post-operational and respiratory intensive care units.

Sessions on 'Computer aided Monitoring Systems' were also held on 5 and 6 November 1973. Some thirty doctors and specialists approved a Report on the use of computers for continuous and real-time observation of coronary disease victims. They also discussed in detail a report on post-operational intensive care units for which detailed proposals will be made in March 1974.

#### **The Joint Research Centre**

##### *Advisory Committees on Programme Administration*

2262. On a Proposal from the Commission the Council on 19 November 1973 passed a Resolution setting up new Consultative Committees for running the CCMGP programmes and disbanding certain others.

This move has been necessitated by the new content of the Community's multiannual research programme adopted by the Council on

14 May and 18 June 1973. The CCMGP were set up in 1969 to help in effectively carrying out the programmes and ensuring a closer liaison between them and the corresponding research and development projects in Member States.

On the terms of the Resolution passed by the Council on 19 November it was decided to form *five new Committees* for the following departments: processing and storage of wastes;—technical assistance for users of nuclear power stations; applied data-processing; hydrogen production; standards and reference substances (direct and indirect projects).

The *three Committees* for the following plant installations have been disbanded: fast reactors; heavy water reactors; high temperature reactors.

The other existing Committees in the following disciplines have been *kept on*: plutonium and transplutonic elements; nuclear measurements and standards (CBNM); reactor safety; data analysis bureau; plasma physics and fusion; biology and health protection.

The programme for the HFR reactor has been assigned to the Committee on High Flux Reactors and the programme for materials science has been assigned to the Committee on Condensed State Physics.

Lastly, the formation of a Consultative Committee on Environmental Research (direct and indirect projects) was later decided by the Council.<sup>1</sup>

### **Scientific and Technical Information and Management of Information**

2263. Set up by the Resolution of the Council and Member States' Government Representatives, meeting within the Council, on 24 June 1971, the *Committee on Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation* (CIDST) met

on 12-13 November 1973 in Luxembourg. With Mr Cyril Giles as Chairman who was unanimously elected in succession to Mr De Meulders, the CIDST took a hard look at problems involved in implementing the Commission's action programme on scientific and technical information and documentation.

The Committee delegated its existing or future sub-groups (covering technical features and economic and financial features of information; training of specialists; agriculture; patent documentation; biology and medicine; data on protection of the environment) to present suitable proposals for creating a European information and documentation network by making optimum use of existing systems (for instance, in metallurgy, agriculture, nuclear information) and to submit the relevant budgetary data. The CIDST also confirmed the appointment of its Working Parties and heard and considered their respective activity reports, in particular the report from the group assigned to study the tariffication of information services.

2264. The Committee for Coordination and Administration of the Metallurgy Information and Documentation System (SDIM) met on 19 November 1973 in Luxembourg. It was pleased to note that the analytical work in all the centres of the countries party to the provisional technical Agreement had got underway. It was also satisfied with the progress made in the centralized handling by Commission departments of the contributions from the national centres. The Committee was also advised of the status of the SDIM accession procedure by the Community countries yet to sign the provisional technical Agreement. It is hoped that three Member States will join early in 1974.

<sup>1</sup> At the meeting of 10 December 1973.

The Committee debated the effects of the United Kingdom's membership of SDIM as from October and the assignment of tasks among the participants allowing for forthcoming new members. In view of the system's expansion the Committee had a broad discussion on the possibility of membership for a number of countries displaying interest in SDIM and with the idea of a more extensive and more comprehensive documentary coverage.

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2265. During its sitting of 12-16 November 1973, the European Parliament passed a Resolution on the Commission's Proposals concerning an 'action programme for scientific and technological policy.' A second Resolution 'on the need for a common policy for technology' has a partial bearing on the problems of research and development.

## Energy Policy

2266. The problems raised by the oil crisis were still the major concern during November. The Community institutions—the Council, the Commission, the *European Parliament*—continued to analyze the repercussions of the crisis on economic life and the measures which should be taken to cope with the situation.

### Statement by Mr Simonet on the Commission's Outlook

2267. Pending the 'political' decisions to come from the Heads of State or Government at the Copenhagen Conference, Mr Henri Simonet, Vice-President of the Commission, speaking in a debate in the European Parliament<sup>1</sup> expounded the Commission's viewpoint on the crisis and its impact.

Mr Simonet spoke of the diverging views which apparently existed among:

- (i) those who think that the Community should primarily concentrate on the long term and those who wanted to keep to immediate measures;
- (ii) those who preferred a national approach to a Community one;
- (iii) those who believed that the crisis should be tackled from the political angle and those who believed that we should concentrate on curbing the economic and technical repercussions of the embargo (to avoid worsening a situation already compromised politically).

All these arguments and counter-arguments, he said, were simply bogus dilemmas. They were no more than different aspects of an identical problem where the long-term implications entailed the need for immediate decisions and where the political aspects hinged on the economic situation and vice-versa. In truth, the current crisis was simply the sign of a basic revolution on the part of the Arab countries. For years now we had looked indifferently on the exploitation of oil resources by the multinational companies and we had based our estimates on a policy of minimum prices which were now a thing of the past.

We now had to be brave enough to propose 'coherently and forcefully', frequently tough options to public opinion. In the immediate future the Commission's moves on the oil problems would be motivated by five main principles. We must:

- (i) guarantee Europe's energy supplies through a fair distribution of available resources, which could be based on Community criteria and which should be administered by a Community institution;

<sup>1</sup> Point 2404.



- (ii) provide the Community with an adequate information system on oil movements;
- (iii) examine, with the electricity producers the scope for replacing the fuel used in power stations by other materials such as coal, etc.;
- (iv) slow down consumption either by harmonizing voluntary measures already taken or by even more restrictive measures;
- (v) harmonize the oil price systems at Community level to prevent disparities in price levels from provoking speculative movement of oil products from market to market.

Mr Simonet hoped that 'an operational decision of principle' would be taken on all these measures so that the Community could swiftly implement practical action.

## Hydrocarbons

2268. On 9 November 1973 the Council formally adopted a Regulation on *support for Community projects* in the hydrocarbon sector<sup>1</sup> which it had agreed in principle during the meeting of 22 May 1973. This Regulation will enable the Community, where absolutely necessary, to throw its support behind the completion of Community projects of technical development directly linked to the operation, production, storage and transport of hydrocarbons and which bear primarily on security of supply.

## Nuclear Energy

### *European Uranium Enrichment Capacity*

2269. On 14 November 1973 the Commission approved Proposals on uranium enrichment which were sent to the Council.

The basic consideration behind the Commission Proposals was that of the present energy back-

ground and the vulnerability of stocks and supplies. The Commission held that the use of nuclear energy was a kingpin in the security of energy and that on this score enriched uranium was crucially important. The Commission therefore considered that industries within the Community must provide themselves with a uranium enrichment capacity enabling them to meet a sizable and growing proportion of Community needs from the start of the next decade.

The Commission did not see this as a quest for autarchy but as a structure in which no single source of energy would be so preponderant that it could impair either price-wise or quantity-wise the overall stability of the supply situation. This condition could be met only if the Community possessed its own adequate production materialized as swiftly as possible through the use of the two techniques of ultra centrifugation and gaseous diffusion now developed in the Community.

The Commission's Proposals are based on the need for convergent commitment and effort by the promoters and utilizers and for Community support. This convergence could be attained only through a policy of concertation between the partners. The promoters must collaborate to develop their capacity and adapt the use of installations to market needs. The utilizers for their part had to agree on the principle of placing orders with European Industries in preference to outside sources for a period up to about 1985 and on equal economic conditions.

The Community would act in three areas. Firstly, it would give the Supply Agency the required Directives to support the concerted action of promoters and utilizers. Then the Community could grant the statute of 'joint company' to undertakings to be formed under the concertation recommended to the promoters and utili-

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 312 of 13.11.1973.

zers. Lastly, provided that concertation between promoters and utilizers was working, the Community, for a limited time and under a limited ceiling, could buy the surplus quantities which might inevitably have to be produced.

The Commission considered that a sum of 200 million u.a. would ensure the financial backing of loans necessary to form safety and trading stocks.

## Coal

2270. By a Decision of 14 November 1973<sup>1</sup> the Commission authorized, in compliance with the provisions of Decision 3/71/ECSC of 22 December 1970,<sup>2</sup> the *additional financial interventions in favour of the coal industry*, granted in 1972 by Germany, Belgium, and France. These interventions had already been the subject of a Memorandum<sup>3</sup> sent for discussion to the Council.

2271. During its sitting of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution on 'certain prerequisites for future guidelines concerning the supply and use of gas in the Community.' The House also passed a Resolution on the Commission's Communication to the Council concerning initial implementation of 'Guidelines and Priorities for a Community Energy Policy.' The same Communication was the subject of an Opinion issued by the Economic and Social Committee meeting in plenary session on 29-30 November in Strasbourg. Like Parliament the Committee asked that immediate action be taken at Community level to overcome the oil crisis and asked for an effective joint energy policy for diversifying energy supplies.

## Transport Policy

### The Council considers Transport Problems

2272. On 22 November 1973 the Council held its first meeting on transport since the enlargement of the Community. It examined the following questions:

#### *New Direction of the Common Transport Policy*

2273. The Council heard a statement by Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission on the main items in the Communication<sup>4</sup> sent by the Commission to the Council on 25 October 1973 concerning the development of the common transport policy in the enlarged Community. The statement was followed by a discussion on the guidelines to be adopted. The delegations stressed the importance of the Communication which they regarded as an excellent basis for thinking towards giving fresh impetus to the common transport policy. After the discussion the Council agreed to ask the Committee of Permanent Representatives to examine the various proposals now on the Council's desk in order to push on with the work taking into account both the main lines illustrated by the Commission and the outcome of the current debate and thus continue the dialogue with the Commission.

#### *Weight and Size of Road goods Vehicles*

2274. The Council resumed its work on the proposed Directive concerning the weight and

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 346 of 17.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 3 of 5.1.1971.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 6-1973, point 2253.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2258 and Supplement 16/73 - Bull. EC.

size of road goods vehicles and certain additional technical considerations. Agreement could not be reached owing to the outstanding difficulties for certain Member States over some of the main characteristics to do with the weight and dimensions of road vehicles. These characteristics had been the subject of an overall guideline adopted by the six Member States of the EEC during the Council sitting<sup>1</sup> of 6 and 7 November 1972.

On two basic issues of importance concerning the total loaded weight and the maximum weight per axle, the Member States were unable to agree. The Council has decided to keep this question on the agenda for its next sitting.

#### *Community Quota*

2275. The Council also carried on its work on adjustments to the Community quota for road freight haulage between Member States. This issue was referred to the next sitting of the Council when this question will be reviewed again together with the decision to be made on weights and dimensions of goods vehicles.

#### *Market Access*

2276. The Council agreed the content of a Directive amending the first Council Directive of 23 July 1962 on laying down *certain joint rules for international transport* (road freight haulage for others' account). The new Directive extends the application of the basic Directive to cover carriage for own account and adding certain types of activities to those decontrolled.

Regarding amendments proposed by some delegations, concerning through carriage, combined haulage, carriage generally for own account, carriage of supplies for ocean shipping and carriage of perishable goods in vehicles with regulated temperatures, the Council agreed to examine these matters as soon as possible on the

basis of a Proposal submitted by the Commission for a set of general rules to cover road freight haulage between Member States. Against this background, the Council also decided to give priority within the compass of this Proposal to laying down joint rules for combined rail and road carriage. A Council decision on this form of transport is to be made by 1 July 1974 at the latest.

2277. After a brief discussion and in response to a note from the Italian delegation, the Council instructed the Committee of Permanent Representatives to carry on its work on joint rules governing *access to the occupation of road freight haulier* in the field of national and international transport so that the Council could as far as possible take a decision at its next sitting. It also delegated the Committee of Permanent Representatives to consider the corresponding Proposal on access to the occupation of passenger carrier.

#### *International Railway Tariffs*

2278. The Member States' Government Representatives meeting within the Council agreed two Protocols connected with the Accession of the United Kingdom, Denmark, and Ireland to the ECSC-Switzerland Agreement of 28 July 1956 and to the ECSC-Austria Agreement of 26 July 1957. Both Protocols concern the setting up of direct international railway tariffs for carriage of coal and steel through the territory of those States.

2279. The Representatives also approved a third supplement to the Agreement of 21 March 1955 for setting up direct international railway tariffs for ECSC carriage. This supplementary Agreement allows the Danish railways a transi-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. 11-1972, point 54.

tion period up to 1 February 1975 during which both as expeditor and receiver they can levy two thirds of their terminal tax on the carriage of coal and steel.<sup>1</sup>

2280. As a result of a note from the Dutch delegation endorsed by several other delegations the Member States Government Representatives agreed, on the basis of proposed adjustments forthcoming from the Commission, to have a number of problems investigated which have cropped up in applying the Agreement of 21 March for setting up direct international railway tariffs for ECSC carriage.

#### *Social Provisions in Road Freight Haulage*

2281. The Council formally acknowledged two Commission reports on application of its Regulation of 25 March 1969 concerning harmonization of certain social provisions in the field of road freight haulage. The Commission had had some trouble in compiling these reports because of delays in transmitting information from States and also owing to gaps in some of the data sent in. The Council asked all its members to cut down the delay in forwarding information. Moreover, with regard to the problems involved in applying uniformly the material provisions of the social Regulation, the Council asked Member States to take any useful action at national level to ensure that the Regulation was strictly and equivalently applied.

#### *Railway Cooperation*

2282. The Council officially acknowledged the 1973 report of the Railway Group of the nine Members of the EEC which evaluated the development of cooperation between them. The Council delegated the Committee of Permanent Representatives to study this paper and report on it at the next Council sitting. The

Commission declared that it attached considerable importance to achieving closer cooperation between the Community railway companies and that it was doing all it could to promote it. The Commission announced its intention of submitting to the Council, after making all the contacts likely to be of value, any suggestions or proposals which might help to attain this objective.

#### *Prior Examination and Consultation Procedure*

2283. The Council adopted a Decision amending the Decision of 21 March 1962 on setting up a prior examination and consultation procedure for certain legal, regulatory and administrative provisions contemplated by Member States for transport. The new Decision is to extend the deadlines by which the Commission has to issue its opinion or recommendation to the Member State consulting it.<sup>1</sup>

#### *The Impact on Transport of the Present Energy Situation*

2284. The Council heard a statement from the Commission drawing Member States' attention to the fact in the choice and limits of measures they are taking with regard to the oil supply problem they must see that they meet their obligations under Article 76 of the EEC Treaty. The Commission is also closely studying whether and how far it would be convenient to propose joint moves over transport in order to cope with the oil supply problem at Community level. Lastly, the Commission considered that in any case every priority should be given to developing joint transport and that even more strenuous efforts must be made in scientific and technical research regarding new modes of transport and propulsion requiring sources of energy other than oil.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 347 of 17.12.1973.

### Market Access

2285. On 5 November 1973, the Commission decided to issue a Recommendation<sup>1</sup> to the Belgian Government on the draft Royal Decree concerning enforcement of rules peculiar to international passenger transport by buses and coaches. While it expressed a favourable Opinion on the draft Decree, the Commission recommended the Belgian Government to cut out a measure reiterating a Community provision directly applicable as such and to complete the draft by fixing the validity time of the road docket book used for occasional services.

### Technical Harmonization

2286. A meeting with the Government experts of the various Member States was held on 27-29 November 1973 in Brussels to examine the purely technical features of the problem over the *weight and size of road vehicles*. The meeting which was the fourth one organized by the Commission at the request of the Council authorities, concentrated on the following points: maximum pressure exerted on the ground by vehicle tires, front overhang of trailers, and maximum vehicle weight in proportion to the distance between the extreme axles. The results of the meeting will be transmitted to the Council authorities in anticipation of discussions on the proposed Directive concerning the weight and size of road goods vehicles and certain complementary technical conditions related to them.

### Transport Infrastructures

2287. As an application of the Council Decision of 28 February 1966 which set up a consultation procedure for transport infrastructure investments, the French and British Governments advised the Commission by letter of the Channel

Tunnel project. In compliance with Article 3 of this Decision, the Commission will consult Member States on this project.

### Meetings with Workers' Representatives

2288. The Commission ran meetings in Luxembourg with two workers' representative bodies in the transport sector: one on 14-15 November was with the European Committee of the Transport Workers International Trade Union Federation (CMT) and the other on 20 November was with the *Community Transport Union Committee* (ITF). Both the meetings, attended by Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, were to study problems arising from the recent Commission Communication to the Council on the development of the common transport policy, from the relationships between that policy and the regional and environment policies and from social harmonization in transport. The European CMT Committee also concentrated on certain features of transport infrastructure. The Union Committee of the ITF dealt with the financial situation of the railway companies and relations between them and the public authorities. The representatives of this Committee also announced their intention to send in to the Commission departments a paper on the problems which their organization regards as priorities for transport. The talks with the transport workers' representatives once again proved the value and interest of such meetings for both the Commission departments and the organizations invited.

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2289. During its session of 12-16 November 1973, the *European Parliament* passed two Resolutions commenting on the proposed Council Decision to introduce a joint tariff scheme for

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 320 of 21.11.1973.

### 3. External Relations

#### Transport Policy

the use of infrastructures and on the Proposal supplementing the Council Regulation of 25 March 1969 on harmonizing certain social provisions in road transport.

#### EFTA States

*Joint EEC-Austria, EEC-Portugal, EEC-Iceland and EEC-Norway Committees*

2301. The Joint Committees set up under the Agreements between the Community and countries of the European Free Trade Area held their *second meeting* in Brussels in November as follows: the Joint EEC-Austria Committee on 8 November 1973, the Joint EEC-Portugal Committee on 13 November 1973, the Joint EEC-Iceland Committee on 20 November 1973 and the Joint EEC-Norway Committee on 30 November 1973. They examined the working of the Agreements and were advised about the work of the Customs Committees concerning in particular the question of simplifying administrative formalities; they also examined problems concerning trade in certain goods.

#### *Agreement with Finland*

2302. The exchange of instruments notifying the completion of the procedures required for implementing the Agreement signed in Brussels on 5 October 1973 between the EEC and Finland,<sup>1</sup> took place on 23 November 1973. In accordance with Article 36 of the Agreement, it enters into force on 1 January 1974.<sup>2</sup>

#### *Agreements concerning ECSC products*

2303. The exchange of instruments notifying the completion of the internal procedures required for the *coming into force* of the Agreements signed in Brussels on 22 July 1972 between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 328 of 28.11.1973.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 334 of 5.12.1973.

Community and Austria, Iceland, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland, respectively, took place on 29 November 1973. These Agreements come into force on 1 January 1974.<sup>1</sup>

## Mediterranean Countries

### Greece

2304. Following recent developments in Greece, the spokesman of the Commission issued the following statement on 26 November:

'Sir Christopher Soames received the Greek Ambassador to the Community on 26 November. He informed the Ambassador of the Commission's concern over the situation in Greece over the last fortnight. This concern has been heightened by the events of the last forty-eight hours. Sir Christopher stressed the fact that the Commission is maintaining its position whereby there can be no question of developing the EEC-Greece Association so long as the democratic institutions have not been restored in Greece.'

