

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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25 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-780/82

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on ANNEX I (Economic and Social Committee) to  
Section II - COUNCIL - of the draft general budget  
of the European Communities for the financial  
year 1983

Rapporteur: Mr H. SABY



On 27 January 1982, the Committee on Budgets appointed Mr SABY rapporteur for Annex I 'Economic and Social Committee' to Section II 'Council' of the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1983.

At its meeting of 18 to 20 October the Committee on Budgets considered and adopted the draft amendment attached.

At the same meeting it adopted the following motion for a resolution by 19 votes to 5 with 0 abstentions.

Present: Mr LANGE, chairman; Mr SABY, rapporteur, Mr ABENS, Mr ADAM (deputizing for Mrs NIKOLAOU), Mr AIGNER (deputizing for Mr NOTENBOOM), Mr ARNDT, Mr BAILLOT, Mr BALFOUR, Mr BARBAGLI, Mrs BOSERUP, Mr CROUX, Lord DOURO, Mr R. JACKSON, Mrs Van HEMELDONCK (deputizing for Mr LALUMIERE), Mr LANGES, Mr LEGA, Mr LOUWES, Mr MOUCHEL (deputizing for Mr ANSQUER), Mr PAULHAN (deputizing for Mr COUSTE), Mr PFENNIG, Mr PRICE, Mr PROTOPAPADAKIS, Mr Konrad SCHÖN, Mrs SCRIVENER, Mr SIMONNET, Mr SIMPSON (deputizing for Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN) and Mrs VIEHOFF (deputizing for Mr CLUSKEY).

C O N T E N T S

1. Motion for a resolution .....	5
2. Explanatory statement .....	6

Annex: Draft amendment No. 464

The Committee on Budgets hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on Annex I (Economic and Social Committee) to Section II 'Council' of the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1983

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the draft general budget for the financial year 1983 established by the Council on Section II - COUNCIL - Annex I (ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE), and the explanatory memorandum thereto (Doc. 1-700/82),
- B. having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. 1-780/82),
  1. Considers that the Economic and Social Committee had satisfactorily explained its requests for staff and appropriations;
  2. Deplores the Council's failure to put forward any reasons whatsoever for its extremely harsh refusal to accept the requests for new posts and increases in appropriations from 1982 to 1983. Given the Council's duty to justify its decisions, it considers that this failure is due to an absence of reasons;
  3. Decides to reinstate, at least among the most immediate operating priorities which render the creation of posts essential, the creation of six posts and the upgrading of three other posts in accordance with the amendment adopted by Parliament.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### The tasks and role of the Economic and Social Committee

1. The role of the Economic and Social Committee, the importance of which has been amply confirmed in the past, must grow in the context of the present economic and social situation, given the need to improve relations and co-operation between the representatives of economic and social life and the Community institutions.

In particular, the European Parliament attaches the highest importance to the fight against unemployment and is aware of the obligation to associate the representatives of the Economic and Social Committee with the Community decision-making process. The Committee must therefore be assigned budgetary resources that will enable it to play its part satisfactorily.

2. For its part, the Committee has already endeavoured over the past few years to bring about a considerable improvement in its working methods, as well as to consolidate its powers, not least in its relations with the institutions and in particular the European Parliament, as was confirmed in a resolution of July 1981 and more recently on the occasion of the visit paid by the President of Parliament to the Committee in July 1982.

However, the structure of the Committee's secretariat and its working capabilities are still too weak and incomplete to enable it to discharge effectively the tasks incumbent upon it. The table that follows shows that the increase in staff has been very slow and that since 1980 there have been no additions with the exception of posts set aside for Greek officials following enlargement.

Category	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Non-Cat.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
A	37	37	38	39	40	43	43
LA	60	61	62	65	67	80	82
B	44	45	47	50	54	56	56
C	131	132	142	145	146	166	168
D	29	29	25	25	26	28	28
TOTAL	302	305	315	325	334	374	378

It is pertinent to mention that the Economic and Social Committee has always taken pains to keep its staff level up to establishment. The Court of Auditors has pointed out that in 1980 all but four of the posts were filled, and that at the end of 1981 the number of vacant posts was only 13, all of them earmarked for Greek officials.

3. At the time of the discussions on the 1982 budget, the Committee on Budgets of the European Parliament recognized the merits of the Committee's requests and suggested the creation of 11 new posts and the upgrading of six posts.
4. For 1983 the Committee requested 28 new posts and 20 upgradings, as well as the establishment of local staff.

As pointed out in the explanatory memorandum submitted by the Economic and Social Committee, the new posts were intended to strengthen units in the secretariat that had had to cope with a substantial increase in their workload for a number of years. These requests had been withheld in previous years in view of the need to give priority to posts for nationals of the tenth Member State.

The upgradings reflect a perfectly legitimate need for career advancement, which had also suffered to some extent owing to the need to reorganize the secretariat in preparation for the arrival of Greek nationals.

In regard to the conversion of local staff posts into established posts, it should be pointed out that this step would bring the Economic and Social Committee into line - albeit with some delay - with analogous decisions taken by the other institutions.

