

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (O-12/79)

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47(2), fourth paragraph, of the Rules of Procedure

by Mr Van der GUN, on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education

to the Commission of the European Communities

with request for urgent debate pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

Subject: Preparations for the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour on 15 May 1979

For some time now measures in favour of workers in the iron and steel sector have been under consideration in all the Community institutions (Commission, ECSC Consultative Committee, Parliament and Council); these measures go further than the financial assistance granted pursuant to Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty.

Moreover, at its informal meeting of 9/10 March 1979, the Council invited the Commission to submit a document for its meeting in May concerning the various aspects of work-sharing as one way of assuring a better distribution of available work.

Since time is getting short and since any delay in the Council's decisions on these two series of proposals would be unacceptable:

- Can the Commission explain what stage has been reached now, one

week before the Council's meeting, in the preparation of these two series of proposals?

JUSTIFICATION OF THE REQUEST FOR URGENT PROCEDURE

Dear Mr President,

In consultation with the responsible member of the Commission of the European Communities, the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education met 30 April 1979 to discuss the situation which would arise if, as was feared, the Commission was unable to draw up proposals on

- work-sharing,
- measures in favour of the workers in the iron and steel industry.

The Council of Ministers of Social Affairs and Labour is meeting on 15 May (and then not again until the end of 1979) to discuss this and other matters. Drawing the political conclusions from this situation in the Commission, the committee chaired by me decided to prepare a debate for the next part-session of the European Parliament in May in the form of an oral question with debate addressed to the Commission and a motion for a resolution to be voted on to wind up the debate. If the Commission has still not prepared its proposals by the time of the debate on the oral question, the motion for a resolution adopted by us will have to be amended accordingly.

I have the honour in requesting your cooperation in having this urgent matter added to the agenda for the May part-session.

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F.G. van der GUN