The Commission had already made known several times its position regarding the EEC-Greece Association. Vice-President, Sir Christopher Soames on 14 March 1973 had declared to the *European Parliament*: 'The House knows that because of the restrictions on civil liberties and the suspension of democratic institutions in Greece the Community is confining its Association with Greece to the administration of current business. When civil liberties and democratic institutions are fully restored in Greece we look forward to developing our relations with that country to the full.'

2305. The EEC-Greece Association Council met at Ambassador level on 23 November 1973. It was the first meeting since the beginning of the year. The Council confined itself to reviewing several problems to do with the cur-

rent administration of the Agreement, in particular certain trade difficulties. A discussion also took place in the light of Article 64 of the Agreement on the content of the generalized preferences contemplated by the Community for 1974.

Lastly, the Association Council agreed the renewed pegging at 3% of the CCT charge on turpentine (tariff heading 38.07 A—CCT charge 4%), under Protocol 10, paragraph 3, of the Association Agreement. Also agreed was a decision concerning application of the provisions of Article 8 of the Agreement to goods obtained in the EEC Member States. By this decision the percentage of CCT charges (called the compensation levy) to be considered in fixing the rate of the levy under Article 8, is set at 90 for goods covered by the system of phasing out tariffs over twelve years. The adjustment of this percentage hinges on the latest cut in customs duties in Greece on 1 November 1973 for the benefit of the Community.

2306. On 1 November Greece did make a fresh cut (the penultimate one) of 10% in her basic charges and guarantees for Community imports of products covered by the twelve year transition period. The reduction of these charges and guarantees has now gone as far as 90% of those applied in 1962. Conversely, for products under the twenty-two year transition period the next cut of 10% in applicable duties and guarantees will not occur until 1 May 1974.

### Turkey

2307. The EEC and Turkey exchanged letters on 23 November 1973 in Brussels. This correspondence concerned the Community import scheme for *Turkish non-refined olive oil*.<sup>2</sup> The

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 351 of 20.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2304.

latest letters amended the scheme laid down under Article 7 of Annex 6 of the Additional Protocol to the Ankara Agreement, by making the granted trading benefit which this Article allows to the Community importer, subject to reimbursement by the latter of the tax paid by the Turkish exporter when the olive oil is exported. The new system will come into force when both parties have advised each other that the necessary procedures have been finalized. In the meantime the European Parliament is to give its Opinion.

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2308. During its session of 16 November 1973 the *European Parliament* passed two Resolutions on the Recommendation adopted on 10 September 1973 in Istanbul by the Joint Parliamentary Committee and on the Commission's Proposal to the Council on opening the 1974 Turkish hazelnut quota. The House passed a third Resolution on the conclusion of the EEC-Turkey negotiations, deriving from the enlargement, on the Additional Protocol which emerged and on opening negotiations with Turkey for a temporary Agreement to bring into force as anticipated the commercial provisions of the Additional Protocol.

### Cyprus

2309. The *EEC-Cyprus Association Council* held its first meeting at ministerial level on 26 November 1973 in Brussels. During this meeting the Association Council adopted its procedural rules and a recommendation fixing the methods of administrative customs cooperation in applying the Agreement.

A discussion between the two delegations focused on a review of the agricultural content of

the Agreement and the Cyprus Government's request to supplement the Agreement with a financial and technical cooperation folio.

### Portugal

2310. The Joint Committee set up by the EEC-Portugal Agreement held its second meeting on 13 November 1973 in Brussels. It reviewed the running of the Agreement and was advised of the Customs Committee's work, largely concerned with the question of streamlining administrative formalities. There was also a discussion on tomato concentrates, tinned sardines and certain corrections to be made to the text of the Agreement.

### Lebanon

2311. An Additional Protocol was signed on 6 November 1973 in Brussels concerning certain provisions to do with the EEC-Lebanon Agreement, which were brought in owing to the enlargement. The aim of the Protocol is to fix the temporary measures and adaptations, necessitated by the Accession of three new States to the Agreement signed on 18 September 1972 between the EEC and the Lebanon.

### Jordan

2312. Exploratory talks between delegations from the Commission and Jordan were held on 8 and 9 November in Brussels. The Jordanian delegation confirmed its Government's desire to conclude a preferential Agreement with the Community which would include a commercial and cooperation folio.



## **Associated African States, Malagasy and Commonwealth Countries to which the Community has offered Association**

### **Negotiations for Renewing and Expanding the Association**

2313. On 21 November 1973, at Ambassador and Working Party level, the first round of negotiations between the Community and the Associated and 'Associable' countries opened in Brussels. It was Mr Sanu, Nigeria's Ambassador, who on behalf of the Community's partners announced their position regarding the Association trade system and financial and technical cooperation.

### **Yaoundé Convention**

#### ***EEC-AASM Association Committee***

2314. The EEC-AASM Association Committee held its 40th meeting on 23 November 1973 in Brussels; H.E. Seydina Oumar Sy, Representative of Senegal to the EEC, was in the Chair; H.E. Niels Ersbøll, Permanent Representative of Denmark, was the spokesman for the Community.

Most of the debates dealt with the AASM consultation with the EEC on setting up a Community system of generalized preferences for 1974. In a preliminary statement, the Community spokesman called to mind the consultation on negotiations between the Community and Brazil, the negotiations with certain Mediterranean countries and the negotiations within GATT (multilateral negotiations and renegotiations under Art. XXIV-6). He pointed out the

way Associated States interests were taken into consideration at the various stages in the preparation of the Community's position for the negotiations in question, allowing for the internal and external obligations of the Community.

Mr Seydina Oumar Sy supported by the representatives of Gabon and the Ivory Coast, pointed out the purely formal character of the consultation procedure in practice for Associated countries and the certain erosion of the advantages from which they benefit due to the present Community policy towards a world orientation. The main concrete point raised in the discussion on generalized preferences concerned plywood. Regarding the negotiations with Brazil, the Associates saw a danger in a lower CCT for soluble coffee and cocoa butter. The Community spokesman promised that as part of the Community's final deliberations, a new review would be made of the question raised by the Association and that an a proposed amendment would be submitted to the Council. H.E. Seydina Oumar Sy stated that the Associates awaited impatiently and with much interest the Council's decision.

The discussion about general guidelines for financial and technical cooperation, on the agenda of the next Association Council, was limited to the Community's acceptance of the proposal by the Associates that a joint group of experts should be set up to prepare a draft Resolution based on the Commission's reports and to be submitted to the Association Council.

### ***European Development Fund***

#### ***New Financing Decisions***

2315. Following a favourable Opinion by the Committee of the European Development Fund (EDF) the Commission took four new financing

Decisions on 14 November 1973<sup>1</sup> on non-refundable aids under the 3rd EDF for a total of 6 589 000 u.a. To this amount must be added 76 000 u.a. for a scheme approved by the Commission on 10 October 1973.

*Senegal—Water Supply to Villages:* 1 100 million CFA Frs. or about 3 961 000 u.a. The scheme concerns 22 well-borings and the sinking of 132 wells in five of the country's regions. It includes also the supply of equipment to two units responsible for sinking the 132 wells and for servicing. This is a priority scheme in view of the drought in recent years which has ravaged the country.

*Comoro Islands—Modernization of the main road network in Anjouan and Mayotte:* 595 million CFA Frs. or about 2 143 000 u.a. This scheme concerns the improvement of the main road network in Anjouan and Mayotte Islands in the Comoro archipelago. It involves building 47 km of new roads 3.50 m wide to replace earth tracks. The two stretches Mamutzu-Dzumogne in Mayotte (25 km) and Sima-Pomono in Anjouan (22 km) will provide ways of taking out agricultural produce from regions now isolated.

*Burundi—Technical Assistance and Tea Plant for the Tora Plantation (additional finance):* 31 124 000 Bu. Frs. or about 391 000 u.a. This financing is to increase the credits granted for this scheme in July 1972 (1 060 u.a. under the 3rd EDF) and which proved insufficient when the submissions were analysed especially for the part concerning the construction of the tea plant. The increase is due entirely to higher supply costs which represent 50% of the cost of the plant. The new plant is scheduled to come into service in 1975.

*Grant of an overall amount for publication of the 'Association News':* 94 000 u.a. The financing concerns the publication of this bi-monthly magazine, with a current circulation of 20 000 in

the French and English editions. It brings information on various aspects of the Association to nationals of Associated countries and to 'Associable' Commonwealth countries. It is also a means of maintaining contacts with former African trainees and scholarship students.

*Upper Volta—Additional financing for modernizing the Bobo-Dioulasso-Faramona Road:* 21 million CFA Frs. or about 76 000 u.a. The financing of this 118 km road was decided by the Commission out of resources of the 2nd EDF for a total of 4 333 000 u.a. on 29 June 1966. The present financing is to cover structural alterations decided when the road was being constructed. Following these Decisions, total commitments of the 3rd EDF amount to 627 176 000 u.a. for 231 financing Decisions since the Fund's operations began on 1 January 1971.

## Developing Countries

### Cooperation and Development Policy

2316. During a meeting held on 5 November 1973 the Council of the Community had a thorough debate with the Ministers responsible for cooperation taking part for the first time. The subject was the conclusions of the special Group set up by the Council to define 'the principles and the goals of an overall cooperation and development policy on a world-wide scale'.

The Council discussions reached at this stage a consensus of agreement on six Resolutions on:

(i) harmonizing and coordinating Member States' cooperation policies;

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 103 of 27.11.1973.

- (ii) commodity agreements;
- (iii) generalized preferences;
- (iv) promoting exports of the developing countries;
- (v) technical assistance towards regional integration between developing countries;
- (vi) problems of developing countries' debts.

It was nevertheless understood that approval of these Resolutions should be confirmed when an overall agreement was reached on the other outstanding basic problems. On this score mention should be made of the volume of public development aid and the possible availability of financial aid out of Community funds for non-Associated developing countries. Considerable headway has been made on both these matters. But it has proved necessary to have the records re-scrutinized by the Committee of Permanent Representatives pending a fresh Council debate as soon as possible.

At a time when the Community is involved in several negotiations likely to arrive at a considerable development of the regional folio of its cooperation policy, the work on defining a cooperation and development policy on a world scale is of major political significance all the more in that it fulfills new guidelines set out by the October 1972 Summit Conference.

### Generalized Preferences

2317. During its session of 6 November the Council made a thorough review of certain questions over the 1974 *applications of generalized preferences* for the developing countries. The Council reached an agreement on these questions provided a satisfactory solution was also found for other questions still being studied. The Committee of Permanent Representatives was delegated to finalize this agreement. It was understood that the Associated

States would shortly be consulted, which in fact happened on 23 November, so that the Council can take a final decision on the whole of this dossier.

### Other Non-Member Countries

#### North America

##### The United States

2318. The Commission departments held *bilateral consultations* with representatives of the US Administration in Brussels on 19 November on a Community proposal concerning Community floor prices for certain processed fruit and vegetables.

Countering US objections to this proposal particularly in regard to alleged infringements of GATT rules, the Commission departments explained that the proposed system was destined to help orderly expansion of processed fruit and vegetable supplies. It was not intended to act as a restraint on trade but could be regarded as an improvement on existing arrangements.

##### Canada

2319. The third round of *high-level consultations* between the Commission and the Canadian Government took place in Ottawa from 1 to 2 November 1973. The Commission delegation was led by Sir Christopher Soames. At the ministerial level, Sir Christopher Soames saw the Canadian Prime Minister, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, and several other members of the Government: Mr Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr Turner, Minister of Finance; Mr Gillespie, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce;

Mr Macdonald, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. On 1 November, Sir Christopher made a speech on relations between the EEC and Canada.

At official level talks held in plenary session or within specialized groups covered the whole range of EEC-Canada relations especially concerning trade, agriculture, industrial cooperation, energy, export credits and environment policies.

## Asia

### Japan

2320. On 12 November 1973 a delegation from Japan led by Mr Tsurumi, the *Deputy Foreign Minister*, had talks with a Commission delegation. The discussion bore mainly on trade policy issues and problems concerning hydrocarbon supplies.

### India

2321. During a tour of the various European capitals, the *Indian Trade Minister*, Professor D.P. Chattopadhyaya visited the Commission headquarters on 6 November 1973 where he was received by Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President and Mr Spinelli, Member of the Commission responsible for industrial affairs.

The talks between Mr Spinelli and the Indian Minister bore mainly on some features of the industrial policy which the Commission is trying to implement and in more detail on the impact such a policy might have on India's economy. Mr Chattopadhyaya's conversations with Sir Christopher Soames brought up a number of problems of more immediate interest to the New Delhi Government, especially the tariff moves scheduled for 1 January 1974 which for India will amend the terms of access for her products

to the British market. In this context Sir Christopher advised the Indian Minister of the initial measures contemplated at Community level for implementing the Declaration of Intent appended to the Act of Accession and dealing with the development of trade relations with the independent Asian Commonwealth countries.

With regard to the negotiations started on jute, coir and trade cooperation between the EEC and India, most of the outstanding questions were settled. As for the draft trade cooperation Agreement itself, the negotiations will hopefully be wound up before the end of this year.

## Latin America

### Brazil

2322. During the session of 6 November 1973, the Council reviewed the report from the Commission at the close of the initial stage of the negotiations with Brazil.<sup>1</sup> It delegated the Committee of Permanent Representatives to draw up in the light of the debate a draft of supplementary Directives to be adopted after consulting the AASM, Madagascar and Mauritius. A fresh round of *negotiations* between the EEC and Brazil was held on 21-22 November. Considerable headway was made towards finalizing the draft Agreement. The Agreement may possibly be signed before the end of the year and take effect from 1 January 1974.

### The Argentine

2323. The *Joint Committee*<sup>2</sup> set up by the Trade Agreement signed by the EEC and The

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 3-1973, point 2331 and 5-1973, point 2328.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1973, point 2332.

Argentine on 8 November 1971 met on 14 November 1973. The meeting was devoted to a discussion and exchange of information on the drawing up by the Community of the 1974 estimated balance sheet on beef and veal for the processing industry, on the further possibilities for Community imports of frozen beef and veal as well as on the various technical features of the Community organization of the market in the beef and veal sector.

## Uruguay

2324. During its session of 6 November 1973<sup>1</sup> the Council adopted a Regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement between the EEC and Uruguay which was initialled in February 1973<sup>2</sup> in Brussels after negotiations started in April 1972.

## Meeting between Community and Latin America

2325. As part of the procedures laid down by the Joint Declaration of 18 June 1971 by the Latin American countries belonging to the Specific Commission for Latin American Coordination (CECLA) and by the EEC countries, a fourth meeting was held between them and the Community on 28 November 1973 in Brussels. The agenda included *inter alia* a review of the report compiled by the Joint Group for trade questions<sup>3</sup> on the technical working of generalized preferences and on the reciprocal expansion and promotion of trade.

The work of the Joint Group was regarded by both sides as useful and encouraging, largely by virtue of the practical guidelines emerging from it. The Group's brief, duly specified, was renewed for 1974. Among its forthcoming assignments is the preparation for the fifth meeting of a study on promoting Latin American

exports to the EEC (structures and procedures now in use or contemplated shortly) and of another study on the development of EEC exports to Latin America and the problems involved.

## Commercial Policy

### Preparation and Implementation of the Common Commercial Policy

#### *Credit Insurance*

2326. On 6 November 1973 the Council adopted a Decision on consultation and information procedures in the field of credit insurance, guarantees and financial credit. This Decision officially adopted early in December<sup>4</sup> in many ways strengthens and amplifies the prior consultation procedure laid down by the Council Decision of 26 January 1965<sup>5</sup> covering a number of operations in insurance credit, guarantees and financial credit. The new provisions are to come into force on 1 January 1974.

### Particular Problems of Commercial Policy

#### *Textiles*

2327. During its meeting of 6 November 1973, after reviewing problems connected with

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 333 of 4.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2320.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 12-1972, point 104.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 345 of 17.12.1973.

<sup>5</sup> OJ 19 of 5.2.1965.

Community participation in working out a multilateral Agreement on the world trade in textile products (*the 'all-fibres' Agreement*), the Council officially authorized the Commission to take part in the negotiations for such an Agreement on the basis of Directives already adopted by the Council. The Committee of Permanent Representatives was instructed to review the questions still causing disagreement. Last July<sup>1</sup> the Council had agreed in principle that the Community take part in these negotiations. They took place on 5-9 November in Geneva as part of the GATT proceedings. They are to be resumed in December under the terms of the mandate issued by the GATT Council which specify that a mutually satisfying Agreement must be worked out by 31 December 1973.

2328. On 6 and 9 November two *trade Agreements between India and the EEC* on jute and coir products respectively were initialled in Brussels. These Agreements will supercede those previously in effect between the EEC and India. The procedures for their conclusion by the Council and their signature have been started. The two Agreements represent 'the particular measures to be adopted with exporting third countries' who, within the Community's offer of generalized preferences, stipulated that preferences be granted for jute and coir; the Agreements will thus allow India to enjoy tariff preferences for these products.

The Agreement on *jute products* entails: the granting by the Community on an autonomous basis of tariff concessions for all manufactured jute products (waiving of 40% for 1974 of the CCT charges); in return, self-limitation at an agreed level by India of her exports of certain jute products (yarns and bases for carpets); formation of a joint Cooperation Committee vested with extensive authority for supervising the running of the Agreement, developing cooperation between both sides in research and industrial development, etc.

The Agreement on coir products provides for: the granting by the Community of tariff concessions for manufactured coir products (waiving of 40% for 1974 of CCT charges); and the formation of a joint Committee with the same authority as the joint Committee under the jute Agreement.

#### *Scrap Metal*

2329. Talks were held on 13 November 1973 between Commission representatives and the American authorities concerning the system for American scrap metal exports. Since the United States Government decided during the summer to put these exports under license this restrictive move had had repercussions for the Community, a big importer of long standing, all the more injurious in that the license-granting procedure involved some discrimination against it. The talks which took place in November after a number of attempts roughed out a distribution plan for 1974 which will allow the Community to keep its share of the American exports.

#### *Non-ferrous Metals*

2330. On 13 November 1973<sup>2</sup> the Commission decided to raise the Community quantitative export quotas for certain non-ferrous wastes and ashes (copper, aluminium and lead) fixed on 2 July 1973.<sup>1</sup> This exceptional increase concerns the share allocated to *Ireland* for copper scrap and waste which is raised from 55 to 105 tonnes.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2329.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 315 of 16.11.1973.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 179 of 3.7.1973.

## Sectoral Problems

### Commodities and World Agreements

#### *Intergovernmental Consultations on Commodities*

2331. In accordance with Resolution 83 (III) adopted by the Conference of Santiago, UNCTAD has inaugurated a series of intergovernmental consultations on commodities, aimed at improving their access to world markets and securing stable, remunerative and equitable prices. The first of these consultations, on *tungsten*, was held in Geneva from 30 October-2 November 1973. On this occasion the Commission, through its representative, made its view clear that active and imaginative participation in this and subsequent consultations is in the Community interest.

