



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

# **BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

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

**Commission of the European Communities  
Secretariat of the Commission  
Brussels**

**no. 4  
1974**  
7<sup>th</sup> year

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

**DOCUMENTS, FACTS  
AND STUDIES**

# 1. Negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries

1101. Further headway was made in April in the negotiations between the Community and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP).

The negotiations, opened at Ministerial level during a Conference in Brussels on 25 and 26 July 1973,<sup>1</sup> bear on the nature of agreements which from 1 February 1975 could govern relations between the nine Community States and forty-three countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. The possible nature of such future relations was described in a Memorandum submitted by the Commission to the Council on 9 April 1973.<sup>2</sup>

After a meeting in October 1973<sup>3</sup> to organize the proceedings the initial stage of the actual negotiations ran from 21 November to 14 December 1973.<sup>4</sup>

## The second stage

1102. The EEC-ACP negotiations entered their second stage in mid-January and went on until 6 February 1974. At this point they were interrupted at the request of the ACP countries who wanted to conduct Ministerial consultations between themselves.

The consultations took place in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) from 20 to 22 February 1974. The outcome was a restatement of the resolve of all the forty-three States concerned to resume negotiations with the Community in order to come to arrangements which would protect the interests of their peoples in the realms of trade, and economic, financial and technical cooperation.

The negotiation proceedings were resumed on 11 March, and at a meeting of the Committee of Ambassadors on 27 March 1974 the ACP countries announced their position. They consolidated their unity by deciding to form in future only one group at the negotiations; moreover,

the positions taken up to now by the Ambassadors were confirmed during the negotiations by the Ministers.

For its part the Commission laid before the Council a report summarizing the main considerations involved in the negotiations and proposing additional negotiatory Directives. Except for the Directives concerning the definition of the special system for certain products of the ACP countries in order to facilitate their access to Community markets, and which the Council is still considering, the proposed negotiating Directives were adopted by the Council at the close of its meeting of 1 and 2 April and the subsequent proceedings of the Permanent Representatives.

## Overall assessment of the negotiations and positions adopted

1103. The Commission stressed the crucial significance of the negotiations which by means of new formulae for cooperation within a real partnership could lead to close ties for Europe with all of these countries. The degree of consistency and unity displayed by the forty-three ACP countries shows more clearly than any other token their resolve to gain positive results.

They intend to make economic cooperation the keynote of their future relations with the Community with the aim of promoting their independence and economic development; against this broader background they set great store on industrial cooperation. In showing agreement with this concept and this objective, the Community recalled that its initial proposal to negotiate a 'global agreement' had been made in the same direction.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, points 1101 to 1106.

<sup>2</sup> Supplement 1/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, points 2310 and 2311.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2307.



## Development of the negotiations

1104. The negotiations so far have revolved around two main issues: trade and financial and technical cooperation. The outcome up to now has been positive with progress made on major points, in line with the present Directives.

A consensus of agreement is emerging, in particular over trade, with regard to the free access to Community markets for the bulk of ACP exports and regarding most of the rules of origin; there is also broad agreement on financial and technical cooperation with respect to the main features of aid programming, organization and administration.

On other issues, considerable divergence of outlook is to be seen. In some cases, rescrutiny or consolidation will be required for further worthwhile discussion. With this in mind, the Community has sought and obtained additional negotiatory Directives. On the trade side they concern more flexibility in the rules of origin and consideration for the interests of the ACP countries both in the mounting of Community programmes for harmonizing laws on non-tariff barriers and within the compass of the Community's commercial policy towards non-Member States. The Directives should also facilitate discussion of the question of ACP countries' export revenue on certain commodities.

On industrial cooperation the Commission is empowered to discuss basic provisions for the future agreement.

For financial and technical cooperation the additional Directives authorize the Commission to continue its work on a broader base with respect to the partner States sharing in the various processes of cooperation and also authorize it to embark on discussion of general criteria which can be considered in setting the amount and conditions of aid.

## Timetable of the negotiations

1105. It is all the more urgent for these various matters to be discussed further in so far as many other important questions remain to be tackled at a later stage.

The Commission and the ACP countries emphasized the need to meet the demands of the deadlines: the ACP countries have scheduled the next round of Ministerial talks for June 1974 in Dakar and the next discussion between Heads of State or Government for mid-June in Addis Ababa; the Yaoundé Convention, the Arusha Agreement and the temporary arrangements concerning trade between the 'Associables' and the three new Member States will all expire on 31 January 1975.

With an eye on these dates a speeded up work schedule for the joint working parties was agreed and adopted by the ACP and Community delegations.

## 2. Scientific and technical information and management of information

### Three-year action plan

1201. Having prepared action programmes or defined guidelines in a number of very different areas including agriculture, industry and technology, energy, social action, scientific policy and transport the Commission drew up 'a Community action plan for scientific and technical information and documentation'.

The plan, the first of its kind, was the subject of a Communication adopted by the Commission on 9 April 1974. Preparation of this three-year plan (1975-1977) follows on the Resolutions adopted by the Council in June 1971 and January 1974. Its content has already been welcomed by the national experts represented on the Committee for Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation (CIDST).

### The purpose and conception of an action plan

1202. Scientific information, a token of the high intellectual potential of its population, is one of the latest major resources in the hands of the Community. The arrival of powerful technological tools, particularly the computer, has already enabled part of this information to be channelled through the creation of information systems covering certain sectors or disciplines. Unhappily, most of these systems have been more often than not created in proportion to the demand and therefore with no coordination. This has resulted in a jumbled situation full of gaps and duplications and which vividly highlights the sheer necessity of a coordinated policy.

Managing at European level the resources in scientific and technical information intended to meet social needs has for some years now always

been one of the major concerns of the Community. Already on 24 June 1971 the Council acting on a Commission Proposal has passed a Resolution on creating a European network for scientific and technical information and documentation. It was not possible at the time to define what the network would actually be or how it would be accomplished; since then the Commission together with the Committee for Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation (CIDST) has been conducting systematic studies which, when it has obtained the opinion of the Committee on Scientific and Technical Research (CREST), will enable it to send the Council the detailed action plan (with the relevant budgetary options) approved on 9 April by the Commission.

The action plan which covers the period 1975-1977 anticipates that the management of scientific, technical and social information will next year move into a highly active phase.

To accomplish successfully the Commission's tasks in carrying out the plan appreciably greater resources than before will be needed.

The Commission Proposals are naturally based on the main guidelines recommended in the Resolution of June 1971.

Firstly, sectoral systems now being prepared or under study will have to be implemented more swiftly, at the same time ensuring that existing systems still work properly, largely by means of supporting projects deriving from industry.

The steady build-up of the European scientific and technical information network will form the second line of action which the Commission intends to undertake in close collaboration with Member States' national authorities.

Beside this the Community will have to make a strenuous drive to develop modern techniques for channelling the scientific and technical information, an effort to be shared by the JRC's Ispra

establishment, and to find solutions to problems specifically European, such as the language problem; supporting projects will also cover the training of specialists and the instruction of users.

The substantial sums envisaged for carrying out the plan (12 231 000 u.a.) will be appropriately allocated according to the nature and value of projects and programmes. In most cases inducement or support credit is anticipated to Europeanize systems already running at national level thus enabling them to serve the entire Community. In other cases this credit will be used to finance development or study contracts to be made with Member States' companies or institutions. The Commission actually intends to make the most extensive possible use of Member States' experts and specialists to mount and carry out its action plan.

### Implementing sectoral systems

1203. Close scrutiny of the three main headings of the Commission's Proposals reveals that the first one which deals with sectoral systems extends over most of the major scientific and technical fields which are focal points of Community concern:

- (a) nuclear energy and metallurgy (already operational systems);
- (b) several aspects of agriculture, including research;
- (c) environment;
- (d) bio-medical information;
- (e) education and teaching;
- (f) data banks on materials;
- (g) energy;
- (h) technology of modern transport media;
- (i) technology of nutrition and food;
- (j) water resources;
- (k) scientific and technical policy, etc.

### Building up a European network

1204. The development or creation of systems will pay the closest attention to the needs of the network. Its installation will entail preparatory and technical studies, some pilot projects and the preparation of initial administrative software.

There are already a number of information systems now running in the Community on a cooperative basis. Their methods and organization will have to be studied together with the technical side of their development and organization to see how far users' needs are met. The studies will moreover provide valuable lessons on management of the network and on laying down a coordinated policy on the charging of services. The studies will cover eight main points:

- (i) the economic implications of parameters such as the processing of multi-based data by a single system, the optimum volume of bases and the contours of the telecommunications network;
- (ii) knowledge of the market, meaning the number of users, the frequency of their requirements, and their reactions to services rendered, etc.;
- (iii) the optimum utilization of the network, for which it is planned to set up a 'routing centre' to which users regardless of speciality would apply and which would channel their requests to the appropriate system. Operating initially on a manual basis, the routing centre could eventually be superseded by an entirely automated complex;
- (iv) the definition and creation of a standardized interface between users and the system so that the former can use a single language in communicating with several different systems;
- (v) the possibility of setting up a pilot telecommunications network for eventual integration into the public system;

(vi) finalization of an adequate procedure for running the network. Because of its multi-lingual, multidisciplinary and multinational character, the formulation of the directives needed to run it will present highly intricate problems;

(vii) definition and preparation of software for managing the telecommunications system which will enable working statistics to be obtained, detect and record breakdowns, send out messages and handle the accounting operations, etc.;

(viii) the possibility of extrapolating experiments to be made by evolving suitable software and gradually installing adequate hardware; the rental of lines to the PTT will initially be done on a trial basis.

Since it is planned to make the maximum use of systems now running or being installed and whose value, for the network, has been recognized, the action plan provides for extensive help for them (documentation centres, data banks, etc.) with the aim of making them compatible with the European network and capable of servicing the varied needs of users throughout the Community. A special software will have to be developed to connect the system computer with the European network and to augment its memory capacity to enable it to reply to more questions and the central complex will have to be given the means to prepare itself to serve additional users by means of microcards, summaries, etc. in an easily accessible form.

### Methodology and technology of information

1205. Beside these activities and studies which primarily have to do with specific and practical operations, the action plan covers more general projects on information methodology and technology, 'horizontal' projects the value of which will be spread over all the sectoral activities and the network itself. They include the following:

(a) the study and development of suitable multilingual systems, the various processes providing automatic translations of texts, the comparison of costs accruing to the various methods. This is a problem of such size and complexity that it dominates the thinking of the Community; an all-out effort must be made to solve it either by special research or by fostering the initiative already taken within the member countries;

(b) the establishment of norms for the network covering for instance the format to be used for exchanging information and transmitting messages, and including bibliographical, lexicon and filing references;

(c) study of operational methods and new requirements in analysis and information centres;

(d) the teaching and training of specialists and instruction of users;

(e) the development of information technology, meaning for instance the study of existing software and an investigation of card-index systems with the aim of tailoring them to the working idiosyncrasies of the network.

In view of the range and complexity of all these studies and projects, they cannot be accomplished strictly within the scope of the Commission departments; an extensive appeal will be made to Community companies and professional experts who will find their efforts doubly rewarding since, directly associated with an undertaking crucial to the future of Europe, they will at the same time be contributing solidly to the advance of scientific information, the new science. Obviously, only the closest collaboration between national experts will enable the Commission to accomplish this immense task successfully.

### 3. Introduction to the Third Report on Competition Policy\*

Third Report

1301. In what has become an essential and regular part of the dialogue between the European Parliament and the Commission, this report sums up developments in competition policy in 1973.

This was a year when three new Member States joined the Community; as a result not only was the field of application of the competition rules extended to countries in which major firms are established but also, as a result of recruiting new officials from those Member States, the Commission's experience was considerably broadened.

The report is inevitably of a somewhat fragmentary nature since it simply sets out the results of a single year whereas the main lines of our competition policy have been developing more progressively and continuously than that, particularly as the Commission only gradually outlines new approaches through its decisions in individual cases.

The Commission Proposal on *merger control* has already provoked extensive discussion between the various European Institutions (especially with the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee) and with trade associations and trade unions represented at Community level.

Although the need for merger control has been recognized and the broad lines of the Commission Proposal have been approved in principle, certain objections have nevertheless been raised. Criticisms are directed particularly at the fact that advance control of mergers is proposed, at the effects of the Regulation on other Community objectives, in particular regarding employment and industrial policy, and at the social protection of workers.

The Commission is convinced that the process which has been set in motion will produce balanced legal rules which will help to maintain effective competition in the general interest of the Community.

The Commission will remain as active as ever in applying Article 86 to mergers which constitute *abuses of dominant positions*; in this it was encouraged by the Council in the Resolution on economic and monetary union adopted on 3 and 4 December, where the Member States were invited to assist the Commission in carrying out the economic and commercial research required for the systematic implementation of Article 86 of the Treaty. Likewise, in order to put a brake on rising prices in the Community, the Council has invited the Member States to apply the provisions of their national law providing for checks on abuses resulting from market dominance more strictly and more vigorously. Furthermore, the Member States and the Commission will regularly exchange information—general and specific—on comparative price movements in the Member States.

On the steel market, the trends towards larger production units which is leading to the formation of joint ventures, and diversification into areas other than primary processing, which cuts down the risks involved in fluctuations in economic activity, have led the Commission, when giving prior authorizations under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty, to take account also of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty. In its Mannesmann/Demag and Thyssen/Rheinstahl Decisions, the Commission considered whether the extent of diversification and intra-group consumption would place the firms in question in a position to pursue strategies without regard to market conditions.

The Thyssen/Rheinstahl merger was authorized only subject to certain conditions designed to ensure that, in an industry which was already highly concentrated, the various groups would remain independent and would not interfere in each other's affairs—a need that is the greater the more powerful the groups.

\* Attached to the Seventh General Report on the Activities of the Communities.

In view of developments on the oil products market, the Commission has decided to *investigate* whether Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty should be applied. The investigations will continue in 1974.

The Commission has stepped up its activities relating to *restrictive and abusive practices* by firms and has endeavoured especially to extend its guidelines on the approach to be adopted in selective distribution cases, where it is necessary to make a very detailed examination of the pros and cons for consumers so that the only restrictions on competition allowed will be those which are necessary as a means of attaining other Community objectives.

Decisions giving *exemption from the ban on restrictive agreements* will tend to encourage desirable forms of transnational cooperation between firms. For instance, the Decision in favour of an association of marine paint manufacturers, for whom a suitable and essential means of increasing supply and improving sales outlets was to enter into an association and to coordinate the individual sales network of the members, will enable them to compete more actively with major world producers.

Special attention is still being paid to *voluntary restraint agreements* concluded with private firms outside the Community, whose direct or indirect effect is often to make imports more expensive. Proceedings have been initiated and objections have been stated in respect of an agreement concluded by manufacturers of a product which is widely used as a raw material by industry in Europe.

Policy on *State aids* will also have been affected by the accession of the three new Member States in 1973. Among other things it was necessary to broaden the Community approach to regional aids, originally established for the Six, and to implement Article 154 of the Act of Accession,

under which the principles concerning the general arrangements were to be applied to the new Member States as part of the Community system. Acting under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission has taken the initiative in amending and extending the principles already laid down by the Member States so as to bring them closer into line with problems in the various regions and to give greater consideration to the priorities determined by the Member States for their own regional aid schemes.

When dealing with aid to particular industries, the Commission has endeavoured to give them a Community orientation and framework so that they can be used as the effective basis for a real Community industrial policy. This can be seen particularly in the proposals on shipbuilding sent by the Commission to the Council, the object of which, by means of temporary measures coordinated at Community level, is to replace the aids hitherto granted by Member States to shipbuilding by incentives designed to make the industry competitive in the long term.



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

**COMMUNITY  
ACTIVITIES  
IN APRIL 1974**

# 1. Functioning of the Common Market

## Customs union

### Simplifying the tasks of the excise services

2101. As part of the Proposals for streamlining customs procedures which it laid before the Council in June 1973<sup>1</sup> the Commission on 19 April submitted a draft Resolution on action to be taken to lighten the work of national excise services. To this end the Commission proposed that a reasonable waiting period be observed between the official publication of the texts of customs regulations and their actual application. It was also suggested that an effort be made to simplify the present Nomenclature of the CCT.

In explaining the grounds for such action the Commission found that beset by the plethora and intricacy of excise systems (different systems for trade with many non-member countries, complicated rules of origin, manifold agricultural regulations, monetary complexities) the national excise authorities were having great trouble in ensuring the correct application of Community rules and equal excise treatment for importers and exporters throughout the Community. The lack of adequately effective control also meant a danger of more frequent attempts at fraud with consequent ill effects on the Community budget.

The Commission felt that many problems could be swiftly eliminated if, save for exceptional cases, a six week waiting period was allowed between the date when tariff changes are published in the Official Journal and the date set for their actual application. This would mean that the application of excise decisions would be better prepared and consequently more accurate. The Commission also proposed that these acts only take effect on 1 January and 1 July of each year and that none of these provisions would be retroactive.

Regarding the Nomenclature of the CCT the Commission considers that it should be simplified. Over recent years the CCT has been substantially amplified mainly by the implementation of the CAP and the common commercial policy. The Commission also requested that under the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations due allowance be made for the need to streamline the Nomenclature largely by trimming the number of subheadings.

The Commission intended to go on submitting Proposals in such a way that reasonable application delays could be maintained.

## Common Customs Tariff

### Nomenclature

2102. Two Regulations concerning application of the CCT Nomenclature were adopted by the Commission on 4 and 10 April 1974. The first<sup>2</sup> amends the Regulation of 27 April 1970 specifying the terms for inclusion under subheadings 01.02AII b) 2aa) and 02.01 AII a) 1bb) 11aaa), 22aaa) and 33aaa) of the CCT for *certain livestock* and *certain meat* of domestic cattle; these are official amendments entailed by the conclusion of a new Agreement between the EEC and Yugoslavia.<sup>3</sup>

The second Regulation<sup>4</sup> specifies the *methods to be used* in analysing goods which, apart from oils and fats deriving from milk, also contain certain other oils and fats.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1973, points 1401 to 1405.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 95 of 5.4.1974.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 224 of 13.8.1973.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 111 of 24.4.1974.



## Tariff duties

### Suspensions

2103. By the Regulation of 5 April 1974<sup>1</sup> the Commission decided under Article 59, section 4 of the Act of Accession to authorize Denmark and Ireland to suspend totally and the United Kingdom to peg at 4% the customs duties on imports from other Member States of certain *oils and fats of fish and ocean mammals*. The authorization is valid until 31 December 1974. The regulation consolidates the Regulation adopted by the Council on 20 March 1974<sup>2</sup> on opening a Community tariff quota for the said products.

\*

2104. During the sitting of 22 to 26 April 1974 the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on a Commission Proposal concerning certain fishery products of Norwegian origin.

## Internal common market

### Commercial and economic law

#### Community patents

##### *Commission Opinion to Member States*

2105. On 4 April 1974 the Commission expressed an Opinion<sup>3</sup> sent to the Member States on 17 April to draw their attention to certain basic principles concerning the free movement of products patented within the Community. The Commission feels that these principles are seriously threatened by the provisions of a Protocol appended to the draft Convention on the European patent for the Common Market which

is shortly to be submitted to an inter-governmental Conference. The Conference was to have been held in Luxembourg from 6 to 28 June but its deferment to a later date was decided on 25 April at the request of the British Government.

The nine Member States of the Community and other European countries have already signed another Convention in Munich on 5 October 1973 whose purpose is to organize the issue of European patents.<sup>4</sup> When issued these patents have equal status with national protection certificates. But with regard to the Member States of the EEC one major exception has been made to this principle: the patent can be granted only for the whole of the Community and not for certain States alone.

The purpose of the draft Convention on the Community Patent<sup>5</sup> in creating a uniform and autonomous law, is to succeed in giving the European patent issued for the Common Market the same effect throughout all the Member States. The draft tends to crystallize into patent law the objectives of the Rome Treaty which emerge in an equalization of competition conditions and in the strict application of the principle of free movement for patented products.

These objectives will be reached largely through provisions banning the partitioning of the Common Market with the aid of patent law. The provisions derive from the principle whereby the holder of a patent in putting his products on the market extinguishes his exclusive rights over the product concerned. In other words, the pro-

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 96 of 6.4.1974.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 81 of 27.3.1974 and Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2103.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 109 of 23.4.1974.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2115 and Bull. EC 9-1972, Part One, Chapter III: 'Finalizing a European system for issuing patents'.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 3-1973, point 1401.

visions on the extinction of patent rights will allow parallel imports and will put an end to practices which result in one and the same product being sold at varying prices in different Member States thus allowing extra profits to be made. Based on the Community patent and on several national patents so as to avoid any schematic disparities, the draft Convention will ban any splintering of the Common Market. The Commission feels that these provisions (Art. 32 and 73 of the draft) will fully respect the objectives of the Rome Treaty and has said so in its Opinion.

But a Protocol annexed to the draft would defer application of the Community patent provisions for a period of five to ten years after the Convention takes effect. Since this will not be before 1976 because of the time required for parliamentary ratifications, application of the provisions to prohibit splintering of the Common Market could be held up by the Protocol until 1986, more than 25 years after the Treaty of Rome.

The Commission's Opinion plainly objects to Member States' adoption of the Protocol simply because its contents run counter to existing Community law.

Articles 30 to 36 of the EEC Treaty mean that the free movement of goods is a factor of the basic point that in achieving the Common Market there can be no derogation unless under clear-cut exceptional circumstances. Article 36 provides for such an exception when it refers to industrial and commercial property. But this is to be interpreted precisely and has been elucidated by various Decrees from the Court of Justice, especially by the Decree of 8 June 1971 in Case 78/70, *Deutsche Gramophon/Metro*.<sup>1</sup>

In this Decree, the Court, amplifying the argument, wanted to give an interpretation of Article 36 which would apply to all rights of industrial or commercial property by distinguishing

between their existence and their use. An exemption from the rule of free movement of goods can only be postulated when the existence of one of these rights is implicated. Conversely, no exception is allowable when the use of an industrial or commercial property right results in arbitrary discrimination or disguised restrictions in intra-Community trade. In other words, the holder of a patent will always be able to prevent the movement of a pirate product but will no longer be able to forbid the movement of his own products from one Member State to another once it has been marketed within the Community. That is the meaning of the present Community law.

Consequently, the Commission as custodian of the law cannot allow derogations therefrom over several years through an agreement between Member States. Any such agreement on patented products would have the same affect as Member States deciding to revise one of the basic principles of the Rome Treaty; namely, the free movement of goods.

The gist of the Commission's Opinion is therefore a reminder to Member States of their obligations under the Treaties and their duty to ensure the free movement of patented products within that single market which the Common Market must create.

### Criminal law relating to business

2106. Work undertaken to settle problems involved in *preventing* and *eliminating* infringements of agricultural, excise, fiscal and food legislation has resulted in the preparation of an outlined preliminary draft of joint rules. This was done by experts from the nine Member

<sup>1</sup> Reports of Cases before the Court, 1971, and OJ C 65 of 29.6.1971.

States led by a Commission representative. The work on this aspect of criminal law was undertaken following a decision taken at the first meeting of the Member States' Ministers of Justice<sup>1</sup> on 3 June 1971. As anticipated, priority attention was given to the four aspects mentioned above.

The main lines of the preliminary draft provide for extending the authority of national courts so as to facilitate the tracking down of infringements of Community law committed abroad which at the moment is in principle not feasible. Provision was also made for the effective tracking of illegal activities regarding Community funds (infringements committed to the detriment of Community funds are to be put on an equal footing with those committed to the detriment of national funds).

### **Criminal responsibility of Community officials**

2107. The draft Convention to facilitate the tracking of Community officials who have committed serious misdemeanours (such as corruption, violation of professional secrecy, etc.), which has already been unanimously approved by the experts of the Six<sup>2</sup> was submitted for the approval of the three new Member States. The rescrutiny of the draft by experts of the Nine has already begun.

\*

2108. In April the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on five proposed Directives presented by the Community to the Council under the overall programme for removing technical barriers to trade. The Proposals cover (a) pre-packing, and (b) the mounting of lighting and light-signal apparatus, the fog-lights, the external protrusions and the reflectors of motor vehicles.

## **Competition policy**

### **Restrictive agreements, concentrations, dominant positions: specific cases**

#### *Combined marketing operation*

2109. On 4 April 1974<sup>3</sup> the Commission decided to extend its Decision of 4 November 1959 for two more years i.e. until 31 December 1975. The Decision already extended in 1961, 1966, 1969 and 1972 authorizes the firm *Saarlor*, a Franco-German joint stock company, to market the fuels produced by both the *Houillères du bassin de Lorraine* and *Saarbergwerke AG*. The Commission held that the grounds on which the ECSC High Authority had approved since 1959 the agreement on joint marketing were still valid and that the agreement in question did not contravene the provisions of Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty on inter-company agreements and joint practices which might distort normal competition. Sales by *Saarlor* in 1973 accounted for 20.5% of the output of *Saarbergwerke AG* and 7.5% of production from the Lorraine corporation.

