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# BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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

Commission of the European Communities  
Secretariat-General  
Brussels

No 9  
1978

11<sup>th</sup> year

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# contents

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## **PART ONE      SPECIAL FEATURES**

1. Community prospects and bearings – The Commission's thoughts . . . . . 7
2. International development strategy – Approach proposed by the Commission . . . . . 11
3. The persistent imbalance on the milk market – The situation and the action envisaged . . . . . 14
4. The Annual Meeting of the IMF and the World Bank . . . . . 16
5. The Community, man and climatic problems – Research programme proposed by the Commission . . . . . 19

## **PART TWO      ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER 1978**

1. Building the Community . . . . . 24
  - Economic and monetary policy . . . . . 24
  - Internal market and industrial affairs . . . . . 25
  - Customs union . . . . . 29
  - Competition . . . . . 30
  - Financial institutions and taxation . . . . . 32
  - Employment and social policy . . . . . 33
  - Regional policy . . . . . 35
  - Environment and consumer protection . . . . . 37
  - Agriculture . . . . . 38
  - Fisheries . . . . . 42
  - Transport policy . . . . . 43
  - Energy policy . . . . . 44
  - Research and development, science and education . . . . . 47
  - Scientific and technical information and information management . . . . . 51

2. External relations . . . . .	52
— Enlargement . . . . .	52
— Political cooperation . . . . .	53
— Multilateral trade negotiations . . . . .	54
— North-South Dialogue: Development cooperation . . . . .	55
— International organizations . . . . .	59
— Commercial policy . . . . .	62
— Mediterranean countries . . . . .	65
— ACP States and the OCT . . . . .	65
— Other countries . . . . .	68
3. Institutional and political matters . . . . .	71
— Institutional developments – European policy . . . . .	71
— Institutions and organs of the Communities . . . . .	72
• Parliament . . . . .	72
• Council . . . . .	80
• Commission . . . . .	82
• Court of Justice . . . . .	84
• Economic and Social Committee . . . . .	87
• ECSC Consultative Committee . . . . .	88
• European Investment Bank . . . . .	89
— Financing Community activities . . . . .	91

## **PART THREE      DOCUMENTATION**

1. Units of account . . . . .	98
2. Additional references in the Official Journal . . . . .	100
3. The Community at the United Nations . . . . .	101
4. IMF: Interim Committee and Group of Twenty-Four . . . . .	107
Publications of the European Communities	

## Supplements 1978

- 1/78 Enlargement of the Community — General considerations
- 2/78 Enlargement of the Community — Transitional period and institutional implications
- 3/78 Enlargement of the Community — Economic and sectoral aspects
- 4/78 Approval of persons responsible for auditing of company accounts — Proposal for an Eighth Directive
- 5/78 Opinion on Portuguese application for membership
- 6/78 Preliminary draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1979 — General introduction



**PART ONE**

**SPECIAL FEATURES**

Standardized abbreviations for the designation of certain monetary units in the different languages of the Community:

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

DKR = Dansk krone

FF = Franc français

DM = Deutsche Mark

LIT = Lira italiana

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

UKL = Pound sterling

IRL = Irish pound

USD = United States Dollar



# 1. Community prospects and bearings

## The Commission's thoughts

*1.1.1.* The problems facing the Community at the resumption after the summer recess were discussed on 16 and 17 September at an informal meeting, similar to the one held at La Roche-en-Ardenne in September 1977.<sup>1</sup>

The results of the two days' discussions and considerations were outlined to the press on 18 September by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission:

*1.1.2.* 'The Commission went to Comblain-la-Tour this weekend for a meeting similar to the first one it had at La Roche-en-Ardenne this time last year. Our purpose was to have a wide-ranging discussion, with a fair amount of time available, on some of the central issues facing the Commission and indeed the Community.

Our purpose was not to arrive at precise decisions on specific issues or deal with particular papers—although we had some before us—as in the weekly meetings of the Commission, but rather to look into the longer-term aspects of problems, follow a few tangents, and establish a common way of looking at things. In nearly all cases we shall be taking up the problems we discussed at the weekend at later Commission meetings to establish precise positions and proposals, and to take decisions.

The general view in the Commission was that our meeting last year at La Roche was very productive. It led to that new impulse towards economic and monetary union, which in turn has led to not merely discussion, but a strong impulse towards the European Monetary System, where we have advanced further than any of us though likely at this time last year. Hence I think that as we gathered at Comblain, we all felt it would be difficult to have as useful a meeting as we

had in 1977. In fact, our discussion was different this time but just as good, and will, I hope, be just as fruitful. Let me now turn to the main points we discussed.

### The future of the Community budget

*1.1.3.* In tackling this extremely difficult subject, we went straight to the heart of one of the major problems facing the Community. As the Commission has already explained in its forward forecasts, the present system of own resources will be exhausted by the early 1980s. New sources of revenue will therefore have to be found. Discussion of the various possibilities naturally led to discussion of the present state of play on economic and monetary union, the character of the European Monetary System now under examination, and the nature of the Community budget which either might require. We went on to consider whether and to what extent the Community budget should be redistributive, and I think it is fair to say that none of us believed that transfer of resources alone could rectify the present imbalances in wealth and economic performance within the Community; but we did think it part of our duty to encourage reform of economic structures and encourage investment in those countries which most need it. The problem goes far wider and deeper, and the instruments we now have to hand are relatively weak and small. The Commission will be returning to this subject soon and will be submitting its ideas on it both to the Council and to Parliament.

### Agriculture

*1.1.4.* It is, I think, generally known that there was an interesting discussion of agri-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 9-1977, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

cultural problems at the European Council at Bremen, and that the Commission was then invited to let the European Council in Brussels in December know its views on the future development of the common agricultural policy. In doing so we shall have centrally in mind the need to reduce structural surpluses, so as to lead to a better balance of expenditure within the Community budget.

We had a preliminary discussion of this vitally important subject at Comblain. I should say at the outset that no-one sought to bring into question either the present basis or the agreed aims of the common agricultural policy which all recognized as one of the foundations of the Community. Our purpose was rather to see how we should continue to pursue the policies already initiated by this Commission designed first to reduce surpluses (here we shall be putting forward some ideas about how to deal with the present acute problem in the dairy sector) and second to achieve a better balance of expenditure within the common agricultural policy. As you know we have already begun to do this with the Mediterranean package. What I must stress is that reinforcement of our prudent price policy will lie at the heart of our endeavours.

The objectives of the common agricultural policy have never, of course, been solely agricultural as the Treaty of Rome itself makes clear. It must therefore be responsive to social as well as economic change in Europe, and sufficiently adaptable to cope with new circumstances. We hope that intensification of what we are already doing will lead to the results we want. We also have to consider how the common agricultural policy relates to Community policies in other fields, in particular a European Monetary System and its choice of a *numeraire* for internal settlements. Again we took no decisions but will be discussing the whole matter according to

our usual procedures. Our report to the European Council will not upset our usual calendar for next year's farm price proposals.

### Work of the Commission

1.1.5. We had a wide-ranging discussion of the overall balance and focus of the Commission's own work. Obviously to some extent a good deal of the Commission's activity cannot be chosen by it, such as the management of the common agricultural policy, the conduct of the multilateral trade negotiations and the work on enlargement. But we were fully agreed on two main points.

First, that our primary concern was to do fully and effectively the job the Treaty requires of us and put our central focus on major issues of European policy. Second, we should apply stricter criteria than before to the extent to which the Commission forms legislative proposals, often of a minor nature. The sort of criteria, on which we were agreed, to test whether harmonization proposals are necessary, were:

Will they promote trade within the Community? Will they strengthen the foundations for economic and monetary union? Are they really necessary, and can the Commission do it best or better than others? Can they be justified in terms of the staff required within our limited availability?

Throughout this discussion we were guided by the sense that there is at the present time, throughout the western world, a strong reaction against unnecessary interference or over-government. The Commission, without a conventional democratic mandate is perhaps especially vulnerable to this over-bureaucratic charge. But although we may not have been elected to office, our approach must be political and we must respond in a political sense.

As an example I can take the recent argument over lawnmowers. We are persuaded, as are the manufacturers of lawnmowers, that in terms of the benefits to manufacturing, some action is necessary here. But it does not make good sense to annex to the main issue proposals for regulating the times of use of lawnmowers, and to suggest whether they should or should not be used in the evenings or on Sundays. In other words, where the issue is not central to the criteria I have mentioned, let Nation States if they wish cherish their differences and let us not pretend it is sensible to make proposals when they do not meet the criteria I have mentioned.

We also agreed that these more critical orientations should now be strictly applied in the preparation of next year's programme of work.

### **Organization and staffing of the Commission**

*1.1.6.* We turned to this in the light of our discussion on the balance and aims of Commission work. The two are linked. We recognized that we could not expect to have an organization that served us well, unless at the same time our staffing policy served as best it could the officials who served us. We therefore agreed that this was the right time to undertake a thorough review of organization and staffing matters. We also agreed that in this process we should call on the assistance of distinguished and independent outsiders, and that we should have a report within six months.

We recognized the need, in preparing our detailed proposals for this work, to distinguish between what needs to be done urgently and can be done within the house (and there will be no hold-up there), and other issues. We remain concerned that despite all the good

work so far achieved on organization and staffing, we need to go further in terms of improving career development and of the adaptability of the Commission's resources to changing priorities.

The Commission remains a relatively small organization. In many fields where we are discharging major responsibilities, the resources we have available are much smaller than those of Member Governments, whose responsibilities may not be so central. We therefore have to ensure the best deployment of our resources. We must remember that the Commission's structure was formed in a Community of Six. In the coming years a premium must be placed on its ability to adapt to a Community of Twelve and to a larger and naturally, rightly and inevitably more demanding Parliament. In order to succeed, our existing organizational problems must be squarely faced.

### **Direct elections**

*1.1.7.* We also discussed the future direct election of the Parliament in relation to the impact of the elections and Parliament on the Commission. It was an exchange of views and no decisions were reached. We are firmly agreed however that during the campaign Commissioners who might participate in any form or even stand as candidates should firmly respect the collegiate nature of the Commission and the collective policies we have pursued.

### **Summary**

*1.1.8.* Last year at La Roche we were concerned to set the arena for Community discussion and debate in the future. On that we proved remarkably successful. That same task did not present itself again in exactly the same way on this occasion. We were

more concerned this year to see ourselves more effectively organized as a Commission and adapted to the increasing requirements of the mainstream of Community business and to the increasing demands made upon us.'