These UNCTAD consultations are an important complement to the Association negotiations which the Commission is conducting with 43 developing countries in which the proposed special measures to stabilize their export earnings for a number of commodities are of particular importance to them. Taken together, these two approaches form an essential part of the Community's overall commodity policy in relation to the Third World.

#### *Wheat*

2332. The International Wheat Council meeting in London on 26-29 November 1973 reviewed developments in the world wheat market and in particular the outlook for the 1973/74 farming year. It was noted that wheat trading over the 1972-73 campaign had amounted to 67.3 million tonnes, a world record which has been attained only through a fall in the stocks of

the main exporter countries, which have dropped to about 29 million tonnes. For the 1973/74 campaign the Council is expecting a record harvest of about 338 million tonnes and a continuing very heavy demand on the world market.

Consequently the Council is contemplating the possibility of cutting down stocks again (perhaps down to 20 million tonnes) and balancing supply and demand at a level of approximately 65 million tonnes.

The Council also examined measures to be taken concerning the 1971 wheat trade Convention which together with the Convention on food aid form the 1971 International Wheat agreement, which expires on 30 June 1974. It was acknowledged that many governments were not ready at the moment to negotiate a new Agreement entailing economic rules. But there was unanimous agreement to maintain international cooperation on wheat after the Convention expired.

The Community was ready to accept an extension of the present Convention. But most of the governments party to both the food aid Convention and the wheat trade Convention wanted to take them as a whole, which the Community was not prepared to do. So, to let all governments adopt their position regarding both Conventions, it was agreed that a government Conference would be called in February 1974 to draw up the required extension Protocols.

#### *Cocoa*

2333. Within the International Cocoa Organization the proceedings in London of 19-23 November 1973 evaluated the initial *practical application measures* of the new international Agreement for the year 1973-74, which began on 1 October 1973.

Allowing for institutional, administrative or economic difficulties encountered by some countries, all of the economic rules and controls should be applied at the latest by the end of the current year. With regard to the Community, party to the Agreement and the Member States, all party to the Agreement as well, this deadline can be kept since the Community Regulation was approved by the Council of 9 November 1973.<sup>1</sup>

### *Olive Oil*

2334. The 29th meeting of the International Olive Oil Council from 28 November to 1 December in Madrid was held in the absence of the Italian delegation which robbed the discussion of much of its value. Nevertheless the Council did manage to approve two important resolutions. The first ensured the extension of the current Agreement until the new Protocol takes effect. Since it seems in fact unlikely that the conditions for this Protocol to take effect will not obtain by 31 December 1973, the deadline originally set, the Council at the same time that it decided to extend the Agreement also deferred the deadline by four months for the deposit of the ratification instruments. The second resolution authorizes a Cooperation Committee to make studies on the scope for storage at international level; the Commission will be invited to collaborate in this work if it wishes.

## International Organizations

### **The Western European Union**

2335. The Commission was represented at the 19th session (2nd part) of the *WEU Assembly* made up of M.P.s from the nine Member States,

except for Denmark and Ireland, which took place in Paris on 20-22 November 1973 with Sir John Peel in the Chair.

The French Foreign Minister, Mr M. Jobert and the West German Minister of Defence, Mr G. Leber, made arresting speeches. Both of them contended that Europe must be strong and determined to defend herself and that the Atlantic Alliance was still vital to the security of both the United States and Europe. But although Mr Leber showed preference for the Eurogroup within NATO regarding European cooperation over defence and armaments, Mr Jobert felt that the strenuous effort of dialogue and deliberation which should be kept up on the European side could well take place within the WEU.

The recommendations made by the Assembly on the Mediterranean situation, the development of relations between Europe and the USA, the energy dilemma, the problem of the aeronautics industry or even the most advanced Japanese techniques, all mirrored the same determination to see Europe act systematically and unanimously if need be pragmatically, and looking towards a real European Union.

### **The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development**

2336. On 8-9 November in Paris the Commission attended the proceedings of the 5th special meeting of the *OECD Executive Committee*. The Committee took a hard look at its role of coordinating Member States policies regarding international economic relations. The debates bore mainly on the following issues: international investment and multinational companies; protection clauses and policies of structural

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 324 of 24.11.1973.



adjustment; cooperation and development; a study which might be undertaken on the world supply and demand situation in the agricultural sector.

### United Nations

2337. In November the Commission departments followed the proceedings of the 28th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. They were particularly concerned with the proceedings of the second UN Commission responsible for economic questions; they took part in the Community coordination, for issues under Community jurisdiction, emerging from the 'initial operation of review and appraisal of objectives and policies under the international development strategy' for the first two years of its implementation.

### Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

2338. The 61st session of the FAO Council was held in Rome on 5-9 November. This session confirmed the recommendations of the Commodities Committee (8-19 October) and prepared the Conference.

The main features of the meeting were:

- (i) commodity problems;
- (ii) the contribution which the FAO can make easing the GATT multilateral trade negotiations;
- (iii) the intensive intergovernmental UNCTAD consultations on commodities;
- (iv) the working programme, the 1974-1979 budget and the medium-term objectives;
- (v) the aim of World Food Programme contributions for the period 1975-1976;
- (vi) preparation for the 17th Conference.

2339. The FAO Conference which was held on 10-29 November 1973 was from the start to be largely devoted to the subject of international agricultural adjustment. Owing to the shortfall situation which has occurred for certain agricultural produce during 1973, the adjustment problems which had mostly been considered in the light of surpluses somewhat receded into the background and the issues of organizing a world conference on food and the proposal of the FAO Director General, Mr Boerma, concerning security of world food supplies were the subject of the most detailed debates.

The FAO Conference consulted by the United Nations Economic and Social Committee on convening and organizing a world food Conference welcomed this move and recommended that it be held in November 1974 at the FAO's Rome headquarters. The main aim of such an event, which should take place at ministerial level and be attended by all members of the UN, should be to try and boost the production, consumption and trading of food products in the developing countries.

With regard to world food security, the Conference passed a Resolution endorsing the basic principles of the international operations proposed by Mr Boerma and bearing on the building up of national stocks together with inter-governmental consultation on this question.

The work on international agricultural adjustment will be carried out and the Director General of the FAO was asked to prepare a strategic adjustment plan with the aim of raising world agricultural output, speeding up the expansion of trade in farm products and the stabilizing of prices and markets as well as enlarging the share of the developing countries in the overall expansion of agricultural trade.

Mr Lardinois, Member of the Commission, addressing the Conference on 13 November, pleaded for an international storage policy for

some agricultural commodities. He said that this would have a stabilizing effect on both prices and international trade and would form reserves of food for the developing countries. For the Community the international storage policy would be the key feature of a future world scale agricultural policy. Mr Lardinois said that it would have to be tackled as swiftly as possible. Day to day experience in the Community had taught that world problems could be solved only through a coordinated international attack.

### **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade**

2340. The 29th session of the contracting parties to GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) was held on 13-14 November 1973 in Geneva with India's Ambassador Patel in the Chair. Mr Kitahara of Japan was elected Chairman of the contracting parties whose next regular meeting will be in Geneva in November 1974.

The multilateral trade negotiations were the subject of speeches from many delegations who expressed the hope that the negotiations, officially opened by the Tokyo Ministerial Conference in September,<sup>1</sup> would actually get underway as swiftly as possible with the understanding that the technical proceedings should meanwhile be conducted within the Trade Negotiations Committee.

The American delegation informed the contracting parties that on 8 November President Nixon had asked Congress to suspend scrutiny of the Trade Reform Bill. The delegation affirmed that this move in no way altered the resolve of the United States to start the negotiations proper when the time came, and should not act as a brake on the preparatory proceedings. President Nixon's decision on the Trade Bill had been

the subject of a Commission statement on 8 November which was published in Geneva and Brussels.

The Indian delegation regretted that the swift start of the proceedings, which the Tokyo Conference seemed to promise, had misfired and expressed its concern over the effective participation of the developing countries in whom the feeling was growing that the real negotiations were running behind the scenes between the big trade powers.

2341. After President Nixon's decision on the Trade Reform Bill, the Commission published the following statement on 8 November:

'The Commission keenly regrets to learn that the American Government had decided to ask Congress to suspend the adoption of the Trade Bill, due to difficulties encountered à propos of Chapter IV of the law, mainly devoted to the granting of the most favoured nation treatment to the Soviet Union and other countries of Eastern Europe.

The Commission which has always attached the greatest importance to the benefits which could derive both for the Community and her trade partners from a happy conclusion to the multilateral trade negotiations, deplores the delay which this decision will bring about.

For its part, the Commission hopes, as in the past, that these negotiations will start as soon as possible.'

President Nixon has since asked Congress in early December to resume scrutiny of the Trade Bill which has been approved by the House of Representatives before going to the Senate.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 9-1973, points 1101 to-1105: 'The GATT Ministerial Conference in Tokyo'.

## 4. Community Institutions

### Community Diplomatic Relations

#### Diplomatic Relations of the Community

2342. On 28 November 1973,<sup>1</sup> the Council and the Commission acknowledged of the appointment of H.E. Ambassador Ignace Karuhije as Representative of *Ruanda* to the European Economic Community.

The new Ambassador succeeds H.E. Leonidas Munyanshongore whose function expired on 19 July 1973.

#### European Parliament

##### *November Sitting*

2401. The *European Parliament* held a plenary session in Strasbourg on 12-16 November.<sup>1</sup> A special feature of this sitting was that a Head of Government in the person of Chancellor Brandt spoke during the session. The main issues dealt with during the sitting were:

- (i) the Community Budget for 1974;
- (ii) Question Time;
- (iii) European regional policy;
- (iv) the common technological policy;
- (v) urgent measures for Community energy policy;
- (vi) the running of the renewed European Social Fund;
- (vii) agricultural questions.

Other items on the agenda for debate were:

- (i) budget matters;
- (ii) development of the Economic and Monetary Union;
- (iii) preservatives in foodstuffs;
- (iv) limits on the lead content of petrol;
- (v) the EEC-Turkey Association;
- (vi) definition of Community customs territory;
- (vii) transport policy problems.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Report on this sitting of the *European Parliament* was prepared on the basis of the German edition of 'Informations' published by Parliament's General Secretariat.

The nationality and Political Group of members taking part in the debates are indicated in brackets after their names, as follows: C-D (Christian Democrat), S (Socialist), L (Liberals and Allied Groups), C (European Conservatives), EPD (European Progressive Democrats), COM (Communist and Allied Groups (SF, Ind. Sin.)).

<sup>2</sup> The full text of the Parliamentary Resolutions passed during the November sitting is reproduced in OJ C 108 of 10.12.1973 and the verbatim text of the debates is printed in OJ Annex No 163.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 111 of 18.12.1973.

The President announced that the Lord Chancellor of the British House of Lords had advised him in writing on 8 November 1973 that the *Marquess of Lothian* would take over from *Lord Brecon* as Member of the *European Parliament*.

### Speech by Chancellor Brandt

(13 November)

2402. Speaking as the first Member State Head of Government to address a sitting of the *European Parliament*, Chancellor Willy Brandt described the goal of integration policy as a European government which could take the necessary decisions in the field of common policy and of which the executive function would be controlled by Parliament. The European States would surrender to this government those sovereign rights which in future could still only be exercised effectively with one another; the remaining rights would remain with the States. 'My Government desires that at the end of this year fresh and clearer progress be made on the way to a European Government,' he went on before outlining a European *Ad Hoc* Programme which would brook no delay. In conclusion, the Chancellor confirmed that the Federal Republic had chosen the European Union as her permanent home and was seeking her future there.

### Resolution Motion on the Summit Conference in Copenhagen on 14-15 December (13 November)

2403. The Group Chairmen, Mr Lucker (C-D), Mr Vals (S), Mr Durieux (L), Mr Kirk (C), and Mr Bourges (EPD) moved a Resolution on the Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government scheduled for 14-15 December in Copenhagen. The House decided to examine this motion under urgent procedure. The Chairman of the Political Committee, Mr Girau-

do (C-D, Italy) commented briefly on the motion. He said that this Resolution was no more than an initial position taken by the House and told members that the Committee would be submitting a more detailed motion on the Summit Conference for the December sitting.

The House agreed an Amendment tabled by Mr Blumenfeld (C-D, Germany) to include in the Resolution a reference to Parliament's Resolution of 17 October 1973 on the Middle East situation.

In the Resolution the House urgently summoned the Member States to recognize that the European Community must assert its position as a separate entity in the international context and to apply themselves without delay to the task of evolving, in a spirit of real solidarity, a Community policy in all areas, including that of foreign policy. The existing Community structures must be utilized effectively and all efforts to achieve European Union should be undertaken within the framework of the Community.

### Community Energy Policy— Economic and Monetary Union

(13 November)

2404. Mr Normanton (C, Great Britain) submitted a report on the Commission Communication concerning initial implementation of the guidelines and priorities for the Community energy policy. He pointed out that only a global energy policy was acceptable, asked for an attitude of solidarity on the part of the European States and described the Commission's Proposals as too modest in view of the threatening circumstances.

Mr Bousch (EPD, France) introduced his report on certain prerequisites for future guidelines

<sup>1</sup> Chancellor Brandt's address is printed in full as the leading article of the Bulletin.

concerning the supply and use of gas in the Community. Mr Bousch stressed that the Community's gas supply situation demanded urgent rationalization in the use of resources. Gas supplies must be strengthened and a decisive effort was needed if the supply basis for natural gas was not to shrink. He described the Commission's submitted Proposals as inadequate and advocated a real common trade policy in the natural gas sector.

Mr *Flämig* (S, Germany) then spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the Community's natural gas supply position which he and his Group colleagues, Mr *Delmotte*, Mr *Giraud*, Mr *van der Hek* and Mr *Jakobsen* had put to the Commission. He referred to the bans and limitations brought in by individual Member States on exports of oil and oil products to other Member States. This issue besides affecting energy policy also highlighted the fact the Community's destiny was bound up with Middle East and African regions. Should the Community supply situation get tighter still, Mr *Flämig* felt that an equitable distribution of variable oil should be implemented on the basis of Community solidarity. He asked the Commission and Council to provide clearer concepts on how to overcome the oil crisis.

Mr *Simonet*, Vice-President of the Commission, speaking after the rapporteurs emphasized that the problem of stability of supply and diversification of sources had undoubtedly turned into a political issue. Using oil as a political resource as the producer countries were doing affected all the consumer nations, particularly the Third World countries who faced the greatest danger of seeing their development potential hit by the currently rising prices. In his view, only a long-term global approach would bring about a solution to the threefold problem of dependency, security of supply and diversification of sources. He advocated a more equitable and rational utilization of energy sources and stressed

that measures for economy or limiting consumption should neither hamper economic and social progress nor lead to competition distortion. All energy sources had to be developed and the Commission was now running a study on the desirable coal output levels in individual districts; these investigations would shortly crystallize into firm and practical Proposals. Furthermore, there was a need to replace oil by nuclear energy wherever possible. One of the first tasks here was to ensure the supply of enriched uranium. The Commission would therefore shortly submit its Proposals for creating a European uranium enrichment capacity on which a swift decision would have to be taken. On the subject of oil, Mr *Simonet* declared that the 'politization' of the problem in no way meant that the task of oil companies diminished in significance. These companies would almost play a highly complex role with regard to prospecting, production, transport, refining and marketing, and thus primarily in the realm of investment.

The basic thinking behind the Commission's Proposals for concertation between the consumer and producer countries and for organizing the markets, was complete collaboration by all the interested parties. Implementation of the Commission's Proposals would provide the Community with the means to act as a responsible and credible interlocutor, to make the consumer and producer countries pay increasing attention to a partner whose importance was growing through unity and to lessen the temptation for some governments or oil companies to deploy their strategies on the present confusion and profit from the differences of opinion between Member States.

The debate following Mr *Simonet's* statement centred on the energy crisis and events in the Middle East, on the Community's political reaction crystallized in the 'Declaration' of the Nine and on the embargo on oil deliveries imposed by

the Arab States. During the debate several speakers strongly expressed their displeasure over the absence of the Council President. The Belgian Minister of Labour, Mr *Glinne*, Member of the Council, gave brief details to explain the President's departure and told the House that he himself was present in order to give the President a detailed report on the debate.

Many speakers in the debate were highly critical of the Resolution passed by the Nine on the Near East situation: Mr *Blumenfeld* (C-D, Germany) called it a document of weakness, a cowardly retreat from blackmail over oil and anything but a constructive effort towards peace. Similar comments came from Mr *van der Sanden* (C-D, Netherlands), Mr *Jahn* (C-D, Germany) and Mr *Schulz* (C-D, Germany); all three deplored the lack of a moral stance on the part of Member States who had only agreed on a common position because they had been motivated by their oil interest. The Community which had talked so much about its Mediterranean obligations could already all have put forward peace proposals years ago.

The discussion took a harder turn when it came to the division on the Resolutions on Mr *Normenton's* report and on the Amendment tabled by Sir *Tufton Beamish* for the European Conservatives. In his view, the threat in the Resolution to take political and economic countermeasures did not in the present circumstances have any real value. One did not make any friends with such terms.

A feature of the debate was the global treatment of the problem reflected firstly in the fact that energy policy had to cover all energy sources and secondly because the political, economic, social and last but not least the monetary policy implications had to be reckoned with. Sir *Brandon Rhys-Williams* (C, Great Britain) commenting on behalf of the Economic and Monetary Committee on the Resolution motion concerning the current development status of the Eco-

nomical and Monetary Union, stressed in this respect that the oil shortage occurring in an already highly unfavourable worldwide climate of inflation constituted a serious threat to the whole economic and monetary system of the western world. The considerable increase in prices, not only of oil but for all raw materials, would obviously be mirrored in the prices of finished products. The present crisis would inevitably mean a greater demand on other energy sources. Mr *Bousch* (EPD, France), Mr *Noè* (C-D, Italy), Mr *Giraud* (S, France), and Mr *Taverne* (S, Great Britain) also made similar comments and urged that the policy on coal be overhauled, that more comprehensive basic research into new forms of energy be implemented and that consumption be rationalized. All these speakers pointed to the disproportion between the research effort in the Community and in countries such as the USA. Mr *Noè* stated that the USA was spending 200 million dollars on the production of hydrogen from water, as against only 2 million u.a. by the Community. Mr *Leonardi* (COM, Italy) took the view that more weight should be put on a greater independence for the Community vis-à-vis the USA, on a better understanding with the neighbouring countries and on a more comprehensive differentiation so as to diminish the pathological subservience to oil. The present crisis could certainly have a salutary effect, if it prodded the Community into more intensive research and if it made the Community think seriously about the social priorities and cooperation. Mr *Hougardy* (L, Belgium) for his Group asked whether the USA was abiding by its offer to incorporate energy policy into a new 'Atlantic Charter.'

Mr *Simonet* rebutted some of the criticism against the Commission and defended himself against the charge of inertia which some speakers had laid against the executive. The Commission had submitted its Proposals within an extremely short time; during the last week of

the crisis it had several times mobilized its crisis staff and put forward *ad hoc* Proposals on the current crisis. Regarding the Declaration of the Nine on the Middle East conflict, Mr Simonet said that the Commission would give no basic verdict thereon because it had not been brought into the preparation of that document.