#### *Concentrations*

2110. On 5 April 1974 the Commission of the European Communities, following a request made to it on 26 March 1964 by the *Société Marine Firminy*, Paris (Marine), adopted conservatory measures to safeguard the interests and independence of the undertakings involved in the concentration between the *Société Schneider SA*

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7-1971, Part One, Chapter I.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 8-1972, point 17.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 113 of 26.4.1974.

Paris, and Marine Firminy SA until a decision is taken by the Commission pursuant to Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty.

The Commission's decision arises from the following situation:

In a decision of 27 October 1970 the Commission authorized the establishment of joint equal control by Schneider and Marine of the Société Creusot-Loire. At the same time, by means of a separate agreement, both firms undertook not to change the balance within Creusot-Loire by purchasing shares from each other. In November 1973, Schneider purchased 34% of the registered capital of Marine. Taking into account the percentage of shares usually represented at the shareholders meetings of Marine, this share gave Schneider control of the latter.

Invoking its 1970 agreement with Schneider, Marine opposed this operation and submitted the dispute to arbitration as provided. The arbitration verdict, of which both parties were advised on 14 December 1973, required Schneider to hand over its acquired shares to a trustee delegated to sell them to buyers introduced by Marine. To avoid sequestration of the shares, Schneider agreed to deposit them with a bank until 15 April 1974 and to not to exercise the voting rights at the same time appealing against the arbitration verdict. On 13 March 1974 the First Chamber of the Paris Tribunal quashed the arbitration verdict on the grounds that the arbitrator was not qualified. The merits of the case are still unresolved in the French courts.

This transaction is now being investigated under Article 66 and the Commission will take a decision when the proceedings have closed. Meanwhile the Commission has thought it necessary to adopt conservatory measures as promptly as possible under Article 66, section 5, paragraph 3 to preserve the status quo between the companies.

The Commission based its approval of this action on the Order by the President of the Court of Justice of October 1973 in cases 160/73 R and 161/73 R (Miles Druce/GKN).<sup>1</sup>

The Order ruled that in a case of concentration between companies, 'if it should appear that the status quo is endangered, for whatever reason, it would be for the Commission, duly informed, to rule rapidly on the substance of the matter on the terms of Article 66 of the Treaty or at least on the interim measures referred to Article 66, section 5, paragraph 3 and without prejudice to possible subsequent application of Articles 83 and 84 of the rules of procedure'.

## State aid

### General aid schemes

#### Netherlands

2111. On 24 April 1974 the Commission decided to close the procedure it had invoked against application of a general aid scheme in the Netherlands. The procedure under Article 93, section 2 of the EEC Treaty had been invoked against the *guarantees* afforded by the Dutch Government, as part of 'Bijzondere Financiering', to *certain operations by the Nationale Investeringsbank (NIB)*.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission had held that the scheme did not comply with Community State aid requirements since it was a general system of aid which did not specify any sectors, branches or undertakings likely to benefit from the guarantees offered and which moreover was running without any prior control by the Commission.

The Dutch Government's reaction to this stand was to inform the Commission that under the conditions of Article 93, section 3 of the EEC

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 105 of 4.12.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 4-1973, point 2108.

Treaty the latter would be advised in advance of the implementation of the master plans for applying the guarantees or, failing such programmes, of actual major application of the guarantees. In view of this undertaking the Commission decided to close the procedure opened in April 1973.

### Sectoral aid

#### Germany

2112. On 18 April 1974 the Commission decided to inform the German Government that the aid arrangements for the *aeronautics industry* (airbus) which the latter had announced under Article 92, section 3 of the EEC Treaty, could be regarded as compatible with the Common Market and that the Commission therefore had no objections to their taking effect.

The Commission held that the provisions of Article 92, section 1 could be waived in favour of this aid since it had to do with a project set up jointly by several companies in the Common Market and since the project's technical and economic features matched the criteria of 'joint European interest' indicated by Article 93, section 3(b).

But so as to be able to make timely appraisals of the effect of this aid, the Commission asked the German Government to keep it regularly advised, and initially in 1974, of developments in the production and marketing of the airbus.

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2113. An Order by the President of the *Court of Justice* on 3 April 1974<sup>1</sup> reprieved the German firm Kali-Chemie AG until 15 July 1974 from the application of an Article in the Decision to ban a sales coordination agreement, which the Commission took on 21 December 1973 against Kali und Salz and Kali-Chemie.<sup>2</sup>

## Fiscal policy and financial institutions

### Financial institutions

#### Banks

2114. The new guidelines adopted by the Commission for the *coordination of banking legislation*<sup>3</sup> were reviewed by an *ad hoc* Working Party which met on 4 and 5 April 1974. In general the group approved the guidelines which are aimed at harmonizing banking law by stages rather than settling all the problems in this field by elaborating one overall directive.

The Working Party used as the basis of its discussion the paper prepared by the Commission departments based on the new guidelines after consultation with the national authorities.

The first stage of coordination is directed towards an approximation of banking laws on the following issues:

*Terms of access:* Access to the banking profession will have to be subject to prior acceptance by the competent national authorities. Conditions required will include the holding of minimum capital and proof that the top management consists of qualified and reputable persons. Regarding the setting up of subsidiaries in countries away from the headquarters, the requirements as to their legal form will be somewhat flexible.

*Operation:* Credit institutions will on principle have to prove that they are solvent and that they possess adequate liquidity; the final objective is to arrive at harmonized coefficients in this

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 60 of 25.5.1974.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 19 of 23.1.1974 and Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2117.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 1-1974, point 2121 and Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2122.

## 2. Economic and monetary union

### Fiscal Policy

field. In the initial stages Member States will have to work out a series of relationships between the points of reference to be defined in this respect (owned funds, liquid assets, liability) without changing current practices.

In later stages these coefficients will have to be applied by all Member States. It is agreed that at all events the coefficients intended to guarantee the security of deposits may no longer be merged with those used with monetary policy objectives.

*Contact Committee:* To ensure that harmonization is gradually achieved on these various issues and in order to ascertain with the Commission the areas where other harmonization will be required (banking structures, accounting systems, competition conditions in the banking sector, etc.), a 'Contact Committee' will be set up during the initial stage of coordination. It will be made up of representatives from Member States' banking control authorities and from the Commission. Its main task will be to collaborate with the Commission throughout all stages of harmonizing banking law.

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2115. During the sitting of 3 to 5 April, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on six proposed Directives, sent to the Council in March 1972, which concerned excise duties and taxes of equivalent effect.<sup>1</sup>

### Economic, monetary and financial policy

#### Achieving economic and monetary union

2201. In order to promote further and more detailed study of the development of economic and monetary union, the Commission has set up a group of fifteen experts from economic and scientific circles under the chairmanship of Professor R. Marjolin, former Vice-President of the Commission. The group intends to analyse the effects of the differences between the institutions and structures of the Member States which are holding back the establishment of the union. In this connection the group will try to identify and highlight the major foreseeable economic and social changes and their influence on the role of the public authorities, with special reference to the distribution of powers among the various administrative levels, in particular national and Community. Finally, the group will examine what adjustments will have to be made to national and Community economic policy instruments to fit the requirements of economic and monetary union.

The group decided to concentrate first of all on a critical examination of past events in order to be able to lay down guidelines to enable economic and monetary integration to get over its current difficulties.

#### Short-term survey on consumers

2202. Towards the end of January at the Commission's request a short-term survey was made for the sixth time on Community consumers. The survey results are based on interviews with 30 000 households selected represen-

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 3/72 - Bull. EC.

tatively. Denmark took part for the first time with five of the original Member States (Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands, Belgium). Since the data were not comparable, Denmark's results will not be analysed until the next survey which will be joined by the United Kingdom and Ireland from May 1974.

Owing to the energy crisis the consumers in all countries took a far more pessimistic view of the *overall economic situation* than they did last autumn. The most pessimistic consumers were found in Italian, Dutch and Belgian households. It was in those three countries last October that the consumers felt aware of a slight improvement in the economic climate. Since early 1973 there has been a steady deterioration in opinions on the overall economic situation and this trend hardened again in January 1974. In France a similar phenomenon was observed with regard to the overall economic situation, but the pessimism of the French consumers was more specific than the attitudes found in the other countries.

In all countries the proportion of households expecting to see increased *unemployment* over the next twelve months has appreciably swollen.

The recent development in the cost of raw materials has dashed the hopes expressed in the autumn of 1973 of seeing a lull in the escalation of prices. A greater proportion of households now fear a fresh acceleration in price rises over the next twelve months. Only in France has the fear of inflation been slightly allayed, but already last November 75% of the households were expecting heavier price rises.

The opinions and estimates of *personal financial situation* provide an interesting commentary on changes in purchasing power among consumers. The Italians and the Germans are the most critical about the development of their real incomes. But more and more households in the

other countries think that their personal financial situation has worsened and will continue to do so.

Mostly in Germany but also in the Netherlands and Belgium the survey results point to consumer behaviour being influenced more by the fear of a slackening of economic activity than by the prospect of inflation. There are now more households in those countries who think that *major purchases* should be put off for the time being.

Likewise, buying plans for all consumer durables (cars, refrigerators, black-and-white television, dish-washing machines) are not as firm as in January 1973. In France, however, there is no sign of any slackening off of planned purchases. The proportion of households who believe that major items should be bought now is even growing.

The heavy price rises have apparently acted on the *inclination to save* as far as France and Italy are concerned. In both countries there is a greater proportion of households who, with an eye on the overall economic situation, feel that saving is not worthwhile. Conversely, in Germany the uncertainty shrouding the future trend of the general economic situation has boosted the inclination to save. Again in the Netherlands and Belgium a substantial proportion of households think it is a sound idea to save, although the percentages are down compared with the autumn of 1973. Savers still favour the deposit book whilst among the households enjoying high incomes the preference for share investments is growing.

As in January last year, families were asked about their holiday budgets. In all countries the majority of families intend to spend as much if not more on holiday than they did last year. Many families apparently prefer to limit their general consumption outlay than cut down on their holiday budget.

## Monetary Committee

2203. The Monetary Committee held its 190th meeting on 4 and 5 April in Brussels with Mr de Strycker and Mr Emminger as Chairmen. After scrutinizing the question of activating the 'gold' component of reserves, the Committee adopted the relevant report prepared by the deputies. The Committee defined a new amplified mandate which it has given to the Working Party on 'Short-term capital movements'. At the close of the meeting the fifteenth activity report was approved.

## Economic Policy Committee

### Working Party on 'Budgets'

2204. The 'Budgets' Working Party of the Economic Policy Committee met in Brussels on 8 April 1974 with Mr Roelants in the Chair. It approved the finalized plans for the seminar which it will run in Luxembourg on 2 and 3 May and decided on the subject matter for this event, which will include 'the development of federal government budgetary operational scope', 'the significance of budget balances and methods of financing them', and 'inflation and the future development of public authority budgets'.

### Expert group on 'Economic Budgets'

2205. The group of specialists working on 'Economic Budgets' met on 4 April 1974. It analysed the probable trends of the world short-term economic situation over 1974 and 1975, the forecastable development of raw material prices and the resulting economic policy problems for the different Community countries.

## Social policy

### Vocational training and guidance

2206. The Commission took part in the European seminar on the *education of handicapped children and youngsters* which was run in Dublin from 21 to 25 April 1974 by the World Federation of Teachers Organizations.<sup>1</sup> The seminar examined the problems of schooling and vocational training within the overall concept of enabling the handicapped youngster to develop himself to the full in a society to which he must fully belong.

### Employment

2207. The problems of *working women* were discussed at a meeting of an *ad hoc* Group on 22 April. The aim of the meeting was to demarcate specific areas where Community action could well be applied to promote equality between male and female labour regarding access to skilled employment and working conditions.

### Social fund, readaptation and re-employment

2208. Under Article 56, section 2(b) of the ECSC Treaty the Commission decided in April to swell by FB 11 million (231 148.89 u.a.) the credit for readaptation already opened for workers hit by the closure or reduced activity of collieries in *Belgium*.

<sup>1</sup> Fédération mondiale des organisations de la profession enseignante.



### Social security and European social budget

2209. Under the Community social action programme the objectives adopted by the Council include the steady expansion of social protection (especially within the social security schemes) to cover population groups still outside the current schemes or inadequately protected. To activate this part of the programme, government representatives were invited to a preliminary meeting on 1 April. Further meetings will be held during the year to review the status of social protection in the Community and to investigate ways and means of acting on the Council's instructions.

2210. Having called in government representatives in March to learn in which direction government plans were moving in the *battle against poverty*,<sup>1</sup> the Commission took note of the work of private bodies through a meeting of the national social service Committees of the European branches of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW). This was held in Brussels on 16 and 17 April in order to prepare a summary report on the work of these private bodies.

2211. The first meeting of an expert group took place on 18 April. The group is to meet regularly over the months ahead in order to mount pilot projects in this field as swiftly as possible.

2212. Following the *mining disaster* in Germany in which five miners lost their lives, the Commission on 19 April decided to provide FB 212 000 as *aid* for their families.

### Industrial and occupational relations

2213. The Joint Committee for *Social Problems in Sea Fishing* held a full meeting in

London from 8 to 10 April with Mr Boelmans Kranenburg in the Chair.

During the meeting both sides of industry resumed the negotiations for the 'social harmonization programme' in this field. In view of the idiosyncrasies of the various types of fishing, it was decided to draw up a separate programme for deep-sea fishing. Plans for the other types of fishing will be prepared by the end of the year.

The Joint Committee also adopted and sent to the Commission Opinions on the following issues: accident prevention, safety for boats and crews, work safety on board, coastal assistance, occupational training, retraining and re-employment.

### Health protection

2214. The Research Committee on *Health in Mines* meeting in Luxembourg on 8 and 9 April adopted fifteen research projects to be submitted to the Commission for its approval in 1974. The fifteen projects will be borne by six Community institutes specializing in mining research. They cover the suppression of dust produced in coal winning, at the transfer points between face and road, in caving and during support operations. Other projects concern the use of additives and on various modern features of measuring dust levels.

2215. Between 1960 and 1972, i.e. according to the most recent statistics available, more than a million iron and steel workers in the Community have been involved in lost-time accidents. This is revealed in a survey by the Community Statistical Office over the twelve-year period on all *industrial accidents in the iron and steel companies* of the Six.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2214.

1859 of these accidents were fatal and since 1968 the accident frequency has been rising as against a steady drop between 1960 and 1968.

2216. The Commission has decided to have a study made on the radiation protections problems arising from public availability of products and appliances containing radioactive matter. The study will cover an analysis of the current situation with regard to the nine Member States and a medium and long-term forward survey on the contribution to the genetic dosage which the total radiation from these current consumer articles is likely to provoke for the whole of the population. The results of the study will serve as the basis of firm action proposals which are in fact anticipated in the social action programme.

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2217. During the sitting of 22 to 25 April 1974, the *European Parliament* passed Resolutions on the 'Social Report for 1973' and the first activity report of the new Social Fund. It also gave its Opinion on Commission Proposals to the Council concerning (a) application of the principle of equal pay for men and women and (b) application of the 40-hour week and four weeks annual paid holiday.

## Environment and consumer protection

### Environment

#### Pollution and nuisances connected with energy production

2218. On 23 April the Commission sent the Commission a preliminary report on the problems of pollution and nuisances connected with

energy production. The report is one of the projects covered by the action programme for the environment which the Council approved on 19 July 1973.<sup>1</sup>

Under the programme this report should have been compiled by the Commission by 31 December 1973. But the complexity of the subject, the need to take account of the most recent factors in evaluating the medium-term production prospects, the fluid and changing nature of some economic data following recent events and the need to find an objective basis for appraisal are just some of the reasons why this report has only recently been communicated to the Council.

As laid down in the programme,<sup>2</sup> the report gives detailed consideration to three types of pollution which are of particular importance: thermal pollution of water and pollution due to sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>). This report will form the basis for discussion with national experts and in the light of these discussions the Commission will forward proposals to the Council as soon as possible, and by 31 July 1974 at the latest.

The report is based on a number of estimates of energy production and consumption which may be altered in the light of new economic development strategies. Consequently, these estimates must only be regarded as working hypotheses. With this reservation, the report makes the following points:

*For thermal releases* the need to:

- (a) consolidate existing data and improve our understanding of the effects of thermal releases on our environment;
- (b) plan the siting of new power plants on a European basis by a systematic exchange of

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1973, points 1301 to 1309.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 112 of 20.12.1973.

information between Member States of the Community;

- (c) encourage the widespread use of cooling towers as early as possible;
- (d) develop dry cooling towers as quickly as possible and for the post-1985 period at the very latest;
- (e) take all the appropriate steps to use the heat lost from power plants and in particular nuclear power plants.

*For sulphur dioxide* the need to:

- (a) reduce the sulphur content in gas oils;
- (b) promote the use of low-sulphur fuel oils in some areas where SO<sub>2</sub> pollution is at present very severe or is likely to become so;
- (c) organize a more rational supply of clean fuels in those areas and for those consumers who are most in need of such fuels;
- (d) promote desulphurization and any other technical developments to reduce SO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere.

*For the oxides of nitrogen*, the need to:

- (a) promote research into the effects of oxides of nitrogen on man and the environment;
- (b) develop suitable measuring methods;
- (c) take preventive action with regard to both stationary and mobile NO<sub>x</sub> emitting sources.

The report also shows that the maintenance of a high level of energy production and the need to protect the environment cannot and must not be regarded as contradictory or opposing objectives.

Energy is not only a means by which humanity can meet a number of economic and social needs but also an important factor in improving living conditions and the quality of life, including the environment itself.

## Land-based Sea Pollution

2219. In a Communication submitted on 19 April 1974 the Commission recommended the Council to ask the Member States concerned to sign as promptly as possible, if possible together and in any case by 31 December 1974 the Convention for the Prevention of Sea Pollution from Land-based Sources, which was initiated in Paris on 22 February 1974. It also recommended the Council to adopt a Decision on the finalization and signing of the Convention by the Community.

The Convention was adopted at the close of a diplomatic Conference which, over three meetings from 17 September 1973 and 21 February 1974, was attended in Paris by representatives from 17 countries, the Community, the Council of Europe, the OECD and the United Nations Environment Programme. The Convention may now be signed by the seaboard States concerned between 4 June 1974 and 30 June 1975.

Land-based or telluric pollution means pollution of the sea by water courses and underwater or other drainage systems etc. owing to the discharge of various substances likely to endanger the marine environment and human health.

Under the terms of the Convention the signatories undertake to take individual or collective action to diminish existing pollution and prevent any further contamination. This undertaking will be carried out within the programmes drawn up by a management body, known as a 'Commission'. The decisions which it takes will by and large be adopted unanimously. But decisions concerning the setting up of programmes can be taken with a 75% majority since the programmes will involve only the contracting parties who have voted for them.

The pollutant substances covered by the Convention are quoted in an appendix and listed in two groups according to whether their discharge is

prohibited or subject to certain restrictions or controls. The most harmful are the organic halide compounds, mercury, cadmium, particulate synthetic materials, oils and hydrocarbons from petroleum.

#### Protection of international fresh waters against pollution

2220. On 26 April the Commission approved and sent to the Council a Communication concerning negotiations begun, under the aegis of the Council, for a European Agreement on the protection of international fresh waters against pollution.

The Communication proposes that Member States be asked by the Council to reserve their position, pending contacts by the Commission with the Council of Europe with the aim of amending the prepared draft in such a way that it will enable the Community to participate in the Agreement alongside the Member States.

The current draft (prepared between December 1970 and February 1974 by an *ad hoc* Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe) shows a certain convergence, both in the objectives and the measures planned, with the Community action programme. But its overall economy, its institutional features and the very fact that the purpose of the Agreement is fulfilled by the Community action programme for environment could threaten, if the Agreement remained as it stands, to impair action undertaken at Community level.

The Commission feels that amendments should be made to the text so as to improve certain clauses and to enable the Agreement to be signed by the Community. The Agreement should moreover be applied in such a way as to ensure the consistency necessary for achievement of specific Community objectives and projects in the overall campaign against the pollution of water.

## Agricultural policy

2221. Some of the tension experienced on the world market since mid-1973 was again present during April 1974. This has entailed the retention of restrictive measures on exports for certain cereals, sugar, olive oil and rice.

But during the second half of April, the Commission discontinued the export levies for barley and maize and substantially reduced the levy on soft wheat. This has meant an improvement in the supply prices for fodder cereals, which hopefully should act more favourably than before on production costs in the livestock sector.

Agriculture is still suffering from the recoil of inflationary trends. But for much of farming production the trends have been resisted thanks to the new prices of the 1974/75 marketing year. They took effect on 1 April 1974 and include an 8% rise for milk and a 12% increase for beef and veal.

The beef and veal market situation<sup>1</sup> has been coloured for some months by a deterioration in production costs which by late April amounted to 90% of the guide price. The result has been a massive input into intervention which by the end of April reached a total of 75 000 tonnes for this sector, i.e. for April alone, some 20 000 tonnes including 2 300 tonnes in Germany, 3 175 tonnes in Ireland and 11 125 tonnes in France.

Several Member States have already announced that storage capacity has reached its limit. The Council, during its meeting of 29 and 30 April 1974 in Luxembourg again scrutinized the market situation in the meat production sector. The Commission took a number of market administration measures, mostly in the beef and veal sector. Here the action taken covers both

<sup>1</sup> Point 2228.

interventions and the external system, where the Commission decided to suspend the issue of import certificates until 6 May.

Regarding prices, the Council on 29 April 1975 officially adopted the Regulations setting the common farm prices for the 1974/75 marketing year. It also approved the Regulation on the joint organization of the market in the dehydrated fodders sector and set the aid for production over the 1974/75 marketing year.<sup>1</sup>

This is an application of one of the initial measures proposed by the Commission in order to improve the supply of proteins on the Community market; on 18 April 1974 the Commission sent the Council another Proposal to the same end, which covered special measures for soya seeds.<sup>1</sup>

### Common agricultural prices for the 1974/75 marketing year

2222. On 29 April 1974 the Council officially adopted the Regulations concerning the common farm prices applicable during the 1974/75 marketing year which it had set during the meeting of 21-23 March 1974,<sup>2</sup> and which cover all the products concerned except for products from the milk and beef sector where prices were approved on 28 March 1974.

### Measures in connection with the monetary situation

2223. The development of the exchange rates for the Italian lira and the French franc entailed adjustments to the monetary compensatory amounts. This occurred once in Italy as from 8 April and twice in Italy and France from 15 and 29 April 1974 respectively.

## Joint organization of the market

### *Sugar*

2224. Since the Council decided to set the sugar intervention prices for the 1974/75 marketing year at 7% above the prices applicable over the preceding year, this increase could provoke disturbance on the Community sugar market. The Commission on 5 April<sup>3</sup> brought in measures to avoid this without generating distortion of competition within the Community but enabling over-complicated national administrative measures and controls to be dispensed with.

### *Olive oil*

2225. On 3 April 1974<sup>4</sup> the Commission was able to discontinue the compensatory amount on the imports of certain olive oils originating or coming from Spain, since the conditions of application were no longer met. The amount had been set in February 1973<sup>5</sup> for refined oils (under the sub-heading 15.07 AI of the CCT) at 14 u.a./100 kg. in packing weighing up to 0.916 kg and at 6 u.a./100 kg. for the same oils in packing of more than 0.916 kg. This had been applied because Spain, by introducing discriminatory taxes on exports of lamp oils (raw material) and refined oils (finished product) had provoked considerable disruption in Community production of refined products.

<sup>1</sup> Point 2226.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 1203.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 99 of 9.4.1974.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 95 of 5.4.1974.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 2-1973, point 2224.

*Oilseeds and protein products*

2226. Taking note of Council discussions and its Decision of principle taken on 23 March<sup>1</sup> to bring in a special scheme to foster the cultivation of soya (by affording support similar to the aid provided for colza and sunflower seeds), the Commission on 18 April proposed to the Council a streamlined scheme for Community soya seed production. The scheme provides scope for granting aid for soya seeds; on the basis of current market prices, the aid would amount to nothing. The proposed Regulation would apply from 1 November 1974.

On 30 April the Council officially decided to set up a joint organization of the market for dehydrated fodders, the main feature of which is the granting of production aid which it had agreed on 23 March.<sup>1</sup>

The produce in question includes alfalfa, sainfoin, clover, lupins, vetches and other kindred fodder plants, dehydrated by artificial drying and under heat, with the exception of hay and forage kale. The marketing year will begin on 1 April each year and will end on 31 March of the following year, except for the 1974/75 marketing year which will start on 15 May 1974.