*1.1.9.* Answering questions put by journalists, Mr Jenkins gave some further details of the discussions.

### **The letter from President Giscard d'Estaing**

*1.1.10.* 'We had a brief discussion of the proposals contained in the letter which President Giscard d'Estaing was kind enough to send me. We felt that they constituted an interesting idea which certainly merited careful examination within the Community. The Commission of course has already made a number of far-reaching proposals for the development of the Community in the fresco paper on enlargement<sup>1</sup> which it put forward in April this year. For example, we recommended specifically reforms of decision-making procedures and adaptation of the institutions.

We have also made concrete proposals on the arrangements for membership of the European Parliament and other "numerical" changes arising from enlargement. On the size of the Commission, we have suggested that, in a Community of Twelve, there is a case for moving to a system of one member per country. We also spoke of the need for greater cohesion of the Community in the economic and monetary field in advance of enlargement. Here we are already making good progress.

Our other ideas are still before the Council. A difficult question is whether we should seek to make changes without adaptation of the Treaties or whether we should be ready to consider changing the Treaties them-

selves. Here I have the impression that Member States so far have been rather more conservative than the Commission.

The Commission and I myself fully recognize the importance of the problems touched on in President Giscard's letter. We are naturally pursuing our own work on the subject and we naturally count on making our own contribution to whatever solution of the problem the Community arrives at. We are more concerned with the substance of the problem than the method of dealing with it. One further point: I know of no suggestion that our work on enlargement itself should be held up because of this possible inquiry. We shall continue our work. As you know, we hope to break the back of the Greek negotiations, begin negotiations with Portugal and complete our opinion on Spain all before the end of this year.

### **The budget, revenue and redistribution**

*1.1.11.* The Commission will be making further proposals in the context of transfer of resources. For new revenue, we considered a number of ideas which would have a variety of effects. We excluded any idea which would have a regressive effect. The discussion was about possibilities of varying progressivity for Member States. We will be putting forward proposals in the form of a green paper to the Council and Parliament, explaining why we will need additional revenue, and outlining various possibilities and effects. We hope this will provoke discussion over a number of months.

### **The common agricultural policy**

*1.1.12.* The whole thrust of our discussion was to reinforce our prudent price policy to

<sup>1</sup> Supplements 1/78 to 3/78 — Bull. EC.

## 2. International development strategy

Community prospects and bearings

reduce surpluses. This is the way to achieve results most rapidly. Our aim is to reduce surpluses because the financing of surpluses is the main cost burden of the common agricultural policy. If we reinforce our prudent price policy, we reduce the surpluses, and this has an impact on the level of expenditure. I do not exclude additional measures but I am not necessarily proposing them.

It is also highly desirable, as we move towards a common *numeraire* for the European Monetary System, to have a common *numeraire* in agriculture.

### **Working party to review the administrative structures and operation of the Commission**

1.1.13. The degree of outside influence, and the fact that the report will be published, will help to ensure that something does happen as a result of this review body. We have not yet settled its size or composition. But we did not talk in terms of more than four or five people, and at least one of them would be from within the Commission. The mandate will be defined by the Commission, confined to the Commission, and the report submitted to the Commission. We were particularly precise on the timescale: six months is the maximum to allow us to make good progress towards implementation of the report before the next informal meeting which we will no doubt have this time next year.

We have not laid down any criteria for membership of the review body. Its members should come from a variety of Member States, and have a wide range of expert knowledge. It might possibly include a management consultant (though it is not that sort of enquiry), someone with experience of international organizations, someone from private industry, from government or from the trade union movement.'

### **Approach proposed by the Commission**

1.2.1. In a Communication sent to the Council on 11 September, the Commission outlined proposals for improving the general framework of relations between the industrialized and developing countries and for working towards a number of objectives which will be of particular importance for the definition of a new international development strategy.

The Communication contains guidelines for the preparations which the Community institutions will be making for a series of international meetings of major importance to the future of North-South relations. These meetings will be held over the next eighteen months, i.e. before the United Nations General Assembly's special session on this topic in 1980.

Between now and then the fifth UNCTAD conference at Manila, the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development, the third General Conference of UNIDO, and the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development—to name but a few—will be taking place and the discussions at them could well introduce something new into the relations between industrialized and developing countries.

The positions to be adopted by the Community at these conferences cannot be isolated from its stand on development strategy. The Commission will submit a fuller document to the Council in due course. The Commission has, however, begun now by identifying what it considers should be the main guiding factors.

### **The new strategy: general approach**

*1.2.2.* In the light of the development of relations between industrialized and developing countries, notably over the last ten years—in very disturbed economic times (increase in energy and raw material prices, food crises, breakdown of the international monetary system, inflation, etc.)—the Commission suggests an approach based on the following considerations:

(i) What is now a world economy should be managed jointly—in other words, the industrialized countries and the developing countries now have a joint responsibility to ensure continued growth of the world economy (as their performances are much more interdependent than they were at the beginning of the 1970s) and to see that this growth is directed towards a greater measure of fairness in international economic relations.

(ii) The disparities which have arisen (and which are likely to increase) between the developing countries should be looked at so that the most appropriate solutions can be found to meet the real needs of each group of developing countries and in this way make the development aid mechanism more efficient.

(iii) The Community should be selective in its proposals, i.e. apart from stressing matters relating to the general improvements that need to be made in relations between developing and industrialized countries, it should emphasize a number of specific targets of paramount importance.

(iv) The proposals should be balanced, i.e. the Community, in seeking to determine the strategy's objectives and means of action should bring its own interests to bear in order to ensure that account is taken of the negative effects that measures likely to produce

excessive economic and social tension in the Member States, in particular in certain regions, could have on development operations and also to encourage public opinion and governments to consider all development problems from the point of view of mutual interest.

### **The new strategy: objectives**

*1.2.3.* The Commission would like to see two sides to the new development strategy: the first general, the second centred on certain objectives of particular importance.

### **Improvement of the general framework for cooperation**

*1.2.4.* In the first place, the Commission feels it will be necessary to adopt a position on a number of general macroeconomic problems, some of which are being tackled in virtually continuous international negotiations, while others have become topical only more recently.

The latter include discussions on the question of the interdependence of economies and the need to find the means of ensuring harmonious and sustained growth of the world economy and world trade. While the main aim of the strategy must of course be the development of the developing countries, it must also be designed to contribute to the growth of the world economy. In this connection, special attention must be paid in particular to ways of stimulating demand in the developing countries by arranging to increase substantially financial transfers to those countries.

The other more traditional matters being discussed in many different international bodies

concern improvements to be made in the functioning of the economic relations between industrialized and developing countries with a view to enabling developing countries to realize their potential and, to this end, to make the most of their gradual inclusion in the mainstream of world economic activity: they include the continuation of efforts to liberalize trade and the search for more balanced and more equitable trade, problems concerning raw materials, the transfer of resources, industrialization, certain monetary matters, etc.

### Three objectives of particular importance

1.2.5. As for the second side, the Commission proposes to adopt a more practical approach in order to identify, more clearly than can be done in discussions on the general conditions of the new international economic order, those problems which demand particular attention and effort on the part of the international community as a whole. In this regard, three objectives appear to be of particular importance.

#### *Satisfaction of basic needs*

1.2.6. This should not be seen as an alternative to the efforts and aid required to achieve the growth targets of the developing countries, nor should it appear to be a means of interfering in their affairs or a direct or indirect method of imposing a particular development model on them; on the contrary, it should be seen as one of the most pressing obligations incumbent on the industrialized and developing countries at the present time (indeed, the stability of many developing countries depends on it). What this obligation amounts to is creating the minimum

conditions necessary for real progress in improving the living conditions of the poorest populations.

It is primarily the satisfaction of food requirements that is meant here. The food problem must therefore receive particular attention if the new strategy is to represent an opportunity for making a bigger effort to stop the deterioration that has occurred in the food situation in many developing countries over the past few years.

Specific proposals will also have to be made on the other issues connected with the satisfaction of basic human needs—health, education, employment, living conditions and, more generally, urban amenities and problems of urbanization, social infrastructure, etc.

#### *Developing scarce natural resources*

1.2.7. Another common objective of major importance is the need to make appropriate use of the earth's scarce resources. The first issue that needs to be raised here is the energy problem: this subject should not be broached solely from the point of view of oil but also in terms of the economic utilization of reserves, substitute sources of energy, in particular renewable ones, etc. A second specific subject which should be dealt with in depth is the supply of raw materials; particular points to be raised here are possible ways of effecting the investment required to ensure satisfactory exploitation of the resources available, the use of renewable raw materials, recycling, exploitation of the seabed, etc. A number of other subjects covered by this general theme should also be discussed, in particular the environment and the protection of natural conditions (the fight against desertification, pollution of the sea, the water problem).

*Better integration of the developing countries into the international economy*

1.2.8. The third objective is the need to find ways and means of arriving at an international division of labour that will give the developing countries a bigger share of international trade and increase their involvement in the world economy. This theme covers in particular the problem of coherence between the policies pursued by the various countries, especially in the development of industrial activities, and the adjustments which this entails.

Special attention should also be paid here to the problem of mutual cooperation between developing countries, as many of them are concerned to attain a certain level of self-reliance in development as shown by the conclusions of the 1976 meeting in Mexico, the UNCTAD discussions and the conclusions of the meeting of non-aligned countries in Havana in 1978.

### 3. The persistent imbalance on the milk market

#### The situation and the action envisaged

1.3.1. There is still an imbalance on the Community market in milk and milk products, despite the steps taken over the past ten years to remedy the situation; new measures are required to restore equilibrium to this market. These are the main conclusions reached in a Commission report which was presented to the Council at its meeting on 26 September by Mr Gundelach, Commission Vice-President.

The report, which was requested by the Council in May<sup>1</sup>—when the 1978/79 agricultural prices were fixed—to enable it to review the problems in the sector, analyses developments since 1968. The report does not put forward formal proposals; the Commission intends to present some at the end of November, together with the farm price proposals for 1979/80; but it contains, as the Council noted in the press release issued after the meeting, 'a number of considerations as a basis for a debate on the most effective methods of restoring the balance of the market'.