Mr *Patiijn* (S, Netherlands) stressed the aspect of European solidarity and asked about the 'Community' content of European energy policy. Mr *Petersen* (L, Denmark) asked for the energy crisis to be dealt with at the forthcoming Summit Conference in Copenhagen. Mr *Lange* (S, Germany) said he hoped the crisis would result in the Community finally forming a common energy concept. We must beware of a policy of counter measures. A unified Community position was far more important.

In the Resolution on the Normanton report, the Council and Member States were urged to introduce a common energy policy on the basis of solidarity between one another, in accordance with Article 34 of the EEC Treaty, particularly towards those Member States whose energy supplies were threatened. The House also urged that the Community and the States should not rule out the application of counter-measures *vis-à-vis* third countries. The Conservatives found that this passage in the Resolution was too unrealistic; they moved that it be replaced by mentioning the overall contribution which the Community could make to restoring peace and well-being in the Near East countries.

This tabled Amendment was, however, defeated by a narrow majority. The House also expressed its growing anxiety at the political, financial and monetary consequences to the Community arising out of the phenomenal increase in the size of funds accruing to the producing countries and incapable of being absorbed in their internal economies. The House gave overall approval to the various Proposals submitted by the Commission to the Council. Lastly, the House expres-

sed the view that an effective Community energy supply policy would require new powers for the Community institutions, pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty.

In a further Resolution on the Bousch report, Parliament considered that the Community cannot, with regard to its natural gas supply policy, rely on the speculative discovery of new deposits. The House took the view that the Community's growing opportunities for importing natural gas called for the introduction in this sector of a genuine common commercial policy capable of easing the strains on the world market. It also emphasized that an adequate level of natural gas supplies to the Community from its own resources could only be assured by maintaining production and prospecting of derived gases as well as that of natural gas.

The Commission was therefore requested to work out a production plan for derived gases. The House pointed out that the main emphasis should be placed on research into the gasification of coal and that the qualities of natural gas and its scarcity implied a need for economical and optimal utilization. The Commission was also requested to submit a proposed Directive on the primary, if not exclusive, use of natural gas by households and low energy-consuming industries. The Commission was further asked to propose as soon as possible the adoption of a security code for the transport and utilization of gas.

In a Resolution on the current situation of the Economic and Monetary Union the House expressed its alarm over the pressing economic problems of the European Community and noted with particular concern the continuing high rate of inflation in all Member States. Parliament also recognized the acute danger to stability, growth and full employment throughout the Community following the restriction of oil exports from major producers in the Middle East. The House also deplored the Council's

delay in meeting to consider the next steps towards Economic and Monetary Union and the measures needed to implement the decisions already taken.

Lastly, the House insisted that the immediate economic threats to the Community could only be tackled effectively by solidarity and joint action.

### Regional Policy (15 November)

2405. Mr *Delmotte* (S, Belgium) submitted a second report on the Commission's Proposals for a Decision to set up a Regional Policy Committee, a financial Regulation relating to special provisions applicable to the European Regional Development Fund, and a Regulation establishing a Regional Development Fund.

The rapporteur described the importance of an effective coordinated regional policy for the construction of Europe. The Regional Development Fund had to be in a position to share in the financing of industrial investments and infrastructure.

Mr *Mitterdorfer* (C-D, Italy), draftsman of the Opinion of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, spoke of an initial move towards a regional structure policy and declared himself in agreement with the report. Lady *Elles*, draftsman of the Opinion of the Social Affairs and Employment Committee, stressed the value of specific aid for infrastructure in the realm of schools, communications and nursing. Mr *Nolan* (EPD, Ireland), draftsman of the Opinion for the Budgets Committee, urged the Commission to make decisions on regions with specific problems. Mr *Eisma* (Netherlands) speaking for the Socialist Group, recognized that the anticipated measures had at least the advantage of giving a more social shape to the Community economic policy. Mr *Johnston* (L, Great Britain) on behalf of his Group tabled an Amend-

ment with a definition of the conditions for intervention by the Fund. The British M.P., Mr *James Hill*, for the European Conservatives, criticized the overwide dispersion of aid. On behalf of the European Democrats, Mr *Lenihan* (Ireland) asked the Council for progress towards special consideration for certain regions with respect to the application of measures. Mr *Luigi Marras* (Italy) on behalf of the Communist and Allied Group, regretted the lack of a global regional development policy in the report.

In the Resolution Parliament pointed out that the Regional Fund would have to be more firmly directed towards human and social action, as should be the case in the Commission's Proposals. The House congratulated the Commission on having presented Proposals in time for the Council to take a decision before the end of the year. It urged the Council to adopt these Proposals as soon as possible so that the Fund can be established by the date set by the Paris Summit Conference, i.e. before 31 December 1973. The House insisted that for the three years 1974-1976 inclusive, a minimal financial appropriation of 2,250 million u.a. shall be provided in the budgets of the Communities for the operations of the Regional Development Fund.

Parliament took the view that the Regional Fund would be the acid test for the frequently avowed European Solidarity. The House also asked for a deeper scrutiny of the Fund's financing. The prospective Committee should be able to examine questions of regional development not only at the behest of the Council and Commission, but on Parliament's request too.

Towards the end of the debate on regional policy, a heated argument flared up over an Amendment tabled by the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee according to which the Council on a Proposal from the Commission and after a hearing in Parliament, could with a



qualified majority draw up the list of regions and sub-regions where the Fund could intervene. This meant a fresh attempt to get the Council to abandon the principle of unanimity and to introduce the procedure of decision by qualified majority. This Amendment met with strong resistance from the Conservatives and the Progressive Democrats. Against them the Socialist Group and a large proportion of the Christian Democrats and the Liberals championed the qualified majority. Mr *Thomson*, Member of the Commission responsible for regional policy, warned against endangering the regional policy by departing from the principle of unanimity. The Amendment was defeated by the narrowest possible majority.

**Statement by the Commission  
on the Economic and Monetary Union**  
(15 November)

2406. Mr *Haferkamp*, Vice-President of the Commission, made a statement on the Proposals decided by the Commission regarding the further development of the Economic and Monetary Union.

Mr *Haferkamp* said it depended on the Commission that decisions would be taken before end 1973 to take the Economic and Monetary Union a stage further. It mattered little whether these decisions concerned completion of the first phase or an action programme for the second. But regarding the decisions to be taken by the Council it was not, in his view, a question of merely extending the first stage. On the contrary, progress had to be achieved which would clearly show that the Community was completing a further step towards Economic and Monetary Union. The Proposals decided by the Commission included:

(i) closer coordination of economic and monetary policy: in the realm of economic policy coordination groups at Secretary of State level were to meet at least once a fortnight. Regard-

ing monetary policy there was a need for tighter coordination of the activities of the central banks. A top level group would be formed for this. It would meet once a week to coordinate central bank policy. This closer collaboration generated the need for regular sessions for the Finance Ministers within the Council. Monthly session dates would have to be set a year in advance;

(ii) activation of the Monetary Fund. The Fund must be vested with a comprehensive administrative structure and it would have to undertake a real multilateralization of balances of payments. The Commission was proposing that from 1 January 1974 a 10% start should be made in the pooling of reserves. Originally the Commission had advocated that 20% of reserves be gathered in from the nine Member States. But during the Council's deliberations it had become clear that various Member States were not prepared to accept the Commission's proposals to that extent. Pooling of reserves was to be undertaken in line with Member States' reserve structure. Thus resources would be pooled in the form of gold, currency and special drawing rights.

The Commission felt that the Proposals represented a contribution to creating the Community's personality. Economic and monetary progress had to go hand in hand with the advancement of regional, social and other Community policies. Furthermore, the institutional pattern needed considerable improvement. Should the Council approve the Commission's Proposals the Community would take a decisive step forward. The Commission was proposing a permanent consultation procedure for economic and monetary policy.

The Chairman of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, Mr *Lange* (S, Germany) welcomed Mr *Haferkamp*'s statement and promised that his Committee would quickly review the Proposals. To a relevant question from Sir

Brandon Rhys-Williams (C, Great Britain), Mr Haferkamp reiterated the Commission's Proposal to insist that prior Community consultation applied not only to parity changes but also covered central rates.

### Financial Questions (13 and 15 November)

#### *The General Community Budget for 1974*

2407. Mr Pounder (C, Great Britain) submitted a report on the draft of the Community's General Budget for the financial year 1974.

The Rapporteur reminded the House that the budget was a declaration of intent and an expression of Community policy. The 1974 Budget was still too heavily slanted towards the Common Agricultural Policy. Mr Pounder thought that, at a time when the new phase of Community own resources was in the offing, the Council had not given consideration to the changed character of the Budget. He regretted that the Council was not in a position to accept the Commission's Proposals for the Regional and Social Fund and complained that through careless presentation, especially regarding the EAGGF, Guidance Section, and through inadequate justification of adjustments, Parliament's role, limited as it was, was made even more difficult. The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr Nørgaard, promised the House that all proposed adjustments would be thoroughly vetted.

For the Christian Democrat Group, Mr Aigner (Germany) was highly critical of the Council. The 1974 Budget was the work of a book-keeper and did not reflect the political development of the Community especially with regard to the lack of adequate resources for regional policy, industrial and research policy. The Chairman of the Budgets Committee, Mr Spénale (S, France) welcomed the presence of the

Council President at the debate on the Budget. He complained that the obligations undertaken at the Summit Conference found scarcely any expression in the Budget as presented. He also said he was disappointed with the Commission's Proposals for Parliament's budgetary powers. Miss Lulling (S, Luxembourg), draftsman of the Agricultural Committee's Opinion, pointed out that agricultural policy expenditure accounted for 70% of the total Budget. This highlighted the arrears in the remaining areas of Community policy. Mr Fabbrini (COM, Italy) said that he could not approve this Budget which was inadequate for the social and regional policies. Mr Dewulf (C-D, Belgium) called for additional aid for the Sahel states who in the wake of the drought had to battle with even greater problems. Mr Terrenoire (EPD, France) claimed that the Budget was unbalanced. Without making any basic criticisms, Mr Berthoin (France) for the Liberal and Allied Group, said it was imperative that the loss of plenary powers by the national Assemblies be made up by a European control. Mr John Hill (C, Great Britain) particularly welcomed the Commission moves for a more effective check on frauds.

Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission, thought the debate showed that the Community Budget had not yet gained its rightful place. To improve budget procedure the Commission would propose that the practice of additional budgets be discontinued, save for exceptional developments, and that the internal checks be tightened up. Mr Cheysson confirmed that the Commission endorsed the adjustments it had proposed, especially with regard to social and regional policy. The Commission agreed the reinstatement of all the funds requested by the House for these areas. The Commission also agreed, despite some hesitation, the trimming of the EAGGF, Guarantee Section, which the House had asked for. The commission further approved the inclusion of a new budget entry for structural action regarding foodstuffs.

The House referred the 1974 General Budget with numerous amendments back to the Council of Ministers. Speakers from all Groups deplored that the Council who had trimmed the Commission's draft Budget from 5 782 thousand million u.a. to 5 025 thousand million u.a. had not included any monies for the EEC Regional Fund to be formed from 1 January. The drastic cut of 143 million u.a. in the resources earmarked for the Social Fund also came in for criticism.

The House unanimously decided to recommend the Council to scale up the Fund to the level of 470.7 million u.a. as proposed by the Commission. Parliament deplored that for the second year no funds had been set aside for industrial development policy and that the funds for research investments, youth activities, environment protection and information policy were extremely meagre. In conclusion, the House urged that, after reviewing the amendments proposed by Parliament, the Council should reply in writing and orally in the session following adoption of the Budget.

#### *Parliament's 1974 Budget*

2408. Mr Gerlach (S, Germany) submitted a report on the modifications to the budget of receipts and expenditures for the *European Parliament* for 1974, (Section I of the draft of the Community General Budget).

Mr Gerlach said that the Resolution motion by the Budgets Committee was incomplete since the Committee, owing to the negotiations still running between the Groups, was not in a position to put in a staff headcount of the House and the Groups. He proposed that the financial controller of Parliament's management should report to the House itself and no longer to the General Secretariat.

The Chairman of the Budgets Committee, Mr Spénale (S, France), pointed out that this was

the last Budget not to be fed by own resources. Like the rapporteur he also remarked that the various proposals from the Groups concerning the secretariats were still to be considered. Mr Covelli asked for administrative support for the non-affiliated members. This was more of a moral than a political problem. Lord O'Hagan (Independent, Great Britain) thought that every Member of Parliament could claim the same amenities; there was currently some discrimination against the Non-affiliated vis-à-vis the Groups. The Chairman of the Budgets Committee said it was impossible to cater for all individual wishes. But if the Non-affiliated were to submit a document showing that they can reach agreement, the Budgets Committee could take the matter up again and give kind consideration to an amendment.

In its Resolution the House adopted the Parliamentary budget of receipts and expenditure for 1974 at 33 236 373 u.a.

#### *Multiannual Financial Estimates*

2409. Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission, commented on the financial estimates for 1974, 1975 and 1976. The estimates were still inadequate especially with respect to agriculture, besides which the Community was in full development. Mr Cheysson pointed to the annual 12% increase in Budget volume. Thus the 1974 Budget (including the 500 million u.a. for the regional Development Fund) would swell from 5.5 thousand million u.a. in 1974 to 6.3 thousand million in 1975 and 7 thousand million in 1976. Over this period the Commission hoped to diminish the expenditure for agricultural policy from 70 to 60%, double the percentage expenditure for social policy from 6 to 12% and bring up regional policy from 9 to 11 or 12%. Mr Cheysson then dealt with the raising from 1 January 1975 of Community own resources through VAT; for the Nine the figure

forthcoming from VAT was reckoned at 675 thousand million u.a. for 1975 and 740 thousand million u.a. for 1976. The Community's share in VAT was valued at about 0.4%.

Mr Cheysson's statement on the multiannual estimates was referred to the Budgets Committee.

### Question Time

(13 November)

2410. Mr *Seefeld* (S, Germany) on behalf of his Group, asked that the rules for Question Time be changed so that in future Questions which could no longer be answered orally would, if the questioner wished, be answered in writing during the week of the sitting. He contended that the current procedure was inadequate, and complained that Questions which the Commission had not been able to answer orally were still waiting for a written answer four weeks later. The President of the Commission, Mr *Ortoli*, replied that through the written procedure of decision-making up to now and owing to the translations, much time had been lost. From now on the Commission would reply in writing during the week of the sitting to all Questions which had not been answered orally.

### Questions to the Council

#### *Community Aero-Engine Production*

2410a. Mr *Noè* (C-D, Italy) asked what measures the Council intended to take to help put Community manufactures of aero-engines in a position to compete with rivals in third countries in the design of models that in respect of noise and air pollution were less of a threat to the environment and which alone would be acceptable in future. The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr *Nørgaard*, referred to the action

programme submitted by the Commission for scientific and technological policy which contained a proposal for a research programme on aero-engines aimed at reducing noise and pollution. These proposals were now being studied by the qualified Council authorities and the Council would take a decision before the end of the year.

#### *Community Social Policy*

2410b. Lord *O'Hagan* (Non-Affiliated, Independent, Great Britain) wanted to know what steps the Council was taking to ensure that the Community soon had a genuine social policy. The President-in-Office, Mr *Nørgaard*, said that the Council would endeavour before the end of the year to decide on a Community social action programme according to the mandate given by the Summit Conference. He vigorously rebutted the view that the Council was not interested in the solution to this problem. But he acknowledged that with regard to social policy there was still a number of divergent conceptions among Member States. The Commission had transmitted its Proposals for a Community social action programme to the Council on 25 October. To an additional Question from Sir *Brandon Rhys-Williams* (C, Great Britain) on harmonizing social benefits, the Council President said that the concepts of the Member States still are very much at variance.

#### *Release of Political Prisoners in South Africa*

2410c. The Council President pointed out that this Question from Mr *Bordu* (COM, France) fell outside the jurisdiction of the Council and consequently he could take no position on it.

#### *Global Development Aid Policy*

2410d. In answering the Question from Mr *Dewulf* (C-D, Belgium) the Council President

referred to the overall agreement reached during the Council session of 5 November. Financial problems, especially public aid and the provision of financial resources from Community Funds for non-Associated countries would all have to be discussed very shortly. The Council agreed that the responsible Parliamentary Committees would be kept informed on these issues.

### *Questions to the Commission*

#### *Reply Procedure for Written Questions*

2410e. To the Question from Mr *Johnston* (L, Great Britain) on improving the reply procedure for Written Questions, Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza*, Vice-President of the Commission, assured the House that the Commission had already taken the required technical and administrative measures to speed up the reply procedure for Written Questions. Written Questions would be answered within one month at the latest. To a further Question from Mr *Fellermaier* (S, Germany) whether the time could not be cut to one week, Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza* replied that he felt this would be too short.

#### *1974 International Conference on the Law of the Sea*

2410f. To the Question from Mr *Brewis* (C, Great Britain) on the Commission's attendance at the 1974 International Conference on the Law of the Sea, Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza* said that the Commission would submit further Proposals to the Council and that obviously the House would be advised of same in good time.

#### *Concerted Control of the Activities of Multinational Companies*

2410g. Answering this Question from Mr *Premoli* (L, Italy) Mr *Spinelli*, Member of the Commission, referred to the major elements

of the paper submitted by the Commission and to the Commission's participation in the talks at Geneva at the end of the week. The Commission was not against the development of multinational companies but found a number of control problems which the Community had to solve.

#### *Belgian Decree on Languages to be used in Labour Relations in Flanders*

2410h. Mr *Fellermaier* (S, Germany) asked the Commission whether it took the view that the decree on the use of the Dutch language in industrial life in Flanders did not contravene Article 49 of the EEC Treaty. Dr *Hillery*, Vice-President of the Commission, in reply said that the Commission could not take a position on this matter before it had all the details at its disposal in order to judge whether the Decree amounted to discrimination. The Commission still had to wait for information on the interpretation of the Belgian Decree.

#### *EEC Levies on Exports of Irish Cattle*

2410i. Mr *Gibbons* (EPD, Ireland) wanted to know whether the Commission was aware that the imposition of 16% levies by the EEC on exports of Irish cattle to the Continent resulted in a distortion of trade while at the same time third countries (e.g. Yugoslavia) were permitted to export without the payment of duties. Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza*, Vice-President, replied that the levy was not 16% but 12.5% at the most and it went without saying that the total levies could not exceed those applied to third countries.

#### *Review of the Common Agricultural Policy*

2410j. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) asked when would the Commission announce the results of the review of the CAP. Vice-Presi-

dent, *Scarascia Mugnozza*, said that Mr *Lardinois*, the Commissioner responsible for agriculture, would be making a detailed and comprehensive statement on agricultural policy during the sitting. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) expressed concern over the volume of butter output, while Mr *Brewis* (C, Great Britain) was disturbed about the levies on milk.

*Protective Measures for Europe's Textile Industry*

2410k. In reply to the Question from Mr *Terreiro* (EPD, France) concerning Community measures to protect the European textile industry from goods imported at dumping prices, Sir *Christopher Soames*, Vice-President of the Commission, pointed out that the Agreement (GATT) still applied, but a new 'all-fibre' Agreement would be negotiated in Geneva, with the Commission participating, in order to liberalize the textile trade. The EEC had to consider two interests which were a little contradictory; namely, its internal interest and its image vis-à-vis the developing countries.