The new arrangements also provide for certain general clauses akin to those existing in the Regulations on the joint organization of the agricultural markets, and include a protection clause and the formation of a Management Committee.

The amount of the subsidy for dehydrated fodder production for this particular year has been set at 6 u.a./tonne.<sup>2</sup> The general rules for granting the subsidy are based on:

(i) criteria concerning the minimum quality of dehydrated fodders (maximum moisture and minimum protein content);

(ii) requirements to be met by the dehydrating companies to entitle them to the subsidy;

(iii) monitoring entitlement to aid;

(iv) criteria governing contracts between the dehydrating companies and the forage producers.

The scheme of aid provided for will apply until the end of the 1977/78 year and the Council will have to take a decision before this date on whether it should be retained and, if need be, amended. The Commission is also to submit a Proposal for granting aid to firms who also dehydrate potatoes.

*Wine*

2227. On 29 and 30 April the Council discussed the situation on the Community wine market and measures now in force or likely to be applied in order to cope with current problems.

When it found that the average price of table wine type A1 (white) had remained below the release price for two consecutive weeks, the Commission granted on 9 April 1974<sup>3</sup> a subsidy for private storage of this type of wine.

The Commission also amended once again the Regulation of 6 October 1970<sup>4</sup> on the grading of vine varieties which may be grown in the Community. On 17 April 1974<sup>5</sup> the grading was completed for various regions in five Member States (Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg, United Kingdom) after testing the suitability of the varieties for cultivation.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 1209.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 120 of 1.5.1974.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 100 of 10.4.1974.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 10-1972, point 95.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 111 of 24.4.1974.

*Beef and veal*

2228. In view of the present tension on this market, application of the Community rules enables a number of measures to be implemented which come under the Commission's jurisdiction and which will probably relieve the meat market situation especially where beef and veal are concerned.

With this in mind the Council at its April session officially took note of a set of measures which the Commission has adopted or will shortly take. They involve administrative action or exceptional measures.

*The administrative action* has been taken:

(a) under the intervention system: aid for private storage; call for tender concerning hind-quarters from German and Irish intervention and intended for export; call for tender concerning forequarters from German and Irish intervention and intended for processing. The following are also being prepared: a Regulation providing for the immediate processing into preserves of meats from intervention; a Regulation concerning cut-price sales to non-profit making institutions and administrative bodies of deep frozen hindquarters and, if necessary, preserves deriving from the above-mentioned processing;

(b) on export refunds. It was decided to raise them: by 38% for livestock, fresh and frozen meat, by 22% for deep-frozen meat not from intervention and by 50% for smoked or dried meats and pure beef preserves;

(c) on import levies. The decline on the world market has led to an increase in levies on imports of livestock and fresh, frozen and deep-frozen meat.

*The exceptional measures* cover several points. In view of the market situation and to avoid speculation the Commission decided on

29 April 1974 to discontinue the issue of all import certificates until 6 May inclusive, the time required to apply other measures.

On 30 April the Commission adopted Regulations:

(a) to provide for imports of deep-frozen meat to be married with the purchase of meat stored by the intervention agencies;

(b) to waive for the time being the application of provisions autonomously establishing lower charges on the imports of certain produce (young livestock for fattening, deep-frozen meat for preserve making).

The Commission will decide to introduce the levying of monetary compensatory amounts on imports of deep-frozen meat for preserve making, and to reduce temporarily the validity duration of import certificates.

2229. As agreed during the Council session of 21-23 March 1974<sup>1</sup> the Commission on 18 April 1974<sup>2</sup> adopted a Regulation authorizing the United Kingdom to grant national subsidies from 1 April to 31 December in the beef and veal sector for calves intended for meat production. The purpose of the subsidies is to correct the disparity in income for British beef and veal producers who do not gain from the same price increase as the other producers in the enlarged Community. The aid will be granted under the calf subsidies scheme now running in the United Kingdom. Arrangements are in hand to ensure balanced competition conditions between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

*Poultrymeat*

2230. In the table poultry sector the slight growth in production and a certain slackening in

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 1213.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 106 of 19.4.1974.

consumption in several Member States have sent prices down over recent months and abnormal stocks have built up, putting both producers and slaughterhouses in a difficult position.

To alleviate pressure on the markets due to overheavy stocks and to ensure a more advantageous development in prices, the Commission decided to ease exports by granting from 1 May 1974 refunds of 12 u.a./100 kg. for table poultry.<sup>1</sup> In January refund sums for the same produce were between 2.55 and 3.26 u.a./100 kg.<sup>2</sup> But it is not possible to preset export refunds and the abovementioned sum will apply for a limited period. The Commission is hoping that this will give a favourable swing to imports and the trends of the internal market.

Regarding the other products of the poultrymeat sector, the refunds connected with the 'cereal' element in levies will be abolished from 1 May. The 'cereal' element had in fact diminished over the past year to the point where it represented a negligible sum.

### Structural policy

2231. On 10 April 1974 the Commission submitted to the Council two proposed Council Decisions on the *list of underfavoured agricultural regions*, in the sense of the Council Directive of 17 April 1972,<sup>3</sup> regarding encouragement to give up farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement.

Article 10 of this Directive lays down that, in the underfavoured farming regions where measures to encourage withdrawal from agriculture are not yet being applied on the date when the Directive itself took effect (20 April 1972), the Guidance Section of the EAGGF will reimburse 65% instead of 25% of the legitimate expenses incurred by the granting of annual allowances. The same Article prescribes that agricultural regions to be considered as underfavoured

are those showing a percentage of farming operatives higher than the Community average and a gross internal product per head of population lower than the Community average.

At the time when the Directive in question took effect, Denmark, Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg were not applying measures to encourage withdrawal from agriculture. Italy and Ireland however, did have regions which fulfilled both conditions at the same time. The Commission's proposed list of underfavoured regions, as under the Directive in question, includes all regions in Italy, except Lombardy and Liguria, and the four provinces in Ireland.

2232. On 18 April 1974<sup>4</sup> the Commission adopted two Decisions on the reform of agricultural structures. One concerns the *Netherlands* in the application of the Directives of 17 April 1972 on the modernization of farms, on encouragement to give up farming and on the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement. The other Decision concerns *Germany* again with respect to the second abovementioned Directive. On 30 April 1974 the Commission issued an Opinion on the draft provisions transmitted by the Dutch Government for application of the Directive of 17 April 1972 on socio-economic guidance for persons engaged in agriculture.

### European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

#### Guarantee section

2233. As part of its action to combat and detect fraud more effectively, the Commission or

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 117 of 30.4.1974.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 15 of 18.1.1974.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chapter I.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 141 of 24.5.1974.



24 April 1974 ran an informative meeting with Member States' representatives in line with the Regulation of 7 February 1972<sup>1</sup> on irregularities and the recovery of sums paid in error under the financing of the CAP and on the setting up of an information network in this field.

This specialist meeting enabled representatives of the responsible Ministries and the various departments involved in combating fraud to come together for the first time. Collaboration in this area will be strengthened and the exchange of information amplified. Regular meetings will now be held.

### Competition conditions

2234. During April the Commission took a position on two drafts of regional laws communicated by Italy in compliance with the provisions of Article 93, section 3 of the EEC Treaty.

It was thus decided to inform the Italian Government that the Commission had no objections against enactment of a draft law in the province of Friulia concerning action in favour of farm-holdings hit by natural disasters. The same position was taken on a draft law for the region of Liguria, which provides for certain aid measures to help agriculture.

### Harmonization of laws

2235. Since the situation has changed, the Commission on 24 April 1974<sup>2</sup> amended its Decision of March 1974<sup>3</sup> on certain *protective measures against the outbreak of foot and mouth disease* in France. The number of cases is steadily falling and they lie within a clearly defined geographical area. The ban on imports which the other Member States could decide to apply to cattle and pigs and certain meats from Brittany is now confined to the departments of Côtes-du-Nord and Ille-et-Vilaine.

2236. On 16 April 1974<sup>4</sup> the Commission decided to set up a *Scientific Committee on Foodstuffs for Human Consumption*. The Committee will be required to form opinions, at the Commission's request, on all problems related to protecting the life and health of people in connection with the consumption of food and with special reference to the composition of foodstuffs, processing which may alter them, the use of additives and other processing agents and the presence of contaminating matter.

The Committee is made up of thirteen members, appointed by the Commission and picked from experts in medicine, nutrition, toxicology, biology, chemistry and kindred disciplines, many of whom belong to the various advisory bodies of this kind in the Community.

This Decision means official recognition as an advisory body (by expanding its membership) for an unofficial committee of experts which has existed unofficially since the sixties and has been advising the Commission when preparing its harmonization proposals concerning foodstuffs.

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2237. During the sitting of 3 to 5 April 1974 the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution on the Community's policy on sugar and gave its Opinion on Commission Proposals concerning:

- (i) conditions for granting national aid within the common structural policy in the sea-fishing sector;
- (ii) the import scheme for carp and trout; and
- (iii) the joint organization of the sugar market.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 36 of 10.2.1972.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 112 of 25.4.1974.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2243.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 136 of 20.5.1974.

Science,  
research and development,  
education, scientific  
and technical information

**Science, research and development**

*Energy research*

2238. The *Study Group on Energy* attached to the CERD (European Research and Development Committee) held a meeting in Ispra on 1 and 2 April 1974 with Mr Della Porta in the Chair. After reviewing the subjects of hydrogen production and solar energy the Group scrutinized the interim general report<sup>1</sup> which was sent to the Commission in March. This was followed by a discussion on the factors to be reckoned with in establishing the priorities among the various lines of research covered in the report. The discussion will be resumed at the next meeting.

2239. The *sub-Committee on Energy Research and Development* of CREST (the Committee for Scientific and Technical Research) at its meeting of 21 March 1974<sup>2</sup> had decided to call in an *ad hoc* Group to make an inventory of the energy R & D projects now underway in the Member States and the Commission establishments. This Group met on 30 April 1974 and elected Mr Bindel of the French delegation as its Chairman. A prototype questionnaire was adopted for 1975 and later years which will also show the estimated outlay of private firms in this field. The Group decided that at the end of May it would send the Commission all the data in the hands of its members and would discuss results obtained during a meeting set for 11 June 1974.

*Forecasts, assessments and methodology*

**Study: 'Europe +30'**

2240. In following up the Council Decision of 14 January 1974<sup>3</sup> and in line with the CERD recommendation<sup>4</sup> the Commission appointed the Chairman and several members of the Project Board for the study 'Europe +30'. They were selected on the basis of their qualifications for long-term forecasting in science and technology. The Project Board has the job of designing for the Commission the blueprints of studies to be undertaken by the Project Team who are to be selected for a series of specific studies to be carried out under contract.

The Project Board met on 30 April 1974 with Lord Kennet in the Chair. The discussion brought out the subject matter which will go into the preliminary feasibility study on the 'Europe +30' project. A list was made of experts likely to make up the Project Team and of the specialized institutes who might be entrusted with some parts of the feasibility study.

*Meeting of senior officials  
of scientific and technical research*

2241. The Committee of Senior Officials of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)<sup>5</sup> met on 25 and 26 April 1974 with Mr Silver, the United Kingdom delegate in the Chair. The discussions bore mainly on the following projects:

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 2-1974, point 2235.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2253.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 1-1974, points 1401 to 1405, OJ C7 of 27.1.1974 and Supplement 14/73 - Bull. EC.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 1-1974, points 2242 and 2245.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 1-1974, point 2246.

*Electronic traffic aids on major roads* (Project 30). The Committee was advised of the status of the technical and legal work of the competent Study Group. For the next Committee meeting the Group was asked to submit a draft technical appendix covering the work of coordinating relevant national programmes. The Study Group is also to specify the financial and material resources required for this work. The commitments relating to this project will be made in proportion to the results obtained in the preparatory stage.

*Setting up of an oceanographical/meteorological buoy network in European waters* (Project 43). The competent Technical Committee for this project has proposed that a Legal Committee be set up in order to take stock of the legal problems in this field and to postulate possible solutions. The proposal was welcomed by the Committee of Senior Officials, but it decided not to take a final decision before ascertaining the conclusions of the Conference on the Law of the Sea which is to meet under the aegis of the United Nations.

*Forward studies in communications* (Project 20). The senior officials took note of the status of the work of the enlarged technical Telecommunications Committee chaired by Mr van den Berg, the Dutch delegate.

The Committee of Senior Officials gave its agreement on the carrying out of proposed research in the field of optical fibres and suggested that an *ad hoc* Group be set up to compile a comprehensive inventory of research done in this connection.

*European centre for medium-term weather forecasting* (Project 70). The Director, Dr Win Nielsen, advised the Committee of work done since the Weather Centre began operating.<sup>1</sup> In view of the projects on hand, he asked for more staff. The Committee of Senior Officials approved the appointment of three nominees.

## Multiannual programme

### *Revision of the multiannual programme*

2242. On 24 April the Commission submitted to the Council a 'proposed revision of the multiannual research programme'. Decisions on the 1973-1976 programme adopted by the Council on 14 May and 18 June 1973 did in fact anticipate amendments early in 1974. The Commission had also undertaken to put down Proposals on future activities for the Petten establishment which were not covered by the aforesaid decisions.

In the face of changing research priorities in the Community, after experience from twelve months' application of the programme and on the basis of the work of the various Committees (such as the Advisory Committees on Programme Management) it is now clearly advisable to propose certain more or less substantial changes in the lines of research.

The first changes involve *minor adjustments affecting various objectives*, including:

- (a) less work on treatment and storage of radioactive waste since a somewhat unpromising process has been dropped and the number of chemistry laboratories is inadequate;
- (b) development of work on reactor safety, mainly to strengthen the teams of theoreticians and to complete successfully the work on the mock-up simulating loss of coolant in a light water reactor, work undertaken under a contract with the Bundesministerium für Forschung und Technologie;
- (c) greater resources for the objective of 'remote detection of terrestrial resources' in

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2248.

order to advance the preparations for processing data to be relayed (at the moment concerning agriculture) by satellite (Agreste Project);

(d) preparation under the training programme of European summer courses at Ispra.

The Commission Proposal also carries *new guidelines*:

(a) no further use of the reactor, Ispra-1, now obsolete and costly, together with the substitution of a 'rabbit' in the Essor reactor to ensure the continuance of activation analysis, plus the transfer of the fast neutron converter 'Euracos' (shielding experiments) into the Pavia University reactor;

(b) a limited activity to be started at Ispra in the form of conceptual studies on thermonuclear fusion reactors carried out within bodies associated with the Member States and the Commission.

Lastly, the Commission is proposing a *new programme for the Petten establishment* which involves:

(a) supporting work in chemistry for certain Commission departments mainly in the field of customs union administration;

(b) research in technology and certain chemistry in order to promote certain products from the coal industry.

This revision of the programmes entails a request for increased budget allocations, largely to meet the substantial rise in salary costs (by forming a reserve of 21 million u.a.), and increased resources to carry out the new Petten programme (72 staff and nearly 5 million u.a.).

The relevant Proposals were finalized after consultation with the Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee and the JRC general Advisory Committee. The latter stipulated that it would decide at a later date on the possibility of amplifying the programme on solar energy and cutting down the programme for recycling raw

materials under the objective of 'new technology' put forward by the JRC. The JRC Committee intends in the autumn to review the overall advisability of amending other objectives of the programme. The principle and frequency of such reviews were established by the Council.

### **Research programme on the recycling of plutonium**

2243. On 22 April the Commission sent the Council a proposed research programme (indirect project) for the recycling of plutonium. The Community's financial contribution to the execution of this programme will amount to a maximum of 5 585 000 u.a. over a period of four years.

The programme had already been announced in 1972 when the Commission submitted the new multiannual Euratom research programme. But the Council had decided that its content should be put together by a Study Group so that the Council could give its approval when the overall multiannual programme was revised. The Study Group completed its work last March and the proposed programme which has emerged is aimed at completing available data for the optimal recycling of plutonium in so far as fast reactors have not yet reached the stage of industrial application.

The programme which should be launched early next year breaks into two main parts. The first covers solutions to general problems connected with the use of plutonium. The second covers research on the recycling of plutonium in light water reactors.

Before the fast reactors come into service extensively and thus make the most profitable use of plutonium, this element can help to provide a more elastic supply of light-water reactor fuel.

and ease the introduction of the plutonium-based fuel cycle in power stations equipped with fast reactors. Research on this is now underway in various Member States, but it should be coordinated at Community level, the programme proposed by the Commission will primarily complement the work now going on in the Member States.

It will also entail a forward study on the medium and long-term availability of plutonium, the requirements of fast reactors and the scope for using up surplus plutonium. The environment protection problems which are far more acute than is the case with uranium will mean that much work will have to be done on transporting and storing the plutonium. Other projects will bear on reactor control and reactor safety with respect to the use of plutonium.

The programme of indirect projects is to be reviewed by the Council at its first meeting on research when it will have to decide on the proposed revision of the current multiannual programme. This programme is of crucial importance against the background of the energy crisis and in relation to the Commission's ideas for overcoming it.

#### **Advisory Committees for Programme Management**

2244. The third meeting of the CCMGP for *Environmental Research* took place on 5 April 1974 in Brussels. Eight research projects in the field of remote sensing were adopted on the basis of the following criteria: (a) priority for optical measuring techniques and the required supporting techniques; (b) preference to be given to projects complementing the direct project (Ispra); (c) preference to be given to laboratories already experienced in this field and if possible

with contracts already running with national bodies.

Three projects on the harmfulness of lead and two projects on the environmental effects of water pollutants were approved.

The CCMGP also discussed:

(a) the management of the indirect research programme where it recommended that the staff of the headquarters engaged on this work be increased; and

(b) the formation of a Study Group on Data Banks for chemicals likely to pollute the environment. The Group will meet in June and will take up the activities of the *ad hoc* Group formed for this purpose in 1973.

#### **Formation of a new Coordination Committee**

2245. On 1 April 1974 the Council passed a Resolution setting up a Coordination Committee in the field of materials testing reactors and their ancillary installations.<sup>1</sup> This move fits in with the Council Decision of 18 June 1973 adopting a multiannual programme of direct and indirect projects.<sup>2</sup>

The Coordination Committee made up of experts from the Member States and the Commission will have to review the present situation regarding the use of materials testing reactors in the Community from the angle of their irradiation capacity and the programmes planned; it will assess future needs in this field and the scope for staggering them over a period of time. At the request of those handling experiments, it may give opinions on an economic and rational basis regarding the choice of installations providing conditions which best meet their requirements.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C42 of 11.4.1974.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1973, point 2243.

## Scientific and technical information and management of information

### Three-year Community action plan

2246. On 9 April 1974 the Commission approved a Communication on a Community action plan for information and documentation.<sup>1</sup>

### Committee for Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation

2247. In line with the recommendations made by the Committee on Scientific and Technical Information and Documentation (CIDST) when it met on 28 and 29 March 1974, the Working Party on agriculture attached to the Committee agreed on 25 and 26 April 1974 that the Community countries sharing in the international network of information for science and technology in agriculture (Agris I) set up under the auspices of the FAO would start to submit their joint input to the World Agricultural Bibliography from 15 October in collaboration with the Commission departments.

## Energy policy

### Preparing and implementing a Community energy policy

#### Energy Committee

2248. The Energy Committee formed by the Council on 30 January 1974 held two further meetings in Brussels on 5 and 23 April 1974 with Vice-President Simonet of the Commission in the Chair. Its main job being to help the

Commission in preparing its Proposals, the Committee got down to a thorough discussion on the Commission's draft Communication on a new energy policy strategy for the Community. It also discussed all the work on energy policy now going on in the various international centres.

## Hydrocarbons

### North Sea oil

2249. Replying to a Written Question from Lord O'Hagan, a British Member of the European Parliament, concerning North Sea oil, the Commission stated:

'According to present estimates the North Sea oil reserves could in 1980 cover about 15% of Community oil requirements. These reserves clearly offer very considerable technical and economic advantages to the Member States who exercise jurisdiction over parts of the North Sea, advantages which will also accrue through these Member States to the Community as a whole. In present circumstances there are good reasons why the initial development of these reserves should be undertaken as quickly as possible. It may be noted in this connection that the Community Regulation No 3056/73<sup>2</sup> of 9 November 1973 made possible support for Community projects in the hydrocarbon sector.

More particularly the Commission considers that the provisions of the Treaty, and the acts of the Community pursuant to the Treaty, clearly specify the sovereign rights enjoyed by Member States over economic activities on the Continental Shelf, and in particular over the exploitation and exploration of oil resources. (This view was

<sup>1</sup> Points 1201 to 1205.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L312 of 13.11.1973.

first stated by the Commission in its 1970 Memorandum to the Council, in which the Commission affirmed the applicability of the Treaty as much to the Continental Shelf as to the mainland territory of Member States.) It follows that these natural resources belong entirely to the Member States concerned which may therefore derive the full economic advantages from them (for example, dues, taxation and balance of payments benefits). It is of course the case that in the exploitation of these resources, account must be given to the various provisions of the Treaty which apply to different aspects of industrial and commercial activity, particularly those governing the principles of freedom of movement of goods and of establishment, although these rules do not diminish the benefits to the Member States concerned already referred to. The Treaty does not exclude the possible nationalization by a Member State of any sector of economic activity, although nationalized industries are of course also subject to the provisions of the Treaty.<sup>1</sup>

## Coal

### Financial interventions by Member States for the benefit of the coal industry

2250. On 18 April the Commission approved a Memorandum on the additional financial interventions by Member States for the benefit of the coal industry in 1972 and on financial interventions in 1973 (the latter will eventually be dealt with in a supplementary report). The Memorandum was drawn up in compliance with the provisions of Commission Decision 3/71 of 22 December 1970.<sup>2</sup>

It shows that the rising trend of aid noted since 1965 continued through 1971/72 and 1972/73. But the enlargement of the Community has brought about some reduction in the amount of aid per tonne of coal produced in the Community; as the Table below indicates:

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 49 of 27.4.1974.

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

### Global amounts of direct and indirect aid

(in million u.a.)

	Community of Six			United Kingdom	Enlarged EEC
	1971	1972	1973	1973	1973
	provisional figures				
Direct interventions under Decision 3/71	414.3	558.5	529.6	260.4	790.0
Aid for coking coal	45.5	71.4	204.3	22.0	226.3
Indirect interventions	91.9	100.0	79.4	—	79.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>551.7</b>	<b>729.9</b>	<b>813.3</b>	<b>282.4</b>	<b>1 095.7</b>
Development as against previous year	+ 9.4	+ 32.3	+ 11.4	—	—
Amount of aid per tonne produced (u.a.)	3.35	4.81	5.75	2.02	3.89

On 29 April the Commission sent the Memorandum to the Council in order to initiate the consultation procedure laid down by the Decision of 22 December 1970.

### Technical Research

2251. On 18 April 1974 the Commission approved a *new medium-term aid programme* for coal research under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty. The programme which takes over from the 1970/74<sup>1</sup> programme allows for the development of mining techniques and the energy situation. It covers the period 1975-1980. It is aimed at ensuring that Community efforts focus on fields most likely to yield concrete results, at harmonizing research projects, facilitating the vetting of applications for aid and selecting the most important projects to be financed by the ECSC. The programme<sup>2</sup> was sent for information to the ECSC Consultative Committee and the Council.

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2252. During the sitting of 22 to 26 April 1974, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on the Commission's Communication to the Council concerning the implementation of 'guidelines and priority action for a Community energy policy'. It also passed a Resolution on creating European uranium enrichment capacity.

## Transport policy

### Functioning of the market

#### Market Access

2253. On 10 April 1974 the Commission decided to send the *British Government* a

Recommendation concerning regulations applicable in Great Britain and Ulster and including measures for enforcing Community Regulations on passenger carriage between Member States and for aligning the national laws with these Regulations. In the *Recommendation*<sup>3</sup> the Commission regrets to find that the deadlines set by the Community Regulations in question have not been met by the United Kingdom Government and that the procedure adopted did not allow the Commission to take a position prior to the coming into force of the Regulations submitted for consultation. The Commission also recommended the British Government: to complete the headings and preambles concerning penalties for infringement by inserting references to the relevant Community rules; to amend the wording of an Article, the text of which could cause confusion between shuttle services and carriage subject to the attestation scheme; to make the adjustments to the enforcement regulations which are required to ensure that such transport is not subject to the national authorization scheme.

Lastly, the Commission found that the other provisions of regulations submitted for consultation met, both in spirit and content, the demands made on Member States by the Community Regulations through which they have been applied.

2254. On 17 April 1974 the Commission decided to send the *German Government* a Recommendation on the preliminary drafts of measures planned to enforce Community Regulations laying down common rules for intra-Community shuttle services, regular services and regular specialized services.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 74 of 10.7.1972.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 60 of 25.5.1971.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 141 of 24.5.1974.