#### The facts: trends and outlook for the market in milk

1.3.2. Serious imbalances persist on the Community market in the milk sector; the consumption and production estimates available to the Commission point to a worsening of these imbalances in the future. The volume of milk production and deliveries to dairies has increased steadily in recent years (production by an average of 1.7%, deliveries by about 2.5% per year). The dairy herd has remained the same size, but the milk yield

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.72.



has continued to increase and this trend may accelerate. The milk/animal feed price ratio has continued to favour milk production and the Member States' forecasts indicate a continuing increase in the volume of milk. Human consumption of milk and milk products is stable. For some products, such as cheese, demand is increasing, but consumption of butter in particular is declining all the time. The world market is over-supplied and there are few additional export outlets.

Despite the adoption of a number of measures over the past few years, those now in force cannot cope with the problem. The budgetary cost of milk sector measures (1 500 million units of account in 1973, 3 000 million in 1977) is becoming increasingly difficult to support and it is clear that the high price level together with the absolute guarantee system can only encourage increased production, states the Commission report.

Virtually ever since the common organization of the market in milk and milk products was introduced in 1968, the Community has been faced with the need to adopt measures—primarily price measures—to deal with the imbalance on the milk market. In July 1976 the Commission presented to the Council an action programme for the period 1977/80 for the progressive establishment of balance in the market in milk and milk products<sup>1</sup> proposing the following measures: Community rules on the non-marketing of milk and the conversion of dairy herds to meat production; strict suspension of national and Community aid in respect of milk for three years; introduction of a co-responsibility levy (meaning financial participation by producers); expansion of outlets; measures to reduce certain imbalances between the milk sector and related sectors. Some of these measures have been implemented, but somewhat ineffectively; other have been thwarted by an increase in production sustained by the

system of guarantees; nor do some national or even Community aid measures seem to have contributed towards the aim of establishing balance on the market, and so on. The problem of milk surpluses has therefore remained for years and is now back in the limelight.

This led Mr Gundelach, Vice-President of the Commission, presenting the report to state at a press conference following the Council meeting on 26 September that milk surpluses were the only serious surpluses, that the market was saturated, that no amount of financing would increase the outlets and that the problem must therefore be tackled from the production side.

### The guidelines to be envisaged

*1.3.3.* Given this situation, the Commission—before presenting precise proposals at a later date—saw fit to define in its report the objectives to be pursued in the light of developments and the outlook for the future.

The Commission is bearing in mind the fact that milk production is the largest sector in Community agriculture (accounting for 19% of total final production) and also involves the largest number of farmers: 1 950 000 or one in three farmers in the Community.

But as things stand, it considers it essential to define more precisely the objectives to be pursued in the milk sector. These guidelines should be: to stop the increase in production; to avoid all national and Community measures which run contrary to this objective and to concentrate on measures which allow the level of consumption to be maintained; to increase the outlets for milk and to reduce milk production potential.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1976, point 2240 and Supplement 10/76 — Bull. EC.

## 4. The Annual Meeting of the IMF and the World Bank

The Commission reiterates in the report its intention to continue a prudent price policy, an active policy of disposal of existing stocks and to look for new outlets for milk.

The Commission, the report states, looked into the possibility of production quotas but rejected this as an unfair approach. It would fossilize the existing agricultural structures. The Commission considered therefore that the existing system should be adapted. To be effective, any action of this kind must restrain the incentive to produce. The Commission thinks that this could be achieved by a system linking intervention prices to production or intervention quantity; or by better use of the co-responsibility levy; or by returning some milk to producers in the form of liquid skimmed milk or powder; or by restricting unconditional access to intervention; or by a combination of these methods.

Furthermore, the Commission considers that it may be necessary to adopt measures which take account of the social situation of small milk producers working in particularly difficult conditions.

The analyses of the market and the discussion on possible action, after account has been taken of the views expressed by all those concerned, will form the basis for proposals to be submitted by the Commission towards the end of the year as part of the 1979/80 price package.

1.4.1. The 33rd Annual Meeting of the Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) was held in Washington from 25 to 28 September.

Mr F.-X. Ortoli, Vice-President of the Commission, was present at the meeting, at which Mr Matthöfer, Finance Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany and President of the Council, made a statement on behalf of the Community<sup>1</sup> at the beginning of his speech. The statement had been prepared by the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) at its meeting on 18 September, when joint positions on the key matters discussed were agreed.

The Community was also represented at the meetings of other bodies held in Washington during the week beginning 22 September, including the Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the Fund<sup>2</sup> and the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the Fund and the Bank on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries ('Development Committee').

The major decisions taken in Washington concerned:

(i) a 50% across-the-board increase in IMF quotas, the effect of which is to raise the total amount of quotas from SDR 39 000 million to just under SDR 60 000 million. As a result, the Fund should be able to satisfy the conditional liquidity requirements expected over the next five years.

Selective increases will be made for a number of oil-producing countries;

(ii) an allocation of SDR 4 000 million in each of the ensuing three years (1979-81).

<sup>1</sup> Point 1.4.2

<sup>2</sup> Points 3.4.1 to 3.4.3

Generally speaking, the proceedings revealed a fairly marked change in the appraisal of the world economic outlook, and many speakers expressed moderate optimism, felt to be justified, among other things, by the changes in exchange rate relationships in recent months and by the implementation of growth policies along more closely convergent lines. Nevertheless, the Interim Committee noted that the current situation still calls for a coordinated strategy, including measures on the energy front, if non-inflationary growth in the world economy and a reduction in international payments disequilibria are to be ensured.

Many of the Governors felt that the current exchange rate instability was a source of grave concern and advocated a return to arrangements affording a greater measure of stability. The Managing Director of the Fund himself pointed out that the principles of surveillance to be introduced by the Fund permitted intervention on the exchanges and required IMF member countries to take action to combat 'disorderly conditions' on the exchanges.

Virtually all the representatives of the Community countries came out strongly in favour of the proposed European Monetary System, and a number of them referred explicitly to the speech delivered by Mr Matthöfer who had stated that the EMS was designed to create a zone of greater monetary stability in Europe, contributing to greater stability worldwide. He had also assured the partners of the European Economic Community that the latter would keep in mind their interests when setting up and operating the system.

1.4.2. An extract is given below from Mr Matthöfer's statement on behalf of the Community:

'... On behalf of the European Community I would like to inform you of our common

view of the present economic situation, our efforts to cope with them, and to add some words regarding the concrete problems we are dealing with during this conference. Assessing the present state of the world economy and its prospects is not easy.

Despite some signs of revival, growth has remained unsatisfactory. We are worried about persisting unemployment. It hits hardest at the disadvantaged segments of society. Its costs in economic and human terms are too high. Unless growth picks up, major inroads on unemployment will hardly be achieved.

As for prices there are some encouraging signs. In the Community inflation lessened particularly in those countries where previously it was highest. On the whole, however, worldwide inflation rates and inflation differentials remain unacceptably high. For too many countries price stability is still an elusive goal, with inflation showing a rising trend in some cases.

As regards the adjustment of payment imbalances a number of countries succeeded remarkably well. Last year the deficit countries within the Community recorded a favourable shift in their current accounts of about USD 11 thousand million. This is not just a reflection of still unsatisfactory economic activity. It is the result of deliberate stabilization efforts. This success contrasts, however, with a disturbing increase in the external imbalances of other major economies of the world.

Further progress in the adjustment process will crucially depend on developments in the energy field. The Community will continue to contribute its share to a stable energy situation. We are committed to reduce our dependence on imported oil, to save energy and to develop new sources of energy. We need, however, the cooperation of the other major energy importing and energy producing countries. Unless there is adequate as-

insurance about future energy supply and prices it will be difficult to sustain a favourable investment climate. We also hope that, here in our host country, effective energy measures will soon be adopted. We welcome the initiatives taken by President Carter in this field. An improvement in the US balance of payments would strengthen the external value of the dollar; it would enhance confidence in the exchange markets, which is a prerequisite for investment and growth.

The monetary and economic problems which have been discussed at last year's Annual Meetings have changed little. The basic issues are as pressing as before. In one respect, however, progress has been made: the consensus on our common strategy for more growth and more employment has been filled with a good deal of substance. On various occasions we have witnessed the determination of governments to solve our problems in a spirit of cooperation rather than in isolation. For the Community the Bremen Summit has given an impetus that will shape the Community's policy for some time to come. There is now a large measure of agreement about the sharing of responsibilities in our common efforts. The agreement has been followed by policy action in a good number of cases. This provides a sound basis to support reasonable confidence for the time ahead.

With integration between the countries of the European Communities becoming closer, the interrelationship between internal stability and the situation in exchange markets is increasingly felt. In July the Community therefore discussed a scheme for tightening monetary cooperation. This scheme—the 'European Monetary System'—is to provide for a zone of greater stability in Europe, contributing to greater stability worldwide.

The technical details of the system are under examination. The European Council will

consider the system at the beginning of December. We are well aware of the implications of such a system for international monetary relations. We are keeping in mind the interests of our partners in setting up the system and we will continue doing so in operating it. It is obvious that a smooth functioning of the system will require an even closer coordination of economic policies between the participating countries.

The problems we face do not lend themselves to quick solutions. We must approach them in a long-term perspective. We need patience and stamina. We still bear the legacy of inflationary strains. More than in previous business cycles economic recovery has to contend with problems of structural change. We must allow our economies to adjust themselves to these changing conditions. Speed and means of this adjustment must, however, not jeopardize our social achievements and aspirations, which we can be proud of and should not abandon in times of economic difficulties.

The Second Amendment of the Articles of Agreement requires the Fund to exercise firm surveillance upon the exchange rate policies of members. We welcome this enhanced role for the Fund and are confident that it will help in improving underlying conditions for orderly and stable exchange markets.

The Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund has made valuable proposals on quotas, on SDR allocation, and on SDR terms which we have examined carefully. In the light of the discussions in the Interim Committee we consider that these proposals point in the right direction and we are very ready to draw positive conclusions from them.'

# 5. The Community, man and climatic problems

Research programme in climatology

## Research programme proposed by the Commission

*1.5.1.* The Commission's proposal for a research programme in climatology, which was forwarded to the Council on 18 September,<sup>1</sup> seeks to initiate Community research in a new field of crucial importance for the future of man and his biological, social and economic environment.

Although this problem has been thoroughly studied by a number of organizations and working parties at national level as well as by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), there is still no coordinated European research programme in this field which, it should be pointed out, is not the responsibility of the European Medium-Term Weather Forecasting Centre<sup>2</sup> set up in October 1973 at Reading, Berkshire, in the United Kingdom.