The 28 new posts consist of: 3 A, 3 B, 16 C, 3 D and 3 LA, broken down as follows:

- President's Office	1	C 3-2
- Groups	1	B 3-2
	3	C 3-2
- Financial control	1	C 3-2
- Session division	1	C 5-4
- Archives/Library	1	A 7-6
	1	C 3-2
- Operational directorates	1	A 7-6
	1	C 3-2
- Directorate general	1	A 2
	3	LA 5-4
	1	BS 3-2
	1	B 5-4
	2	C 1
	4	C 3-2
	2	C 5-4
	1	D 1
	2	D 3-2

The 20 upgradings relate to : 6 A, 3 B, 10 C, and 1 D posts, broken down as follows:

- President's Office	:	1 A 4	to	1 A 3
- Groups	:	1 A 7	to	1 A 6
- General secretariat	:	1 A 3	to	1 A 2
		2 A 5	to	2 A 4
		1 A 6	to	1 A 5
		2 B 2	to	2 B 1
		1 B 3	to	1 B 2
		4 C 2	to	4 C 1
		6 C 5-4	to	6 C 3-2
		1 LA 5	to	1 LA 4

The request for the establishment of local staff concerns 14 posts: 1 B 5-4, 1 C 5-4 and 12 D 3-2.



5. The discussions that took place within the Council resulted in the upgrading of only 6 posts. The Council has agreed to the following upgradings:

- 1 A 3 to A 2
- 1 B 2 to B 1
- 1 C 4 to C 2
- 3 C 5 to C 3

It must be pointed out that, in its explanatory memorandum, the Council has absolutely nothing to say concerning the reasons that led it to reject practically all the requests submitted by the Economic and Social Committee. It is probable that its silence is due to its circumspection, since the only justification it put forward, on page 22 of Volume 7 of the draft general budget, is the following sentence:

'The Council once again adopted a restrictive attitude in fixing its budgetary estimates and those of the Economic and Social Committee for this financial year'.

In the light of this restrictive decision, it is necessary to take a look at the requests which constitute the indispensable minimum.

The genuine needs are as follows:

New posts

- . 1 LA 4
- . 2 LA 5
- . 1 A 7-6
- . 1 B 3
- . 1 BS 3
- . 1 C 1
- . 5 C 3-2 (2 C 2 and 3 C 3)

in other words 12 posts

Although it has now cut back its requests to 12 posts, the Economic and Social Committee still maintains that its original proposal was perfectly sound. It has, however, been obliged to make a choice in the light of the most immediate operational priorities.

## 6. Rapporteur's proposals

### (a) Establishment plan

In an effort to arrive at a compromise, the new proposals fall well short of those originally put forward and contained in the note relating to paragraph 4 above.

In the rapporteur's view it is necessary, as a minimum solution, to select from among the restricted requests set out above the creation of the following six posts:

- . 1 A 7
- . 1 B 3
- . 1 C 1, 1 C 2 and 2 C 3

These new posts should be supplemented by the following three upgradings:

- . 1 A 4 to A 3
- . 1 A 7 to A 6
- . 1 A 6 to A 5

### (b) Appropriations

7. It must be pointed out that the estimates of the Economic and Social Committee for 1983 came to 25,067,300 ECU compared with 23,399,600 ECU for 1981. The increase would thus have been 7.1%.

This increase was accounted for mainly by the creation of new posts but it reflected also the acquisition of additional equipment for the meeting rooms, the telephone switchboard and photo composition facilities as well as an increase against the item covering the cost of formal and other meetings to take account of the rise in transport costs.

8. Following the reduction by the Council of the Committee's estimates from 25,067,300 ECU to 23,561,200 ECU, the increase becomes 0.7%, in other words virtually no increase on the 1982 budget.

Although the Council's decisions will make it difficult to manage the above-mentioned posts against which an increase was to have been entered, the rapporteur considers that the budget of the Economic and Social Committee as established by the Council should be increased only by the sums necessary to cover the cost of creating six posts and upgrading three posts. He proposes the reinstatement of this sum, namely 81,000 ECU, which is arrived at by subtracting revenue of 17,000 ECU from tax and deductions from salaries from the overall additional expenditure of 108,000 ECU.

Decisions of the Committee on Budgets

of 20 October 1982

9. The Committee on Budgets endorsed at this meeting the rapporteur's proposal for the creation of 6 posts and the up-grading of 3 others. It instructed the rapporteur to draw up an amendment to that end, showing also the financial implications of this decision.

The committee went on to reject by 20 votes to 1 with 1 abstention amendment No. 258 tabled by Mr HORD and others proposing a reduction of 4,910,565 ECU in the appropriation for the Economic and Social Committee.



# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

21 OCTOBER 1982

Doc.1-700/ 464

DRAFT  
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1983

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 464.

tabled by Mr SABY, rapporteur, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION II - COUNCIL

Annex Economic and Social Committee

LIST OF POSTS

Amend the list of posts as follows:

- Creation of posts: 1 A 7, 1 B 3, 1 C 2, 2 C 3, 1 C 1
- Post conversions: 1 A 4 to A 3, 1 A 7 to A 6, 1 A 6 to A 5

PAYMENTS

A - Expenditure

Increase expenditure (Chapters 11 and 12) by 108,000 ECU according to the attached breakdown

B - Compensation

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C - Revenue

Increase revenue by same amount, including 17,000 ECU in Chapter 40 according to the attached breakdown

Justification

The creation of 6 posts and the conversion of 3 other posts are the most immediate functional priority and correspond to legitimate requirements for the progression of careers.

../..

Annex

Budgetary implications

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>ECU</u>
Item 1100	74,000
Item 1101	7,000
Item 1102	10,000
Item 1103	1,500
Item 1130	2,500
Item 1131	500
Item 1141	1,500
Article 119	3,500
Item 1221	6,000
Article 124	<u>1,500</u>
	108,000
	=====
 <u>Revenue</u>	
Chapter 40	10,000
Chapter 41	5,000
Article 402	<u>2,000</u>
	17,000
	=====
 <u>NET IMPLICATIONS IN REVENUE:</u>	 <u>91,000</u>
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