In the *Recommendation*<sup>1</sup> the Commission regretted the fact that the German Government had not observed the deadline by which the measures to enforce the Community Regulation should have been adopted. It also pointed out that the case of non-respect of a specific provision of the Regulation on regular services had not been taken as one of the infringements likely to be committed against that Regulation and it therefore asked the German Government to cover the gap. The other provisions in the German Government's preliminary drafts were found to meet the obligations stemming from the Community Regulations.

### Transport Rates and Terms

2255. On 18 April 1974 the Commission laid before the Council a Proposal to extend the Regulation of 30 July 1968<sup>2</sup> on the introduction of a *system of bracket rates for road freight haulage between Member States*. The Regulation actually requires the Council to take a decision by the end of 1974 on the possible extension of the tariff regulations or on the adoption of a new price scheme. The Commission proposed that the Regulation now in force stays in force until 31 December 1976.

2256. A meeting was held on 4 April 1974 between representatives of the Commission and the nine Member States to discuss *application of the tariff Regulation to carriage by road between Member States which involves a sea-crossing*. Although no definitive solutions emerged, some alignment was registered on various points.

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2257. During April 1974 the *European Parliament* passed two Resolutions involving

Opinions on (i) a proposed Regulation to amend the Council Regulation of 30 July 1968<sup>2</sup> introducing a system of bracket rates for intra-Community road freight haulage and (ii) a proposed Council Directive on harmonizing Member States' laws governing driving licenses for road vehicles.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 141 of 24.5.1974.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 194 of 6.8.1968.

# 3. External relations

## Multilateral negotiations

### Trade Negotiations Committee

2301. Two of the Groups formed in February 1974 by the Trade Negotiations Committee,<sup>1</sup> itself created by the GATT Ministerial Conference of September 1973 in Tokyo, met during April.

### Agriculture

2302. The Group<sup>2</sup> meeting in Geneva from 2 to 4 April began work on the recent changes in production, consumption, supply and demand and concerning their effects on the approach to negotiations on agriculture. This analytical work will be resumed at the next meeting set for early July.

It was agreed to deal then with health and phytosanitary problems and also to concentrate on the tasks which the group is to carry out with other bodies and which concern in particular: packaging and labelling, import documents and other questions reviewed by the Group on non-tariff barriers.

In line with the work programme adopted by the Trade Negotiations Committee, the Group is tackling the updating of existing documentation on farm products.

### Tropical products

2303. At its second meeting (23-25 April) this Group considered updated information, prepared by the Secretariat, on tariffs, non-tariff measures and trade in the main tropical products, as well as data on the export dependence of individual developing countries on trade in these products and data on exports by volume and value. The Community representative drew

attention to the fact that fluctuations in the prices and in the volume of tropical products traded by developing countries, highly dependent on this trade, posed particular problems that were of at least equal importance to the problem of market access. During the discussion on the situation for individual tropical products, several delegations reaffirmed their views on the reduction and elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers. A further meeting of the Group is proposed for July.

## Commercial policy

### Preparation and implementation of the common commercial policy

#### Joint import schemes

2304. An updated version of the *joint liberalization list* for imports from *State-trading countries* was published in the Official Journal of the Communities<sup>3</sup> in the form of a Commission Communication. The announcement follows on inclusion by the Council, early in the year, of a number of new products in the joint list annexed to the basic Regulation of 19 December 1969<sup>4</sup> setting up the joint scheme applicable to imports from State-trading countries.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 2-1974, point 2301.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2302.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 30 of 19.3.1974.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 19 of 26.1.1970.

## Individual measures of commercial policy

### Textiles

#### *Agreement on the international textile trade*

2305. The Textiles Committee set up under the international Agreement on the textile trade, which took effect on 1 January, held its first meeting from 26 to 28 March in Geneva attended by Commission representatives. It reviewed the following matters: information (statistics, etc.), accession of non-contracting parties, questions of interpretation, the setting up of the Supervisory Board for textiles as laid down in the Agreement.

The EEC, the United States, Yugoslavia, Sweden, South Korea, Japan, Spain, Austria and Mexico have been designated as members of the Supervisory Board for the period 1 April to 31 December 1974 with Austria, Spain and Mexico sitting in turn during this time for periods still to be determined. The Commission spokesman for the Community, contended that the make-up of the Board was not appropriately balanced but accepted the status quo pending a review at the end of 1974. Mr Würth, former Head of the Swiss Mission to the European Communities, was appointed Chairman of the Board for the period 1 April 1974 to 31 December 1975.

### Steel

2306. On 9 April 1974<sup>1</sup> the Commission decided to authorize the United Kingdom over the second quarter of 1974 to import duty-free from third countries 50 000 tonnes of 'coils' (coiled thin sheet) intended for rerolling.

### Scrap metal

2307. After consulting the Commission the Member States' Government Representatives

decided to authorize *France, Germany, Benelux* and the *United Kingdom* to export a total of 140 000 tonnes of low quality scrap metal to third countries. The decision is valid for the period 1 April to 30 September 1974 subject to rescrutiny before end-July. Apart from the general system of export bans, the Member States accepted that the customary trade between Denmark and the other Scandinavian countries be allowed to continue on a provisional basis.

### Non-ferrous metals

2308. On 10 April 1974 the Commission adopted a Regulation on the allocation between Member States of Community *quantitative export quotas* for certain residues and ashes of copper as well as for certain copper, aluminium and lead waste and scrap;<sup>2</sup> the volume of the quotas had been set for 1974 by a Regulation adopted by the Council last month.<sup>3</sup>

## Development and cooperation

### Development and cooperation policy

2309. On 30 April 1974 the Council held a session on the Community's development and cooperation policy. Five Resolutions were officially approved on which agreement had emerged during the Council meeting of 5 November 1973.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 114 of 27.4.1974.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 101 of 11.4.1974.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 83 of 28.3.1974 and Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2312.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 11-1973, point 2316.

The Resolutions cover: technical assistance towards regional integration between developing countries and the promotion of their exports, problems concerning developing countries' debts, generalized preferences and commodity agreements.

The Council also discussed public aid for development; two Resolutions were passed on aid volume and aid terms respectively. A Recommendation was also approved concerning the geographical allocation of the aid.

The Council also agreed the extension for twelve months of the Food Aid Convention.<sup>1</sup>

It was agreed to resume in June the discussions on the outstanding questions which include the possible provision of financial aid from Community funds to non-Associated developing countries, the harmonization of Member States' cooperation policies and Community participation in special international action for the benefit of the developing countries hardest hit by the recent trends of international prices.

### Generalized preferences

2310. On 30 April 1974 the Commission laid before the Council a proposed Regulation to *expand the list of products* benefiting from the Community's generalized preferences scheme. This concerns a number of farm products, involving eighteen tariff headings, under Chapters 1-24 of the CCT and covers the period 1 September to 31 December 1974.<sup>2</sup>

The proposed expansion was adopted by the Commission after requests from Denmark, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

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2311. During the sitting from 3 to 5 April 1974, the *European Parliament* passed a Resol-

ution on the food situation in the Sahel and Ethiopia in which it 'draws the attention of the Commission and Council of the European Communities and the Governments of the Member States to the imperative need to take all the necessary measures, without delay and regardless of cost, to mitigate the effects of the present famine in these countries from considerations of human solidarity alone'.

## Commodities and world agreements

### Cereals

2312. On 22 April 1974 the Community and the Member States signed a Protocol prolonging for one year the 1971 *trade Agreement on wheat* which expires on 30 June 1974. The signature was followed by the registering of a declaration of temporary application pending deposit of the instruments of ratification by the Member States and of conclusion by the Community, of the above Protocol.

2313. During the session of 30 April the Council agreed the extension for one year of the *Food Aid Convention* which represents, with the previous Convention, the international Agreement on wheat. Since the deadline set for signing the 'Food Aid' Convention has been missed, the only remaining possibility lies in the announcement of a declaration of temporary application followed by deposit of the instrument of conclusion by the Community and of ratification by the Member States.

<sup>1</sup> Point 2313.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 64 of 5.6.1974.

**Tin**

2314. The 13th session of the *International Tin Council* took place in London from 2 to 6 April 1973 and was attended by Commission representatives. The Council noted that in contrast to previous years, 1973 had seen a deficit in production of 25 000 tonnes in relation to consumption. The imbalance could also show up in 1974. The director of the regulator stock announced that the stock of tin in hand was 1 001 tonnes at 31 December 1973.

No agreement could be reached between the producer and consumer countries on a proposal by one of the former to adjust the floor and ceiling prices obtaining since 21 September 1973 (floor price Mal. \$635 per picul and ceiling price Mal. \$760 per picul) in order to fix as a basis a floor price of Mal. \$900 per picul.

**International organizations****Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development**

2315. The OECD Executive Committee, holding its sixth special meeting on 23 and 24 April, reviewed the repercussions of the oil crisis (cooperation on economic, monetary and commercial policy and development) and the problems over commodities.

A lively debate ensued on the proposed undertaking to forego trade measures, for the most part export curbs, connected with the oil situation. The Committee decided to resume its review at the next meeting.

There was also an initial discussion on the problem of raw materials and preparations were made for the OECD Ministerial meeting set for 29 and 30 May.

**United Nations****Extraordinary Meeting of the General Assembly on raw materials and development**

2316. The Commission observed the proceedings of the sixth extraordinary meeting of the UN General Assembly called by Mr Boumédiène, President of Algeria in order to review the problem of raw materials and development. The meeting, held from 9 April to 2 May in New York, wound up with the adoption of a declaration and an action programme for establishing a new international monetary order. The action programme carries a section covering special plans (mostly emergency action) to relieve the hardship of the developing countries most seriously affected by the crisis.

The Community and the Member States expressed their resolve to examine promptly with all the States and international bodies concerned the most effective lines of international priority action to help the hardest hit developing countries to cope with their problems. They declared their willingness to take an active part in this drive and to make a substantial contribution in so far as the other members of the international community were prepared to join in.

**Economic Commission for Europe**

2317. The 29th *annual meeting* of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was held from 18 to 29 April 1974 and as an exception, in Bucarest. On the basis of a study made by the ECE Secretariat the delegations thoroughly discussed the main topic of the meeting, namely the role of technology in Europe's economic development.

The Commission representative, speaking for the Community, highlighted the striking advance of

trade between East and West in 1973. But he went on to say that despite this positive development, there were still basic problems which could only be solved through reciprocity which ensured the just balance between benefits and obligations. Tackling the main topic of the meeting the Commission representative spoke of the essentials of the Decisions on scientific and technological policy which the Council of the European Communities had taken in January. He voiced the hope that the European Community and its Member States would be able to throw their aid behind these ECE activities.

#### Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

2318. At the special invitation of the Executive Secretary the Commission attended the *annual general meeting* of the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) which took place in Colombo from 29 March to 8 April 1974. The proceedings centred on the changes in the energy situation and the development of raw materials and foodstuff prices. The discussions also focussed on their economic impact on the Asian and Far East countries and on the priorities for remedies to these problems.

### EFTA countries

#### Talks with Norway

2319. Talks with Norway took place on 2 April 1974 with reference to the quantity of the *quota for pure and alloyed magnesium* which was opened by the Community for 1974.

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2320. During the sitting of 22 to 26 April 1974, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on a Commission Proposal to the Council concerning the excise scheme applicable to certain fishery products of Norwegian origin.

### Mediterranean countries

#### Greece

2321. The attitude of the *Commission* towards Greece and the working of the *Association Agreement* between her and the EEC was the subject of a new position taken on 4 April 1974<sup>1</sup> during a debate in the European Parliament. Mr Cheysson of the Commission reminded the House of the Commission's statement of 28 March 1974<sup>2</sup> when the Commission considered 'the present situation in Greece was widely at variance with the democratic principles on which the European Community is founded and that the Community must therefore keep strictly to the minimum routine management of the Association with Greece'.

Noting that 'rightly or wrongly, the Association Agreement carried no cancellation clause', Mr Cheysson said: 'We are legally bound, and I stress the word "legally", to abide by the Treaty in its minimum stipulation, and this is what we call "routine management".' At the close of his statement, he added: 'In other words, it is only because we are bound by legal obligations that we are carrying out the minimum obligations of the Agreement. The position of the Commission like that of the Community must in no way be called into question.'

<sup>1</sup> Point 2405.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, point 2324.

## Turkey

2322. Mr François Xavier Ortoli, *President of the Commission*, made an *official visit* to Turkey from 25 to 28 April 1974. He was received by the Turkish President, Mr Korutürk, the Prime Minister, Mr Ecevit, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Günes, and had talks with them on relations between the EEC and Turkey.

## The Lebanon and Jordan

2323. Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission, responsible for cooperation and development policy, made an *official visit* to Jordan from 13 to 18 April and to the Lebanon from 25 to 28 April 1974.

The Government representatives of both countries confirmed the value they attach to economic, technical and financial cooperation with the Community within the global Mediterranean approach and to the opening or expansion of permanent preferential outlets for their exports to the Community.

## Yugoslavia

2324. The *Joint EEC-Yugoslavia Committee* held a special meeting on 5 April 1974 at Yugoslavia's request. The Yugoslavian delegation expressed its concern over the application by the Community of a protection clause on beef and veal. Yugoslavia's exports of this produce to the Community account for 25% of her overall exports. The Yugoslavian delegation was also worried about changes planned by the Community in the beef and veal import scheme, in view of the latter's commitments under the Trade Agreement with Yugoslavia.

The Community delegation explained the reasons behind the adoption of the protection clause

and gave every reassurance to the Yugoslavians with regard to the effects on the Trade Agreement of changes planned by the Community in the beef and veal sector.

2325. Sir Christopher Soames, *Vice-President of the Commission*, made an *official visit* to Yugoslavia from 27 April to 1 May 1974. The following Communiqué was issued at the end of his visit:

'At the invitation of the Yugoslavian government, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, made an official visit to Yugoslavia from 27 April to 1 May 1974.

This visit follows meetings in Brussels between Sir Christopher Soames and Mr Snuderl, member of the Federal Executive Council, and previous visits to Yugoslavia by members of the Commission. It is to be seen in the context of the close relations between the European Economic Community and Yugoslavia.

Sir Christopher Soames had extensive conversations with Mr Snuderl and with Mr Ludviger, member of the Federal Executive Council and Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade. He was also able to have a wide-ranging exchange of views with Mr Ribicic, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council, Mr Anton Vratusa, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council, and Mr Dizdarevic, Deputy Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Yugoslavia's special position as a non-aligned country between the industrialized and the developing countries made for a fruitful exchange of views on numerous questions of common interest, in particular the forthcoming opening of multilateral talks in GATT, the prospects for the generalized preference system, the United Nations Conference on raw materials, the European Security Conference and East-West relations in general.

In addition, bilateral relations between Yugoslavia and the Community, which is a major economic partner for that country, were extensively reviewed.

Both sides recognized the desirability of strengthening the links between the two parties and of a progressive extension of their cooperation as provided for in the new non-preferential Agreement.'

## Non-member countries

### *Industrialized countries*

#### United States

2326. On 18 April the *American Secretary of Commerce*, Mr F.B. Dent, called on Mr Spinelli, Member of the Commission responsible for industrial and technological policy. Mr Dent was accompanied by a party of senior American officials. The discussions bore on the Trade Reform Bill now moving through Congress, trade relations, industrial policy and energy matters.

#### Canada

2327. On 22 April the *Prime Minister of Quebec*, Mr Bourassa, called on President Ortoli and also had talks with Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President.

The talks were concerned with the pattern of trade between the Community and Quebec, Community investment in the Canadian Province and wider issues of EEC-Canada relations with particular reference to Quebec.

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2328. In a Resolution passed on 24 April 1974 the European Parliament considering that *Parliamentary contacts* 'help to strengthen the political and economic ties between Canada and the Community' decided that once a year delegations from the European House and the two Chambers of the Federal Canadian Parliament should meet to discuss issues of joint interest.

### *Developing countries of Asia and Latin America*

2329. From 22 to 26 April 1974 a delegation from the Executive Secretariat of the *Latin American Free Trade Association* (ALALC) paid visits to the Commission, the Court of Justice and the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Organized on the Commission's initiative just when the ALALC Executive Secretariat is preparing new moves for the further development of ALALC, the tour enabled the delegates to compare some of their projects with Community concepts and achievements. On the practical side, the Commission tried to afford ALALC some firm elements to help it, in its fields of activity, to develop regional integration in Latin America.

2330. In response to the requests of the countries in question, a Commission delegation which had gone to the Andean Group countries from 15 to 30 March, later visited the ASEAN countries (Associated Nations of South East Asia) from 1 to 13 April.

The aim of the visit was to make an on-the-spot study with the national authorities and the institutions of both regional groups in order to assess more accurately whether it was the right time to widen the definition of origin for imports under the generalized preferences scheme and which come from the members of those regional organizations.



## 4. Institutions and organs of the Communities

### Non-Member Countries

During the tour the Commission delegation talked in the capital cities of the two groups with the competent federal authorities; in Lima with experts from the Junta of the Andean Pact and in Bangkok with the *ad hoc* Working Party of the ASEAN Special Committee. The discussions enabled the Commission delegation to gather valuable data for its future work.

### European Parliament

#### *Part-Session from 3 to 5 April 1974*

2401. The European Parliament met in Luxembourg from 3-5 April.<sup>1</sup> The main issues on the agenda were a statement by the President on the situation of the Community, the Commission's proposed Directives on consumption taxes and indirect taxation, the bracket-rate system in intra-Community road freight haulage, new emergency measures in favour of the Sahel countries, Question Time, the EEC-Greece Association Agreement and the Community's future sugar policy. Mr Cheysson of the Commission made a statement on action taken on texts adopted by Parliament.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Tribute to President Pompidou**

(3 April)

2402. Tributes were made to the late President of France, *Georges Pompidou*, by the President of the House, Mr Cornelis *Berkhouwer*, the

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

The Political Group and nationality of members speaking in the debates are indicated in brackets after their names and abbreviated as follows: C-D = Christian Democrats, S = Socialist Group, L = Liberal and Allied Group, C = European Conservatives, EPD = European Progressive Democrats, COM = Communist and Allied Group (SF, Ind. Sin.); B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, G = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, GB = Great Britain.

<sup>2</sup> The complete texts of the Resolutions passed by Parliament during this part-session are reproduced in OJ C 48 of 25.4.1974 and the verbatim report of the sitting is contained in OJ Annex 174.

President of the Commission, François-Xavier Ortoli and on behalf of the French Foreign Minister by Mr *Burin des Roziers*, France's Permanent Representative to the European Communities.

Mr Berkhouwer praised the late President as a statesman who singlemindedly championed the interests of Europe. In initiating the Paris and Copenhagen Summit Conferences he had earned himself a unique place in the forefront of Europe's unification policy.

#### Statement by the President on the Situation of the Community

(5 April)

2403. President *Berkhouwer* made a statement in which, alluding to the declaration by the British Foreign Secretary at the last Council meeting, he emphasized that the efforts to strengthen the Community must be intensified to make up the leeway of time lost. In the continuous process of Community development, it was unacceptable that a Member State should be able to demand changes to the Treaty simply because of a change of government. But he did express sympathy with the British Government's wish for certain changes in the workings of the Community within the compass of the existing institutions and procedures. As the spokesman of the European peoples, Parliament was fully convinced that while maintaining everything that has already been achieved, efforts must be intensified with no more delay to overcome the inconsistencies and contradictions. Only by creating a European identity could the Community promote world peace and progress. In conclusion President Berkhouwer announced that provision would be made in the next sitting for a full debate on the gravity of the Community's situation.

#### Question Time

##### *Questions to the Council*

##### *Consultations between the EEC and the USA*

2404a. Sir Tufton *Beamish* (C, GB) asked about the terms for consultation between the EEC and the USA and in particular whether they covered only foreign policy matters or included issues appertaining to the Community Treaties. Acting for the President-in-Office Mr Scheel, the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, Mr *Thorn*, in reply referred to the declaration of principle concerning relations between the Community and the USA. Negotiations on the declaration were still going on so for the moment he could give no details. The consultations with the USA covered issues of political cooperation and questions of Community policy. Mr *Thorn* recalled that from the start the Community had been carrying on a constant dialogue with the United States. A flexible procedure would have to be found for future consultations and if this was handled in a spirit of reciprocity it could result in a genuine partnership. Mr *Thorn* felt that American impatience to reach a constructive dialogue with the Community was quite understandable.

Community relations with the USA in the areas under the jurisdiction of the Community were described as sound by Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission. There were active contacts at both diplomatic and political level.

##### *Questions to the Commission*

##### *Lack of Harmony between Member States in the area of Family Law*

2404b. The Question from Mrs *Carettoni Romagnoli* (COM, I) took as its premise that the,

Italian referendum on divorce law had only sharpened the disparities between Member States' family legislation.

Since a number of measures for harmonization were absolutely necessary, the Commission was asked whether it intended to conduct social and legislative enquiries and studies in this field. Acting for Vice-President Hillery, Mr *Cheysson* of the Commission explained that divorce came under family law over which individual Member States had exclusive jurisdiction. The EEC Treaty did not provide for any Community authority in this department of civil law. The Commission could therefore take no action.

#### Association Agreement with Greece (4 April)

2405. Mr *Seefeld* (S, G) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the Association Agreement with Greece, which Mr *Fellermaier* (G) had put to the Commission on behalf of the Socialist Group.

Mr *Seefeld* declared that his Group was not satisfied with the explanation from Mr *Dahrendorf* on 13 February 1974.<sup>1</sup> The Socialist Group has always opposed allowing States under dictatorships access to the Community or even offering them the possibility of association. The Socialists believed that the Association should no longer be administered at 'routine management' level. It should be terminated. Greece's democratic structure had been the basis of the Agreement and since the basis had been destroyed the Agreement could be terminated by applying the 'clausula rebus sic stantibus' of international law. The Community was under no obligation to uphold the frozen Agreement indefinitely. The Socialist Group was sick of hearing about the routine administration of the Agreement. After the enlargement the Community

had to conclude an additional Protocol with Greece and this had nothing to do with routine administration of the Agreement.

The Socialist Group was therefore urging the Commission to give serious thought to terminating the Agreement and submit appropriate Proposals to the Council.

For the Commission Mr *Cheysson* rebutted the demand for immediate termination of the Association Agreement with Greece. He confirmed the Commission's view that it was not possible for the Community to abandon her obligations. This was not just because of her conscious responsibilities towards the oppressed Greek people but primarily because of legal obligations. As it had done up to now, in repudiation of the conduct of the Greek military regime, the Commission would wind down the Agreement to minimum proportions until it could be revived together with a freely-elected Greek government and serve again as the prologue to Community membership. The Commission condemned, as it always had done, the dictatorial conditions in Greece. Mr *Cheysson* reiterated that the Community could not, however, terminate the Association Agreement on legal grounds and would have on the same grounds to add a supplementary Protocol as a result of the Community's enlargement.

In the debate most of the speakers endorsed Mr *Cheysson*'s view that loyalty to agreements was part of the European conscience. They included Mr *Bersani* (I) for the Christian Democrats, Sir *Tufton Beamish* for the Conservatives, Lady *Elles* (C, GB), Mr *Bertrand* (C-D, B). Mr *Behrendt* (S, G) on the other hand, was for rescinding the Agreement. Mr *Burgbacher* (C-D, G) said that if the Socialist Group was trying to get the Agreement rescinded, then it should think of the consequences. 'Rebus sic

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 2-1974, point 1401.

stantibus' clauses could lead to the dissolution of the Community. He asked the Commission how many associated States had a democratic constitution.

Mr *Bangemann* (L, G) stressed that termination of the Association Agreement would mean completely severing political relations with Greece and moreover at a time when the Opposition in Greece depended on such links to preserve at least some hope of continuing political dialogue.

Mr *Aigner* (C-D, D) said that the crucial question was how could we help the Greek people to overcome their difficulties. If we destroyed the last links, then we had no chance of wielding any influence whatsoever.

The speaker for the Communist and Allied Group Mrs *Carettoni Romagnoli* (I) appealed to the principles of humanity and democracy and urged that relations be broken off. Mr *Giraud* (S, F) asked whether upholding the Association would really help the Greek people.

### Emergency Measures for the Sahel Countries (3 April)

2406. Mr *Spénale* (S, F) on behalf of the Development and Cooperation Committee tabled a Resolution motion on new emergency measures to help the Sahel countries. Mr *Spénale* reminded the House of the immense distress throughout this part of Africa and urged the Commission, the Council and the Member States to do their utmost to succour the population. The Group spokesmen, Sir Douglas *Dodds-Parker* (C), Mr *Pêtre* (C-D) and Miss Colette *Flesch* (L) supported the Resolution. Mr *Cheysson* of the Commission told the House that the Community would be providing 43 million u.a. for food aid this year. The transport problem was particularly complicated. The Commission had brought all

its influence to bear and tried every avenue to solve this problem which hinged on organization rather than materials. The administrative structures of the countries involved were to some extent still inadequately developed to see that the aid measures were fully effective.