On 22 September 1976,<sup>3</sup> following the exceptional drought that year,<sup>4</sup> the Commission convened a group of scientific experts who were given the task of drawing up a report relating, in particular, to:

- (i) the possibility of developing a scientific methodology for climatological forecasting and the most appropriate suggestions for establishing it at Community level;
- (ii) measures to be taken in the short and long term to reduce and counteract the harmful effects of permanent or inevitable climatic disturbances.

As a result of a meeting of experts held on 6 December 1976<sup>5</sup> with the primary aim of examining the possibility of developing a scientific methodology for climatological forecasting, it was decided to carry out a study that could be used to establish the need for a Community research programme on this subject.

A new stage has now been reached following the Commission's decision to forward to the Council a proposal for a 'multiannual programme of research in climatology (indirect action 1979-83)'.

## The objectives

*1.5.2.* The proposal has two main aims, mainly to contribute to an improved understanding of climatic processes and variations, and to assess the potential impact of climatic variations on basic resources and the effect of human activities on these climatic variations.

In spite of a general, well-developed awareness of the effect of climatic variations on the development of civilization in the past and the harmful, if not disastrous, consequences of these variations in recent years, there is still no universally accepted explanation of these phenomena nor any reliable empirical or theoretical methods for forecasting their occurrence. Similarly, no entirely satisfactory method is yet available for evaluating the effect of increasing human activities on the climate. The brief survey of a number of exceptional meteorological situations given below<sup>6</sup> highlights the urgent need to acquire a better understanding of climatic variations and to be able to forecast them sufficiently early to allow for the planning of resources.

Although it is generally accepted that the weather, i.e. the specific state of the atmosphere in a given area, can be forecast up to roughly two weeks in advance, there is still no guarantee of certainty as regards forecast-

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 247 of 18.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 10-1973, point 2248.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 9-1976, point 2239.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1976, points 1301 to 1304.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2269.

<sup>6</sup> Point 1.5.8.

ing the climate, i.e. the statistics of the average state of the atmosphere for periods of several months or more on the basis of which fairly accurate probability values can be quoted for variations in weather at specific times and places.

### Fields of research

1.5.3. It is for this reason that the Commission is proposing a programme which comprises two major fields of research, together with measures for the coordination of activities at national level, including the collection and listing of existing data on climate.

#### *Understanding of climatic processes and variations*

1.5.4. The activities covered by this section include in particular:

- (i) 'reconstruction' of past climates by retracing the geological eras, involving, for example, the study of fossils, the deep layers of polar ice caps and glaciers and, closer to home, the study of all types of historical archives;
- (ii) climate modelling and forecasting, including the development of methods based on systems analysis, the improvement of atmospheric circulation models and improved simulation of the slow-variation elements of the climate.

#### *Man-climate interactions*

1.5.5. In this area of study the accent will be placed on climatic variability and its short-term effects, with a view to achieving reliable evaluations and forecasts. The events will involve:

- (i) the study of climatic variability and its effect on resources in Europe. Three major topics are proposed, namely the effects of climate on agricultural and water resources, the assessment of climatic risks, and the effects of climate on energy requirements, consumption and production;
- (ii) study of man's impact on climate, with particular reference to chemical pollution of the atmosphere (especially the carbon dioxide build-up) and thermal pollution.

#### *Special activities*

1.5.6. The principal aims of the work to be done under the heading of special activities relate to three basic needs: correlation in a summary table of the data gathered in the abovementioned fields of research; the provision of reliable forecasts and projections concerning climatic variability and effects; and the collection and harmonization of data relating to climate.

For this purpose the Commission proposes that an inter-disciplinary group of Community experts be set up for the study of climatic effects. It also proposes the organization of a system which will facilitate coordination and enhancement of European climate data records, particularly through efforts to develop a harmonized cataloguing format for these data and the periodic updating of existing Community data records.

### Implementation and management of the programme

1.5.7. The programme proposed by the Commission will be implemented as an indirect-action project, mainly on the basis of shared-cost contracts with specialized public and private research institutions in the Member States. The Commission estimates that

Community participation in the research programme and in the necessary coordination activities will cost 8 million EUA over the five-year period from 1979 to 1983. An Advisory Committee on Programme Management (ACPM) will assist the Commission in the management of this programme, which will be reviewed after two years.

European non-member countries involved in European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) will be invited to participate in the proposed programme, provision being made for close cooperation with international programmes such as those sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization and with international organizations, particularly the European Medium-Term Weather Forecasting Centre, in Reading.

#### Exceptional meteorological situations since 1960

1.5.8. The urgent need for research into climatology is highlighted by the following list of some of the exceptional meteorological situations recorded over a period of less than twenty years; the list is reproduced from the Commission's communication.

- 1961 Extraordinary intensity of equatorial rains in East Africa, where the great lakes rose in a few months to record twentieth-century levels.
- 1962-63 Coldest winter in England since 1740.
- 1962-65 Driest four-year period in the eastern United States since records began in 1738.
- 1963-64 Driest winter in England and Wales since 1743.  
Coldest winter since 1745 over an area extending from the Lower Volga basin to the Persian Gulf.

- 1964-65 The supposedly ice-free port of Murmansk, on the south coast of the Barents Sea, blocked by Arctic Ocean pack-ice for the first time.
- 1964 Snow covered all the highlands of South Africa and South-West Africa in June — the heaviest and most widespread snowfall there since 1895, causing many deaths.
- 1965-66 Baltic Sea completely ice-covered.
- 1968 Ice half-surrounded Iceland and stopped shipping for the first time in 80 years (since 1888).
- 1968-73 Severest phase of the prolonged drought in the Cape Verde Islands, the Sahel and Ethiopia, the duration and severity of which have broken all twentieth-century records.
- 1968 and 1969 On four occasions slow-moving cyclones produced two-day rainfalls in several low-land districts of England and Ireland; in theory, this should occur only once in 50 years.
- 1960-69 Driest decade in central Chile since the 1790s.
- 1969 Lowest frequency of westerly-wind days in Britain for over 109 years, possibly since 1785.
- 1971 Barometric-pressure map for the month of September showed anomalies in three areas (North America, North Atlantic and Siberia) corresponding to five-times the standard deviation from the average values for the earlier part of the century.
- 1971-72 Coldest winter on record in parts of eastern Russia and Turkey: River Tigris frozen over in eastern Turkey.

- 1972 Highest summer temperatures ever recorded in northern Russia and Finland: 33°C in Lapland.  
Worst drought for many years caused general harvest shortfall in Russia and Soviet Asia.  
Number of icebergs (1 587) in the western Atlantic south of 48°N exceeded (by 250) the figure for any previous year since records began in 1880.
- 1973 Great Lakes of North America and Mississippi River at highest levels since 1844, following several notably wet years.  
Mexico experienced the drought which affected Africa at the same latitude: the severest drought in central America for many years.  
Snow again in South Africa. First-ever report of snow on high ground in Queensland, north-eastern Australia.
- 1973-74 In January, the worst floods on record, extending from the central Australian desert to the north-west and east of the continent, ended a sequence of great-drought summers.
- 1974-75 Mildest winter in England since 1834.  
Virtual absence of ice in the Baltic Sea; possibly the least ice since 1652.
- 1975 Great heat-wave in western Europe (approximately 4 to 11 August); the mean temperatures for that week in the Netherlands and Denmark (about 24°C) exceeded the previous highest by over 2°C.  
Arctic-Ocean ice began moving towards Iceland for the first time in July in the twentieth century.

- 1975-76 Great drought in western, central and northern Europe, especially England, where rainfall in the 16 months from May 1975 was the lowest since records began in 1727.
- 1976 Great heat in western Europe in June and early July: temperatures over a 24-day period in England were about 4°C above the highest monthly mean recorded in 300 years.  
Very cold, wet summer in Russia and parts of Canada.  
Droughts between April and August in numerous tropical and sub-tropical areas, including Sri Lanka, West Africa and northern Chile, followed by abnormally high rainfall in October.  
Similar unusually high rainfall during September and October, following the drought in north-western Europe.  
Tropical cyclones (hurricanes) of extreme severity affecting Madagascar (January-March) and Mexico (October).





**PART TWO**

**ACTIVITIES  
IN SEPTEMBER 1978**

# 1. Building the Community

## Economic and monetary policy

### European Monetary System

#### The detailed arrangements—the problems involved

2.1.1. At its meeting on 18 September the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) resumed the discussion of the European Monetary System it had started on 24 July. The Council had received interim reports from the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks and thanked both Committees for their excellent work in preparing the reports.

On the basis of the reports, the Council held a constructive discussion on the whole range of questions arising in connection with the introduction of the European Monetary System in accordance with the conclusions reached by the European Council at its meeting in Bremen on 6 and 7 July.<sup>1</sup> Among other things, the Council confirmed that the ECU would be at the centre of the European Monetary System, agreeing that it would be used in the European Monetary Fund and as a means of settlement and making it clear that the central rates of currencies participating in the System would be expressed in ECUs.

Furthermore, on the matter of how the ECU-based intervention points were to be defined, a broad majority came out in favour of the compromise solution providing for joint use of a parity grid and of a 'basket'-type formula. In this connection, the parity grid, which would be based on the equivalent values of the different currencies expressed in ECUs, would be used to fix the intervention points in terms of nominal exchange rates, while the ECU-basket formula would be used to determine the degree of divergence between the participating curren-

cies beyond which certain consequences as regards intervention obligations would arise.

The Council asked both Committees to finalize their discussions in the light of the Council discussions at the meeting so as to be in a position to submit final reports in time for its October meeting.

#### Concurrent studies

2.1.2. In this context, the Council was also presented with an interim report by the Economic Policy Committee on the work it had undertaken, as instructed by the Council at its meeting on 24 July and in accordance with the conclusions reached by the European Council in Bremen, relating to the concurrent study of the measures needed, under the System, to strengthen the economies of the less prosperous Member States. Such measures will be crucial to the success of the zone of monetary stability.

The Council asked the Economic Policy Committee to continue its discussions in the light of the Council's discussions of 18 September and to report back to it by November.