*Common Commercial Policy  
and Economic and Technical Cooperation*

2410l. Mr *Jahn* (C-D, Germany) wanted to know where, in the view of the Commission, the boundary lay between common commercial policy and economic and technical cooperation. Sir *Christopher Soames*, Vice-President, said that the Commission saw nothing to gain in a theoretical boundary between trade policy and cooperation. The Commission had sent a Proposal to the Council on this subject which was based on pragmatical considerations. It was important that the bilateral cooperation agreements did not block the realization of a common trade policy towards the East European countries.

**Scientific and Technological Policy  
Programme—The Need for a Common  
Policy on Technology**

(15 November)

2411. Mr *Flämig* (S, Germany) submitted an interim report on the necessary progress in Community research and on the Commission's Proposal for an action programme to implement scientific and technological policy.

Mr *Flämig* regretted that the Community still did not possess a common policy on research. It was now time to prepare an action plan which had a chance of being carried out.

Lord *Bessborough* (C, Great Britain) submitted a report on the need for a common technological policy. Lord *Bessborough* urged the Commission to consult the representatives of industrial companies more often and advocated that Community research be intensified in aircraft construction and ocean technology. Mrs *Walz* (C-D, Germany) for her Group applauded Lord *Bessborough's* report in that it dealt with the financial side. She supported the idea of setting up a technology centre and asked that research projects be directed towards the realm of advanced technologies. Mr *Bordu* (COM, France) said that his Group favoured a common technology policy insofar as it would serve to enhance the quality of life.

In its Resolution on the *Bessborough* report the House called for the swift implementation of a common policy on technology. Such a policy should tend towards closer coordination of achievements within Member States and lead to the promotion and realization by the Commission of Community projects.

The Commission was invited to proceed with the preparation of a comprehensive inventory of Community research and development showing, sector by sector, the extent of European cooperation already under way and the areas where

increased cooperation would be desirable. It was also asked to draw up a list of priorities for industrial sectors in which projects of Community interest should be initiated and to urge the Council to take prompt decisions on their implementation. The House was of the opinion that in order to increase the information available to Community institutions, major technological projects financed wholly or in part from public sources should be notified to the Commission. The House recommended the establishment of a Community system for venture capital financing and increased cooperation in association with the European Investment Bank, between the national financial institutions providing funds for industrial development including marketing.

Member States were invited to recognize the general responsibility of the Community in technology and with this object in view to apply the provisions of Articles 235 or 236 of the EEC Treaty.

In the Resolution on the Flämig report the hope was expressed that with the latest Commission Proposals the stage of non-Community research activities was past. The House claimed that the Commission's Proposals did not place sufficient emphasis on the legal and financial bases necessary for the definition of a Community research and development policy. An initial sum of 1 million u.a. was requested to be written into the 1974 General Community Budget for the first phase of the action programme.

Mr *Dahrendorf*, Member of the Commission, responsible for technical policy, approved both Resolutions as a follow-up for the common scientific and technological policies. The action programme recently submitted by the Commission had staked out the contours of a common policy in technology which in the first half of the year ahead were to be followed with a comprehensive and detailed research programme.

### Operation of the renewed European Social Fund (13 November)

2412. Miss *Lulling* (S, Luxembourg) spoke to the Oral Question with debate put by the Social Affairs and Employment committee to the Commission and Council. The Committee was concerned over the trimming of Social Fund resources for the coming financial year. Instead of 120 million u.a. which the Commission had asked for in an additional budget, the Council had approved 45 million for 1973. The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr *Nørgaard*, pointed out that the resources for 1974 amounted to 327 million as against 282 million u.a. in the previous year; this corresponded to an increase of more than 15%. The Council had to consider two requirements. Firstly it had to reckon with intervention margins and secondly it had to move funds within the confines of the Budget. In conclusion the Council President pointed out that the Council had not the slightest intention of slackening the efforts on the social front.

Vice-President of the Commission, Dr *Hillery*, said that the struggle against unemployment, in line with the basic principles of industrial policy, had to be harmonized with the other Community policies. Special attention had to be given to the handicapped and to working women. The staffing of the Fund would be tailored to its growing tasks. He promised a written reply to the outstanding Questions. Miss *Lulling* said she was disappointed with the replies from the Commission and Council.

### Agricultural Questions (14 November)

#### *Commission Statement on the Common Agricultural Policy* (14 November)

2413. Mr *Lardinois*, Member of the Commission, submitted the Commission's Memorandum

on adjustment of the CAP. He gave some technical details and expressed the wish that the House and the Council would hold an initial guidance debate before the end of the year so that the Commission could take the outcome into consideration in the 1974/75 Proposals which it would present in the first week of January.

The Commission had three objectives in mind: a technical and administrative streamlining of the CAP (cutting down the number of basic Regulations), savings for the EAGGF and the expansion of market policy (proteins, beef and veal, potatoes, re-afforestation).

The Commission's Memorandum was basically accepted. The criticism was made that the Commission had informed the Press of the programme before advising Parliament. Mr Lardinois rebutted this charge by saying that he was not responsible for Parliament's sitting schedule. He could not be asked to hold back the text of the Memorandum for weeks.

The Chairman of the Agricultural Committee, Mr *Houdet* (L, France), promised that the Committee would promptly review the Memorandum. He pointed out that a finer market balance must be attained by adjusting price relationships between the various products. Price policy must be put in order simultaneously with structure policy. The occupational bodies concerned had to be more closely consulted and the tasks of the EAGGF alleviated. For the Socialists Mr *Frehsee* (Germany) contended that the submitted Memorandum worked no fundamental changes in the CAP. As the Commission intended, the jungle of skeleton directives must be clarified. However, the savings which the Commission was aiming at were very welcome. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) took the view that the Memorandum would help in reducing surpluses. His colleague Sir *Tufton Beamish* expressed his concern over the possible effects of the new Regulation on New Zealand's

agriculture. Mr *John Hill* (C, Great Britain) recommended that the focus be put on intervention prices so as to make the system more flexible. Mr *de Koning* (C-D, Netherlands) asked for a closer scrutiny of the earmarking of funds, and Mr *Baas* (L, Netherlands) enquired about the extent of possible savings.

At the close of the debate Mr Lardinois emphatically stressed that savings could primarily be anticipated from the market and price policy and not from structure policy. The text of his statement was referred to the Agricultural Committee for review.

#### *Extension of certain EAGGF Time Limits*

2414. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* (C, Great Britain) submitted a report on the Commission's proposed Regulation for extending certain time limits for 1972, 1973 and 1974 on the granting of aid from the EAGGF, Guidance Section. Mr *Scott-Hopkins* requested the House to agree to extend the time limit from June until end October 1973, because this period of time was already part of the past. But he also proposed that the time limit proposed by the Commission, i.e. end October 1974, be cut by four months.

The spokesman for the Socialists, Mr *Labar* (Netherlands) regretted that the House again had to deal with the EAGGF time limit problem and contended that since the previous year no improvement was to be seen in this quarter. Mr *Liogier* (France) for the EPD Group said he endorsed the rapporteur's remarks. Mr *Spénale*, Chairman of the Budgets Committee, objected to the continual delays which impaired the efficacy of the Fund. The excuse of lack of staff he could not accept. Mr Lardinois regretted the delays, but they could not be made up because the work was increasing all the time, especially owing to the enlargement which had sent the number of applications up from 900 to 1 400 or by more than 50%.



In the Resolution the House regretted the delay in Decisions by the Commission on applications for aid from the EAGGF, Guidance Section, and the hardship thereby suffered by the agricultural sector. The House called upon the Commission to recruit adequate staff immediately and to request the financial allocations forthwith. The Decisions should be made at the latest within 12 months of the date limit laid down by Regulation (EEC) 2140/72 for the submission of applications for aid for 1973 from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF.

It was therefore recommended that the relevant Commission Proposal be amended.

#### *Setting Olive Oil Prices for the 1973/74 Marketing Year*

2415. Mr De Koning (C-D, Netherlands) submitted a report on the setting of market prices and intervention prices for olive oil for the 1973/74 marketing year. Parliament did not approve the Commission's price Proposals for olive oil for 1973/74. This was not due to the Agricultural Committee or Mr De Koning but to the Amendment tabled by Mr Vetrone (C-D) speaking for most of the Italian Members. It was contended basically that the Proposals were arbitrary. They were founded on estimates and did not reckon with Italy's increased output. Mr Frehsee (S, Germany) emphasized for his Group it was not just a question of the prices themselves but a matter of determining the basis of gauging aid for the olive oil industry, aid with which higher returns were to be gained for olive oil than those counted in the Commission's text. He rejected Mr Vetrone's tabled Amendment and claimed that the rapid climb of production costs could not be considered at this stage, but only when agricultural prices were set.

Mr Liogier (EPD, France) declared that his Group was in favour of accepting Mr Vetrone's Amendment and if it was defeated his Group

would vote against the overall Resolution. Mr Lardinois, for the Commission, tried to convince the House to follow the rapporteur and pointed to the recurrent price rises for olive oil matched recently by an adjustment of prices expressed in Lire. We had to get back to a sound management of Community resources, he added, defending the high guide price set by the Commission. Apart from the political repercussions this problem was a test case for the Community. He declared he was prepared to lower the market guide price if the development of the market justified such a measure.

As stated in the Resolution, the Commission's Proposal was rejected because it was based on market forecasts resulting from unilateral measures adopted by an exporting country; namely, Spain. Furthermore, it did not take into account the increase and improvement of olive oil production in 1973, or the price freeze and control policy implemented by the Italian State in agreement with the Community Institutions, or of the ratio between the price of seed oil and the price of olive oil repeatedly adopted by the Council as 1:2.20 or, finally of the rapid increase in production costs deriving from strong inflationary trends. The Commission was therefore asked to reconsider its Proposal.

#### *Marketing of Forest Reproductive Material*

2416. Mr Brugger (C-D, Italy) submitted a report on a Proposed second Directive to amend the Directive of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of forest reproductive material. Mr Brugger pointed out that more than a fifth of the total Community surface area was used for forestry. It was therefore in Community's interest to promote the returns from forestry which could be primarily done by enhancing reproductive material. The submitted draft consolidated and certainly improved the Directive of 14 June 1966.

In the Resolution the House approved in principle the Commission's Proposal, but recommended a number of Amendments to speed up the procedure and shorten the time required for the compilation of a common catalogue and for its application.

### Transport Policy

(16 November)

#### *Common System of Rates for the Use of Transport Infrastructures*

2417. Mr *Kollwelter* (C-D, Luxembourg) submitted a report on the Commission's Proposal to the Council for a Decision on introducing a joint system of rates for the use of transport infrastructures. The rapporteur pointed out that this problem was still unsolved in all Member States. The realization of a joint system would be a cornerstone of the Community transport policy.

Mr *Seefeld* (Germany) for the Socialist Group supported the Proposal which in general would ensure optimum usage of infrastructures at the same time that it provided sufficient revenues to meet all outlay covering their construction, use and safety, besides attaining harmonization of transport competition conditions. Mr *James Hill* (C, Great Britain), Chairman of the Regional Policy and Transport Committee welcomed the Commission's Proposal on behalf of his Group because it touched on a serious problem of European transport policy. Mr *Thomson*, Member of the Commission, thanked the House for its support and said that the Commission would do its utmost to speed up the modernization of European transport.

In its Resolution, the House approved the Commission's proposed Decision to the Council for bringing in a common system of rates for the use of infrastructures. Some Amendments were

recommended however. Parliament pointed out that a major feature of the Commission's Proposal was that the same principles would apply to all types of transport.

#### *Harmonization of certain Social Provisions in Transport*

2418. Mr *Seefeld* (S, Germany) submitted a report on a proposed Regulation from the Commission to consolidate Regulation (EEC) 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on harmonizing certain social provisions in road transport. The rapporteur said that the conditions in the Regulation should serve to promote road safety, enhance the social protection of transport personnel and eliminate existing competition distortions in freight and passenger carriage.

Mr *James Hill* (C, Great Britain) said the anticipated Regulation had a dual advantage both for the carriers and the public. Mr *Lemoine* (COM, France) for his Group described the planned solutions as unsatisfactory, even though some modest progress could be acknowledged. Mr *Mursch* (C-D, Germany) thought that expansion of Regulation 543 would succeed only if it was applied throughout the Community. He was therefore abstaining from the vote. Mr *Thomson* said that competition conditions had to be harmonized with due consideration to the social requirements and safety.

In the Resolution the House regretted that the Regulation on harmonizing certain social provisions in road transport was not applied completely by certain Member States and that one country, Italy, had still not enacted the required enforcement conditions.

The Commission was strongly urged to ensure that the provisions of this Regulation were observed. The House approved the banning of all bonuses which encouraged carelessness and non-observance of driving time Regulations and

speed limits. The Commission was also asked to take prompt action to close the gap left by the failure to harmonize social legislation concerning rail and inland waterway transport. The House also recommended that the Commission submit Proposals for approximating regulations governing work periods and overtime.

#### *Interior Fittings of Motor Vehicles*

2419. Mr Müller (S, Germany) submitted a report on a proposed Directive by the Commission to the Council on the approximation of Member States' laws on the interior fittings of motor vehicles (strength of seats and their anchorages). Mr Müller welcomed the Proposal. The aim of the Directive was to reduce the risk of injury in motor vehicles. In this connection Mr Müller asked for special safety rules for children's seats. Mr Thomson, Member of the Commission, agreed this. In the Resolution, the House basically approved the Commission's Proposal and asked it to submit a comprehensive activity report on the question of interior motor vehicle safety.

#### **The EEC-Turkey Association** (16 November)

2420. Lord Mansfield (C, Great Britain) acting for the rapporteur Sir Tufton Beamish (C, Great Britain) submitted two reports on (a) the recommendation adopted by the Joint Parliamentary EEC-Turkey Association Committee, (b) the Commission's Communication to the Council on the outcome of the negotiations with Turkey following the enlargement of the Community, (c) the recommendation for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of an Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement as a result of the EEC's enlargement and (d) the recommendation for a Council Decision on the opening of negotiations with Turkey for an interim Agreement as a result of the EEC's enlargement.

Lord Mansfield referred to the special treatment of farming products, the special situation of Turkish industry and the question of generalized preferences. The negotiation had been successful for the interests of both parties, but Turkey did still not enjoy the system of generalized preferences. The Turkish migrant workers engaged in the Community must be afforded the same social rights as Community workers.

For the Socialists, Mr Broeks (S, Netherlands) approved the motion but regretted that with regard to Turkish elections no amnesty had yet been announced for political prisoners. Mr Klepsch (Germany) for the Christian Democrats applauded Turkey's return to full Parliamentary democracy. This was crucial to Turkey's eventual membership to the Community. On the economic side the promotion of Turkey's domestic economic and industrial development through the cooperation with EEC countries should be actively followed up. Acting for Sir Christopher Soames, Mr Thomson welcomed the report and hoped that the Additional Protocol could take effect from next year. Regarding Turkish workers in the Community, preparations were already under way so that the Association Council could take the required decisions on the social side, in line with Article 39 of the Additional Protocol.

In both Resolutions the House welcomed the signature of an Additional Protocol to the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement necessitated by the accession of three new Member States. Parliament expressed its satisfaction with the spirit of cooperation between the partners which had made for reasonable compromises on the matters involving conflicting interests.

The House also considered that in view of the need to protect Turkey's infant industries, the provision for the possible reintroduction of quotas by the Association Council was justified and was subject to adequate safeguards. It was

regretted, however, that Turkey was still not among those countries accorded generalized preferences from the Community in spite of repeated recommendations from Parliament to this effect. The House also hoped that the integration of Turkish workers and their families into the economic, social, educational and trade union structures of the host countries would be facilitated.

**Community Tariff Quota  
for Hazel-Nuts from Turkey**  
(16 November)

2421. Mr *de la Malène* (EPD, France) submitted a report on the Commission's proposed Regulation for opening, allocating and administering a Community tariff quota for fresh or dried hazel-nuts, shelled or not, falling under sub-heading ex 08.05 G of the CCT and of Turkish origin. The House passed a Resolution without debate approving the Commission's Proposal.

**Miscellaneous**

*Definition of the Community Customs Territory*  
(16 November)

2422. Mr *Klepsch* (C-D, Germany) submitted a report on the Commission's proposed Regulation to amend Council Regulation (EEC) 1496 of 27 September 1968 on defining the Community customs territory. The aim of the Proposal was to avoid possible discrimination against intra-Community trade by imports from third countries. Such discrimination could arise from the insufficiently precise definition of customs territory in the Accession Treaties used for determining customs value. The Commission Proposal would avoid disadvantages to intra-Community trade.

In the Resolution the House approved the Commission's Proposal.

*Lead Content of Petrol for Motor Vehicles*  
(14 November)

2423. Mr *Müller* (S, Germany) spoke to the Oral Question with debate which the Public Health and Environment Committee had put to the Commission concerning a limitation on the lead content of petrol for motor vehicles. He stressed that the Committee wanted to give full support to the Commission's programme but also wanted to examine it critically. The Commission would shortly have completed its work on the proposed Directive for limiting the lead content of petrol for motor vehicles. As stated by Mr *Gundelach*, Member of the Commission responsible for internal markets and the Customs Union, the text of the Proposal had been held back because the Commission had been heavily overburdened with work due to the latest developments over oil. Mr *Gundelach* rebutted the conjectures of some members that the Commission in view of the critical oil supply position was trying to play down the environmental aspect. Mr *Jahn* (C-D, Germany) voiced the wish of the House to be advised in detail of the handling of environment problems. The House was moreover committed to respect the time limits.

*Preservatives for Foodstuffs*  
(14 November)

2424. Mr *Martens* (C-D, Belgium) submitted a report on a Directive for a ninth Amendment to the Directive for approximating Member States' laws governing preservatives which may be used in foodstuffs.

Mr *Martens* said the Committee agreed the Commission's Proposal but with a reservation concerning the labelling of foodstuffs with par-

ticular reference to the indications regarding preservatives. Use of these materials should be kept to a minimum and scientific research into the harmful nature of these products should be followed up. Mr *Lardinois*, Member of the Commission, said that except for Point 3 he agreed with the Resolution motion.

In its Resolution the House approved the Directive in principle but made its approval subject to the condition that when new authorized preservatives are used, an indication to this effect would be mandatory. The House also considered that new findings which might allow certain preservatives to be replaced by less harmful substances should be reflected immediately in the Community legislation. Parliament considered it essential for the protection of public health for the Commission and Council to draw up as soon as possible the conditions which food manufacturers in the Community will be required to comply with.

### **Twentieth Joint Session of Members of the European Parliament with Members of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe**

(14 November)

2425. At this first session since the enlargement of the Community the discussions bore on the prospects for liberalizing trade within the range of the GATT negotiations.