In the Resolution passed under urgent procedure the House drew the attention of the Commission and Council of the EEC and of Member States' Governments to the imperative need to take all the necessary measures without delay and regardless of cost to mitigate the effects of the present famine in these countries from considerations of human solidarity alone.

### Directives on Excise Duties and Certain Indirect Taxes (3 April)

*Commission Proposals to the Council for:*

- a Directive on excise duties and indirect taxes other than VAT, directly or indirectly affecting the consumption of products (Report by Mr *Artzinger* (C-D, G);
- a Directive on a harmonized excise duty on wine (Report by Mr *Gerlach*, S, G);
- a Directive on the harmonization of excise duties on alcohol (Report by Mr *Artzinger*, C-D, G);
- a Directive on the excise arrangements applicable to mixed beverages (Report by Mr *Schmidt*, S, G);
- a Directive on the harmonization of excise duties on beer (Report by Mr *Rossi*, L, F);
- a Decision to set up a Committee on Excise Duties (Report by Mr *Rossi*, L, F).

2407. The House also approved six reports on the Commission's Proposals for harmonizing excise duties. Mr *Artzinger*, the rapporteur for the Directive on excise duties and other indirect taxes said that the Budgets Committee had carefully gone into the question of why, in addition to general excise duties, special duties could not be dispensed with. If it made for an,

easier system there was something to be said for a single excise duty. But like the Commission the Parliamentary Budget Committee had agreed to approve the retention of further excise duties, since these minor charges would give the whole tax system a flexibility which it could not do without. The Committee therefore felt that the major duties from the revenue standpoint, those on mineral oil, tobacco and alcohol should be retained. The following criteria should be applied to the special duties to be retained and harmonized: a sufficiently high tax yield; a rational relationship between proceeds and collection costs, basic foodstuffs should not be taxed, raw materials for industry should be exempt and the tax burden of special excise duties should have a neutral effect on competing products. The Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee had proposed in its Opinion that there should be no more than the three major duties on mineral oil, manufactured tobaccos and alcohol.

Mr *Gerlach*, the rapporteur for the Directive on harmonizing excise duties on wine said that the charges on wine were the most critical aspect of the whole package. The principle of harmonization demanded a wine tax; against it was the fact that not all countries had one. Furthermore, the proceeds from the tax would be so slight that the collection costs would exceed the revenue. The Budgets Committee had rejected the introduction or harmonization of wine taxes by eleven votes to nine with two abstentions. The Committee was therefore suggesting that wine tax be abolished over a given transitional period in countries where it was levied.

The rapporteur, Mr *Artzinger*, said that there had been no differences of opinion within the Budgets Committee over the harmonization of excise duties on alcohol. The prevailing factors here were the moral and health considerations which the Committee had again highlighted. In most countries the alcohol tax or spirits monop-

oly had been brought in to prevent people from drinking alcohol. This had not worked altogether well, but in the meantime the alcohol tax or spirits monopoly had become an active source of revenue, which had pushed the health aspect completely into the background. The Committee endorsed the proposed Directive, especially the proposed tax exemptions in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and cosmetic products.

Acting for the rapporteur, Mr Schmidt, the Chairman of the Budgets Committee, Mr *Spénale* (S, F) submitted the report on the taxation of mixed beverages. The Committee had found that only two mixed beverages were currently being marketed in the Member States, which were subject to tax.

The Committee thus saw its opinion confirmed that the Commission with its Proposal wanted to take prophylactic measures in case this market expanded. Against this the Committee felt that such measures could be brought up again if new beverages appeared whose ingredients were not subject to tax or which were difficult to include in current regulations. Another rapporteur, Mr *Rossi*, said that excise duties on beer still needed to be harmonized since such taxes existed in Member States. But in the long-term these taxes should be abolished except for those on tobacco, alcohol and fuels.

Mr *Rossi* also supported the creation of a Committee on Excise Duties.

The main features of the ensuing debate were the argument over whether the special taxes on beer should be abolished, whether the tax on wine was not to be extended throughout the Community, or whether a special excise duty should be applied to spirits, in order to secure a certain stability in competition. The House agreed on retaining the special excise duty on beer. In Member States where up to now there had been no excise duty on wine or where it had been abolished it should be introduced or rein-

stated. Vice-President Simonet of the Commission said he endorsed the reports and that apart from the question of wine, there were no conflicts of opinion between the Commission and the House. The Commission took the view that all types of alcoholic beverages should be subject to excise duties. The Chairman of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, Mr Lange (S, G) pointed out that the Committee had rejected the harmonization of excise duties on wine, beer and mixed beverages. He saw no grounds for keeping these taxes *ad infinitum* and by harmonization applying them throughout the Community. They should be abolished instead.

He urged the House to reject both the harmonization of wine taxes and the proposed Directive for harmonizing excise duties on beer.

The House passed the following Resolutions on the six reports:

*Excise Duties and other Indirect Taxes:* Parliament believed that harmonization of special excise duties as proposed by the Commission could contribute to the progressive achievement of economic and monetary union. It considered that the proposed measures could create uniform conditions for competition which disparities in existing tax systems had so far prevented. The House thought that the list of special excise duties proposed by the Commission to be retained and harmonized within the master Directive under review could be regarded as a sound first step, especially in view of the possibility of harmonizing other special excise duties by 1980. The House considered that, in deciding which taxes were to be retained, it was desirable to allow not only for tax yield but also for other factors.

*Wine:* The House felt that the existing excise duties on wine in some Member States were trivial levies and that there was insufficient justification for introducing an excise duty in

other Member States. The reasons indicated in the proposed Directive for harmonizing excise duty on wine did not justify application of such duty throughout the Community.

The Commission was asked to submit fresh Proposals for abolishing excise duty on wine in the Member States where it existed.

*Alcohol:* The House considered that the Commission's Proposal would lead to a progressive harmonization of excise duties on alcohol in the Member States and emphasized the considerable fiscal value of excise duties on alcohol in all Member States. It was therefore proposed to retain this duty which was also desirable on public health grounds. The House welcomed the fact that the tax was to be applied to alcoholic beverages only and that other products or means of production, in particular pharmaceuticals, were to be exempt—a fact which clearly illustrated the reasons of public health motivating this tax. It was regretted, however, that the Articles of the Directive did not clearly express the notion of tax exemption for industries using alcohol as a primary or auxiliary ingredient and suggested that the Proposal be amended accordingly. The Commission was asked to concentrate on the harmonization at an early date of taxation rates.

*Mixed Beverages:* Parliament took the view that excise duties should only be harmonized in cases where the functioning of the common market called for such action. It was noted that at present the importance of mixed beverages in the Member States was extremely slight. The House did not share the Commission's view that this Directive, which rounded off the harmonization of excise duties, was at present necessary.

*Beer:* Parliament thought that harmonization of the structure of excise duties on beer must be followed soon by harmonization of the rates, without prejudice to simplification of indirect

taxation in the medium term by the the abolition of excise duties. The House considered that for the immediate future excise duties on beer could be retained and it approved the Commission's Proposal subject to some amendments.

*Committee on Excise Duties:* The House approved the Commission's Proposal and asked to be kept regularly informed of the proceedings of the proposed Committee.

### The Community's future Sugar Policy (5 April)

2408. In connection with the Commission's Memorandum of 12 July 1973, Sir Douglas *Dodds-Parker* (C, GB) submitted a second interim report on the Community's future sugar policy with special reference to the importing of sugar from the developing countries.

The rapporteur indicated that to honour its commitments made in the Accession Treaty, the Community must be prepared to import 1.4 million tonnes of sugar from the developing countries, i.e. the members of the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement and the OCAM Sugar Agreement. The Community also had to discharge the moral obligation under Protocol 22 and buy this quantity of sugar from the developing countries at reasonable and for them profitable prices. The Community should take the initiative in working out an International Sugar Agreement which offered the assurance of a constant adjustment to supply and demand on the world market in a form acceptable to both the producer and consumer countries.

The Commission should consolidate its Memorandum and submit figures and data per country on the current trends of world production and consumption.

Mr *Bangemann* (L, G) the draftsman of the Opinion of the External Economic Relations

Committee pointed out that several cane sugar producing countries were much more heavily dependent on cane sugar production than could on the whole be said of the Community. This single-crop agriculture was of course far from being an ideal economic development and the Committee had therefore pointed out in its Opinion that an effort should be made to put the economies of the countries concerned on a sounder basis through diversification.

In view of the present political situation, the Community ought to adhere strictly to what was agreed in the Accession negotiations. He referred to the possibility of adjusting the Community's sugar production in a flexible way to the world market situation. The draftsman of the Opinion of the Committee on Agriculture, Mr *Martens* (C-D, B) indicated that the external economic features of the sugar policy could not be regarded either formally or materially in dissociation from the intra-Community aspects. The Committee on Agriculture felt it would be prudent to temporize; this was borne out by the latest unexpected developments on the world market. The figures and statistical material in the Memorandum and on the Sugar Conference could only be described as very summary. The obligations stemming from Protocol 22 of the Accession Act had to be met; the same applied in relation to the obligations towards the AASM and OCT. The Community must remain prepared to continue the granting of food aid in the form of sugar and if need be amplify it.

Mr *Cheysson* of the Commission welcomed the report, and the Opinions of the External Economic Relations Committee and the Committee on Agriculture, particularly the latter, because it had highlighted the links between the external features of the sugar policy and the internal Community problems. Mr *Cheysson* conceded that various parts of the Memorandum were outdated, particularly Chapter 4 on the Inter-

national Sugar Agreement. The Commission was therefore shortly going to submit a new Memorandum which took account of the latest developments on the world market. Regarding the assurance of buying an annual 1.4 million tonnes of sugar from the developing countries, this was only valid for the new Association Agreement. In the sugar policy it was a case of guarantees for the developing countries to enable them to plan their sugar production. The sugar policy would thus be one of the mainstays of development aid.

In the Resolution Parliament took the view that the Community should guarantee access for imports of 1.4 million tonnes of sugar annually from the developing countries. The price at which this quantity was imported should be such as to assure reasonable export earnings to the producer countries. The House abided by its previous view that the Community should participate in a new International Sugar Agreement. In the meantime the Community should pursue a production and marketing policy that ensured Community supplies taking into account the world market situation. The Commission was urged to make further Proposals: (a) regarding the need for reserve stocks; (b) on the provision of food aid in the form of sugar at a level geared to acknowledged requirements; (c) for help from the Regional Development and Social Funds for any who lose their employment in the refining of cane or beet sugar within the Community.

### **System of Bracketed Rates for Intra-Community Road Freight Haulage**

(3 April)

*Commission report to the Council Investigating difficulties in applying Council Regulations (EEC) 1174/68 of 30 July 1968 on a system of bracketed rates for intra-Community road freight haulage*

*Commission Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 1174/68 on the introduction of a system of bracketed rates for intra-Community road freight haulage*

2409. In the Resolution Parliament noted that in the opinion of the Commission the system of bracket rates for intra-Community road freight haulage had still not been running long enough for definitive conclusions to be drawn which could lead to the drawing up of permanent Proposals in this field. The Commission was asked to submit Proposals for a definitive system as soon as possible. The House considered that the amendments proposed by the Commission to Regulation (EEC) 1174/68 would lead to a more efficient operation of its provisions.

The Commission was urged to present, as promptly as possible, its report to the Council on the checking procedures and the organization and operation of the supervisory machinery in relation to tariff rules for the haulage of goods by road.

### **Miscellaneous**

(4 April)

*Commission Proposal for a Regulation supplementing Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 regarding the treatment to be applied to imports of carp and trout*

2410. This Proposal was approved without debate.

*Commission Proposal for a Directive on the approximation of Member States' laws relating to the making up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products*

2411. The House considered that this Directive should supercede national legislation and, with sundry amendments, approved the Commission's Proposal.



**Part-session from 22 to 25 April 1974**

2412. The sitting of 22 to 25 April 1974 in Strasbourg centred on youth and culture policy matters, the present political situation in the Community, agricultural issues, social policy and Question Time.<sup>1</sup>

**The Present State of the Community  
The Commission's Role as Guardian  
of the EEC Treaty  
Improper Procedure in Council Deliberations  
(24 April)**

2413. Parliament decided to hold a full debate on three Oral Questions. A valuable, down-to-earth analysis was made between the Council, the Commission and members of the House. There was overall agreement that past achievements must be safeguarded and that all possible progress must be made. Two key factors were highlighted in the analysis of the crisis situation: France's internal policy position and Great Britain's demands for renegotiations with the Community.

The Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee, Mr *Giraud* (C-D, I) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the present state of the Community, which the Committee had put to the Commission. He expressed bitter disappointment over the outcome of the Council session in Luxembourg on 1 and 2 April and contended that the prevailing trend within the Council was still to put respective national interests first. What Europe needed was a common set of decision mechanisms to represent and defend European interests. It should be quite clearly understood that there was no longer any difference between Community and national interests. He called for the effective forces in the Member States to rally round the Community institutions.

The Chairman of the Liberal and Allied Group, Mr *Durieux* (F) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the Commission's role as guardian of the EEC Treaty in accordance with Article 155. He had put the Question to the Commission on behalf of his Group. He also spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the improper procedure in Council decision-making, which he had put to the Council on behalf of the Liberal and Allied Group.

He stated that both Questions had arisen from a Council Resolution of 21 January 1974 on the Community Social Action Programme. The Resolution could be criticized on two counts: firstly it put off all decisions in the Communiqué of the Paris Summit Conference of October 1972; secondly, it contained a number of reservations by nearly all the Member States in the Minutes. Unhappily, these reservations were not announced in the Official Journal, but were published by the whole of the press. This behaviour held great dangers for the future of Europe, for it led to nothing less than a transformation of the Council into a diplomatic conference of traditional type or into a kind of Vienna Congress. Mr *Durieux* urged the Commission to be more aware of its rights and duties and to behave *vis-à-vis* the Council as an institution of collegial and independent character.

The President of the Commission, Mr *Ortoli*, in speaking of the Community crisis warned strongly against taking refuge in a 'period of marking time'. Fresh decisions were needed in the Community every day and should the tensions of further development of a united Europe slacken, then a 'flabbiness' would set in, when nothing more would be done. 'Europe's force is the

<sup>1</sup> The full text of Parliament's Resolutions passed during this part-session and the complete sitting report are reproduced in OJ C 55 of 13.5.1974 and OJ Annex 175 respectively.

Community', he declared. Anyone who sought salvation in marking time was 'putting the cart before the horse'. Mr Ortoli said he was convinced that despite all the current troubles economic and monetary union must eventually be realized. If we did not achieve it, any further rifts would imperil what had already been achieved. Mr Ortoli stressed the need for joint decisions. Political and economic interests among the Nine, although not identically slanted, were at any rate similar and for this reason we had to prove solidarity. At a time when at international level the new layout of world economic and monetary order was being worked out, the Nine had to take a joint attitude towards the exterior and prove this mutuality in the Community by clearing up the monetary problems. Mr Ortoli called for a strengthening of the European institutions.

He stressed that for the future of a unified Europe the authority of the institutions would have to be strengthened; Parliament had a decisive role to play here in advancing democratic thinking in Europe. Mr Ortoli also advocated a change in the Council decision-making practice. As soon as a clear majority emerged, joint decisions could be reached more easily through abstentions. A key part should be assigned to the Permanent Representatives. An intensified dialogue between them and the Commission could make a material contribution to the Council's decision-making. The Council itself should then be able to concentrate on the real political problems and regain its governmental role. Mr Ortoli felt that the energy crisis had shown that all Member States of the Community must act jointly, for they were all faced with the same problem of energy dependence. All lone efforts could lead to disaster. In foreign relations we again had to come to joint decisions. The Mediterranean and Association policies would brook no delay. Speaking of Europe's future, Mr Ortoli urged that in all deliberations the goal of Euro-

pean union be kept in view. It was crucially important to bring the concept of Europe closer to the people of the nine States.

The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr *Apel*, the German Parliamentary Secretary of State, denied that the practice of putting reservations in the Council Minutes changed the character of the Council into a diplomatic conference. Mr *Apel* said that we must now put our cards on the table and be quite clear as to which Europe we wanted, either a supra-national or intergovernmental Europe. Europe's future hangs on this decision. Advocates of intergovernmental Europe could not for instance want unlimited monetary support and an effective Regional Fund. But advocates of a supra-national Europe were always entitled to claim the help of all their partners on every issue. Mr *Apel* stressed that Germany wanted a supra-national Europe but he feared that this form could not be realized so swiftly. It must also be remembered that the image which the Council projected mirrored the political differences of opinion and political inertia among the nine Member States.

The speaker for the Christian Democrats, Mr *Bertrand* (B) endorsed Mr Ortoli's view that a standstill in the Community now would be very detrimental to Europe. Overall political development in Europe could not be considered without the changed circumstances in individual Member States. Since the Commission's statements the situation in Europe had decisively changed. The minority governments in Belgium and Great Britain, the Presidential elections in France, the forthcoming elections in Luxembourg, and the instability in Germany had altered the political picture. This situation would possibly bring about the collapse of the Council's decision-making machinery. For instance, after the Copenhagen Summit Conference, the Council was not in a position to take 'vital decisions'. The speaker for the Socialists,

Mr *Fellermaier* (G) said that marking time in Europe did not necessarily have to mean stagnation. On the contrary, it could allow us to review the Community situation objectively and oblige us to consolidate. The Labour Party in Westminster could certainly count on the support of the Parliamentary Socialist Group provided that the renegotiations were within the span of the Treaties. Mr *Fellermaier* listed four points on which Europe's progress turned: (a) we must push on with democratizing the Community which meant that the Community institutions had to run most efficiently, (b) the Council must in 1974 return to majority decisions, (c) the Commission must once again play a more active rôle as the driving force of the Community and act in accordance with the spirit and content of the Treaties, and (d) economic and monetary union had to be accomplished, although the speaker realized it could only be implemented in phases.

Mr *Kirk* (GB), the speaker for the Conservative Group, indicated that the Labour Government was in principle in favour of Membership of the Community; to this extent the latest appearances at international level of the British Foreign Secretary Mr Callaghan could be described as being a 'curious negotiating procedure and odd diplomatic habits'. Admittedly a number of members of the present British Cabinet were trying to leave the Community. Mr *Kirk* did not believe this to be the majority attitude in the Cabinet. Mr *Kirk* felt that the absence of Labour members in the European Parliament was also an indication of Labour's uncertainty over Europe. Renegotiations with the Community could certainly take place within the compass of the Treaties. In his view Great Britain had no alternative to Community membership. To move out would result in her complete isolation. Mr *Kirk* heavily criticized the proceedings of the European institutions. The main reason for the standstill in Europe was the inertia of the Council. As he

put it, the odious system of horsetrading in the Council was miles away from what was intended in the Treaty. Mr *Kirk* also expected the Commission to come up with more resolute and decisive proposals for the future. For the Liberal and Allied Group, Lord *Gladwyn* (GB) said that Europe must be constructed on a supranational basis. Mr *Marras* (I) for the Communist and Allied Group contended that Europe had no sound ideals and that in many sectors of the population throughout the Community there was no great enthusiasm for European unity. The Community's inability to shelter its citizens and consumers from the multinational companies was clearly revealed. Lord *O'Hagan* (Non-Affiliated, Independent, GB) did not share the view that the Community was mortally sick; it was going through a peculiar phase from which it would emerge. He hoped that people in Great Britain would get the opportunity to learn of the benefits of Common Market membership and appreciate them. Mr *Nørgaard* (S, DK) asked for changes in procedure so that the Council and Commission did not get bogged down in details. Mr *Blumenfeld* (C-D, G) stressed the importance of strengthening the institutions and in this connection urged that European M.P.s be elected by direct suffrage.

Mr *Patijn* (S, NL) said that the British Labour Government was not responsible for the Community's current crisis. Sir *John Peel* (C, GB) thought that Europe urgently needed political unity, if she wanted to solve her economic and defence problems. Mr *Maigaard* (COM, DK) pointed to the lack of ties between European policy and the people. Lord *Reay* (C, GB) complained of the ever widening gulf in Community policy between official statements and effective action.

At the close of the debate, the Council President, Mr *Apel*, opposed the wishes of various speakers to see the Commission on a confrontation course with the Council. This was all too easy to

achieve, but would spell the end of Europe. In conclusion, he said: 'We are all deeply worried and afraid for Europe's future.' But in this situation, a new prospect might open. Only supra-nationality could lead us out of our difficulties. There was no alternative to an integrated Europe. In his closing comments, President Ortolí pointed out that with regard to the crisis the Commission had never ceased to point to fundamental issues. The crisis had already been brewing before the change of government in Britain. The new government's desire to renegotiate was not to be an alibi for a Community standstill.

## Education Policy (23 April)

### *Educational and Cultural Matters*

*Commission Memorandum to the Council on Education in the Community* (Report by Mr Schulz, C-D, G)

2414. Mr Klepsch (C-D, G) acting for the rapporteur Mr Schulz, welcomed the report because it highlighted the role of education in the development of European Union. He regretted to find that the Council had not consulted the House on the important question of education and had simply forwarded the Memorandum for information. The Committee for Cultural Affairs and Youth agreed with the Commission that it would be unrealistic to harmonize or coordinate the education systems of individual countries; it would be more logical to suggest major fields where, in the initial programme, Community action would be useful.

In the debate Mr Petersen (DK) speaking for the Liberal and Allied Group proposed that a Committee be set up and assigned to handle cooper-

ation and collaboration on educational and cultural issues. For the Christian Democrats, Mr Pisoni (I) was pleased with the practical form of the Commission Memorandum. For the Socialists, Mr Laban (NL) stressed the need for all strata of society to enter into the cooperation on educational matters. For the conservatives Mr John Hill called for greater mobility for teaching staff and for more thought to the mutual recognition of qualifications.

Mr Dahrendorf of the Commission dealt first with the major issues of education: satisfying the citizens' right to education, providing equal opportunity for all, overcoming the problem of new dimensions (for instance, the problem of overcrowding in secondary and further education), the relationship between education and jobs, the questions of programmes and syllabuses, education geared to certain fields of employment, career opportunities, etc., finding new technical and organizational means of opening the way for life-long education, and changes in the quality and organization of education in the light of demands for greater democracy and of the trend towards critical detachment from industry and society. The Community's contribution to solving these problems could only be a very limited one at the present time. This was partly due to its incomplete development, but also partly to the fact that the Community was not necessarily the best political platform for solving such problems. This meant that we should begin to pursue the more limited objectives which we could set ourselves here and now with the general problems of educational policy fully in mind.

In the Resolution Parliament took the view that education was destined to play a special role in the process of European unification and welcomed the intentions set down in the Commission's Memorandum for promoting cooperation in education in the Community. The House believed that this planned cooperation would

greatly help to overcome Europe's present backwardness in the scientific field. The Commission was recommended to include in its proposed education measures the promotion of a common awareness of the European historical heritage. The House appealed to the Council of Ministers responsible to adopt the draft Resolution in the Memorandum submitted by the Commission, taking into account the proposed amendments, to enable the Commission to work out practical Proposals with no further delay. The House approved subject to certain amendments, the Commission's Proposal to set up a European Committee for Educational Cooperation. The House considered it necessary that all the possibilities afforded by the Rome and Paris Treaties should be utilized to the full for the development of a coherent policy on youth, education and culture and that fresh initiative should be taken on the basis of the Resolution passed by the European Parliament on the agreement to set up a European University Institute in Florence, and having regard to the need to safeguard the European cultural heritage to set up European Youth Forum.

### *Mutual Recognition of Diplomas*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Resolution on guidelines for the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications by virtue of Article 57 of the EEC Treaty (Report by Mr Hougardy, L, B)*

2415. The rapporteur said that the Committee for Cultural Affairs and Youth welcomed the Commission's initiative in taking a new lead on the question of mutual recognition of diplomas in order to untie the present deadlock. The Commission's proposed guidelines were by and large acceptable and the Committee was therefore recommending the House to approve the Proposal. For the Christian Democrat Group, Mr *Pisoni* (I) supported the motion and stressed

the importance of education policy for the construction of Europe. Mr *Broeks* (NL) for the Socialists deplored the everlasting standstill on these issues. Mr *Petersen* (DK) for the Liberal and Allied Group said that too many detailed plans would complicate matters so he was grateful to Mr *Dahrendorf* for having emphasized the basic principles for mutual recognition of diplomas. His Group supported the formation of advisory committees. The speaker for the European Conservatives, Mr *John Hill* (GB) and Sir *Derek Walker-Smith* (GB) welcomed the proposal to set up advisory Committees for the various occupations and professions. Mr *Rivierez* (EPD, F) speaking on the Opinion of the Legal Affairs Committee, approved the Commission's guidelines because they would afford citizens the freedom of movement and the right of establishment within the Community. He also reminded the House that forty proposed Directives were still on the Council's desk. Mr *Maigaard* (COM, DK) criticized the Commission's haphazard policy since of the forty Proposals none had hit the target. Mr *Brewis* (C, GB) welcomed the Commission's proposed guidelines but asked for a sharper definition of particular educational and training requirements.