#### Medium-term financial assistance

2.1.3. On 18 September the Italian Government repaid on schedule the third tranche (USD 349 575 000) of the medium-term financial assistance granted to it under the Council Directive of 17 December 1974.<sup>2</sup>

In addition, in view of the improvement in its balance of payments and the increase in its foreign exchange reserves, Italy repaid in advance, at the end of September, the fourth

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 341 of 20.12.1974.

tranche—the amount being the same. The redemption date had originally been fixed, in the same Directive, at 19 December 1978. As a result, Italy has now repaid in full the financial assistance granted to it in 1974.

### Monetary Committee

2.1.4. The Monetary Committee held its 243rd meeting in Brussels on 6 and 7 September, with Mr van Ypersele de Strihou in the chair. As instructed by the European Council at its Bremen meeting, it adopted and forwarded to the Council and to the Commission an interim report on the European Monetary System. It also discussed international monetary problems in preparation for the meeting of the IMF's Interim Committee and for its Annual Meeting, to be held at the end of September in Washington.<sup>1</sup>

The Working Party on the Harmonization of Monetary Policy Instruments met in Basle on 21 and 22 September to discuss an interim draft report.

### Economic Policy Committee

2.1.5. The Economy Policy Committee held two meetings in Brussels in September:

- (i) The 66th, on 6 September, with Mr Tietmeyer in the chair, was devoted entirely to continued discussion of 'concurrent studies' of the measures needed under the European Monetary System to strengthen the economies of less prosperous Member States;
- (ii) The 67th, on 28 September, in its reduced 'budget' composition, with Miss Brown in the chair, examined the triennial financial forecasts (1979, 1980 and 1981) for the Communities' budget.

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2.1.6. On 15 September Parliament passed a Resolution on the effects of the Community's trade policy on the level of economic activity in the nine Member States.<sup>2</sup>

## Internal market and industrial affairs

### Free movement of goods

#### *Removal of technical barriers to trade*

#### Tractors

2.1.7. The Commission sent to the Council in September two proposals for Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

One—presented on 21 September—concerns roll-over protective structures. It provides for static tests to check whether the design and construction of these structures (safety cabs and frames) will avoid or limit the risks run by the driver in the event of tractor roll-over during normal use.

The other—transmitted to the Council on 22 September—concerns towing hooks and reverse on tractors.

#### Foodstuffs

2.1.8. From 12 to 15 September the Commission held a symposium on foodstuffs in Rome, attended by some 300 persons. Apart from the experts of the Member States responsible for drawing up regulations and car-

<sup>1</sup> Points 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.3.12 and OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

rying out the inspection of foodstuffs, representatives of industry, commerce, agriculture, consumer associations and trade unions took part in the symposium.

The reports presented dealt with the systems for the inspection of foodstuffs in each Member State, in particular the legal basis, the structure of departments and the division of powers between them, their means of action and the system of penalties. The reports revealed the similarities and differences between the various systems currently in force in the Community. A summary of the reports spotlighted the fact that these differences result from the centralized or decentralized administrative structures arising from the constitutional development of each Member State.

The second part of the symposium was devoted to an examination of particular topics such as the taking of samples, the specialization of the control and the concentrated utilization of laboratory methods or modern control activities not requiring sampling and product analysis. The professional groups directly involved and the consumer representatives expressed their views on the way in which the controls are conducted; they put forward proposals on how to improve them.

Mr Burke, the Member of the Commission responsible for consumer protection, addressed the meeting, attended by Mrs Anselmi, the Italian Minister of Health, and stressed the need for Community rules on foodstuffs in order to protect the health and safety of consumers and guarantee the existence of a wider market in which these products could circulate unimpeded.

The symposium's activities ended with the organization of a round-table discussion during which the representatives of the Member States asked the Commission to take rapid measures to achieve better coordination of

the activities of the national departments for the control of foodstuffs if, for instance, there was a danger to human health.

## Approximation of laws

### *Company law*

#### International accounting standards

2.1.9. On 28 September the Commission adopted—for transmission to the Council—a recommendation for a Decision on the Community position to be adopted during international negotiations relating to the harmonization of international accounting standards within the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The Commission will ensure that the provisions of Community law, notably those of the fourth Directive on the annual accounts of limited companies<sup>1</sup> are not affected by instruments drawn up within the OECD.

### *Economic and commercial law*

2.1.10. On 12 September Parliament<sup>2</sup> delivered its opinion on the Commission's proposal for a Directive on the coordination of the laws of the Member States relating to self-employed commercial agents.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 222 of 14.8.1978, Supplements 7/71 and 6/74 — Bull. EC and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.12.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 13 of 18.1.1977 and Supplement 1/77 — Bull. EC.

Table 1 — *Number of doctors, nationals of Member States, authorized in 1977 to practise in a Member State other than the one in which they first qualified*

. Figures not available  
— Nil

	Germany	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark
Total	245	86	— <sup>4</sup>	121	17	14	451	40	11
nationality :									
German	3	16		18	2	2	13	2	4
French	46	24		1	7	5	9	—	1
Italian	54	16		1	3	—	23	—	—
Dutch	53	2		—	2	—	12	—	2
Belgian	22	19		50	3	7	9	—	1
Luxembourg	23	2		3	—	— <sup>3</sup>	—	—	—
British	31	3		42	—	—	14	38 <sup>1</sup>	3
Irish	6	1		6	—	—	366 <sup>2</sup>	—	—
Danish	7	3		—	—	—	5	—	—
qualified in									
Germany	.	22	.	.	2	2	18	.	.
France	.	15	.	.	10	5	11	.	.
Italy	.	12	.	.	3	—	27	.	.
Netherlands	.	2	.	.	2	—	14	.	.
Belgium	.	29	.	.	—	7	9	.	.
United Kingdom	.	3	.	.	—	—	—	.	.
Ireland	.	—	.	.	—	—	.	.	.
Denmark	.	3	.	.	—	—	6	.	.

<sup>1</sup> Some of these may not be of British nationality. They are registered under a 1927 agreement with the British authorities on the registration and control of doctors, registration is on the basis of previous registration in the United Kingdom and not of nationality.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these may not be of Irish nationality. They are registered under a 1927 agreement with the Irish authorities on the registration and control of doctors, registration is on the basis of previous registration in Ireland and not of nationality.

<sup>3</sup> All Luxembourg students have to train in other countries. The table does not therefore include Luxembourg nationals who have set up in Luxembourg after qualifying elsewhere.

<sup>4</sup> The law transposing the Directives on doctors into Italian national legislation was not adopted until 22 May 1978.

## Free movement of persons and right of establishment

### *Professions*

#### Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health

2.1.11. The Committee met on 25 and 26 September. It continued its discussion on the status and role of the general practitioner in the various health systems in the Member States.

Another item on the agenda was the migration of doctors in 1977; the discussion was based on statistics prepared by the Commission with the cooperation of the Member States. Table 1 shows how many doctors, nationals of Member States, were authorized, between the actual entry into force of the Directives and the end of 1977, to practice in a Member State other than the one in which they qualified.

After examining various details relating to the Directives on doctors<sup>1</sup> the Committee discussed problems arising in connection with doctors' access to posts in public hospitals in the Member States where holders of such posts have the status of public officials, and in particular what action the Member States had taken to honour undertakings given when the Directives were adopted. It appeared that although the problem had not yet been satisfactorily overcome in certain Member States, a solution would shortly be found.

## Industry: sectoral measures and restructuring

### *Iron and steel*

#### Forward programme

2.1.12. Having received the favourable opinion of the ECSC Consultative Committee,<sup>2</sup> on 20 September the Commission adopted the forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1978.<sup>3</sup>

For that period the Commission proposes a total crude steel output of 31 million tonnes (29 million tonnes in the third quarter), 23 million of which are for the Community market (1 million tonnes more than in the third quarter) and 8 million for export. According to the Commission forecasts, real consumption is likely to be 29 million tonnes in the fourth quarter.

In addition to the 23 million tonnes of crude steel produced by European steelmakers for the Community market, 3.5 million tonnes will come from stocks and 2.5 million tonnes will be imported.

The Commission stresses the need for all producers to follow the guidelines in the programme, since any excess of the estimates will seriously endanger the further improvement of the situation on the Community steel market.

#### Deposit system

2.1.13. On 19 September the Council agreed in principle to a two-month extension of the deposit system introduced in June<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.3.47.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 236 of 6.10.1978.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.3.2.

and on 29 September<sup>1</sup> the Commission adopted a Decision on this extension which also included certain amendments to the system.

### Loans to industry

2.1.14. The Commission has decided to grant the following loans under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty:

- (i) DM 9 million to Thyssen Edelstahlwerke AG, Krefeld, towards the cost of dust extraction equipment in the No 3 electric steel works;
- (ii) FF 3 million to Forges et Laminoirs de Bretagne, Saint-Brieuc, towards the modernization of the only rolling mills in the region.

### Shipbuilding

2.1.15. On 19 September<sup>2</sup> the Council formally adopted the resolution on the reorganization of the shipbuilding industry; it had already approved it on 25 July.<sup>3</sup>

## Customs union

### Simplification of customs procedures

#### Community transit

2.1.16. On 29 September<sup>4</sup> the Council adopted a Regulation on the application of Decision No 3/78 of the EEC-Austria Joint Committee—Community transit—amending Annex II to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the simplification of formalities for trade in goods between the European Economic Community on the one

hand and Greece and Turkey on the other hand when the said goods are forwarded from Austria.

Decision No 3/78 introduces, from 1 October 1978, a new specimen movement certificate A.TR. 1 for use under the Agreement on Community transit.

### Common customs tariff

#### Adjustment of tariff specifications

2.1.17. On 19 September the Council adopted a Regulation concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Austria, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland for the purpose of adjusting tariff specifications.

The aim of this Regulation is to bring the tariff nomenclatures contained in the Agreements into line with the customs nomenclatures of the States concerned and of the Community (CCT), parts of the latter nomenclatures having been amended on 1 January 1978.

### Economic tariff matters

#### Community surveillance of imports

2.1.18. On 19 September<sup>5</sup> the Council adopted a Regulation suspending the application of indicative ceilings established for the

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 275 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 229 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.20.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 276 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 258 of 21.9.1978.

imports of certain products originating in Portugal.<sup>1</sup> These ceilings were not reached by imports in the last two years.

### **Customs procedures with economic impact**

#### **Outward processing**

2.1.19. On 7 September<sup>2</sup> the Commission amended its Directive of 4 May 1976<sup>3</sup> relating to the triangular system of the outward processing procedure.