A joint Communiqué confirmed the intention to promote European cooperation and efforts towards agreement so as to consolidate the identify of western Europe vis-à-vis the major world partners. The need was stressed for concerted action by the countries of western Europe in the current negotiations within GATT and the International Monetary Fund. Emphasis was also laid on the need for a change in the international monetary and trade institutions in

the interests of a much more open and fairer approach to all countries of the world. Delegates were convinced that the current GATT negotiation must lead to bolder reform programmes with a precise timetable for their execution. Negotiations over trade in agricultural products should fit in with the overall negotiation objectives but reckon with the idiosyncrasies of this sector and the various subsidy policies in individual countries. The least developed of the developing countries should be afforded aid in the form of special drawing rights to finance their development projects.

With regard to the oil crisis, the delegates believed that continuance of the oil embargo in the industrial countries could provoke a tendency to autarchy which would prejudice the endeavours of GATT towards worldwide liberalization of trade and economic international interpenetration. In the face of the oil crisis the European countries should act with solidarity.

### **The Council**

During November the Council held six sessions covering cooperation and development, general matters, economic and financial questions, agriculture and transport.<sup>1</sup>

#### **259th Session— Cooperation and Development** (Brussels, 5 November 1973)

2426. *President:* Mr *Nørgaard*, Danish Minister for External Economic Affairs.

*From the Commission:* Mr *Cheysson* and Mr *Borschette*, Members.

<sup>1</sup> For the various issues dealt with during the Council sessions, see the relevant Chapters of this number of the Bulletin.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr *Van Elslande*, Foreign Minister, Mr *Cudell*, Minister for Brussels Affairs, responsible for cooperation and development (Belgium); Mr *Nørgaard*, Minister for External Economic Affairs, Mr *Christensen*, Secretary of State for External Economic Affairs (Denmark); Mr *Epler*, Minister for Economic Cooperation (Germany); Mr *Deniau*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (France); Mr *Fitzgerald*, Minister for Foreign Affairs, (Ireland); Mr *Pedini*, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Italy); Mr *Thorn*, Foreign Minister (Luxembourg); Mr *Pronk*, Minister of Cooperation and Development (Netherlands), Mr *Wood*, Minister for Overseas Development (United Kingdom).

During this session the Council arrived at a consensus of agreement on six Resolutions, with the understanding that final agreement could not be reached until the end of the deliberations on all the problems arising from the global development policy. These Resolutions concern harmonization and coordination of Member States' cooperation policies, commodity agreements, generalized preferences, promotion of developing countries' exports, technical assistance for regional integration between developing countries and problems arising from debts incurred by the developing countries.

The Council also made a thorough review of the question of volume of public aid for development and the possible availability to non-Associated countries of financial resources out of Community funds.

#### 260th Session—General Matters (Brussels, 6 November 1973)

2427. *President*: Mr *Nørgaard*, Danish Minister for External Economic Affairs.

*From the Commission*: Mr *Ortoli*, President, Mr *Haferkamp*, Dr *Hillery*, Mr *Simonet*, Vice-

Presidents, Mr *Cheysson*, Mr *Borschette*, Mr *Thomson*, Members.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr *Van Elslande*, Foreign Minister (Belgium); Mr *Nørgaard*, Minister for External Economic Affairs, Mr *Christensen*, Secretary of State for External Economic Affairs (Denmark); Mr *Scheel*, Foreign Minister, Mr *Apel*, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Germany); Mr *Jobert*, Foreign Minister, Mr *de Lipkowski*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (France); Mr *Keating*, Minister of Industry and Trade (Ireland); Mr *Moro*, Foreign Minister, Mr *Pedini*, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Italy); Mr *Thorn*, Foreign Minister (Luxembourg); Mr *van der Stoel*, Foreign Minister, Mr *Brinkhorst*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Netherlands); Sir *Alec Douglas Home*, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr *Davies*, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (United Kingdom).

The session was preceded by a political concertation on the Near East which was closed by the adoption of a Joint Declaration.<sup>1</sup>

At a select meeting the Council deliberated at length on the problems arising from Europe's oil supplies. The following Communiqué was issued after the discussion: 'the Council reaffirms the resolve of the Member States of the European Communities to contribute individually and collectively to an equitable solution of the Middle East problem as indicated in their Declaration of this day. Aware of the interdependence of the Member States' economies the Council has asked the Commission and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to continue to keep a close watch on the situation resulting from the shortage of crude oil and to report to the Council.'

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2502.

With regard to the generalized preferences in favour of the developing countries and particularly their application for 1974, the Council examined in detail certain problems arising in this quarter. Subject to an adequate solution being found, agreement was reached on these issues and on other questions under Study.

In the field of insurance credit, guarantees and financial credit, the Council adopted a Decision on the consultation and information procedures. This Decision will strengthen and extend to cover a considerable number of questions, the prior consultation procedure laid down by the Council Decision of 26 January 1965.

Regarding the multilateral Agreement on world trade and textile products (the 'all-fibres' arrangement) the Council, after reviewing the problems involved in the Community's participation in drawing up this Agreement, authorized the Commission to take part in negotiations for such an arrangement on the basis of Directives already adopted by the Council.

Under the Agreement on food aid (the 1972/1973 schedule) the Council adopted the Decisions on concluding Agreements between the European Community and (i) Sri Lanka, (ii) the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, (UNRWA) and (iii) Egypt with regard to supplying soft-wheat flour and rice as food aid.

Lastly, the Council formally adopted the Regulation on concluding a Trade Agreement between the Community and Uruguay, the Regulation on applying certain customs decisions of the Joint Committee set up by the EEC-Iceland Agreement and the Regulation on opening, allocating and administering a Community tariff quota for treatments of certain textile products in Community outward processing traffic.

### 261st Session— Economic and Financial Questions (Brussels, 9 November 1973)

2428. *President:* Mr *Haekkerup*, Danish Minister for Economic Affairs.

*From the Commission:* Mr *Ortoli*, President; Mr *Haferkamp*, Mr *Simonet*, Vice-Presidents; Mr *Borschette*, Member.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr *De Clercq*, Minister of Finance, Mr *Claes*, Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr *Van de Putte*, Governor of the Banque Nationale (Belgium); Mr *Haekkerup*, Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr *Hoffmeyer*, Governor of the National Bank, Mr *Hansen*, Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (Denmark); Mr *Friderichs*, Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr *Klasen*, President of the Bundesbank, Mr *Poehl*, Secretary of State for Finance, Mr *Schlecht*, Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (Germany); Mr *Giscard d'Estaing*, Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr *Wormser*, Governor of the Banque de France (France); Mr *Ryan*, Minister of Finance (Ireland); Mr *La Malfa*, Minister of the Treasury, Mr *Carli*, Governor of the Banca d'Italia (Italy); Mr *Werner*, Prime Minister and Minister of the Treasury (Luxembourg); Mr *Brinkhorst*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr *Zijlstra*, President of the Nederlandse Bank N.V. (Netherlands); Mr *Barber*, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr *Richardson*, Governor of the Bank of England (United Kingdom).

Also present were Mr *Klasen*, Chairman of the Central Banks' Governors Committee, Mr *Hansen*, Chairman of the Coordination Group for Short-Term Economic and Financial policies, Mr *Brouwers*, Chairman of Short-Term Economic Policy Committee, and Mr *Firmi*, Chairman of the Budget Policy Committee.

The Council got down to its third annual review of the short-term economic situation in the

Community and adopted the third Annual Report on the Economic Situation in the Community. The Council also officially adopted the Regulations for supporting Community projects in the hydrocarbon sector. These Regulations bear on increasing the volume of the Community tariff quota for crude magnesium, and applying the economic Regulation and ground rules for the 1972 International Cocoa Agreement.

Within the compass of the Food Aid Agreement, the Council adopted the Decisions on concluding Agreements between the EEC and the Sudan, Uruguay, Senegal, the Philippines (1972-1973 schedule) and Upper Volta (1971-1972 schedule) concerning the supply of soft wheat and maize as food aid.

As part of the food aid programme in the form of dairy produce decided on 14 May in favour of the Sahel countries, the Council adopted Decisions on the conclusion of Agreements between the EEC and Mali, Mauretania, Chad, Senegal, Niger and Upper Volta concerning the supply of skim milk powder as food aid.

## 262nd Session—Agriculture

(Brussels 19, 20 and 21 November 1973)

2429. *President:* Mr *Frederiksen*, Danish Minister of Agriculture.

*From the Commission:* Mr *Lardinois*, Member.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr *Lavens*, Minister of Agriculture (Belgium); Mr *Frederiksen*, Minister of Agriculture (Denmark); Mr *Ertl*, Minister of Agriculture, Mr *Rohr*, Secretary of State for Agriculture (Germany); Mr *Chirac*, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (France); Mr *Clinton*, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (Ireland); Mr *Ferrari-Aggradi*, Minister of Agriculture, Mr *Cifarelli*, Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture (Italy); Mr *Ney*, Minister of Agriculture,

(Luxembourg); Mr *Van der Stee*, Minister of Agriculture (Netherlands); Mr *Godber*, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr *Davies*, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (United Kingdom).

Regarding the Directive on hill farming and farming certain underfavoured areas, the Council after a detailed review of problems in this sector, reached agreement on the basic elements of the enactment terms for this Directive.

The Council also agreed to set the market target price of olive oil for the 1973-1974 marketing year. The intervention and threshold prices will be adjusted in consequence. It was also decided to form a regulator stock. The Council furthermore decided that 1% of the aid to be disbursed to producers would go to financing the setting up of the olive oil register in the Community.

The Council definitively adopted the Regulation on measures to be taken in the agricultural sector after the raising of the central rate for the Dutch florin. Also adopted were two Regulations concerning the pigmeat and fishery sectors, a Directive on amendments to certain Directives following the EEC's enlargement, a Directive on surveys to be made by Member States on pork production and several Directives on the removal of technical barriers to trade. Under Article 55, paragraph 2 c) of the ECSC Treaty, the Council gave an Opinion allowing the Commission to grant financial aid for technical iron and steel research.

On food aid, the Council adopted a Decision on concluding an Agreement between the EEC and Mali concerning the supply of soft wheat flour and sorghum.

The Council also agreed the text on the crash procedure for consulting the Economic and Social Committee. It is identical with the procedure already approved by the Council for consulting the European Parliament.



Lastly, the Council passed a Resolution on setting up new advisory committees for programme management.

### 263rd Session—Transport (Brussels, 22 November 1973)

2430. *President:* Mr *Kampmann*, Danish Minister of Transport.

*From the Commission:* Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza*, Vice-President.

*Member States' Governments were represented by:* Mr *Ramaekers*, Minister of Communications and Port Policy (Belgium); Mr *Kampmann*, Minister of Transport (Denmark); Mr *Wittrock*, Secretary of State for Transport (Germany); Mr *Guéna*, Minister of Transport (France); Mr *Barry*, Minister of Transport and Power (Ireland); Mr *Preti*, Minister of Transport (Italy); Mr *Mart*, Minister for Economic Affairs, Transport and Power (Luxembourg); Mr *Westerterp*, Minister of Transport and Waterways (Netherlands); Mr *Peyton*, Minister of Transport (United Kingdom).

The Council heard an introductory statement from the Commission setting forth basic points of its Communication on the development of the common transport policy. The guidelines to be adopted in this sphere were then discussed for the first time.

The Council resumed its proceedings concerning the proposed Directive on the weights and sizes of utility road vehicles and on certain additional technical conditions. But no agreement was finally reached because the new Member States could not drop their reservations on two key points of the general guidelines adopted at the meeting of 6-7 November 1972,<sup>1</sup> i.e. the total loaded weight and the maximum weight per axle.

The Council officially acknowledged the 1973 annual report of the Railways Group of the Nine on the development of cooperation. The Commission has stipulated that it will submit recommendations on this subject.

The Council also officially acknowledged two Commission reports on application of Regulation 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on harmonizing certain social provisions for road freight haulage.

It agreed the content of a Directive amending the first Directive on laying down certain joint rules for intra-Community road freight haulage.

The Member States' Government Representatives meeting within the Council Agreed two Protocols concerning the Accession of new Member States to the ECSC Agreements with Switzerland (1956) and Austria (1957). The two Agreements cover the setting up of direct international rail tariffs for the carriage of coal and steel in transit through the territory of those States. A third rider to the Agreement of 21 March 1955 was also agreed. This concerns the setting up of direct international ECSC rail tariffs.

The Council formally adopted the Declaration it had made with the Member States' Government Representatives meeting within the Council on the labour costs in commerce, banks and insurance houses. Also adopted were a Regulation on applying certain customs decisions of the Joint Committee formed under the EEC-Norway Agreement, two Directives on the approximation of Member States' laws on detergents and the methods of monitoring the biological breakdown of anionic surfactants, a Directive on synchronizing general censuses of the population and a Decision amending the Decision of 21 March 1962 introducing a prior review and consultation procedure for certain legal and administrative provisions contemplated by Member States for Transport.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 11-1972, point 136.

**264th Session**

(Brussels, 26 November 1973)

2431. *President: Mr Nørgaard*, Danish Minister for External Economic Affairs.

*From the Commission: Sir Christopher Soames*, Vice-President.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr *Daems*, Secretary of State for External Trade (Belgium); Mr *Nørgaard*, Minister for External Economic Affairs (Denmark); Mr *Sachs*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Germany); Mr *de Lipkowski*, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (France); Mr *Dillon*, Permanent Representative (Ireland); Mr *Bombassi de Vettor*, Permanent Representative (Italy); Mr *Dondelinger* (Permanent Representative) (Luxembourg); Mr *Korthals Altes*, Deputy Permanent Representative (Netherlands); Mr *Royle*, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom).

The proceedings of this session were devoted to preparing for the first meeting of the EEC-Cyprus Association Council.

**Court of Justice****New Cases**

*Case 180/73—Belgium vs. Mr Joseph Van Slambrouck, Ekeren, and others*

2432. In a criminal case, identical with cases 178 and 179/73, brought by the State of Belgium against economic operators and concerning the cereal sector, the Brussels Court of Appeal filed a request with the Court for a preliminary ruling on interpretation of Articles 2 and 7 of Regula-

tion 25 and Regulation 729/70 covering the financing of the common agricultural policy and the Council Decision of 21 April 1970 on Community own resources. The question is whether it is the State of Belgium rather than the Community which should be the plaintiff in this case.

*Case 181/73—SPRL R. & V. Haegemen, Brussels, vs. Belgium* in the person of the Minister for Economic Affairs

2433. Under a legal action concerning the payment of countervailing levies on imports of Greek wines into the territory of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, the Court of First Instance on 7 November 1973 filed a request with the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on interpretation of the EEC-Greece Association Agreement, and with particular reference to the sense to be attributed to certain terms of the Agreement and to the Commission's powers for applying a countervailing tax scheme.

*Case 182/73—Commission Official vs. the Commission*

2434. This is an appeal for payment of arrears of living abroad allowance.

*Case 183/73—Osram GmbH, Munich, vs. Oberfinanzdirektion, Frankfurt/Main*

2435. During litigation over official information on customs tariffs binding for the German authorities ('bindende Zolltarifauskunft') the Federal Finance Court asked the Court of Justice on 19 November 1973 to give a preliminary ruling on the customs classification of 'glass bulbs, tubes and envelopes'.

*Case 184/73—Bestuur van de Nieuwe Algemene Bedrijfsvereniging, Amsterdam, vs. Mr H. W. Kaufmann, Neuwied*

2436. The Centrale Raad van Beroep involved in litigation over the granting of a benefit under invalidity insurance filed a request with the Court on 21 November 1973 for a preliminary ruling on interpretation of Article 11 paragraph 2 of Regulation 3 concerning the social security of migrant workers with special reference to interpretation of the reduction or suspension clause laid down by the law of a Member State when a benefit is cumulated with other benefits.

### Judgments

*Case 31/71—Commission Official vs. the Commission*

2437. In this case for declaring the plaintiff as an invalidity case, the Court of Justice on 29 November 1973 issued an interlocutory Decree.

*Joint Cases 63—69/72—Firma Wilhelm Werhahn Hansamuhle, Hamburg, and others, vs. the Council and the Commission*

2438. On 14 September 1972 the Court of Justice had received seven appeals for compensation lodged on the basis of Article 215, paragraph 2, EEC by German millers for damages they claimed to have suffered under the Community rules on hard wheat prices, aid for hard wheat and under provisions brought in in the wake of the 1971/1972 monetary developments.

By its Decree of 13 November 1973 the Court quashed these appeals as unfounded.

*Case 36/73—NV., Nederlandse Spoorwegen, Utrecht, vs. the Minister of Transport and Waterways*

2439. During an action between the Dutch railways and the Minister of Transport con-

cerning three Decisions made by the latter on 30 December 1971 to enforce Regulation 1191/69 on Member States' action on obligations inherent in the concept of public service in the field of rail, road and inland waterway transport, the Raad van State of the Netherlands asked the Court for a preliminary ruling on interpretation of Articles 2, 4, 5 and 10 of the said Regulation.

In its Decree of 27 November 1973 the Court defined the 'tariff obligation' in the sense of this Regulation. It specified that economic drawbacks can possibly be taken out for one year only and that should public service obligations be partially discontinued, the distribution of total operating costs is to be spread over all activities.

*Case 49/73—Firma Herbert Fleischer, Import-Export, vs. Hauptzollamt, Flensburg*

2440. On 15 March the Court of Justice had received a request for a preliminary ruling from the Hamburg Finanzgericht concerning the customs classification of 'bulk caramel' (caramel en masse).

By its Decree of 7 November 1973, the Court ruled on the classification of this product.

*Case 51/73—Bestuur der Sociale Verzekeringsbank, Amsterdam, vs. B. Smieja, Essen-Kupferdreh*

2441. The Centrale Raad van Beroep of Utrecht asked the Court on 19 March 1973 for a preliminary ruling on interpretations of Articles 8 and 10, paragraph 1 of Regulations 3 and on Articles 3 paragraph 1 and 10 paragraph 1 of Regulation 1408/71 covering the social security of migrant workers.

By its Decree of 7 November 1973, the Court gave details on the words: 'by virtue of the laws

of one or several Member States' in Article 10 paragraph 1 of Regulation 3 and on the words 'under the laws of one or several Member States' in Article 10 paragraph 1 of Regulation 1408/71, as well as on the word 'acquises' (acquired) in the same Articles.

*Case 128/73—Firma Past & Co. KG, Rulzheim/Pfalz, vs. Hauptzollamt, Freiburg*

2442. In litigation over the collection of a customs charge on sheepskins imported from Spain, the Baden-Württemberg, Finanzgericht had asked the Court on 20 April 1973 to give a preliminary ruling on the customs classification of chromium-tanned skins.

In its Decree of 22 November 1973, the Court specified the classification for these skins.

*Case 130/73—Widow Magdalena Vandeweghe, Ingelmunster, Solange Verhelle, Ingelmunster, and the Belgian Ministry for Public Health and Families vs. the Berufsgenossenschaft für die chemische Industrie, Heidelberg*

2443. On 30 April 1973 the Landessozialgericht of Baden-Württemberg had asked the Court for a preliminary ruling on interpreting Article 2 of the Third Additional Agreement to the General Social Security Agreement of 7 December 1957 between Belgium and the Federal Republic concerning entitlement to death benefits and the lump sum allowance to be paid to the widow if she remarries.