Mr *Dahrendorf* spoke of the complications which up to now had led to the impasse over the question of freedom of establishment. Articles 48 ff, 52 ff and 59 ff of the Treaty were limited in scope. They related to freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services. The wider issue of mobility was unfortunately left open. Up to now efforts had simply led to endless technical argument. The Commission was therefore now trying to get agreement on political guidelines for further progress.

In the Resolution Parliament strongly deplored the Council's delay in adopting the numerous Commission Proposals for Directives concerning freedom of establishment and the recognition of qualifications. The House appreciated the

Commission's endeavours to evolve the broad lines for the mutual recognition of professional qualifications with the aim of accelerating the adoption of the relevant Directives. The House approved the broad lines proposed, particularly the idea that Directives for the mutual recognition of professional qualifications and the coordination of conditions for access to the professions should resort as little as possible to the prescription of detailed training requirements. The House believed that the public interest required that educational standards should not be lowered and approved the idea of setting up an Advisory Committee on condition that its members included teachers and practitioners of the relevant professions.

## Question Time

### Questions to the Council

#### *Application of Article 113 of the EEC Treaty*

2416a. Lord O'Hagan (Non-affiliated, Independent, GB) asked the Council whether Article 113 of the EEC Treaty applied to all trade agreements made by Member States.

The President-in-Office of the Council, Mr *Apel*, The German Secretary of State, replied that in practice it was not possible in every case for bilateral agreements to be replaced by Community trade agreements without a transitional period. With its Decisions of 16 December 1969 and 12 December 1972 the Council on the basis of Article 113 had made it possible to prolong, amend or terminate bilateral trade agreements but this had to be done within prescribed deadlines and according to prescribed procedures. This ensured that the agreements did not in any way impede applications of the common commercial policy. He could therefore answer the question affirmatively.

To a supplementary question from Lord O'Hagan, Mr *Apel* stated that at its last meeting the Council had discussed a Commission Proposal on cooperation agreements and joint consultation but had not come to a conclusive opinion. On behalf of the Federal German Government, Mr *Apel* added that consultations at Community level must obviously take place and that we must ultimately arrive at a situation where cooperation agreements would also come within the competence of the Community, since it would otherwise certainly be possible to bypass the Community's commercial policy by means of bilateral agreements which could ever undermine and vitiate the Community's policy as a whole.

#### *Conference in Caracas on the Law of the Sea*

2416b. Mr *Brewis* (C, GB) asked the Council what the Community's position would be at the Caracas Conference regarding the exploitation of marine resources on the Continental shelf beyond the limits of territorial waters. President *Apel* replied that this question had not yet been scrutinized by the Council. Proceedings on this issue would begin at the end of April within an *ad hoc* Working Party. To a supplementary question from Mr *Brewis* the Council President replied that regarding the work of the Council one could only say when it would begin: It was never certain when it would finish.

### *Questions to the Commission*

2416c. Sir *Tufton Beamish* (C, GB) asked: 'In view of the common Community policy towards the Arab-Israel dispute and the undertaking at the Copenhagen summit meeting to guarantee a peace settlement, what steps are being taken to coordinate and increase the aid given in money and kind to Palestinian refugees?' For the Com-

mission, Mr Cheysson replied that in July 1972 the Commission had submitted a proposed food aid programme, which the Council had approved in December of the same year. The aid from the Community to UNRWA had been increased to about 7 million u.a. for the 1972-73 campaign and would be raised for the 1973-74 campaign to about 10 million u.a. Community and Member States' projects had also been coordinated. For example, 7 000 tonnes of cereals were provided by Member States in the 1973-74 campaign. Besides this the Community was providing aid for UNRWA of about 1.6 million u.a. per year. In a supplementary question Sir Tufton pointed out that there had been a shortfall of 4 million dollars in UNRWA's budget last year. On this point Mr Cheysson explained that owing to the soaring price increases UNRWA was at the moment in a grave financial situation and was forecasting a deficit of about 11 million dollars for 1974. It was even thinking of canceling parts of its programmes. The Agency had asked the Commission for further assistance and the Commission had prepared a supplementary aid programme to be submitted to the Council.

Mr Blumenfeld (C-D, G) asked the Commission whether UNRWA could not be better financed by a donation from Arab oil-producing countries. The Commission and Council would perhaps be better advised to concentrate their efforts for the Palestinian refugees in other areas. One possibility was to train the children of Palestinian refugees to become productive members of society instead of terrorists. This was the proper political solution. Mr Cheysson of the Commission endorsed Mr Blumenfeld's comments and said that UNRWA's budget must be backed in such a way that this UN body could fully implement its projects particularly in the realm of education. Mr Normanton (C, GB) enquired whether the aid contribution from the Community was yielding the most effective possible results. Mr Cheysson said that they were.

#### *Safeguard Clause adopted for Italy in the Beef Sector*

2416d. Mr Noè (C-D, I) asked whether the Commission agreed that the safeguard clause adopted for Italy in the beef sector had not been as effective as was hoped and had failed to check imports with the result that trade had been distorted and, in particular, that meat and livestock from outside the EEC were arriving in Italy via Member States of the Community. Mr Lardinois of the Commission said in reply that measures adopted were working effectively. They were temporary measures with the aim of controlling the situation between February and March. To a supplementary question from Mr Noè, as to what the Commission thought of a possible request from the Italian Government to cut off imports of meat and milk for a short time if the situation did not improve, Mr Lardinois replied that he regarded this as a hypothetical question. His personal reaction would be to discourage such action since it could deteriorate the situation in other Member States.

#### *Financial Effects of the Energy Crisis*

2416e. Mr Bousch (EPD, F) asked, with regard to the energy crisis and its foreseeable harmful effects on the balance of payments of nearly all the Member States, how the Community intended to participate in the new financial system at world level.

Mr Dahrendorf of the Commission replied that according to available estimates it could be predicted that the swings in the current account balances resulting from the crisis would cause serious problems by their extent and varying effects on the individual Community countries. In view of the consumption capacity of the oil-producing countries, the Community countries would be unable to make up their deficits by boosting exports to them. Restoring the balance on current accounts would therefore have to be effected either by direct means,

whereby the OPEC countries would amass credit in the financial institutions of the Member States, or indirectly, by means of a process of recycling through the international money market or through international organizations. In the Memorandum submitted to the Council on 23 January 1974 the Commission based its recommendations for immediate measures on the idea of coordination within the Community of the demands made on the international market which should moreover lead to stabilization of interest rates.

*Sharp Rise in Energy Prices in the Sectors of Horticulture and Fisheries*

2416f. Mr *Laban* (S, NL) asked what the Commission was doing about Member States introducing uncoordinated subsidy measures in horticulture and fisheries to counter the sharp rise in energy prices. Mr *Lardinois* of the Commission said that the Commission had already proposed some months ago that the free energy market should be reestablished. The Council had so far taken no decision which meant that problems had cropped up in both sectors. In the meantime unofficial exploratory talks had taken place between Member States with the aim of bringing in interim measures to cope with the difficulties. The Commission would be submitting a report on the matter to the Council by the end of June. A number of structural measures were needed, plus measures in the field of investment and the development of methods to reduce the energy used in greenhouse cultivation.

The Commission was convinced that order must be restored on the energy products market which would in turn improve conditions in horticulture and fisheries.

*Behaviour of Multinational Concerns in respect of Cartel Agreements*

2416g. Mr *Seefeld* (S, G) asked the Commission whether its enquiries into the behaviour of

multinational concerns had shown any evidence of cartel agreements. Mr *Borschette*, Member of the Commission, explained that most of the proceedings now being conducted by the Commission related to undertakings active in several Community countries and even outside the Community. The aim of the Commission's December 1973 investigations was to expose possible abuses. He asked the House to be patient for the final results would be transmitted to Parliament and the Member States; the report would deal with the markets and price policy.

*Debate in connection with Question Time*

2417. Two further questions were tabled on the policy of the multinational companies: Mr *Fellermaier* (S, G) wanted to know whether there was any material evidence that the multinationals were deflecting profits by setting excessive prices for the delivery of crude and refined oil products, thereby artificially reducing the profits of their European subsidiaries. Mr *Flämig* (S, G) had asked whether the Commission intended to submit Proposals making it possible to tax profits deflected by the multinationals.

In reference to the Commission's reply to Mr *Seefeld*'s question, Mr *Fellermaier* on behalf of the Socialists asked for an immediate debate on the problems raised by the three questions.

In the debate many members attacked the behaviour of the international oil companies; the price policy of these firms in Germany and the supply embargo against Belgium and the Netherlands both came under fire.

The Chairman of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee Mr *Lange* (S, G) accused the multinational oil companies of irresponsibly exploiting the market. Such abuse of dominant market positions threatened to jeopardize the market economy and provided ammunition for its radical opponents. Mr *Flämig* said that the



red figures which were paraded by the mineral oil industry derived from the fact that the companies by absorbing losses had mounted oppressive competition against coal. Mr *Nor-manton* (C, GB) warned against making a 'bogey' out of the multinationals. We should not lose our sense of proportion. Mr *Burg-bacher* (C-D, G) defended the oil companies. Those who wished to see a liberal market economy throughout the world must clearly realize that multinationals inevitably followed on from this. The condemnation of profits should stop, he said. Profits reinvested by the multinationals could substantially help in overcoming the energy crisis. If, for example, in Germany the oil crisis had passed off relatively smoothly the oil companies deserved the credit. Mr *Van der Hek* (S, NL) asked whether the Commission was maintaining contacts with Member States' cartel authorities so as to evolve a coordinated attitude towards the oil companies. Mr *Nørgaard* (S, DK) asked about the activities of the multinationals in countries outside the Community and Mr *Noè* (C-D, I) urged that not simply the oil sector but energy as a whole be taken into consideration. Mr *Beh-rendt* (S, G) said it was not just a question of combating the multinationals as such, any companies of this type should be given a constitution so as to prevent this misuse of economic power.

Mr *Borschette*, Member of the Commission responsible for competition, said that the Commission was convinced that the Community must take action to control the international oil companies; the controls should primarily focus on prices and the deflection of profits. In any case appropriate agreements and legislation could not be effective unless they embraced the whole Community and included the other major industrial nations. Mr *Borschette* heavily criticized the customary practice in multinational companies of profit deflection and condemned it as tantamount to tax evasion. He said that within both the UN and the OECD a list of measures

was being prepared to superintend the multinationals. He could not as yet give any details as to precisely when an appropriate Commission Proposal could be finalized.

Mr *Spinelli* explained that the Commission was now tackling the question of double taxation on parent and subsidiary companies. Right now it was not easy to say exactly what could and what could not be done. But broad publicity could only be helpful and on that score he welcomed the debate.

## Social Policy

### *Social Situation in the Community in 1973*

2418. Lady *Elles* (C, GB) presented a report to the House on the Commission's Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1973. She noted that 1973 had been a difficult year for the Member States and the Community. The social situation mirrored both the economic problems in the Member States and the standstill in the Community. The measures provided by the Commission's Social Action Programme were now more urgent than ever. It was alarming to find that the approved resources for the 1973 Social Fund had to be trimmed and that so far there was little prospect of establishing a comprehensive Regional Fund in Europe.

In the ensuing debate various speakers voiced their anxiety over the erosion of purchasing power due to inflationary trends and called for an energetic employment policy for the Community. The speaker for the Christian Democrats, Mr *Van der Gun* (NL) expressed disappointment. He warned against charging all the unemployment problems up to the energy crisis. There were also structural alterations which should not be overlooked. There was still no real Community social policy; it made more sense to speak of social progress in the

individual States. Mr *Wieldraaijer* (NL) speaking for the Socialists felt that in social affairs the Commission still did not have adequate powers. The employment problem was assuming greater and greater proportions.

For the Liberal and Allied Group, Mr *Premoli* (I) regretted that the Public Health and Environment Committee had not been asked for an Opinion. Mr *James Hill* (GB) taking the floor for the Conservatives spoke of the Regional Fund problem. An effective Regional Fund was the best weapon available to Member States in the battle against inflation and its consequences. He called for research and studies on an effective regional policy and on the spread of unemployment in Europe. For the EPD Group, Mr *Laudrin* (F) urged that more attention be paid to the occupational training of adults, primarily in the most underfavoured Community countries, and to the situation of migrant workers in the Community, who should not be victimized through inflations. Speaking for the Communist and Allied Group, Mr *Marras* (I) also pointed out that the problems in the employment sector were there before the energy crisis. The ever dwindling value of money had nullified all forecasts and was threatening everyone who was defenceless against inflation, like for example the pensioners. Lord *O'Hagan* (Non-affiliated, Independent, GB) thought that if the Community wanted to amount to more than a customs union, it had to play a more constructive role in social policy. Regarding the migrant worker problem he called for a sound Community employment policy combined with a long-term and programmed migration policy.

Dr *Hillery*, Vice-President of the Commission responsible for social policy, advocated a periodic indexation applied to collective bargaining. In this way wages and salaries would be regularly adjusted to increases in the cost of living. Dr *Hillery* announced that in 1974 there would be about twenty social policy Proposals

forthcoming from the Commission as part of the Social Action Programme. An analysis of the effects of the energy crisis on employment and Proposals on job safety for workers in new energy industries would be submitted to the Council.

As compared with the previous year, the level of unemployment in the Community had dropped from 2.5 to 2.3%, whilst the level in Germany and Belgium had risen. Dr *Hillery* feared that things would be more difficult for school-leavers and older workers. He indicated that an effort should be made to make the dismissal of older workers more expensive for the company. For women who suffered under the present conditions of the labour market, not only the principle of equal pay was involved, there was also the matter of equal opportunity to compete on the labour market. The Commission would shortly be submitting appropriate Proposals on this issue. Further action by the Commission would focus on improving cooperation between national labour exchanges, re-education and retraining and better protection for migrant workers against dismissal.

In the Resolution Parliament approved the Commission's choice of priorities for the Action Programme, welcomed the initiative taken so far and expressed satisfaction over the expanded scope of the European Social Fund. But the House disapproved of the reduction in resources available to the Fund and deplored the continuing absence of a comprehensive Regional Development Fund designed to advance the correction of imbalances of income between Community regions. The Commission was urged to study the advantages of existing social security schemes in the Member States for assistance to the elderly and poorly paid. The House also asked for effective action against the increasing number of industrial accidents. The Commission was urged to ensure that shortages of raw materials were not used by industry as a means of making,

excess profits. The House noted with disappointment the increase in the number of unemployed and called on the Commission to submit Proposals to the Council to resolve this problem with special reference to employment problems faced by migrant workers. The House welcomed the Commission's efforts to establish the principle of equal pay and conditions for women.

#### *Activities of the New European Social Fund - 1972*

*Report on the activities of the new European Social Fund - financial aid 1972 (Report by Miss Lulling, S, L)*

2419. Miss Lulling outlined the main problems in running the Fund, in particular the inadequate resources and the set-up for receiving and vetting requests. The Social Affairs and Employment Committee felt that, if the Social Fund was to develop into an effective tool for employment policy, it must also be able to act when the Committee was beset by a crisis or in distress and the labour market was in danger of being disrupted. This was now the case owing to the energy crisis. For the Christian Democrat Group, Mr *Van der Gun* (NL) asked why so little use had been made of the new Fund's possibilities. For the Conservatives, Lady *Elles* thought that the scope of the Fund's activities should be carefully studied. Vice-President *Hilbery* of the Commission stressed that the current resources of the European Social Fund were still utterly inadequate. The Commission must now examine which selection policy should be followed in future. He assured the House that future thinking would put greater emphasis on the situation of agriculture and the textile industry. Another of the Fund's major tasks was to settle structural problems.

In the Resolution Parliament deplored the fact that during its first year of activity, the new Fund did not succeed in performing the tasks assigned to it in a completely satisfactory manner. The House expected the next report for 1973 to indicate the problems arising from the imbalance between funds available and the number of applications submitted. It was noted with satisfaction that the Commission had been able to curb the tendency of Member States to base their use of the Social Fund on the old concept of 'fair returns' by selecting those applications which first and foremost defended Community interests.

It was regretted that neither public authorities nor private organizations had made sufficient use of the intervention possibilities. The House approved the Commission's intention to adopt a truly Community concept for granting aid from the Social Fund. The Commission was asked to consider the possibilities of countering the effects of the energy crisis on employment in certain regions through the agency of the Social Fund. The House noted that the imbalance between funds available and applications received had obliged the Commission to lay down selective and priority criteria. It was therefore stressed that the selection which the Commission was forced to make because of lack of funds should be based on Community and not national interest.

#### *Application of the Principle of Equal Pay for Men and Women*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Directive on approximation of Member States' laws concerning application of the principle of equal pay for men and women contained in Article 119 of the EEC Treaty (Report by Mr Harzschel, C-D, G)*

2420. Mr *Van der Gun* (C-D, NL) deputizing for the rapporteur deplored that equal pay for men and women was still not a reality in the Community today. In some Member States

there were wide disparities between remuneration for men and women. With the help of effective controls at company level the Commission's proposed Directive would require a close watch to be kept on equality of pay. It was further anticipated to make equal pay at national level a claimable right with protection against dismissal during any lawsuits.

The Commission's proposed Directive was in principle welcomed on all sides of the House. For the Socialist Group, Mr *Wieldraaijer* (NL) said that the Directive was an initial small step towards equality for women in industrial life. But efforts must go further and he urged the Commission to present additional Proposals. For the Conservatives Lady *Elles* (GB) pointed out that despite existing legislation prescribing equal pay for men and women, men and women in Great Britain were still paid differently. It was therefore not enough to bring in regulations on equal pay, care had to be taken to see that they were applied. For the Communist and Allied Group, Mrs *Goutman* (F) spoke of the discrimination against women especially with respect to professional qualifications, training and promotion. Miss *Astrid Lulling* (S) also deplored the fact that women's jobs were undervalued. She called for an upgrading of all kinds of jobs performed by women, including the social function of motherhood. Mr *Albertsen* (S, DK) described the paper presented as incomplete especially where the three new Member States were concerned.

Dr *Hillery*, Vice-President of the Commission responsible for social affairs, was in complete agreement with Parliament's wish to see the Directive amplified. He stressed, however, that the problem was too intricate and the introduction of equal pay for men and women was a first major move in removing job discrimination against women. The Commission would shortly be submitting new Proposals covering access for women to all occupations and the role of women in industrial life.

In the Resolution Parliament deplored that Article 119 had been legally binding for sixteen years in six Member States without having achieved any real significance beyond formal application. The House demanded the progressive abolition of wage groups to which women were predominantly or exclusively assigned. The House accused the national governmental and administrative authorities of discrimination by operating a system of different wage rates and promotion prospects for men and women. It therefore endorsed the Commission's demand for the application of the principle of equal treatment in a sector for which the governments were directly responsible.

The House called for greater efforts to enhance the occupational training of women and held that differences in retirement pensions stemming from previous wage and other discrimination were in urgent need of review. The House was concerned that equality between men and women had still to be achieved in practice. Women were still under-represented in managerial positions in all sectors. It was therefore to be expected that all legal and *de facto* restrictions on admission to various professions would be steadily removed.

#### *Application of the Principle of the 40-Hour Week and Paid Annual Holidays*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Recommendation to Member States on application of the principle of a 40-hour week and four weeks annual paid holidays* (Report by Mr *Laudrin*, EPD, F)

2421. Mr *Wieldraaijer* (NL), Mr *Van der Gun* (NL) and Mr *Normanton* (GB), speaking for the Socialists, the Christian Democrats and the Conservatives respectively, welcomed the Proposal in that it represented social progress. But Mr *Marras* (I) for the Communist and Allied Group criticized it because it did not go far enough. He suggested a Community ban

on overtime since it only profited the companies. But his tabled amendment was rejected. Vice-President *Hillery* of the Commission said that future thinking on more free time for employees must reckon with the fact that more leisure would bring its own problems. Society must realize that it had a responsibility to bear here. Careful thought must be given to the possibilities which could be created in an industrial society for planning the use of leisure time.

In the Resolution Parliament welcomed the steps taken by the Commission and approved the Proposal. It recommended that consultations be held between both sides of industry at Community level to establish the principle of the 40-hour week and four weeks annual paid holiday. The House hoped that Member States would implement the principle of the 40-hour week by 31 December 1975 and that of four weeks paid holiday by 31 December 1976. Parliament called for swifter implementation of a genuine employment policy and a regional policy.

## Energy Policy

(23 April)

### *Creation of European Uranium Enrichment Capacity*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Resolution on the creation of European uranium enrichment capacity (Report by Mr Noè, C-D, I)*

2422. The rapporteur dealt first with the two uranium enrichment processes—gaseous diffusion and ultracentrifuging.

The Energy, Research and Technology Committee noted with satisfaction the Commission's Proposals to create a Community uranium enrichment capacity and emphasized the urgency of such a move as the prerequisite for developing nuclear energy in the Community and thereby a

more secure and reliable supply. The Committee endorsed the Commission's view that both enrichment processes must be developed simultaneously through cooperation between the promoters, producers and users. This collaboration must be focussed on harmonized development of the existing processes with no disadvantage to one or the other. The rapporteur indicated that it was up to the producers and users by agreement to provide an answer to the problem of possible surpluses of enriched uranium.

Speaking for the Christian Democrats, Mr *Burgbacher* (G) said that if we did not stick to the reactor programme, there would be an electricity crisis in the Eighties which would make the oil crisis seem like a picnic. We had to come up with a reasonable compromise between the needs of environmental protection and the building of reactors, otherwise the Community's power industry would be imperilled. The whole reactor building programme depended on enough uranium being available. Mr *Burgbacher* warned against blackmail action by the uranium-supplying countries. This could endanger the Community's own enrichment plans and jeopardize our whole future.

Mr *Flämig* (G) for the Socialists said that uranium enrichment was a crucial issue. The security of the Community's energy supply for the rest of the century was at stake. He advocated that both enrichment processes be further developed in free competition but with equal opportunity. For the Conservatives, Mr *Normanton* supported the Resolution and urged the Council to finally decide on a real energy policy. The Resolution was also supported by Mr *Bousch* (F) on behalf of the EPD Group.

Mr *Dahrendorf* of the Commission explained that the Commission had not found it realistic to propose that a single Community enrichment capacity be created and had preferred, in view of the two parallel developments, to concentrate on

the desire for cooperation. Cooperation was intended to mean that both systems could be developed, which was particularly important with regard to competition. We also had to take care that, despite possessing two systems, the Community did not cut itself off from the outside world. Lastly, after an initial period full competition would be allowed. The Commission felt that in developing both systems it should be ensured that economically equal conditions were maintained.

In the Resolution Parliament recalled the need, further accentuated by the present crisis, to limit the dependence of the Community in the energy sector, especially by diversifying sources of supply. It was stressed that the development of the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes could meet this need provided that sufficient fuel was available. The House agreed with the Commission that the foreseeable development of the enriched uranium market demanded the creation of a European uranium enrichment capacity. The House regretted that, in the preparatory stages, of the decision-making process, the promoters of the two existing techniques for isotopic separation did not consider it necessary to arrange for any consultation at Community level. The House considered that, given their respective development potential, the two techniques for uranium enrichment should be further developed after ensuring equal chances for all against a background of free competition with regard to construction and operation. It was to be hoped that the risk of overproduction would be controlled as far as possible.

*Commission Memorandum  
on the Implementation of Energy Policy*

*Commission Memorandum to the Council on implementing the 'Guidelines and priority measures for a Community energy policy.'* (Report by Mr Springorum, C-D, G)

2423. The House passed a Resolution without debate approving the Commission's Memorandum.

**Recycling and Re-utilization of Waste**  
(22 April)

2424. Mr *Lagorce* (S, F) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the recycling and re-utilization of waste, which he had put to the commission on behalf of the Socialist Group. He quoted the well known phrase of the French chemist, Lavoisier, that 'nothing is created, nothing lost, everything is transformed'. He expressed anxiety over the mounting volume of waste, an ever-increasing burden on the environment. Recycling of waste would mean savings in raw materials, could benefit agriculture and restore substantial reserves to industry. Raw materials were scarce and were going to get scarcer. The public must therefore be made aware of the need to re-utilize waste.