The amendment is to simplify the application of the triangular system in the outward processing procedure by enabling the Member States to draw up, under the supervision of the Commission, control and information procedures other than those based on the INF 2 information sheet provided for in the 1976 Directive but offering equivalent guarantees.

## **Competition**

### **Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases**

#### *Licences, trademarks and business names*

#### **Prohibited restrictive practices**

2.1.20. On 21 September the Commission took a decision<sup>4</sup> under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty prohibiting a collection of anti-competitive practices concerning the propagation and sale of maize seed for agricultural use. The Decision is addressed to the Institut national de la recherche agronomique (INRA), Paris, FRASEMA, a French maize seed com-

pany based in Paris, Mr Kurt Eisele of Darmstadt and L.C. Nungesser KG, also of Darmstadt.

The Commission observed that there were considerable differences between the price of maize seed in France and in Germany. German farmers are charged substantially higher prices—as much as 70% higher during the last few years. This situation is largely the result of a series of practices arising from production and sale licensing agreements between the licensors, INRA and FRASEMA, and the licensees, Mr Eisele and Nungesser KG. In addition, the German firms have been making improper use of the national law protecting new plant varieties in order to secure for themselves absolute territorial protection.

The resulting situation has precluded any form of trade by independent dealers between Member States. Exports to Germany of INRA varieties of maize seed have thus been possible only through the exclusive licensees, although the seeds were duly certified and put on sale in France in the normal way. The practices which have been forbidden have, moreover, had none of the beneficial effects which could have entitled them—even temporarily—to exemption. Above all, they have encouraged an artificial increase in the price of maize seed to the detriment of the consumer, i.e. the German farmer.

The Decision is of general interest on three accounts:

(a) the Commission reiterates its view that exclusive territorial licences are caught by Article 85(1) and may be exempted under Article 85(3) only if all the conditions for exemption are satisfied;

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 102 of 14.4.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 257 of 20.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 121 of 8.5.1976 and Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2106

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 286 of 12.10.1978.



(b) it has decided that this principle shall apply to licences for new plant varieties as well as to ordinary patent licences;

(c) it emphasizes that the principles continue to apply even if breeder's rights are made over to the licensee.

## State aids

### *Regional aids*

#### Italy

2.1.21. The Commission has decided to initiate the procedure of Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of a Bill of the autonomous region of Sicily, under which public finance was to be made available to the Sicilian Industrial Promotion Agency (ESPI) to enable it to grant certain types of assistance to industry. The Bill was to enable the Agency to pay the wages and salaries of staff on the payroll of the firms it controls when such firms are in financial difficulties.

The Commission felt that assistance of this kind was equivalent to an operational subsidy, which is in principle incompatible with the common market. As required by the procedure the Italian Government, the Governments of the other Member States and other interested parties have been given notice to submit their comments.<sup>1</sup>

#### United Kingdom

2.1.22. The Commission has informed the United Kingdom Government, that, with certain reservations, it has no objection to the introduction of an experimental aid scheme for creating full-time employment in certain parts of the United Kingdom for persons who have been unemployed for a long

time. This scheme is to remain in operation for nine months and applies only to the Liverpool, Tyneside and Leeds areas. The aid takes the form of a grant of UKL 20 per week for a maximum of 26 weeks to employers taking on 19 to 64 year-olds who have been registered as unemployed for at least the last twelve months.

The Commission based its decision on the experimental nature of the project, its limited geographical scope and duration, the slender budget earmarked to finance it and the fact that it is tailored to benefit a particularly badly-placed section of the unemployed population.

The Commission has, however, informed the United Kingdom Government that it will have to re-examine the scheme if it becomes a permanent fixture, and might even have to impose certain conditions on its implementation depending on its scope and the way it is operated. It might, for example, decide that firms already drawing the temporary employment subsidy (TES) or operating in certain 'sensitive' industries (textiles, clothing, iron and steel, shipbuilding, etc.) might not be able to receive the new subsidy as well.

### *Industry aids*

#### Leather and skins

##### *France*

2.1.23. On 8 September the Commission decided not to object to the imposition of a parafiscal charge for the joint benefit of the Conseil National du Cuir (CNC — National Leather Council) and the Centre Technique du Cuir (CTC — Technical Centre for the Leather Industry), as notified by the French

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 207 of 31.8.1978.

Government in accordance with Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty.

A parafiscal charge of up to 0.30% will therefore be imposed until 31 December 1982 for the benefit of CNC and CTC, in order to enable the two organizations to pursue their objectives.

The charges should, for example, enable CNC to press for more up-to-date industrial and commercial structures, encourage an improvement in product quality and saleability, stabilize the price of raw materials and carry out such business research as will encourage the rationalization of the market in untreated leather, encourage collective action in the leather industry and, finally, step up the fight against the warble fly. The charges should, furthermore, enable the Technical Centre to follow through with research, technical assistance and standardization of quality, all of which are needed by the leather and skins industry.

The Commission has, however, asked the French authorities to submit an annual report on action taken, and progress made, in order to keep track of the effects this new arrangement has on the industry.

## Financial institutions and taxation

### Taxation

#### *Indirect taxes*

#### Excise duties

2.1.24. The Commission has commenced separate proceedings before the Court of Justice against Denmark, France, Italy

and the United Kingdom for infringement of Article 95 of the EEC Treaty in respect of alcoholic beverages.

Article 95—a Treaty clause having direct effect for individuals—prohibits all tax discrimination between domestic products and similar and/or competing products imported from the other Member States. It is evident that the laws of the Member States in question are structured in such a way as to protect their domestic products and do not therefore comply with this rule. Examples are:

(i) in *Denmark*: tax arrangements on the consumption of spirits (domestic products, such as akvavit and the other schnapps of this kind, are taxable at a rate approximately 42% lower);

(ii) in *France*: tax arrangements on the manufacture and consumption of spirits (domestic products such as cognac are taxable at rates at least 30% lower than the rates applied to imported spirits distilled from cereals, such as whisky);

(iii) in *Italy*: tax arrangements such as the 'contrassegno di Stato' (tax bands) on the consumption of spirits; the rates of this excise duty are four to six times higher on spirits distilled from cereals than on spirits distilled from wine (for example, brandy and grappa);

(iv) in the *United Kingdom*: tax arrangements on the consumption of wine and beer; the rates of excise duty are five times higher for wine than for beer.

The actions brought before the Court of Justice are the logical and inevitable consequence of the representations the Commission has been making unsuccessfully for some years to the Member States concerned requesting them to put an end to the discriminatory arrangements in force.

Although these are separate proceedings in law, there is an economic link between the

production of the beverages concerned: alcoholic beverages belong to the same family, whether they are distilled like spirits or fermented like wine and beer. The judgments to be handed down by the Court in these cases will enable the Commission to deal, *mutatis mutandis* with the questions raised by the systems of taxing alcoholic beverages in force in other Member States as well.

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2.1.25. At its 15 September sitting Parliament<sup>1</sup> passed a Resolution on taxes applicable to wine and alcoholic beverages.

## Employment and social policy

### Employment

2.1.26. The main employment problems and the Community social policy guidelines were discussed at various international meetings and gatherings in September, when the Commission was represented by Vice-President Vredeling.

2.1.27. The German Minister of Labour invited the Social Affairs and Labour Ministers of the nine Member States to an informal meeting at Gravenbruch near Frankfurt on 21 and 22 September. The main items to which they gave their attention were certain social aspects of enlargement—particularly the free movement of workers—preparation of the next Tripartite Conference and youth employment.

The Commission continued its preparations for the Tripartite Conference—planned for 9 November—when it held a general discussion in September on the policy conclusions reached in the preparatory papers for the Conference.

2.1.28. In a more general context, Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission, had talks on a number of social policy issues during his official visit to the United States from 4 to 9 September at the invitation of the United States Secretary of Labour, Mr Ray Marshall. Youth unemployment, the restructuring of crisis industries and the readaptation of workers were some of the main topics discussed during his visit.<sup>2</sup>

2.1.29. Mr Vredeling reviewed the Community social policy and priority operations in this sector at the European Conference on Labour Law and Industrial Relations held in Brussels from 26 to 29 September.

Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for the internal market and industrial affairs, also addressed the Conference on the subject of industrial bargaining and industrial integration.

2.1.30. In a more specific field, the Commission—working with the Italian Government—has continued to implement the programme of cooperation and technical assistance for the management of the labour market preparatory to a reform of the employment services. Four groups of officials from the Italian Ministry of Labour have been working with the employment services in four other Member States: the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Belgium. This scheme, the first of its kind, has made it possible to mobilize the skills of countries possessing highly specialized, autonomous employment agencies, while the Commission organized and financed the operation.

On their return to Italy the officials will participate in pilot schemes to study the possibility of introducing new placement methods and procedures under the Italian Govern-

<sup>1</sup> Point 2.3.15 and OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.2.62.

ment's plan to reform the administrative machinery to manage the labour market.

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2.1.31. On 19 September<sup>1</sup> the ECSC Consultative Committee<sup>2</sup> adopted a Resolution on the social aspects of the iron and steel policy.

## European Social Fund

### Annual Report

2.1.32. On 26 September the Commission approved the sixth annual report of the European Social Fund (covering the 1977 financial year) and decided as in previous years to transmit it to the Council and Parliament.

Applications for assistance from the Fund continued to rise, the reason being that the employment situation in 1977 was even more worrying than in 1976. Since there was little if any evidence of the economic recovery forecast, the number of unemployed in the Community went above the six million mark at the end of the year, an increase of over half a million compared with the previous year.

Although the Fund's budgetary resources were raised by about 40% in 1977 (including the share stemming from changes to the budgetary system) the total volume of applications for assistance was more than 50% greater than available resources. Strict selection criteria laid down by the Commission after consultation with the Fund Committee had again to be applied.

These criteria accorded priority assistance to employment promotion schemes with well-defined and clearly-limited objectives, and to projects which without Fund assistance would have little chance of being carried out.

An estimated one million people directly benefited from Fund assistance in 1977. A

further 250 000 received assistance under schemes carried out in 1977 but charged to previous budgets. Total appropriations committed for the two categories amounted to 812 million u.a.

As in 1976, about half the Fund resources were devoted to schemes to promote employment in backward regions or where the decline in activities had led to serious and prolonged imbalances.