*Case 138/73—Codrico N.V., Rotterdam, vs. Hoofdproduktschap voor Akkerbouwprodukten, The Hague*

2444. On 30 May 1973, the College van Beroep voor het Bedrijfsleven had filed a request with the Court for a preliminary ruling on the use of dosage techniques for determining the fat content of certain cereals.

By its Decree of 28 November 1973, the Court ruled that Article 1 of Regulation 2410/70 combined with Article 11 of Regulation 1052/68 implied that for lack of a Community rule on the subject, the national judge is qualified to assess the probative value of any test made to find the fat content of these cereals.

*Case 139/73—Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel, Frankfurt/Main, vs. Firma Eugen Münch, Getreidemühle, Horgen*

2445. On 4 June 1973 the Hessen Verwaltungsgerichtshof had applied to the Court for a preliminary ruling on interpreting the word 'délai' in the last lines of Regulation 1196/71 or the terms for granting compensatory allowances for soft wheat, rye for breadmaking and maize in storage at the end of the 1970/1971 marketing year, as compared with Article 3 paragraph 4 of Regulation 1182/71 on determining the rules applicable to time limits, dates and terms.

By the Decree of 22 November 1973, the Court ruled that the last paragraph of Article 3 of Regulation 1196/71 lays down neither a time limit nor a date in the sense of Regulation 1182/71.

*Case 164/73—Firma Arthur Volz, Oldenburg vs. Hauptzollamt, Oldenburg*

2446. In litigation over the terms for computing the levy on imports of clementines from Spain into Germany, the Hamburg Finanzgericht had on 6 September 1973 filed a request with the Court for a preliminary ruling on interpreting the concept 'entrée' in Article 11 paragraph 2 of Regulation 23 on the gradual formation of a joint organization of the market in the fruit and vegetable sector.

The case was struck from the Court's record on 28 November 1973 since the Hamburg Finanzgericht had withdrawn its request.

## Economic and Social Committee

2447. The 115th plenary session of the Economic and Social Committee was held in Strasbourg on 29-30 November 1973, with Mr Lappas, the regular Chairman, in the Chair. During this session the Committee adopted seven Opinions. Dr Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, attended part of the session.

## Opinions issued by the Committee

## Opinion on the 'draft Social Action Programme'

2448. This Opinion prepared from the report by Mr Muhr (Workers' group, Germany) was adopted unanimously save for 9 abstentions. In the Opinion the Committee claimed that a Community social policy implied effective instruments meaning that broad powers of decision on social policy had to be transferred to the Community. Such a move must be matched by individuals taking a greater part in economic, social and political decisions.

The Committee also asked to be consulted on all proposals to do with the Social Action Programme, Proposals which the Commission will lay before the Council next year.

The Committee emphasized that not only must the Community's social policy be closely linked to policies conducted in other spheres, the objectives of this policy must moreover be regarded as constraining guidelines when all Community decisions are taken. The attainment and upkeep of full employment and the improvement of working conditions should be the priority targets of Community policy.

## Opinion on the 'Commission's Communication concerning the programme for industrial and technological policy'

2449. In this Opinion prepared on the agreement of Mr Kley (Employers' Group, Germany) and adopted by 45 votes against 8 with 9 abstentions, the Committee held that the industrial policy must be regarded as a global design to enhance the competition potential of European industries. To make real headway in this area we should have to set priorities such as removing technical barriers, opening up public and semi-public contracts, promoting undertakings competitive on a European scale and fostering industries of advanced technology. Whilst it intended that the development of Community industry must fit into all overall Community policy aimed at improving the quality of life, working conditions and the environment, the Committee stressed that attaining these objectives hinged largely on economic progress. For this reason the industrial policy must have the objective of creating the optimum conditions for qualitative economic growth.

## Opinion on the 'Commission's Communication concerning an initial implementation of priority guidelines and action for a Community energy policy and on the six appendixes Proposals'

2450. In this Opinion prepared from the report by Mr Bonomi (Employers' group, Italy) and adopted by 49 votes against 18 with 5 abstentions, the Committee deplored the lack of a joint energy policy. In principle the Committee endorsed the Commission views on appraisal of the energy position but made reservations regarding the measures it proposed. Regarding organization of the Community market, the Committee believed that recent events affecting oil supplies again pinpointed the need to create an authentic joint energy policy for the Community, a policy which would allow measures to be brought in for diversifying the supply sources and reducing our dependence with regard to oil. The set of measures proposed by the Commission confining rules under commercial policy

to hydrocarbons did not allow such a joint policy to be mounted.

Opinion on the *'proposed Council Regulation concerning the list of priority agricultural regions and zones laid down by the EEC Regulation on the financing by the EAGGF, Guidance Section, of projects falling into the development programme for the priority agricultural regions'* and on the *'proposed Council Regulation on the list of regions and zones laid down in the EEC Regulation and who may benefit from interventions by the European Regional Development Fund'*

2451. The Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion prepared from the report by Mr Ventejol (Workers' group, France) on the two Proposals. The Opinion specifies the value of a regional policy at Community level for implementing a social and monetary union. But the Committee held that the Commission's proposed lists include too many regions and areas, which might impair the concentration and nature of aid to be granted. The Committee was therefore asking for the lists to be reviewed restrictively on the basis of more selective criteria.

Opinion on the *'proposed Council Directive concerning the ninth modification of the Directive on the approximation of Member States' laws covering preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs for human consumption'*

2452. In this Opinion prepared from the report by Miss Roberts (General Interests group, United Kingdom) and unanimously adopted, the Committee while endorsing the main lines of the Proposal regretted that for the sake of harmonization certain Member States would be led to accept the use of additives which they regard as unnecessary.

Opinion on the *'proposed EEC Council Regulation on the tariff treatments applicable to agricultural products held in passengers' luggage'*

2453. In this Opinion prepared from the report by Mr De Grave (Workers' group, Belgium) and unanimously adopted the Committee approved the Proposal extending the exemption from CCT charges, collected under the CAP, to cover goods held in passengers' luggage.

Opinion on the *'proposed Council (EEC) Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) 1496/68 of 27 September 1968 on defining the Community customs territory'*

2454. In this Opinion prepared from the report by Mr De Grave (Workers' Group, Belgium) and unanimously adopted, the Committee approved the Commission Proposal. It wondered, however, whether the time was not ripe to revise the actual definition of Community customs territory with the aim of simplifying it since the preservation of a number of historical idiosyncrasies caused problems in applying Community provisions, which were out of all proportion to the interests which the provisions were supposed to respect.

## ECSC Consultative Committee

2455. The Consultative Committee met for its 159th session on 6 November 1973 in Luxembourg with Sir David Davies in the Chair. The agenda included the report on priority action for the Community energy policy, the report on safety and health in collieries and the iron and steel industry as well as a discussion on the Commission's draft Decision concerning coking coal and coke.

Regarding energy policy the Committee unanimously adopted less four abstentions the report by Mr de la Vallée Poussin on priority action for the Community energy policy.

The debates of this session were largely devoted to discussion of a draft Resolution put down by the Coal Producers and Workers concerning the recent events on the world energy markets which are threatening deep-seated imbalance and existing tension.

During the discussion many Committee members from all the Groups (Producers, Workers, Consumers) stressed the need to ensure the Community's energy supply by keeping domestic production up to the maximum, which meant coal output. In other words, we should put a stop to the systematic policy of regression in coal extraction; insofar as the price conditions did not deteriorate the competitiveness of the consuming industries on the international market.

The Committee adopted by a big majority the slightly amended draft Resolution and strongly urged the Commission to do its utmost to modify the regressive policy on coal production in relation to the recent changes on the energy market, to intensify the search for natural gas within Community territory and to speed up the work and research on nuclear energy production.

Some members regretted that the Committee did not have the vitally necessary technical and economic information to hand in order to define the energy stock and supply problem in its entirety and in the long term. It was also emphasized that although regarding quantities we had to try to swell energy resources from various quarters, we also had to make every endeavour to cut down consumption by taking appropriate measures. Regarding the upkeep of Community coal output, it was pointed out by the Steel Producers that the costs involved must not fall on the steel industry alone. It was not only the security of the steel industry's stocks

and supplies which was at stake. The security of overall economic expansion and the security of employment were involved. The upkeep of Community production was therefore a collective burden.

The Committee also adopted the draft report by Mr Moreau on safety and health in collieries and the iron and steel industry and discussed, as under Article 95, paragraph 1, of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission's draft Decision bearing on application of the Decision concerning coking coal and coke.

## European Investment Bank

### Convention for closer Cooperation between National long-term Credit Institutions

2456. The heads of eight national institutions of EEC member countries which specialize in the granting of long-term credit signed a Convention providing for closer cooperation between their respective organizations.

The signatories are: the Crédit National (France), the Finance Corporation for Industry (United Kingdom), Finansieringsinstituttet for Industri og Handvaerk (Denmark), the Industrial Credit Company (Ireland), the Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (Italy), the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Germany), the Nationale Investeringsbank (Netherlands) and the Société Nationale de Crédit à l'Industrie (Belgium).

In June 1971 the national institutions of the original members of the European Community, in cooperation with the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community, set up joint Working Parties to deal with various economic and legal studies. The Con-

vention now agreed between the institutions provides for the continuation of their joint research and exchanges of information but, more importantly, establishes a new framework for their cooperation in promoting investment projects in which two or more institutions could have an interest and which are of such a size that some external finance would be desirable.

As the projects likely to be supported under the terms of the Convention will probably be large-scale and significant in a European context, cooperation will frequently be sought with commercial banks and other financial institutions. The European Investment Bank, which has agreed to provide Secretariat services for the national credit institutions, is prepared to participate in supporting projects that fall within its statutory terms of reference.

### Loans Granted

#### *Ireland*

2457. The European Investment Bank has concluded with the Irish Government a loan contract for the equivalent of 7.5 million Irish pounds (15.3 million u.a.). Under the terms of the agreement signed in Dublin on 26 November 1973, the loan will be for a period of 20 years at a rate of 8.5% and will be used by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs to contribute to the financing of the first stage of a 5-year programme for the modernization and extension of the telephone service in Ireland.

At present the telephone density of Ireland is well below that of the other EEC Member States. The latest national figure of under 12 telephones per 100 inhabitants compares with latest available figures for the other members ranging from around 19 in the case of France and Italy to almost 36 in Denmark. The system is also in need of modernization to bring the present rate of automatization of 85% closer to the other EEC members' average of 96%.

The first stage of the development programme to which the EIB is lending its support, will provide 34 000 new subscriber connections and will also include conversion of manual exchange to automatic working, extensions and improvements to existing automatic exchanges and to the trunk network, as well as provision of a new international exchange to improve communications with Europe.

## Financing Community Activities

### Draft of the 1974 General Budget

2458. The General Budget of the European Community for the financial year 1974 was reviewed by the European Parliament during sittings of 13 and 15 November 1973.<sup>1</sup>

In its Resolution<sup>2</sup> the House stressed the need to improve the basic tool which the Budget can be said to represent for the life of the Community. The House asked for greater clarity in improving the presentation, drawing up financial work sheets and tightening the controls to facilitate more effective execution of the budget. Parliament also reiterated that the current draft Budget should be backed up as soon as possible by an additional Budget covering the credit required to set up the European Regional Development Fund which is scheduled to become operational from 1 January 1974 as laid down by the October 1972 Summit Conference.

With its 27 proposed amendments the House is asking for:

(i) reinstatement of credits, requested by the Commission and deleted by the Council, for t

<sup>1</sup> Point 2407.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 108 of 10.12.1973.



Social Fund (142 800 000 u.a.) for industrial development contracts (20 000 000 u.a.) for the action programme on scientific and technological policy (1 000 000 u.a.) and for certain budget entries (committees, aid and subsidies);

(ii) increases in aid credit for the Third World (40 000 000 u.a.) and the EAGGF Guidance Section (reinstatement of 75 000 000 u.a.);

(iii) means to strengthen internal controls;

(iv) the transfer to Chapter 98 (unallocated expenditure) of EAGGF, Guarantee Section credit which should not be required in 1974 (66 500 000 u.a.).

It must be stressed that the review and adoption procedure of the 1974 Budget is the last to be carried out according to Article 203 a (so-called 'transition' period) of the Treaty. From next year in drawing up the 1975 Budget Article 203 ('definitive' period laying down the integral financing of the Community Budget by own Community own resources) will take effect and entail greater participation by the *European Parliament*.

### **New Guidelines for Preparing and Executing the Budget**

2459. During its meeting of 28 November the Commission decided on a set of measures for appreciable improvements to the procedures for preparing and executing the Budget:

The annual budget procedure will start with Commission deliberations to set the political priorities and the expenditure ceilings for the major Community projects. Commission departments will furnish complete and detailed justification for any significant increases in expenditure. The Commission will then make the necessary rulings with full information to hand. Six months later it will adopt simultaneously the preliminary draft of the budget and the three-year forecasts so that it can take note

of the results of policy developments with financial repercussions. All necessary arrangements will be made so as to fit the big Community projects into the economic and short-term outlook. A system of financial worksheets will be set up enabling forecast and actual expenditure to be compared at any time.

The Commission will in principle refrain from putting down an additional budget unless the need for it is due either to unexpected developments or a fresh Council Decision during the year.

Throughout the budgetary financial year the execution of the budget and the three-year forecasts will be very closely watched: quarterly execution reports including extrapolated receipts and expenditures for the rest of the financial year will be discussed by the Commission and transmitted to Parliament and the Council. Each new event or decision with important financial repercussions (for instance, the setting of farm prices or a proposed new project) will be supported by an expenditure status report and an amendment of the three-year forecasts.

The appropriate budgetary proposals (credit transfers or additional budget as the case may be) will be decided on by the Commission at the same time that the policy decision is adopted. Financial proposals and proposed decisions will be forwarded together to the Council.

### **Fixing the Rate of the ECSC Levy and Drawing up the ECSC 1974 Operational Budget**

2460. During its meeting of 7 November, the Commission adopted the draft of the ECSC 1974 operational Budget corresponding to a levy rate of 0.30%. It adopted a Communication to Parliament who is to issue its Opinion during the December sitting. After this the Commission will be required to formally adopt the ECSC operational budget and the ECSC levy rate for 1974.

## 5. Political Cooperation

### Financing Community Activities

#### ECSC Loans

2461. During November 1973, the Commission made three loan transactions:

(i) a loan of 100 million DM, equivalent value 27.3 million u.a. This bond issue maturing in 15 years and underwritten by a consortium of German banks bears interest at 7.75% p.a. and is offered to the public at an issue price of 98.50%;

(ii) a loan of 200 million Luxembourg Frs., equivalent value 4 million u.a. This is a private issue maturing over 12 years with interest at 8% p.a.;

(iii) a loan of 1 000 million Belgian Frs., equivalent value 20 million u.a. This bond issue maturing over 12 years and underwritten by a consortium of Belgian banks, bears interest at 7.75% p.a. and is offered to the public at the issue price of 98.25%.

Following these transactions, the sum total of loans contracted by the ECSC since it started activities has now reached the equivalent value of 1 490.6 million u.a.

2501. On the basis of political cooperation, Member States' Foreign Ministers met on 5-6 November 1973 in Brussels and on 20 November 1973 in Copenhagen. The meetings concentrated mainly on the Near East situation,<sup>1</sup> relations between Europe and the United States, organizing the Summit Conference and the Declaration on European Identity.

2502. On 21 November Copenhagen saw the third colloquium to be held this year *between Foreign Ministers and members of the European Parliament's Political Committee*. The meeting was in line with the provisions of the second report on European political cooperation. Besides members of the Political Committee the colloquium was attended by Mr *Andersen*, the Danish Foreign Minister, and officiating Chairman of the Foreign Ministers Conference, and by Mr *Brinkhorst*, the Dutch Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and by Heads and members of the German, French, Irish and Italian Missions in Copenhagen. At the meeting Mr Andersen briefed the Political Committee on the discussions at the Ministerial meeting the day before. The colloquium debates focused on the forthcoming Summit Conference, the Near East problems, relations between the United States and Europe and on European Identity.

#### Joint EEC-USA Declaration

2503. The work on this Declaration was carried on in various groups and at different levels. After the meeting in Copenhagen on 18-19 October between the Political Committee and an American delegation led by Mr Stoessel, Assistant Secretary of State, the Political Committee and the Community institutions handling the economic part of the Declaration reviewed the suggestion made by the United States Government regarding the formulation of the text.

<sup>1</sup> For the text of the Declaration of the Nine of 6 November, see Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2502.

A further meeting was held in Copenhagen on 14 November between the Political Committee and an American delegation to continue finalizing the text. A communiqué published at the end of the meeting by the Danish Foreign Minister indicated that 'the work on the declaration of principle was proceeding very satisfactorily.'

The work was discussed at the Ministerial meeting of 20 November in Copenhagen. When the meeting closed Mr Andersen said that 'very satisfactory progress' had been made although 'certain problems still remained to be solved with the United States and between the Nine.'

### Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

2504. The proceedings of the second leg of the CSCE took place in Geneva within the various committees and sub-committees formed on the basis of final recommendations adopted by the Foreign Ministers at the end of the first leg of the Conference in Helsinki from 3 to 8 July. During the Helsinki proceedings the Nine ensured a close coordination of their position, coordination in which the Commission would share regarding any issues involving the economic facet of the CSCE. This coordination allowed joint positions of the Nine to emerge on the main topics discussed in Geneva.

In compliance with the decisions taken at the Member States' Foreign Ministers meeting of 10-11 September in Copenhagen, Commission representatives took part in the proceedings of the CSCE Economic Committee and particularly in those of the Sub-Committee on Trade. The Commission representatives expressed the Community's point of view insofar as Community procedures and authority required it.

### European Identity

2505. During their meeting of 20 November in Copenhagen, the Foreign Ministers approved the paper on European Identity. This Declaration, based on the principles of Community cohesion, on the position and responsibility of the Nine with regard to the rest of the world and on the dynamic character of the construction of Europe will be published during the Summit Conference.





**3<sup>RD</sup> PART**

**INFORMATION  
AND SOURCES**

## 1. From Day to Day

*For technical reasons, the notes under this heading relating to the month of November will appear in the next number of the Bulletin.*

## 2. Published in the Official Journal

This tabulation covers the numbers of the Official Journal published during November 1973.