In reply Vice-President *Scarascia Mugnozza* of the Commission said that the Joint Research Centre had been working on this problem since 1973. Research and studies now underway in individual States would eventually have to be coordinated and lead to joint solutions. The Committee for Scientific and Technological Research recently set up by the Council had to be assigned to collate all relevant information. The Commission would be submitting Proposals under the European environment policy.

Speaking for the Conservatives, Lord *St. Oswald* endorsed Mr *Lagorce's* remarks. Mr *Cifarelli* (S, I) pointed to the Community's meagre energy and raw material reserves compared with those of the super-powers. He then spoke of the need for effective protection of the environment. Public opinion had to be sensitized into respecting and protecting nature.

## Transport Policy

### *Legal Procedures for Vehicle Driving Licences*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Directive concerning harmonization of laws relating to vehicle driving licences (Report by Mr Herbert, EPD, IRL)*

2425. The rapporteur indicated that the Regional Policy and Transport Committee approved, subject to a number of amendments, the Commission's proposed Directive. The Committee wanted to see the Directive swiftly take effect in the Member States and the conditions in it strictly adhered to.

Mr *Mursch* (G) speaking for the Christian Democrats stressed that the Directive was of immense psychological value, because over 100 million Europeans would get a European licence for the first time. Even more important were the practical considerations, primarily the question of what could be done to promote road safety. The speaker for the Socialist Group, Mr *Eisma* (NL) expressed the hope that standardized driving licences throughout the country would help to cut down the number of traffic accidents. For the Conservatives, Lord *Manfield* (GB) would have preferred the review of the report to have been held back because several points could have been more thoroughly analysed by experts. He said that the report had little hope of getting the Council's approval. Vice-President *Scarascia Mugnozza* of the Commission felt that on the strength of the report the Council would be able to reach firm decisions.

In the Resolution Parliament approved the Commission's Proposal. A uniform procedure for issuing driving licences would facilitate their mutual recognition as well as the free movement of persons and freedom of establishment in the transport sector. The House approved the choice of a standard driving licence in conform-

ity with the model proposed by the International Road Traffic Convention but would like to see the English designation 'driving licence' added to the French 'permis de conduire' on the cover page. With regard to categories of vehicles requiring a driving licence it was considered that a driving licence should be required to drive cycles with an auxiliary motor and motor cycles with or without sidecar constructed for a speed not exceeding 45 km/h. The licence issued for driving a motor car should not be valid for driving a motorcycle. The minimum age for obtaining a licence for motor cars and motor cycles with a maximum design speed exceeding 45 km/h should be 18. The House considered that authorization to drive agricultural tractors should be granted from the age of 16, but felt that this lower age limit should not be extended to other vehicles classed in the same category 'F' (motor vehicles for public works). The House further considered that as soon as possible and at any event within one year of adoption of this Directive, the Commission should submit a draft Directive to the Council covering common rules to be applied to novice drivers and learners. Concerning the suspension or withdrawal of licences, Parliament felt that such suspensions should be applied by the Member State which issued the licence, at the request of the Member State in which the offence occurred and that the licence holder should be given the chance to make representation in his own Member State before the competent issuing authority.

### *Installation of Lighting and Light-signalling Devices, Fog Lights, External Projections and Reflex Reflecting Devices on Vehicles and their Trailers*

*Commission Proposals to the Council for four Directives concerning approximation of Member States laws appertaining to:*

(i) *the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles and trailers,*

- (ii) fog lights for motor vehicles,
- (iii) the external projections of motor vehicles,
- (iv) reflex reflecting devices for motor vehicles and their trailers (Report by Mr Herbert, EPD, IRL)

2426. Vice-President *Scarascia Mugnozza* of the Commission warned against overrigid harmonization which might impede the practical application of statutory provisions. The optional nature of the system would allow more flexibility within individual States.

In the Resolution the House urged the Council to adopt these important Directives as promptly as possible. It considered that the 'optional' system introduced in the Commission's Proposals to the Council should apply for a limited period only, so that uniform Community legislation for all Member States could be enacted at a later stage. The Commission was asked to incorporate a number of amendments into the Proposals.

## Agriculture (24 April)

### *Aid for Sea Fishing*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Regulation laying down conditions for granting national aid under the common structural policy for sea fishing* (Report by Mr John Hill, C, GB)

2427. The rapporteur pointed out in the debate that the essence of the Commission's Proposal was to put ceilings on national aid in favour of redevelopment in the fishery sector. A great deal hinged on the outcome of the forthcoming international Conference on the Law of the Sea which would decisively affect the restructuring of the fishery sector. In the Resolution the House approved the Commission's Proposals and awaited provisions for the further

development of a true common structural policy in the fishing industry. The House recognized the need to safeguard the interests of underfavoured regions in the process of harmonizing aid. The House believed that Proposals to develop a structural policy on sea fishing in the Community, and in particular common rules to govern aids to the fishing industry should be framed in terms of the international competition faced by the Community producer, as well as in terms of harmonization of levels of aid granted by Member States.

### *Joint Organization of the Sugar Market*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Regulation supplementing Regulation 1009/67/EEC on the joint organization of the market in sugar* (Report by Mr Martens, C-D, B)

2428. The rapporteur described the world market as suffering from chronic shortages, from prices twice as high as in the Community and from uncertainty after the International Sugar Agreement had failed to materialize. With its Proposal the Commission therefore waited to take measures to safeguard domestic sugar supplies by taking over the sugar intended for export. The issue of adequate Community supply also dominated the debate.

In the Resolution Parliament noted with satisfaction that the Commission had taken the sugar scarcity into account, but believed that the Proposal might result in a reduction of incomes for Community sugar producers, given the very high level of sugar prices on the world market. The House believed that, to stabilize existing incomes of sugar producers, it was desirable to increase the maximum quota to a level sufficient to ensure adequate supplies for the Community without however producing a surplus, and at the same time abolishing the production levy.



*Resources of the EAGGF, Guidance Section*

2429. Mr Gibbons (EPD, IRL) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the resources of the EAGGF Guidance Section, which together with Mr Herbert (IRL), Mr Lenihan (IRL), Mr Liogier (F) and Mr Rivierez (F) he had put to the Commission. The Question was put to ascertain how the funds of the Guidance Section were allocated. According to press reports certain allocations had already been set and the speaker asked whether reports which mentioned a substantial allocation for the Netherlands and Germany and cuts for Ireland, France and Denmark were in fact correct. Mr Gibbons wanted the Commission to confirm that the aid would be justly allotted and that there were not two Communities, one of whom would be favoured while the other was to be handicapped.

Mr Lardinois of the Commission declared that this kind of discussion should not take its cue from press reports. The Commission departments had drawn up programmes and elaborated working hypotheses, but the Commission itself had not yet taken any final decisions. The quality of projects put forward would be the criteria as to how far credit cuts would have to be made to the disadvantage of some countries. It could mean that the funds for the original Six would have to be trimmed in favour of the three new Members.

*Price Increases in Agriculture*

2430. Mr Scott-Hopkins (C, GB) spoke to the Oral Question with debate on the price increases in agriculture which he had put to the Commission together with Mr Jakobsen (DK), Mr Brewis, Mr John Hill, and Lord St. Oswald (GB). He asked whether the Commission concurred with the Council's Decisions of 23 March 1974 on increasing farm prices and whether the changes in the prices were in fact adequate to

increase the levels of efficient production within the Community. He also wanted to know whether and how the Council Decisions of 23 March would act in favour of the consumer. On this point Mr Scott-Hopkins expressed his misgivings and described the Council Decision as not of the wisest.

In reply Mr Lardinois of the Commission said that the 12% increase in intervention prices in the beef sector would probably affect the market price by only a few percent. He reminded the House of the concessions made at the request of the British Government and that in the future exceptions would have to be made for some countries in so far as was compatible with the Treaty. The Commission would do its utmost to protect the beef market and keep it intact.

*Excise Arrangements  
for Fishery Products from Norway*

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) 3609/73 of 27 December 1973 on excise arrangements to be applied to certain fishery products originating from Norway*

2431. Parliament approved the Commission's Proposal without a debate.

*Miscellaneous**Strengthening of Relations  
between the European Parliament  
and the Federal Canadian Parliament  
(24 April)*

2432. A Resolution motion on the strengthening of relations between the European Assembly and the Federal Canadian Parliament had been tabled by Mr Lückner, Chairman of the Christian Democrats, Mr Fellermaier, Vice-Chairman of the Socialists, Mr Durieux, Chairman of the

Liberal and Allied Group, Mr Kirk, Chairman of the European Conservatives, Mr Bourges, Chairman of the EPD Group, Mr Amendola, Chairman of the Communist and Allied Group, Mr Behrendt (S, G), Mr Giraudo (C-D, I), Mr de la Malène (EPD, F), and Mr Sandri (COM, I). The House passed a Resolution expressing its conviction that these parliamentary contacts helped to strengthen the political and economic links between Canada and the EEC. The House advocated annual meetings between delegations of the European Parliament and both Chambers of Canada's Federal Parliament to discuss matters of mutual interest. It was felt that the meetings should be held alternately in a Community country and in Canada.

*Draft Annual Accounts of Parliament for 1973*  
(25 April)

2433. Acting for the rapporteur, Mr Aigner (C-D, G), Mr Notenboom (C-D, NL) submitted an interim report on the draft of Parliament's accounts for the financial year 1973 (1 January - 31 December 1973).

The credits for the financial year 1973 amounted to 26 925 433.12 u.a. of which 25 564 625 u.a. were estimated in the budget for the 1973 financial year while 1 360 808.12 u.a. were carried over from 1972 to 1973.

Parliament had decided also to cancel the credits automatically transferred from the budget year 1972 to 1973 which were not used and amounting to 206 686.30 u.a., pursuant to Article 202 of the EEC Treaty. It was also decided that the credits available for 1973 but still unused and amounting to 2 520 425.89 u.a. should be cancelled. The House deferred its final decision on the discharge for the financial year 1973 until the annual accounts in compliance with the terms of the Treaty had been checked by the Community audit authorities.

*Regulation on a Procedure of Consolidation*  
(23 April)

*Commission Proposal to the Council for a Regulation establishing a Consolidation Procedure* (Report by Mr Memmel, C-D, G)

2434. The idea of the procedure, explained the rapporteur, was to simplify the formats of Community legal documents. These documents, with their series of amendments, should be collated into a single text and published in this form in the Official Journal. In the Resolution the House approved the aim of the proposed Regulation which was to give greater clarity to Community legislation and hence promote certainty in the law. But it was regretted that the original instruments would remain legally valid, so that users of the Official Journal would in many cases still have to consult the old, badly arranged texts. It was hoped that a more useful form of consolidation would be shortly introduced. The House expected the consolidated instruments to be published in the (L) (Legislation) series of the Official Journal.

## Council

During April the Council held three sessions devoted to general matters, agriculture and cooperation and development.<sup>1</sup>

**282nd Session—General Matters**  
(Luxembourg, 1 and 2 April 1974)

2435. *President:* Mr Scheel, the Federal German Foreign Minister.

<sup>1</sup> For the various issues reviewed by the Council see the relevant Chapters of this number of the Bulletin.

*From the Commission:* Mr Ortoli, President, Mr Haferkamp, Sir Christopher Soames, Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-Presidents; Mr Spinelli, Mr Borschette, Mr Dahrendorf, Mr Thomson, Mr Lardinois, Mr Gundelach, Mr Cheysson, Members.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr Van Elslande, Foreign Minister (Belgium); Mr Guldberg, Foreign Minister, Mr Christensen, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Denmark); Mr Scheel, Foreign Minister, Mr Apel, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Schlecht, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Germany); Mr Jobert, Foreign Minister (France); Mr Fitzgerald, Minister for External Affairs (Ireland); Mr Moro, Foreign Minister, Mr Pedini, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Italy); Mr Thorn, Foreign Minister (Luxembourg); Mr van der Stoep, Foreign Minister (Netherlands); Mr Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, Mr Hattersley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (United Kingdom).

The two main features of the session were the joint statement by the Presidents of the Council and the Commission and the declaration by Mr Callaghan on behalf of the British government.

Having been informed of the death of President Pompidou the Council paid tribute to the late President of the French Republic and his work in the service of France and Europe. The Council then suspended its proceedings as a token of mourning.

The President-in-Office of the Council made a joint statement on the Community's situation<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the President of the Commission and himself. He highlighted the problems on which decisions must be taken as promptly as possible and suggested a number of measures to be

adopted to improve the decision-making process within the Community. After a preliminary debate on this statement the Council agreed to resume its review of the practical suggestions at a forthcoming session.

The Council heard a declaration by Mr Callaghan, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on his Government's policy towards the Community. The British Minister announced that his Government would be putting forward detailed proposals. The other Members of the Council expressed their initial reactions over the various points of the declaration.<sup>2</sup>

Preparations were also made for the extraordinary meeting of the UN General Assembly which will deal with raw material problems from the angle of cooperation and development. The Council approved the guidelines to be followed by the Community and the Member States at the meeting and finalized the points of a statement made on 10 April 1974 by the President, Mr Scheel, on behalf of the Community.

Lastly, without reaching any decisions the Council considered the renegotiations under Article XXIV/6 of GATT, Community relations with the Mediterranean countries, the negotiations between the Community and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, the budgetary powers of the European Parliament, the short-term measures in the energy sector and the proposed Decision to set up a consultation procedure for cooperation agreements between Member States and non-Member countries.

### 283rd Session—Agriculture

(Luxembourg, 29 and 30 April 1974)

2436. *President:* Mr Ertl, German Minister of Agriculture.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, Introductory Chapter.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1974, points 1101 to 1105.

*From the Commission:* Mr Lardinois, Member.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr Lavens, Minister of Agriculture (Belgium); Mr Kofoed, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (Denmark); Mr Ertl, Minister of Agriculture, Mr Rohr, Secretary of State for Agriculture (Germany); Mr Marcellin, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Deniau, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (France); Mr Clinton, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (Ireland); Mr Bisaglia, Minister of Agriculture, Mr Salvatore, Secretary of State for Agriculture (Italy); Mr Ney, Minister of Agriculture (Luxembourg); Mr Van der Stee, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries (Netherlands); Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (United Kingdom).

The Council discussed the Community sugar policy and the situation of the vine and wine market.

But the main feature of the proceedings was a detailed review of the market situation in the beef and veal and poultrymeat sectors, especially in the case of beef and veal. At the close the Council found that as matters stood the application of Community rules allowed a number of measures to be implemented under the authority of the Commission which might well relieve the market situation for the products in question and especially the market for beef and veal. With this outlook the Council took note of the market management action which the Commission had taken or intended to take in the above three sectors.

The Council also established a joint organization of the market in the sector of dehydrated fodders.

#### **284th Session—Cooperation and Development** (Luxembourg, 30 April 1974)

2437. *President:* Mr Eppler, German Minister for Economic Cooperation.

*From the Commission:* Mr Cheysson, Member.

*Member States' Governments* were represented by: Mr Thuysbaert, Deputy Head of Cabinet at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Belgium); Mr Christensen, Secretary of State to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Denmark); Mr Eppler, Minister for Economic Cooperation, Mr Sohn, Secretary of State for Economic Cooperation (Germany); Mr de Lipkowski, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (France); Mr Fitzgerald, Minister for External Affairs (Ireland); Mr Pedini, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Italy); Mr Schaus, Minister of the Interior (Luxembourg); Mr Pronk, Minister for Economic Cooperation (Netherlands); Mrs Hart, Minister of Overseas Development (United Kingdom).

The Council had a thorough discussion on the proceedings of the extraordinary meeting of the UN General Assembly and in particular on the planned action for aid to the most underfavoured countries. It was decided to meet again before 15 June 1974 to study the relevant questions and especially the terms of the contribution which the Community has decided to make towards these projects.

The Council then resumed its examination of Community policy on cooperation and development. Public aid for development was considered and agreement was reached on three Resolutions concerning the volume of development aid, the conditions for it and the geographical allocations. The Council also confirmed its final approval of five or six Resolutions adopted at its previous meeting and concerning cooperation and development.<sup>1</sup> The Resolutions cover the following: commodity agreements; gener-

<sup>1</sup> 259th Session of 5.11.1973, Bull. EC 11-1973, points 2316 and 2426.

alized preferences; promotion of developing countries' exports; technical assistance for regional integration between developing countries and the problems of the developing countries' debts. In this context the Council asked the Commission to submit practical implementary Proposals for the Resolutions.

The Council also debated in detail the question of the possibility of making financial resources out of Community funds available to non-Associated countries. It was agreed to resume this discussion at the next session.

Lastly, the Council agreed the twelve-month extension to the Food Aid Convention.

## Commission

### Tribute to the Memory of President Pompidou

2438. In opening its session of 3 April the Commission paid tribute to the memory of Mr Georges Pompidou, President of the French Republic, who passed away the day before. Mr François-Xavier Ortoli, President of the Commission, sent the following telegram to Mr Alain Poher, President of the French Senate and acting President of the Republic:

'On behalf of the Commission of the European Communities and myself, please convey to Mrs Georges Pompidou and to Mr Alain Pompidou the expression of our very deepest sympathy.

President Pompidou has done much for the idea of Europe and for the realization of this idea. By his death, Europe has lost a man who believed deeply in its construction, to which the Commission is devoting itself, and who was convinced, as we are, that France has an eminent role to play in this great work.'

### Activities

2439. During April the Commission held four meetings. The major topics discussed consisted of energy problems and agricultural policy. At the last meeting the measures taken by the Italian Government to redress the balance of payments were initially reviewed.

2440. A major part of the Commission's proceedings was given over to the *Community strategy on energy*. The discussions brought out broad agreement within the Commission on the main guidelines which would have the Community define voluntary objectives for the next ten years. The Commission expects to adopt its Communication to the Council towards the end of May.

The Commission also reviewed a report on the *impact of the energy crisis on the employment situation*.

A report was adopted on the *problems of pollution and nuisances deriving from energy production*. This is a preliminary paper; the Commission is expecting to submit Proposals for protecting the environment from this source simultaneously with overall measures which it is preparing for energy policy.

2441. On the *farming* front, the Commission's work bore mainly on meat-market problems especially in the beef and veal department.

2442. In *social affairs*, the Commission had an initial discussion on the proposed Directive to strengthen the protection of workers when concentrations occur or companies merge. This Proposal belongs to the Commission's social action programme and will help to fill loopholes in the relevant laws of several Member States. The Commission expects to adopt its Proposal during May.

2443. For research, Proposals to the Council were adopted with an eye on the *revision of the joint research programme*. The Proposals adjust the direction of research in the energy sector and prescribe new activities for the Petten establishment. On 9 April the Commission approved a Communication to the Council on a Community action programme in the field of *scientific and technical information and documentation*.<sup>1</sup> The aim is to boost a rational development of scientific information and documentation systems belonging to public authorities or private bodies such as the industrial or trade union federations and to integrate the systems on a permanent basis so as to form a European information network.

2444. Regarding *cooperation and development policy*, the Commission approved a proposed Council Regulation to expand the list of products benefiting from the generalized preferences scheme. The Proposal is aimed at improving the scheme in the sector of processed agricultural products. The Commission also adopted the framework of the guidelines allowing joint positions to be adopted when the Charter of the Economic Rights and Duties of States is drawn up. The Charter, now being prepared within UNCTAD, is to be ratified by the United Nations General Assembly.

### Departmental Organization

2445. The Commission made the following appointments:

(i) Mr Wolfgang *Stabenow* has been appointed Director of the Directorate—European Social Fund (Operations)—within the Directorate-General of Social Affairs.

(ii) Mr Jacques *Dugimont* has been appointed Deputy Head of the Commission Delegation to the international organizations in Geneva.

(iii) Mr Régis *Malbois* has been appointed Head of Division—Denmark and Ireland—of the Directorate—National Economies and Economic Trends—within the Directorate-General of Economic and Financial Affairs.

(iv) Mr Pierre *Wathelet* has been appointed Head of Division—Employment Policy—within the Directorate General of Social Affairs.

### Court of Justice

#### New Cases

*Case 27/74—Demag AG, Duisburg, v Finanzamt Duisburg-South*

2446. On 19 April 1974 the Düsseldorf Finanzgericht filed a request with the Court for a preliminary ruling whether the introduction in Germany of an exceptional tax on the turnover in exports of industrial wares to other EEC Member States, possibly in breach of Article 12 of the EEC Treaty as a tax of equivalent effect to an excise duty, cannot be justified under Article 107 or Article 109, section 1 or again under Articles 2 and 3(g) of the EEC Treaty in so far as the application of said tax enables a monetary revaluation to be avoided.

#### Judgments

*Case 115/73—Commission Official v the Commission*

2447. This appeal to annul a competition procedure was rejected by the Court Decree of 4 April 1974.

<sup>1</sup> Points 1201 to 1205.

*Case 155/73—Pubblico Ministero italiano v Giuseppe Sacchi, Sala*

2448. In a legal action over the exclusive right granted by Italy to the RAI-TV company to make television broadcasts, the Biella Tribunal had filed a request with the Court on 27 July 1973 for a preliminary ruling on whether this exclusive right was compatible with the basic principles of Community statutory order and in particular with Articles 5, 7, 37, 86 and 90 of the EEC Treaty.

By Decree of 30 April 1974 the Court ruled that the broadcasting of televised messages including those involving publicity, came as such under the rules of the EEC Treaty concerning the performance of services; that Article 37 referred to trade in goods and could not cover monopolies in the performance of services; that Article 90 did not bar a Member State from amplifying a dominant position which it had conferred on a company.

*Case 163/73—Commission Official v the Commission*

2449. This case which was over the payment of arrears of living-abroad allowance was struck from the Court register by the Order of 8 April 1974.

*Case 167/73—Commission v France*

2450. On 14 September 1973 the Commission had lodged an appeal with the Court against France. Based on Article 169 of the EEC Treaty, it concerned failure to comply with her obligations under the provisions of Article 48 of the EEC Treaty and under Article 4 of the Regulation 1612/68 of 15 October 1968 concerning the free movement of workers within the Community.<sup>1</sup>

By its Decree of 4 April 1974 the Court ruled that by maintaining unchanged the rules of Article 3, paragraph 2 of the Code du travail maritime with regard to the subjects of other Member States, France had not complied with the above obligations.

*Case 171/73—Commission Official v the Commission*

2451. This case which concerned the granting of living-abroad allowance was struck from the Court record by the Order of 24 April 1974.

*Joint Cases 178/179 and 180/73—Belgium and Luxembourg v Mr Pieter Mertens, Kontich, and others*

2452. In three criminal cases brought by the Belgian State against economic operators, and where the Belgian State and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg were the plaintiffs, with regard to frauds in the cereal sector, the Brussels Appeal Court has asked the Court of Justice on 30 October 1973 for preliminary rulings on interpretation of Articles 2 and 7 of Regulation 25 of 4 April 1962<sup>2</sup> and Regulation 729/70 of 21 April 1970 concerning financing of the CAP<sup>3</sup> and the Council Decision of 21 April 1970 on Community own resources<sup>3</sup> in order to ascertain whether it was for the Member States rather than the Community to appear as the plaintiffs in these cases.

By Decree of 4 April 1974 the Court ruled that the position of Member States and their national authorities who were involved in litigation over the reimbursement of evaded Community receipts or sums paid in error had not been

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 257 of 19.10.1968.

<sup>2</sup> OJ 30 of 20.4.1962.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 94 of 28.4.1970.

affected by the consequences of the allocation of own resources to the Community.

*Case 181/73—SPRL R. & V. Haegeman, Brussels, v the State of Belgium in the person of the Minister for Economic Affairs*

2453. As part of a legal action on the payment of countervailing taxes when Greek wines were imported into the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, the Tribunal of first instance had asked the Court of Justice on 7 November 1973 for a preliminary ruling on interpretation of the Agreement creating an Association between Greece and the Community<sup>1</sup> and with special reference to the sense to be given to certain terms of the Agreement and to the authority of the Commission in order to implement a countervailing tax scheme.

By Decree of 30 April 1974 the Court ruled that the word 'system' (régime) in paragraph 2 of Protocol 14 appended to the Agreement is to be understood as referring exclusively to customs duties and quantity restrictions; that the countervailing tax put on imported Greek wines under Article 9, paragraph 3 of Regulation 816/70 of 28 April 1970 concerning additional provisions for the joint organization of the vine and wine market<sup>2</sup> amounted to a levy in the sense of Protocol 12 to the Agreement and under the terms of that Protocol could not be regarded either as a tax of equivalent effect in the sense of Article 27, paragraph 2 of the Agreement; and that Articles 41 and 43 of the Agreement do not affect application of the countervailing tax laid down by Article 9, paragraph 3 of Regulation 816/70.