These schemes together with those carried out in the same regions for special categories of people—representing the Fund's contribution towards redressing structural imbalances in the less-developed regions of the Community—totalled 76% of the total budget as against 73% in 1976.

Discussions in various Community institutions concerning the review of rules relating to the tasks and operations of the Fund resulted in the adoption by the Council on 20 December 1977<sup>3</sup> of several decisions and regulations that came into effect on 1 January 1978. Generally speaking, the changes were designed to increase Fund aid to less-developed regions in the Community and to improve administrative procedures, particularly as regards payments. Sums paid out in 1977 were almost 30% up on 1976.

The Council also extended until 31 December 1980 the validity of the decisions applicable to young people, migrant workers, and workers in the textiles and clothing industries.

### Pilot projects

2.1.33. In September the Commission decided to grant assistance from the European

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 237 of 7.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.3.44.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 337 of 27.12.1977 and Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.71.

Social Fund to carry out a new series of pilot projects to help guide the Council and the Commission in the choice of areas of Fund intervention. They should also enable the Member States and persons responsible for operations to choose the most effective type of aid and to use it to the best advantage. The pilot projects are mainly concerned with:

- (i) developing small businesses in a less-favoured rural area (Wales);
- (ii) adapting workers to new techniques with a view to reclassification in containerization (Martinique) and in the meat industry (United Kingdom) and adapting workers to the use of the laser in glass-making (Belgium);
- (iii) training women for jobs that are not traditionally performed by women in the textiles industry and mechanical engineering (Belgium and United Kingdom);
- (iv) training vocational training instructors (Italy).

The Commission also approved the continuation of two recently adopted projects concerning the training of technicians in the meat trade (United Kingdom) and women engineers in industry (United Kingdom).

## **Freedom of movement and social security for migrant workers**

### **Extension of social security for migrant workers**

2.1.34. On 20 September the Commission decided to amend the proposals it sent to the Council on 31 December 1977<sup>1</sup> to extend social security for migrant workers to all insured persons moving within the Community. These amendments, which the Commission sent to the Council on 28 September,<sup>2</sup> were made to the December 1977 proposals to take into account the opinions of Parlia-

ment<sup>3</sup> and the Economic and Social Committee.<sup>3</sup>

The rules contained in the Regulation adopted by the Council on 14 June 1971<sup>4</sup> entitle employed migrant workers and their families to the application of national social security schemes throughout the Community. The proposals made by the Commission in December 1977 would extend the scheme to self-employed persons and their families.

Since Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee requested a more far-reaching extension the Commission has amended its proposals mainly to cover non-employed insured persons—persons having an income derived from sources other than an occupation (e.g. persons of independent means, handicapped adults), the dependents of employed or self-employed persons—for certain risks for which they are insured on a personal basis.

When the Council adopts these amended and extended proposals all insured persons moving within the Community will be covered.

## **Regional policy**

### **Financing operations**

#### *European Regional Development Fund*

#### **Second allocation for 1978: 151.39 million EUA**

2.1.35. On 5 September the Commission approved the second allocation of grants for

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 14 of 18.1.1978 and Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.75.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 246 of 17.10.1978.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, points 2.3.23 and 2.3.75.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

Table 2 — Grants from the ERDF (second 1978 allocation)

Member State	Number of grant decisions	Number of investment projects	Investments assisted (million EUA)	Assistance granted (million EUA)
Denmark	3	15	3.77	1.13
Germany	34	133	448.29	34.31
Ireland	8	92	138.87	23.03
Italy	15	81	374.03	60.80
United Kingdom	16	84	427.11	32.12
Total	76	405	1 392.07	151.39

1978 from the European Regional Development Fund, totalling 151.39 million EUA. The aid has been allocated to 405 investment projects costing a total of 1 392.07 million EUA.

In accordance with the Regulation of 18 March 1975<sup>1</sup> establishing the ERDF, the Fund Committee approved these projects on 19 July. On 17 July the Regional Policy Committee had been consulted on the draft decisions for aid to infrastructure projects costing more than 10 million EUA.

The first allocation for 1978 was approved by the Commission in May.<sup>2</sup> A breakdown of the aid granted under the second allocation for 1978 is given in Table 2.

The 151.39 million EUA breaks down as follows:

(a) 77.26 million EUA to finance 256 infrastructure projects required to develop industrial and tourist activities, comprising:

(i) 34.51 million EUA to help finance 13 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 37.89 million EUA to help finance 188 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each;

(iii) 4.86 million EUA to help finance 55 infrastructure investment projects costing less than 10 million EUA each in the areas referred to in the Directive on mountain and hill-farming and farming in less-favoured areas.

The infrastructure investments assisted from the Fund involve a total of 621.07 million EUA. They mainly concern general equipment and improvements for industrial areas, road infrastructure and port improvements.

(b) 74.13 million EUA to help finance 149 projects relating to industrial, artisan and service activities, comprising:

(i) 53.09 million EUA for 12 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 21.04 million EUA for 137 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each.

The industrial and services investments assisted from the Fund involve a total of 771 million EUA, the main industries concerned being motor vehicles and motor-vehicle components, foodstuffs, electrical engineering and electronics, non-metallic mineral products, rubber and processing of plastics.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 73 of 21.3.1975.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.50.

## Environment and consumer protection

### Environment

#### *Reduction of pollution and nuisances*

##### Marine pollution

2.1.36. Mr Natali, Vice-President of the Commission with special responsibility for environmental problems, received on 21 September a parliamentary committee from the French National Assembly which had been instructed to conduct an inquiry into the Amoco Cadiz accident and the measures to be taken to avoid in future the disastrous pollution caused by this type of accident. The French members of parliament were told of the proposals which the Commission had presented to the Council last April<sup>1</sup> and the difficulties facing their adoption by the Council, particularly as regards the transport aspect.

The Commission was represented as an observer at a meeting of the Oslo Convention's Standing Advisory Committee on Science held in Copenhagen from 19 to 22 September. The Committee discussed various reports on the problems raised by the discharge of waste at sea which will be referred to the Oslo Convention Committee at its next meeting.

2.1.37. The Commission also attended a meeting called in Copenhagen from 25 to 27 September under the Convention for the prevention of marine pollution from land-based sources, known as the Paris Convention. The pollution of the sea by mercury, cadmium and hydrocarbons was discussed in order to set maximum concentrations for these substances in waters.

### Control of chemical products

2.1.38. On 21 and 22 September the Commission and the representatives of the Member States attended another meeting in Brussels to prepare for the negotiations with the United States on toxic substances. These negotiations began in Washington<sup>2</sup> on 29 and 30 June with a view to reaching agreement on the methods for applying the Toxic Substances Control Act to products from the Community, and similar Community legislation to products from the United States.

At the meeting the Community agreed on its initial reaction to draft American rules on the notification of new substances (Preliminary Guidance for Premanufacture Notification).

### Recycling of waste

2.1.39. On 15 September the Commission addressed to the Council a proposal for a research programme concerning the recycling of secondary raw materials qualifying as municipal and industrial wastes (domestic refuse, rubber waste, etc.)<sup>3</sup>

### *Protection of the environment and natural resources*

#### Climatic problems and the environment

2.1.40. On 18 September the Commission sent to the Council a proposal concerning a climatology programme.<sup>4</sup> The primary aim of this programme is to help solve the problems which climatic variations raise for important resources and to help eliminate the risks

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 4-1978, points 1.4.7 to 1.4.13.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.70.

<sup>3</sup> Point 2.1.77.

<sup>4</sup> Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.8.

created by man's exploitation of the environment and by the pollution he causes.

## Consumers

### Consumers Consultative Committee

2.1.41. On 11 September Mr Gundelach, Vice-President of the Commission with special responsibility for agriculture, received a delegation from the Consumers Consultative Committee which presented him with a report on its views and a detailed questionnaire about the outcome of the last agricultural price review.

During this meeting, Mr Gundelach confirmed that the Commission would continue its 'prudent price policy' and that contacts would be maintained with the consumers, in particular when drawing up the price proposals for the marketing year 1979/80.

### Accidents caused by products

2.1.42. On 7 and 28 September the Commission decided to forward to the Council a proposal concerning accidents in which products are involved, as they are reaching a disturbing level in the Community (25 000 to 30 000 deaths and 4 to 5 million injured each year).

This proposal forms part of the April 1975 preliminary programme of the EEC for a consumer protection and information policy.<sup>1</sup> This programme lays down the principle that consumer goods endangering health or safety should be subject to consumer information measures, regulations or withdrawal from the market. The introduction of an information system on accidents involving products (excluding accidents at work and road accidents) of the type proposed by the Commission would enable a record to be kept of these ac-

cidents, would allow the dangers resulting from the use of certain goods or products to be assessed objectively and would thus enable the Commission to refer to the Council appropriate proposals to improve consumer protection.

The structure of the information system would be largely decentralized. Data would first be collected and processed at national level. These national data would then be sent, in a form standardized at Community level, to the Commission which, assisted by an advisory committee, would summarize them for data-processing and analyse the results. Although the introduction of such a system would not raise any specific technical difficulties, a pilot scheme enabling the aspects of the system to be tested on a small sample of accidents would be needed initially to achieve a carefully coordinated and standardized scheme.

### Foodstuffs

2.1.43. The Commission organized a symposium in Rome from 12 to 15 September on the inspection of foodstuffs.<sup>2</sup> Reports were presented and discussions concentrated on the structure, legal bases and procedures possible under the various national systems for inspecting foodstuffs.

## Agriculture

### Report on the situation in the milk sector

2.1.44. As requested by the Council in May,<sup>3</sup> on 20 September the Commission

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 92 of 25.4.1975.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.1.8.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.72.



adopted a report on the situation in the milk sector.<sup>1</sup>

At its meeting on 26 September the Council heard a statement by Mr Gundelach, Vice-President of the Commission, on the main findings of the report. It decided to discuss the subject in detail at a later date.