### European Parliament

#### 1973-1974 Session

*Report of Proceedings from 4 to 5 October 1973*  
Annex 166, October 1973

*Report of Proceedings from 15 to 19 October 1973*  
Annex 167, October 1973

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Monday 15 October 1973*  
C 95, 10.11.1973

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Tuesday 16 October 1973*  
C 95, 10.11.1973

Resolution on an amendment to Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament concerning the quorum in plenary sitting and Rule 41 concerning the quorum for committee meetings

Oral Questions 76/73, with debate to the Council of the European Communities and 77/73, with debate to the Commission of the European Communities by Mr Lückner, on behalf of the Christian Democratic Group: Anti-inflation policy

Opinion on the proposal concerning the annual report on the economic situation in the Community

Resolution on an amendment to Rule 36(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament on the minimum of members necessary to form a political group

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Wednesday, 17 October 1973*  
C 95, 10.11.1973

#### Question Time

Question put to the Council of the European Communities:

(i) 118/73 by Mr Taverne: Section 15 of the communiqué of the Paris Summit Conference

Questions put to the Commission of the European Communities:

(i) 120/73 by Mr Armengaud: EEC/AASM Association

(ii) 93/73 by Mr Durieux: Opening of public contracts

(iii) 127/73 by Mr Broeksz: Publication in the OJ of the European Communities of announcements of public works contracts

(iv) 94/73 by Mr Radoux: Transition to the second stage of economic and monetary union

(v) 110/73 by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker: Aide memoire from the Indian Government concerning Joint Declaration of Intent annexed to the Treaty of Accession

(vi) 111/73 by Sir Tufton Beamish: Joint Declaration of Intent annexed to the Treaty of Accession

Resolution on the conflict in the Near and Middle East

Resolution on the military coup d'état in Chile

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Thursday, 18 October 1973*  
C95, 10.11.1973

Resolution on relations between the European Community and the United States of America

Resolution on the Agreement signed between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway

Oral Question 98/73 with debate, by Mr Jahn, Mr Artzinger, Mr Bertrand, Mr Burgbacher, Mr Früh, Mr Giraudo, Mr Härzschel, Mr Martens, Mr Mursch, Mr Noè, Mr Notenboom, Mr Pêtre, Mr Schuijt and Mr Springorum to the Commission of the European Communities: Cooperation agreements with State-trading countries

Oral Question 100/73 without debate, by Mr Ansart and Mrs Iotti to the Commission of the European Communities: Entry of Spain into the Common Market

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Friday, 19 October 1973*  
C95, 10.11.1973

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation on measures to be taken in the agricultural sector following the raising of the central rate of the Dutch florin

Resolution on the report from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on the adjustment of short-term monetary support arrangements and the conditions for the progressive pooling of reserves

Statement of formation of the Communist and Allies Group (SF, Ind. Sin.)  
C95, 10.11.1973

### *Written questions with Replies*

Written Question 667/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Purchase of a computer by the Dutch Government  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 687/72 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Questions concerning workers  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 43/73 by Mr Vredeling to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Powers of officials appointed by the Commission to make verifications and enquiries for establishing and making available the Community's own resources  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 61/73 by Mr Jahn to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Powers of the European Communities in the area of environmental protection  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 88/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Statistical tables of proposals for Directives and Regulations which have not yet been adopted  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 165/73 by Mr Jahn to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Optional consultation of the European Parliament on the European Communities' environment programme  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 192/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Budgetary Control  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 209/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Numbers present at Council Meetings  
C97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 210/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities

Subject: Deportation of illegal immigrants  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 211/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Delays in the Council  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 213/73 by Sir Tufton Beamish to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Delay in answering Written Questions  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 219/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Working Groups  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 226/73 by Mr Bermani, Mr Broeksz, Mr Christensen, Mr Delmotte, Mr Lange, Mrs Nielsen, Mr Radoux, Mr Vals, Mr Walkhoff and Mr Wohlfart to the Council of the European Communities  
Subject: Seizure of newspapers  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Written Question 13/73 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Import monopoly for simple potassium fertilizers  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Written Question 81/73 by Mr Dewulf to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Provision of information to diplomats representing Member States in third countries  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Written Question 109/73 by Mr Vals to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Free competition in the sale of oil products  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Written Question 125/73 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: International treaties  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Written Question 126/73 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Application of system of generalized preferences to Rumania  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Written Question 166/73 by Mr Jahn to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Information promised by the Commission

concerning consumer policy in the European Community  
C 102, 24.11.1973

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(i) Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee  
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Consultation of the Economic and Social Committee on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 827/68 and Regulations 1009/67/EEC, (EEC) 950/68 and (EEC) 2358/71

(i) Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 101, 23.11.1973

Consultation of the Economic and Social Committee on the proposals for Council Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States:

(a) on common measures with regard to pressure vessels and methods of control of such vessels,

(b) relating to seamless steel gas cylinders

(i) Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 101, 23.11.1973

Consultation of the Economic and Social Committee on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to aerosols

(i) Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 101, 23.11.1973

Consultation of the Economic and Social Committee on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning bread

(i) Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 101, 23.11.1973

### *Communications*

Replacement of a member of the Committee of the European Social Fund  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Replacement of a full member of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Replacement of a full member of the Economic and Social Committee  
C 97, 15.11.1973

### **The Commission**

#### *Directives and Decisions*

73/328/EEC:

Commission Decision of 8 October 1973 determining the types of vaccine to be supplied to the Community in respect of control measures against exotic foot-and-mouth disease  
L 308, 8.11.1973

73/329/EEC:

Commission Opinion of 9 October 1973 addressed to the Danish Government on the draft decree implementing Council Regulation (EEC) 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport  
L 308, 8.11.1973

73/330/EEC:

Commission Decision of 12 October 1973 concerning the annulment of the twenty-seventh individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender of butter provided for by Regulation (EEC) 1519/72  
L 308, 8.11.1973

73/331/EEC:

Commission Decision of 12 October 1973 fixing the minimum selling price for butter for the 31st individual invitation to tender under standing invitation to tender provided for by Regulation (EEC) 1259/72  
L 308, 8.11.1973

73/332/EEC:

Commission Decision of 17 October 1973 fixing the maximum amount of the refund for the ninth partial invitation to tender for white sugar issued under Regulation (EEC) 2141/73  
L 308, 8.11.1973

73/333/EEC:

Commission Decision of 17 October 1973 fixing the maximum amount of the denaturing premium for white sugar for the first partial invitation to tender issued under Regulation (EEC) 2711/73  
L 308, 8.11.1973

**73/334/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 7 November 1973 supplementing Commission Decision of 3 April 1968 authorizing certain management measures to be taken within the framework of the common organization of agricultural markets  
L 308, 8.11.1973

**73/337/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 19 October 1973 fixing the amount by which the monetary compensatory amounts for beef and veal are to be reduced  
L 312, 13.11.1973

**73/338/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 22 October 1973 derogating from the safeguard measures applicable to exports of durum wheat adopted by the Commission Decision of 4 August 1973  
L 312, 13.11.1973

**73/339/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 23 October 1973 amending the Decision of 6 August 1973 on the supply of skimmed-milk powder to the Republic of Chad as emergency food aid  
L 312, 13.11.1973

**73/341/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 24 October 1973 fixing the maximum amount of the refund for the 10th partial invitation to tender for white sugar issued under Regulation (EEC) 2141/73  
L 314, 15.11.1973

**73/342/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 24 October 1973 fixing the maximum amount of the denaturing premium for white sugar for the second partial invitation to tender issued under Regulation (EEC) 2711/73  
L 314, 15.11.1973

**73/343/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 30 October 1973 fixing the minimum selling price for butter for the 32nd individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for by Regulation (EEC) 1259/72  
L 314, 15.11.1973

**73/344/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 31 December 1973 fixing the maximum amount of the denaturing premium for white sugar for the third partial invitation to tender issued under Regulation (EEC) 2711/73  
L 314, 15.11.1973

**73/345/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 31 October 1973 discontinuing the 11th partial invitation to tender for white sugar issued under Regulation (EEC) 2141/73  
L 314, 15.11.1973

**73/346/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 26 October 1973 fixing the amount by which the monetary compensatory amounts for beef and veal are to be reduced  
L 320, 21.11.1973

**73/347/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 31 October 1973 concerning the Commission Decision of 20 September 1973 laying down safeguard measures applicable to certain cereal products of Italian origin exported from the Community  
L 320, 21.11.1973

**73/348/EEC:**

Commission Recommendation of 5 November 1973 to the Belgian Government on the draft Arrêté royal 'laying down special rules for the international carriage of passengers by coach and bus'  
L 320, 21.11.1973

**73/349/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 5 November 1973 fixing, for the purposes of the tendering procedure referred to in Regulation (EEC) 2772/73, maximum amounts for the costs of delivery fob of skimmed-milk powder  
L 320, 21.11.1973

**73/350/EEC:**

Commission Directive of 7 November 1973 adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 6 February 1970 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound level and the exhaust system of motor vehicles  
L 321, 22.11.1973

**73/351/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 7 November 1973 setting up an Advisory Committee on customs matters  
L 321, 22.11.1973

**73/357/EEC:**

Commission Decision of 21 November 1973 supplementing Commission Decision of 3 April 1968 authorizing certain management measures to be taken within the framework of the common organization of agricultural markets  
L 323, 24.11.1973

*Proposals of the Commission to the Council*

Proposal for a Regulation (EEC) of the Council extending for the years 1972, 1973 and 1974 certain time limits for granting aid from the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a procedure of consolidation  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain eels falling within subheading ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation modifying Council Regulation (EEC) 2829/72 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States  
C 100, 22.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation on mutual assistance between competent authorities of the Member States and between the latter and the Commission for ensuring the correct application of Community customs and agriculture Regulations  
C 100, 22.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the tariff treatment applicable to agricultural products contained in travellers' personal luggage  
C 100, 22.11.1973

Proposal for a Council Regulation applying, for the year 1974, in favour of developing countries, generalized tariff preferences in respect of certain products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common Customs Tariff  
C 100, 22.11.1973

Proposal for a Decision of the Council adopting provisions for the dissemination of information relating to research programmes for the European Economic Community  
C 104, 29.11.1973

Proposal for a Regulation (EEC) of the Council on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef falling within subheading 02.01 A II (a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (1974)  
C 104, 29.11.1973

*European Development Fund<sup>1</sup>*

Information relative aux cours de change retenus pour les opérations du FED  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Information 30 sur un appel d'offres de la République rwandaise concernant des travaux de faible importance financés par le Fonds européen de développement  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Résultat d'une présélection (avis d'appel à la concurrence 1076)  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Résultat de l'appel d'offres 1031  
C 97, 15.11.1973

Avis d'appel d'offres 1128 de la République du Niger pour un projet financé par la CEE — FED  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Approbation de projets financés par le Fonds européen de développement  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Avis d'appel d'offres 1131 de la République du Burundi pour un projet financé par la CEE — FED  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Avis d'appel d'offres 1132 de la République du Niger (Office des eaux du sous-sol — OFEDES) pour un projet financé par la CEE — FED  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Avis d'appel d'offres 1133 de la République du Tchad, pour un projet financé par la CEE — FED  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Avis d'appel d'offres 1134 de la République du Sénégal, pour un projet financé par la CEE — FED  
C 103, 27.11.1973

<sup>1</sup> This section concerns information on the execution of projects financed by the European Development Fund.

In the light of the technical difficulties in translation, during the present internal organization of the Community, and the transitional measures of the Act of Accession which, on the one hand, exempt the new Member States from the financial contribution to EDF and, on the other hand, do not confer on their nationals the right to participate in the execution of EDF projects, these texts are only being published in the German, French, Italian and Dutch editions. Nevertheless, for the information of our readers we include the texts of the French edition.

*Public Works Contracts*

Public works contracts (Council Directive 71/305/EEC of 26 July 1971 supplemented by Council Directive 72/277/EEC of 26 July 1972)

*Open procedures*

L 303, 1.11.1973; L 306, 6.11.1973; L 308, 8.11.1973; L 309, 9.11.1973; L 310, 10.11.1973; L 312, 13.11.1973; L 313, 14.11.1973; L 314, 15.11.1973; L 315, 16.11.1973; L 316, 17.11.1973; L 319, 20.11.1973; L 321, 22.11.1973; L 322, 23.11.1973; L 323, 24.11.1973; L 326, 27.11.1973; L 327, 28.11.1973; L 329, 29.11.1973; L 330, 30.11.1973

*Restricted procedures*

L 303, 1.11.1973; L 306, 6.11.1973; L 307, 7.11.1973; L 308, 8.11.1973; L 309, 9.11.1973; L 310, 10.11.1973; L 312, 13.11.1973; L 313, 14.11.1973; L 314, 15.11.1973; L 315, 16.11.1973; L 316, 17.11.1973; L 319, 20.11.1973; L 320, 21.11.1973; L 321, 22.11.1973; L 322, 23.11.1973; L 323, 24.11.1973; L 326, 27.11.1973; L 327, 28.11.1973; L 329, 29.11.1973; L 330, 30.11.1973

*Corrigenda*

- (i) OJ L 270, 27.9.1973: published in the OJ L 303, 1.11.1973
- (ii) OJ L 175, 29.6.1973: published in the OJ L 310, 10.11.1973
- (iii) OJ L 283, 10.10.1973: published in the OJ L 319, 20.11.1973
- (iv) OJ L 310, 10.11.1973: published in the OJ L 329, 29.11.1973

*Communications*

Communication from the Commission pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) 2628/73 of 26 September 1973  
C 96, 13.11.1973

Administrative Commission of the European Communities on Social Security for Migrant Workers—Decision 86 of 24 September 1973 concerning the methods of operation and the composition of the Audit Board of the Administrative Commission of the European Communities on Social Security for Migrant Workers  
C 96, 13.11.1973

List of persons authorized to issue flat-rate guarantee vouchers in respect of Community transit matters

(Art. 32 of Regulation (EEC) 542/69 of the Council of 18 March 1969 on Community transit) (As at 30 September 1973)  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Communication, pursuant to Article 19(3) of Regulation 17, relating to a notification (IV/223)  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Communication, pursuant to Article 19(3) of Regulation 17, relating to a notification (IV/14.650—Bayerische Motoren Werke AG)  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Modification to notice on import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products (OJ C 29, 12.5.1973)  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Lists published in application of Article 14 of Commission Regulation (EEC) 1373/70 of 10 July 1970 on common detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advanced fixing certificates for agricultural products subject to a single price system  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Communication from the Commission pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) 2628/73 of 26 September 1973  
C 102, 24.11.1973

Grant aid from the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund 1972—Second and final allocation  
C 104, 29.11.1973

*Information*

Notice of invitation to tender from Direktoratet for Markedordningerne, København, Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Fette (EVSt-F), Frankfurt/Main, Fonds d'Orientation et de Régularisation des marchés Agricoles (FORMA), Paris, Voedselvoorzienings In- en Verkoopbureau (VIB), Hoensbroek, for the costs of delivery of 6274.5 metric tons of skimmed-milk powder as food aid  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Amendment of the notice of the standing invitation to tender for the export of white sugar to third countries  
C 96, 13.11.1973

Communication  
C 96, 13.11.1973

Notice of invitation to tender for the delivery fob of common wheat pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) 3121/73 of 16 November 1973  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Notice of invitation to tender for the supply cif of round-grained milled rice pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) 3132/73 of 19 November 1973  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Notice of invitation to tender from Fonds d'Orientalisation et de Régularisation des marchés Agricoles (FORMA), Paris, Voedselvoorzienings In- en Verkoopbureau (VIB), Hoensbroek, for the costs of delivery of 3 676 metric tons of skimmed-milk powder as food aid  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Notice from the Office Belge de l'économie et de l'agriculture (OBEA) of invitation to tender for the costs of delivery of 2 000 metric tons of skimmed-milk powder to Bangladesh as food aid  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Common notice of an invitation to tender from intervention agencies for the supply as Community food aid to the World Food Programme (WFP) of 7 154.7 metric tons of skimmed-milk powder to be purchased on the Community market  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Notice of invitation to tender for the supply of common wheat pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) 3189/73 of 23 November 1973  
C 103, 27.11.1973

## Court of Justice

### *New Cases*

Case 165/73: Action brought on 12 September 1973 by Madame Marie-Madeleine Rizzi-Dal Molin against the Commission of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Case 166/73: Request for a preliminary ruling made by order of the Bundesfinanzhof dated 14 August 1973 in the case of Rheinmühlen Düsseldorf v. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Case 167/73: Action brought on 14 September 1973 by the Commission of the European Communities against the French Republic  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Case 168/73: Action brought on 26 September 1973 by Mr Antonio Marcato against the Commission of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Case 169/73: Action brought on 28 September 1973 by the Compagnie Continentale France against the Council of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Case 170/73: Action brought on 4 October 1973 by Miles Druce & Co. Limited against the Commission of the European Communities  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Case 171/73: Action brought on 5 October 1973 by Mr Benito Latino against the Commission of the European Communities  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Case 172/73: Action brought on 9 October 1973 by the Commission of the European Communities against the Italian Republic  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Case 173/73: Action brought on 11 October 1973 by the Government of the Italian Republic against the Commission of the European Communities  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Case 174/73: Action brought on 17 October 1973 by the Commission of the European Communities against the Italian Republic  
C 99, 20.11.1973

Case 175/73: Action brought on 24 October 1973 by (1) Union Syndicale—Service public européen—Brussels, (2) Miss Denise Massa, and (3) Mrs Roswitha Schots, née Kortner, against the Council of the European Communities  
C 103, 27.11.1973

Case 176/73: Action brought on 24 October 1973 by Miss Claudette van Belle against the Council of the European Communities  
C 103, 27.11.1973

### *Decrees*

Judgment of the Court of 12 July 1973 in Case 59/72: Firma Wünsche Handelsgesellschaft Hamburg v. Commission of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 12 July 1973 in Case 70/72: Commission of the European Communities v. the Federal Republic of Germany  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court (Second Chamber) of 27 June 1973 in Case 71/72: Annemarie Kuhl v. Council of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 21 June 1973 in Case 79/72: Commission of the European Communities v. Italian Republic  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 5 June 1973 in Case 81/72: Commission of the European Communities v. Council of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 7 June 1973 in Case 82/72 (request for a preliminary ruling referred by the Centrale Raad van Beroep): C.J. Walder v. Bestuur der Sociale Verzekeringsbank  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 4 July 1973 in Case 1/73 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Hessisches Finanzgericht, VIIIth Senate): Firma Westzucker GmbH v. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Zucker  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 12 July 1973 in Case 2/73 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Pretore of Milan): The firm of Riseria Luigi Geddo v. Ente Nazionale Risi  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 11 July 1973 in Case 3/73 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Hessischer Verwaltungsgerichtshof, VIth Senate): Firma Hessische Mehlinindustrie Karl Schöttler KG v. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 12 July in Case 8/73 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Bundesfinanzhof): Hauptzollamt Bremerhaven, supported by the Federal Minister of Finance as intervener v. Massey-Ferguson GmbH  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 12 July 1973 in Case 11/73 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Hessisches Finanzgericht, VIIth Senate): Getreide-Import GmbH v. Einfuhr- und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Judgment of the Court (Second Chamber) of 27 June 1973 in Case 35/72: Walter Kley v. Commission of the European Communities  
C 98, 16.11.1973

Judgment of the Court of 19 June 1973 in Case 77/72 (request for a preliminary ruling made by the Pretore of Conegliano): Carmine Capolongo v. Azienda Agricola Maia  
C 98, 16.11.1973

### *Removals*

Removal of Preliminary Case 157/73  
C 99, 20.11.1973

### *Communications*

Election of the President of the Court  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Election of Presidents and composition of the Chambers  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Assignment of two Advocates-General to each of the Chambers  
C 93, 8.11.1973

Allocation of cases brought by officials of the European Communities  
C 93, 8.11.1973

### **Commission Yearbook for 1974**

The Yearbook of the Commission of the European Communities will be published in January 1974 in the form of a special Supplement to the Bulletin.