*Case 20/74R—Kali-Chemie, Hanover, v the Commission*

2454. On 28 March 1974, a German company had filed a request with the Court to stay,

through an injunction, execution of Article 3 of the Commission Decision of 21 December 1973 concerning the implementation procedure of Article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/795—Kali & Salz/Kali Chemie).<sup>3</sup>

By order of 3 April 1974 the Court granted a stay until 15 July 1974.

## European Investment Bank

### Loans Granted

#### AASM

2455. The EIB concluded on 10 April 1974 a loan contract to the value of 5 400 000 u.a. (about 1 500 million CFA francs at the official parity) with COTIVO (La Cotonnière Ivoirienne) for the construction of the first stage of a spinning and weaving factory at Agboville (Ivory Coast) with an annual production capacity of 6 000 tonnes of cloth.

The company promoting the project is the 'Société des Impressions sur tissus de Côte-d'Ivoire-ICODI' which will be the main shareholder in COTIVO, the other shareholders being the Société Internationale Financière pour les Investissements et le Développement en Afrique (SIFIDA), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit m.b.H. (DEG), and the Banque Ivoirienne de Développement Industriel (BIDI). Before taking up this holding ICODI will increase its capital, in particular by issuing new shares most of which will be assigned to the Ivory Coast Government, which will thus become the main shareholder.

<sup>1</sup> OJ 26 of 18.2.1963.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 99 of 5.5.1970.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 19 of 23.1.1974.



COTIVO's spinning and weaving factory will produce 3 000 tonnes of cotton grey cloth and 3 000 tonnes of indigo denim a year from cotton grown locally. The raw cotton will be used by the ICODI and UNIWAX printing and maintenance factories at Abidjan while the denim will be sold to a major American blue jeans manufacturer for use in particular at a clothing factory shortly to be built in the Ivory Coast. At least 70% of COTIVO's production, which will be increased at a later stage to 9 000 tonnes a year, will be exported either unfinished, or as cotton prints and garments.

The project, which will cost 7 050 million CFA francs, constitutes a further stage in the implementation of the Ivory Coast Government's economic policy which aims to set up industrial complexes exporting the greater part of their production. As well as exploiting locally-grown cotton to the full, it will help to improve the country's trade balance by replacing imports and widening the range of exports. In addition it will create 1 040 jobs in its first phase and diversify the economy of a region which has hitherto depended almost wholly on agriculture.

The Bank's loan has been granted for a duration of 10 years. Until the end of the 5th year of loan repayment the borrower will receive a 2% interest rebate granted by the Commission of the European Communities from the European Development Fund, thus bringing the effective rate down to 6 1/2% a year.

2456. The European Investment Bank concluded a loan contract with the 'Régie du Chemin de Fer Abidjan-Niger' (R.A.N.) on 19 April 1974 to the value of 14 040 000 u.a. (about 3 900 million CFA francs at the official parity) for the reconstruction of a 130 km section of railway line between the stations of Dimbokro and Bouake in the Ivory Coast and for the acquisition of five locomotives. The loan has been granted for 15 years at a rate of

6.25% a year after an interest rebate of 2.5% granted by the Commission of the European Communities from the resources of the European Development Fund.

In addition, a contract was concluded on the same day between the Commission of the European Communities and the European Investment Bank, acting as the European Economic Communities' agent managing the loan, on the one hand, and R.A.N. on the other, for a loan on special conditions of 5 040 000 u.a. (about 1 400 million CFA francs at the official parity). This loan, from the resources of the European Development Fund, and running for 40 years at an annual interest rate of 1%, will be devoted in full to the reconstruction of the section of railway line.

R.A.N. operates the 1 147 km railway line linking Abidjan and Ouagadougou on behalf of the Republics of the Ivory Coast and Upper Volta. Both passenger and goods traffic are increasing steadily and most of it consists of long-distance journeys to or from the north of the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta and part of Mali. The railway is therefore the main means of access to regions remote from the sea and the port of Abidjan and an essential feature of their economic development. The railway has indeed a key part to play in developing the most handicapped areas within the two countries and the adjacent regions.

## Financing Community Activities

### First Report on Execution of the Budget

2457. On 10 April 1974 the Commission approved the *first quarterly report on the execution of the budget* which was then sent to the

## 5. Institutional matters— European policy

### Financing Community Activities

Council and the European Parliament. The report was compiled pursuant to Article 35 of the financial Regulation of 25 April 1973<sup>1</sup> on the overall position of receipts and expenditure as at 31 December 1973. Preparation of the report fits in with the new budgetary arrangements adopted in November 1973.<sup>2</sup>

### Own Resources

2458. The supervision of recording own resources and their remittance to the Commission originated from the procedure laid down in Article 2 of the Council Regulation of 21 January 1974 which defined the duties and authority of servants of the Commission<sup>3</sup> and in compliance with the general programme drawn up for 1974.

The first supervisory visit was to the Netherlands. It concerned the registering of customs duties which was done on the basis of declarations for consumption during the last quarter of 1973.

2459. The results of own resources for the financial year 1973 were also initially scored. It was found that through customs duties actually remitted the results came up to 96% of the forecasts whereas the agricultural levies reached only 76% of the forecasts. The results for the financial year are compared with the forecasts in the Supplementary Budget No 4<sup>4</sup> for 1973. For the new Member States, these results of own resources have been taken as estimates.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 116 of 1.5.1973.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 11-1973, point 2459.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 20 of 24.1.1974.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 367 of 31.12.1973.

### Conference of Finance Ministers

2501. An informal meeting of Member States' Finance Ministers was held on 22 and 23 April 1974 in Zeist in the Netherlands. The meeting, chaired by Mr *Duisenberg*, the Dutch Finance Minister, was devoted to a discussion on the problem of mobilizing the 'gold' component of the Central Banks' exchange reserves.

Since the price of gold on the free market has reached a figure between double and triple the official price, monetary gold is no longer used in international settlements. Moreover, the prospect of sizeable deficits in the balances of payments owing to the rise in oil prices is obliging the European countries to use all their reserves to the best advantage and thus to seek ways to activate the gold component of those reserves.

The discussion enabled the Ministers to reach an understanding on the basis of a solution which would allow the Central Banks to use their stocks of gold. Before the draft goes to the competent international authorities, it will be put to the United States Government for unofficial comment.

### Political Cooperation

2502. Within the compass of political cooperation, *Ministerial Conferences* were held on 4 March 1974 in Brussels and on 2 April in Luxembourg. On the invitation of the Chairman for political cooperation, Mr *Scheel*, the German Foreign Minister, the Foreign Ministers and the President of the Commission, Mr *Ortoli*, met for informal talks at the castle of Gymnich, near Cologne.

The *Political Committee* met in Bonn on 12 and 13 March and again on 18 and 19 April 1974.



**3<sup>RD</sup> PART**  
**PUBLICATIONS**

This tabulation covers the numbers of the Official Journal published during April 1974.

## European Parliament

### 1973-1974 Session

*Report of Proceedings of the sitting of 11 March 1974*  
Annex 172, March 1974

*Report of Proceedings from 12-15 March 1974*  
Annex 173, March 1974

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Monday, 11 March 1974*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

Resolution on the number of committees of the European Parliament and their membership

Opinion on the amendments to the proposals for:

I. a Regulation supplementing Regulation 1009/67/EEC on the common organization of the market in sugar

II. a Regulation fixing, for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year, derived intervention prices, intervention prices for raw beet sugar, minimum prices for beet, threshold prices, the guaranteed quantity and the maximum amount of the production levy

Opinion on the amended proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation 120/67/EEC on the common organization of the market in cereals

Opinion on the amended proposal for a Regulation on the extension of the price scheme for oil seeds to include soya beans

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending Article 4(a) of Regulation (EEC) 974/71 as regards the monetary compensatory amounts applicable to processed agricultural products

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive to amend the Directives laying down basic safety standards for the health protection of the population and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiations

### 1974-1975 Session

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Tuesday, 12 March 1974*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

Election of the President

Election of Vice-Presidents

Membership of committees

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Wednesday, 13 March 1974*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

### Question Time

Questions put to the Council of the European Communities:

- (i) 1 by Mr Cousté: Prospects offered to the Community by the European-Arab Conference
- (ii) 2 by Sir Tufton Beamish: Proposals of the Council for a common position in the foreign policy of the European Community

Questions put to the Commission of the European Communities:

- (i) 3 by Mr Brewis: Free competition in the shipping sector within the Community
- (ii) 4 by Mr Noè: Reorganization of the Joint Research Office
- (iii) 5 by Mr Marras: Facilities for Italian emigrants to participate in the divorce referendum
- (iv) 6 by Mr Patijn: Future relations between Com-econ and the European Community

Activities of the Council of the European Communities

Oral Question 193/73 with debate by Mr Cousté on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats to the Council of the European Communities: Protecting the privacy of the Community's citizens

Oral Question 197/73 with debate of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs to the Council of the European Communities: Development of the Economic Community

Oral Question 196/73 without debate by Mr Scott-Hopkins to the Council of the European Communities: Environmental measures proposed by the EEC Commission

Resolution on the economic situation in the Community

Resolution on Community regional policy

Resolution on the Commercial Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India

Resolution on the Trade Agreement concluded between the EEC and the Federative Republic of Brazil

Resolution on the Agreement between European Economic Community and the Lebanese Republic

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Thursday, 14 March 1974*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

Opinion on the proposal for a Sixth Directive on the harmonization of the legislation of Member States concerning turnover taxes—Common system of value added tax: Uniform basis of assessment

Resolution on appropriate medium- and long-term measures for the further alleviation of the energy supply crisis in the European Community

Oral Question 204/73 with debate by Messrs. Amendola, Ansart and Bordu on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group to the Commission of the European Communities: Control of the activities of oil companies

Oral Question 205/73 with debate by Messrs. Amendola, D'Angelosante and Bordu on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group to the Commission of the European Communities: Abuse by oil companies of their dominant positions

Resolution on the execution of Salvador Puig Antich

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Friday, 15 March 1974*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

Oral Question without debate by Mr Gerlach to the Commission of the European Communities: Fuel prices in the coastal fishing industry (Doc. 3/74)

Resolution on the results of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association (Rome 30 January to 1 February 1974)

Opinion on the proposals for:

I. a Decision on the setting up of a general Committee on safety at work

II. a Decision to confer on the Mines Safety and Health Commission the task of continuing its preventative action in the field of safety at work in the whole range of extractive industries

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 1408/71 and Regulation (EEC) 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, and on the supplement to this proposal

Resolution on the Convention setting up a European University Institute

Resolution on the amended proposal for a Directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on cosmetic products

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the organization of an intermediate survey as part of the programme of surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive supplementary to Council Directive 71/286/EEC of 26 July 1971 concerning statistical surveys to be carried out by Member States to determine the production capacity of certain fruit-tree plantations

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation concerning the system of trade with third countries in the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables

Opinion on the amendment to the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 816/70 as regards the definition of liqueur wine and of certain grape musts

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) 3574/73 of 27 December 1973 for the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey

*Annex*  
C 40, 8.4.1974

Membership of Committees

*Minutes of the sitting of Wednesday, 3 April 1974*  
C 48, 25.4.1974

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on excise duties and indirect taxes other than VAT, directly or indirectly affecting the consumption of products

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on a harmonized excise duty on wine

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of excise duties on alcohol

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the excise arrangements applicable to mixed beverages

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of excise duties on beer

Opinion on the proposal for a Decision setting up a Committee on Excise Duties

Opinion on:

I. a report on work done in connection with the difficulties encountered in the operation of Council Regulation (EEC) 1174/68 of 30 July 1968 on the introduction of a system of bracket tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States

II. a proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 1174/68 on the introduction of a system of bracket tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States

Resolution on emergency measures for the Sahel countries

*Minutes of the sitting of Thursday, 4 April 1974*  
C 48, 25.4.1974

Question Time (Doc. 24/74)

Question addressed to the Council of the European Communities:

(i) 2 by Sir Tufton Beamish: Consultation between the European Communities and the United States of America

Question addressed to the Commission of the European Communities:

(i) 3 by Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli: Lack of harmony between Member States in the area of family law

Oral Question with debate put by Mr Fellermaier on behalf of the Socialist Group to the Commission of the European Communities: Association Agreement with Greece

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation supplementing Regulation (EEC) 2142/79 as regards the treatment to be applied to imports of carp and trout

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products

*Minutes of the sitting of Friday, 5 April 1974*  
C 48, 25.4.1974

Resolution on the future sugar policy of the Community, with particular reference to imports of sugar from the developing countries, and in the light of the Commission's Memorandum of 12 July 1973

### *Written questions with Replies*

Written Question 47/73 by Mr Vredeling to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Support measures taken in France in favour of the watch-making and leather and hides sectors (Supplementary Answer)  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 185/73 by Mr Martens to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Evolution of the Community's beef and veal market (Supplementary Answer)  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 250/73 by Mr Patijn to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Representation of the Community during the Conference on Security and Cooperation  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 386/73 by Mr Härzschel to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Community measures to eliminate pollution affecting more than one country  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 396/73 by Mr Broeksx to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Competitions to draw up a reserve list of assistant programmers, punch operators, checkers, computer operators and assistants  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 404/73 by Mr Kater and Mr Müller to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Tidal power plants  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 503/73 by Mr Johnston to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Worker councils  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 512/73 by Mr Früh and Mr Härzschel to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Encouragement of agriculture in mountain areas and certain other poorer farming areas  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 531/73 by Mr Fellermaier and Mr Walkhoff to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Deportation from France  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 532/73 by Mr Marras to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Political rights of migrant workers  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 537/73 by Mr Jahn to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Differing application of Community Directives on additives in feeding-stuffs  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 538/73 by Mr Fellermaier to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Proposals for lowering the permissible sound levels of motor vehicles  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 543/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: International registration of trade marks  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 557/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Rise in food prices  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 559/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Industry in the EEC owned by American multinational companies  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 566/73 by Mr Eisma to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Studies in connection with the report of the Club of Rome  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 567/73 by Mr Johnston to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Aid for financing of Gabon Railway Project  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 568/73 by Mr Johnston to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Enforcement of regulations governing duty free shop facilities for intra-Community travellers  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 570/73 by Mr Johnston to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Holiday leave of A, B and C Grade Commission Staff employees

C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 583/73 by Mr Willi Müller to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Construction of a nuclear power station in the GDR

C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 584/73 by Mr Johnston to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Export of cast iron scrap

C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 589/73 by Mrs Caretoni-Romagnoli to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Famine in southern Ethiopia  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 603/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: VAT on books  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 611/73 by Mr Rizzi to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Recognition by Switzerland of Community laissez-passers  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 612/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Introduction of right-hand driving throughout Europe  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 613/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Establishment of a European telecommunications policy  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 618/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Commission work on 'the experimental safety car'  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 624/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Construction of a Suez-Mediterranean oil pipeline (SUMED)  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 627/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Fixed parity of the pound sterling  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 628/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Position of Norway in regard to the EEC  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 634/73 by Mr Ansart to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Increase in petroleum products prices in France  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 636/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: The Commission's assessment of programmes on European affairs screened by the television services of Member States  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 646/73 by Mr Müller and Mr Kater to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Recycling of raw materials to avoid energy shortages  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 652/73 by Mr Willi Müller to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Charges for cashing Eurocheques  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 657/73 by Mr Laban to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Incompatibility of duties of Members of the Commission  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 660/73 by Mr Schwabe and Mr Seefeld to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Uniform speed limits in the Community  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 667/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Consequences of regular summits  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 695/73 by Mr Giraud to the Commission of the European Communities  
Subject: Answers to Written Questions  
C 39, 6.4.1974

Written Question 300/73 by Mr Patijn to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Bilateral economic, industrial and technological cooperation agreements between Member States and state-trading countries  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 422/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: National parliaments' loss of powers  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 489/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: North Sea oil  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 562/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Renegotiation of terms of entry of Member States  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 572/73 by Mr Jahn to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Dangers to public health in the Community from the consumption of fruit and vegetables treated with poisonous pesticides  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 577/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Effect of British membership of the EEC on the Commonwealth  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 580/73 by Mr Willi Müller to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Bottleneck in supplies of elvers for breeding  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 592/73 by Mr Seefeld to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Notification by telex of tariff changes  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 596/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Financing the construction of a pipeline between the Ahwaz oilfields and the Turkish port of Iskenderun  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 608/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Harmonization of fire insurance  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 609/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: European Social Charter  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 610/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC



Subject: Number of patents taken out in the field of chemical and pharmaceutical research  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 616/73 by Mr Taverne to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Export of jute products from Bangladesh  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 621/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Price of butter in the Member States  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 631/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Harmonization of VAT on necessities  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 633/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Curtailment of power of the British Parliament  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 635/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Renewal of the EEC/Iran cooperation agreement  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 637/73 by Mr Kater to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Balance of payments crisis as a result of the increase in petroleum prices  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 638/73 by Mr Klepsch to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Harmonization of policies on export credit insurance and export financing  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 641/73 by Mr Della Briotta to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Unemployment insurance in the nine countries of the Community  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 644/73 by Mr Jahn to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Trade representatives in the Advisory Committee on Consumer Affairs  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 651/73 by Mr Willi Müller to the Commission of the EC

Subject: Phased plan in the Federal Republic of Germany for reducing the level of motor vehicle exhaust fumes injurious to health  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 666/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Migratory birds  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 671/73 by Mr Leonardi to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Better utilization of energy sources available within the Community  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 673/73 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Relation between the rate of inflation and savings  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 676/73 by Mr Kater and Mr Müller to the Commission of the EC  
Subject: Community Office for Cooperation between Undertakings  
C 49, 27.4.1974

Written Question 682/73 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC  
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## Grants for Research into European Integration 1974-1975

The Commission of the European Communities awards research grants to encourage the study of various aspects of European integration.

The grants are available to young postgraduate research students or assistants and junior lecturers at institutes for European studies, research institutes or universities, who are studying European integration either individually or as a team.

The value of individual grants is determined by the nature of the research and the time required for completion, the maximum grant being FB 120 000. Grants are not renewable.

Applications should reach the Directorate-General for Information, Commission of the European Communities, rue de la Loi 200, B-1040 Brussels before 30 June 1974. Application must be made on the official form<sup>1</sup> and accompanied by a curriculum vitae, documentary evidence or photocopies of university qualifications, a letter of introduction from the relevant academic authorities, an outline of the research to be undertaken, an estimate of the expenditure involved and a timetable for the research work.

Decisions to award grants are taken by 15 November at the latest.

These papers are not returned to applicants.

The grant is paid in two instalments, half when the work is begun and the rest when the holder has completed his work or given evidence of satisfactory progress in a detailed written report.

If the programme supplied in accordance with paragraph 4 necessitates a stay in Brussels or Luxembourg, the Commission may accord the holder all necessary facilities to enable him to establish direct contact with the departments concerned with the field of research chosen and eventually gain access to documentation. The cost of a stay in Brussels or Luxembourg must however be included in the estimated figure for the total cost of the research.

Employees of the institutions of the European Communities and their spouses and children may not apply.

The study must be written in one of the official languages of the European Communities. Two copies of the final typewritten text must be submitted not later than two months after the period covered by the grant expires.

The Commission of the European Communities may be prepared to contribute not more than FB 25 000 to the cost of publishing the study.

\*

<sup>1</sup> Applications forms may be obtained from the Youth, Schools and Universities Division, Directorate-General for Information, Commission of the European Communities, Berlaymont 2/71, rue de la Loi 200, B-1040 Brussels, or from any of the Information Offices of the European Communities listed below:

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Irsk In irischer Sprache In Irish Langue irlandaise Lingua irlandese Iers	Italiensk In italienischer Sprache In Italian Langue italienne Lingua italiana Italiaans	Et enkelt bind med den samme tekst på to eller flere sprog Ein einziger Band mit dem gleichen Text in zwei oder mehreren Sprachen A single volume with the same text in two or more languages Un seul volume comportant le même texte en deux ou plusieurs langues Un solo volume con lo stesso testo in due o più lingue Een afzonderlijk deel met dezelfde tekst in twee of meer talen
DK	NL	
Dansk In dänischer Sprache In Danish Langue danoise Lingua danese Deens	Nederlandsk In niederländischer Sprache In Dutch Langue néerlandaise Lingua olandese Nederlands	Et enkelt bind med forskellige tekster på flere sprog Ein einziger Band mit verschiedenen Texten in mehreren Sprachen A single volume with different texts in several languages Un seul volume comportant des textes différents en plusieurs langues Un solo volume con testi diversi in più lingue Een afzonderlijk deel met verschillende teksten in meerdere talen
D	S	
Tysk In deutscher Sprache In German Langue allemande Lingua tedesca Duits	Spansk In spanischer Sprache In Spanish Langue espagnole Lingua spagnola Spaans	
E	(IRL.DK.D.E.F.I.NL.S)	
Engelsk In englischer Sprache In English Langue anglaise Lingua inglese Engels	Et bind for hvert sprog Ein Band je Sprache One volume for each language Un volume par langue Un volume per lingua Een deel per taal	FB Belgiske francs Belgische Franken Belgian francs Francs belges Franchi belgi Belgische franken
F		
Fransk In französischer Sprache In French Langue française Lingua francese Frans		* Tidsskrifter Zeitschriften Periodicals Périodiques Periodici Tijdschriften

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Le présent rapport établit, dans ce qui est désormais devenu un élément essentiel et régulier du dialogue entre le Parlement européen et la Commission, le bilan de la politique de concurrence en 1973.

**PREMIÈRE PARTIE** — *La politique de concurrence à l'égard des entreprises*

Chapitre I: Principaux développements de la politique communautaire

Chapitre II: Principales décisions de la Commission

**DEUXIÈME PARTIE** — *La politique de concurrence à l'égard des interventions de l'État vis-à-vis des entreprises*

Chapitre I: Les aides d'État

Chapitre II: L'aménagement des monopoles nationaux à caractère commercial

**TROISIÈME PARTIE** — *L'évolution de la concentration dans la Communauté*

*Annexe*: Liste des décisions individuelles de la Commission et des arrêts de la Cour de justice concernant l'application des articles 85 et 86 du traité CEE et des articles 65 et 66 du traité CECA intervenus au cours de l'année 1973

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## Terza Relazione sulla politica di concorrenza

(Allegata alla  
« Settima Relazione generale  
sull'attività delle Comunità »)

Prezzo : 100 fb.

## Novità

La presente relazione contiene, nel quadro di quello che è ormai divenuto un elemento essenziale e regolare del dialogo fra il Parlamento europeo e la Commissione, il bilancio della politica di concorrenza nel 1973.

**PARTE PRIMA** — *La politica della concorrenza nei riguardi delle imprese*

Capitolo I: Principali sviluppi della politica comunitaria

Capitolo II: Principali decisioni prese dalla Commissione

**PARTE SECONDA** — *La politica di concorrenza in tema di interventi dello Stato nei riguardi delle imprese*

Capitolo I: Gli aiuti statali

Capitolo II: Il riordinamento dei monopoli nazionali a carattere commerciale

**PARTE TERZA** — *Gli sviluppi delle concentrazioni nella Comunità*

*Allegato*: Elenco delle decisioni della Commissione sui casi specifici e delle sentenze della Corte di giustizia relative all'applicazione degli articoli 85 e 86 del trattato CEE e degli articoli 65 e 66 del trattato CECA intervenute nel corso dell'anno 1973

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## Derde verslag over het mededingingsbeleid

(Behorende bij het  
„Zevende Algemeen Verslag  
over de werkzaamheden  
van de Gemeenschappen“)

Prijs : 100 fb.

## Zojuist verschenen

Het onderhavige verslag maakt, in hetgeen voortaan een essentieel en vast element zal zijn in de dialoog tussen het Europese Parlement en de Commissie, de balans op van het mededingingsbeleid in 1973.

**DEEL I** — *Het mededingingsbeleid jegens de ondernemingen*

Hoofdstuk I — Voornaamste ontwikkelingen in het beleid van de Gemeenschap

Hoofdstuk II — Voornaamste beschikkingen van de Commissie

**DEEL II** — *Het mededingingsbeleid in verband met de steunmaatregelen van de staten ten aanzien van de ondernemingen*

Hoofdstuk I — Steunmaatregelen van de staat

Hoofdstuk II — De aanpassing van de nationale monopolies van commerciële aard

**DEEL III** — *De ontwikkeling van de concentratie in de Gemeenschap*

*Bijlage*: Lijst van de beschikkingen van de Commissie in afzonderlijke gevallen en van de arresten van het Hof van Justitie van de Europese Gemeenschappen betreffende de toepassing van de artikelen 85 en 86 van het EEG-Verdrag en de artikelen 65 en 66 van het EGKS-Verdrag uit het jaar 1973.