### Common organization of the markets

2.1.45. The action programme for the progressive establishment of balance on the wine market presented by the Commission<sup>2</sup> was discussed by the Council at its meeting on 26 September. On 7 September four new Commission proposals<sup>3</sup> were added to the three put to the Council in August.<sup>4</sup>

These seven proposals—six Regulations and one Directive—relate to the following:

- (i) amendment of the Council Regulation of 28 April 1970<sup>5</sup> laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine, the main purpose being to strengthen the mechanisms of market management;
- (ii) the grant of conversion and permanent abandonment premiums in respect of certain areas under vines. To help reduce the quantities of poor quality wine on the market, the conversion premium would be restricted to certain varieties, the cultivation of which is undesirable;
- (iii) the introduction of a system of premiums for the cessation of wine-growing in France and Italy. This annual premium, granted to elderly wine-growers, would be calculated according to the area previously under vines and would be over and above the aid granted under the Council Directive of 17 April 1972 concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the re-

allocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement;<sup>6</sup>

(iv) control of wine-growing potential; this proposal provides for criteria of natural conditions (soil, climate, relief) to be laid down for the classification of Community areas under vines for the production of table wine into three categories and lays down provisions relating to planting and replanting, the classification of vine varieties and aid;

(v) further provisions on the grant of conversion and permanent abandonment premiums in wine production;

(vi) a programme to speed up the conversion of certain areas under vines in the Charentes region; to bring the wine-growing potential of this region into line with market requirements, it is proposed to provide special financial aid to encourage producers to convert areas under vines.

(vii) collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards. This proposal provides for collective projects, within the meaning of the Council Regulation of 21 April 1970<sup>7</sup> on the financing of the common agricultural policy, in areas under vines producing table wines and quality wines p.s.r. Collective restructuring projects must contribute to an improvement in working conditions, incomes and the quality of wines.

2.1.46. On 8 September the Commission approved the consolidation of twelve Council acts relating to the wine sector.

2.1.47. The basic Regulation of 20 July 1970<sup>8</sup> on raw tobacco lays down that where, for a variety or group of varieties of tobacco

<sup>1</sup> Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.6.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 232 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 209 of 2.9.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 99 of 5.5.1970.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 96 of 23.4.1972.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 94 of 28.4.1970.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 164 of 27.7.1970.

the quantities delivered to the intervention agencies exceed, for a given harvest, a fixed percentage of production and in any case a given quantity, the Commission is required to present a report to the Council. Such a report was adopted on 28 September, the Commission having ascertained that, for the 1976 harvest, the 20% ceiling and the maximum quantity (4 000 tonnes) fixed by the Regulation had been exceeded in the case of the group of oriental varieties.

In addition to the general Community measures already adopted (contractual system based on cultivation contracts, encouragement to form producer groups<sup>1</sup> and a Community programme of agricultural research currently being studied), the Commission intends to propose that the Council adopt the following measures by amending the Regulation of 20 July 1970:

- (i) fixing of ceilings for each variety of oriental tobacco;
- (ii) adjustment of the ceilings for all varieties on the basis of 1975, 1976 and 1977 production;
- (iii) more marked differentiation of premiums and prices as between oriental varieties for the 1979 harvest.

In February 1977<sup>2</sup> special measures were adopted by the Council for the Beneventano tobacco variety, on the basis of a report drawn up by the Commission in January of that year.

On 21 September the Commission fixed the minimum prices for six lots of various varieties (3 080 109 kg) held by the German and Italian intervention agencies and originating from the 1973, 1975 and 1976 harvests.<sup>3</sup> This tobacco is intended for export.

2.1.48. In the beef and veal sector the Commission adopted a Regulation on 25 September<sup>4</sup> laying down detailed rules for

the application of intervention measures and repealing the Regulation of 13 July 1973 and the Regulation of 16 October 1975 on the boning of beef bought-in by the intervention agencies. The new Regulation replaces and clarifies the two Regulations, incorporating their provisions into one text. The Commission also adopted a number of Regulations and Decisions in September<sup>5</sup> with the aim of continuing the satisfactory disposal of intervention stocks.

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2.1.49. On 14 September Parliament<sup>6</sup> delivered its opinion on a Commission proposal for a Regulation on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat.<sup>7</sup>

## Structural policy

2.1.50. The Council has examined—without yet reaching a decision—a series of measures proposed for the development of agriculture in the Mediterranean regions of the Community. The draft measures relate to a forestry programme for certain dry Mediterranean areas and the development of agricultural advisory services in Italy, proposals on which the Council, when it agreed on farm prices in May,<sup>8</sup> undertook to take a decision before the end of September.

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<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.77.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 2-1977, point 2.1.42.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 185 of 7.7.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 261 of 26.9.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 241 of 2.9.1978, L 254 of 16.9.1978 and L 261 of 26.9.1978.

<sup>6</sup> Point 2.3.14 and OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

<sup>7</sup> OJ C 93 of 18.4.1978 and Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.53.

<sup>8</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.73.

2.1.51. At its sitting on 15 September Parliament<sup>1</sup> delivered its Opinion on two Commission proposals relating to the flood protection programme in the Hérault valley and to the programme for the acceleration and guidance of collective irrigation works in Corsica.<sup>2</sup>

### Conditions of competition

2.1.52. Acting under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission has decided to initiate the procedure of Article 93(2) with regard to a draft aid measure in France relating to advances to the equalization funds for regulating the market in pigmeat.

2.1.53. The Commission has found a planned aid measure of the region of Campania relating to the marketing of new potatoes incompatible with the common market, as the aid would be granted on the basis of the quantity of potatoes harvested.

2.1.54. The Commission has decided to terminate the procedure of Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of two Italian aid plans: one in the region of Abruzzi relating to measures to improve stock-farming and the other in the region of Tuscany on regional aid for the improvement and development of stock-farming. The Italian authorities have undertaken to ensure that the conditions governing the grant of aid are consistent with the Commission's position on the two planned measures.

2.1.55. The Commission has decided, on the other hand, not to comment on the following planned aid measures:

(i) two planned aid measures in France, one for the improvement of productivity in mar-

ket gardening and horticulture under glass and the other for Government participation in the promotion of potato consumption to halt its decline;

(ii) aid in Belgium for the fruit sector, designed to offset the effects of natural disasters;

(iii) aid by the region of Sardinia for farms affected by African swine fever, the veterinary measures adopted by the Italian authorities being consistent with the Council Decision of 21 December 1976 and the Commission Decision of 14 July 1978;

(iv) a draft law of the province of Trento amending a provincial law encouraging cooperative installations and land improvement work and a law on assistance for farms providing for aid falling within the scope of the Community socio-structural Directive of 17 April 1972; as regards the former, the new draft provides, in addition to the existing financial arrangements, for the financing of installations for the supply and marketing of livestock and capital goods. As this is a framework law, the Commission has requested the Italian authorities to notify it of the relevant implementing provisions;

(v) a draft law of Valle d'Aosta laying down measures and providing for aid in the agricultural sector for the conservation of the agricultural landscape in upland areas and for the protection of nature;

(vi) a draft law of Friuli-Venezia Giulia on the further financing of regional laws relating to credit facilities for agriculture;

(vii) a draft Luxembourg law promoting the modernization of agriculture by means of a series of aid measures. The Commission has requested that it be informed of the draft implementing decrees.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.88 and OJ C 197 of 18.8.1978 and C 200 of 22.8.1978.

## Harmonization of legislation

2.1.56. On 25 July<sup>1</sup> the Council authorized Member States to import, subject to certain conditions, fresh meat from certain regions of Botswana. Following outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in the country, the Community had banned exports of fresh meat from Botswana to the Member States.

After the Botswana authorities had stepped up their measures to protect against the disease, on 13 September<sup>2</sup> the Commission extended the authorization to allow fresh meat to be imported from the north-east of Botswana, which has been free of foot-and-mouth disease for many years.

On 13 September<sup>3</sup> too the Commission sent to the Council a report on certain types of pigmeat and a proposal for amending the Directive of 26 June 1964 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat. The report and the proposal give effect to the Commission's stated intention when it adopted the Directive of 21 December 1976<sup>4</sup> on meat-based products that it would clarify certain parts of the Directive on fresh meat.

## Fisheries

### Conservation and management of resources

#### *Internal resources*

2.1.57. Having notified the Commission on 3 July and 17 August<sup>5</sup> of its unilateral measures for the conservation of resources, the United Kingdom communicated on 18 September a new measure prohibiting herring fishing in part of the Irish Sea, exemption

being granted to inshore fishermen in respect of a specified quota and a specified period.

After examining all the national provisions notified by the United Kingdom since July, the Commission informed the United Kingdom Government on 28 September that it could not approve these provisions.

2.1.58. The Council meeting on fisheries on 25 September made no progress towards agreement on the internal arrangements for the conservation of resources. Three Commission proposals endorsing the unilateral measures which the Commission considers compatible and which are already applied at national level to regulate crayfishing and define the area closed to fishing for Norway pout were accepted by eight Member States but rejected by the United Kingdom, which claimed that very important interests were at stake as referred to in the Luxembourg agreements.

#### *External aspects*

2.1.59. At the 25 September Council meeting the UK delegation opposed the signing of the framework agreement with Spain—initialled by the Commission on 23 September, until internal arrangements had been adopted for the conservation of resources. Finding himself a minority in the Council, the UK Minister again referred to the Luxembourg agreements. The Council did however adopt the fishing arrangements concluded between the Community and Spain for their respective waters for the last three months of the year.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.94.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 257 of 29.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 229 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 26 of 31.1.1977 and Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2253.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.100.

2.1.60. Consultations which the Community held with Norway, the Faeroe Islands and Sweden resulted in the alteration of certain fishing quotas for 1978.

## Transport policy

### Inland transport

#### *Working of the market*

##### Access to the market

2.1.61. On 20 September<sup>1</sup> the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision concerning the acceptance by the Community of Resolution No 119 (revised) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). The resolution is intended to standardize the forms used for authorizations for international goods transport by road and thus help to ease such transport operations between a large number of European countries.

2.1.62. On 28 September<sup>2</sup> the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation on adjustment of the capacity for the carriage of goods by road for hire or reward between Member States. The proposed Regulation is intended to maintain temporarily the current system of bilateral agreements between Member States, pending adoption of a Community solution covering all types of carriage of goods by road between Member States, but incorporating it in a Community framework, that is to say that the bilateral quotas set by these agreements will be adapted each year—on the basis of Community standards—to the development of trade between the Member States and the requirements of Community integration.

To prevent intra-Community trade from being obstructed by current transit restrictions, it is proposed that all such quantitative restrictions be abolished. The proposal also contains provisions for the solution, at Community level, of difficulties which may arise during bilateral negotiations between Member States. A Community arbitration procedure is proposed for this purpose.

#### *Harmonization of structures*

##### Social conditions

2.1.63. On 25 September<sup>3</sup> the Commission gave a favourable opinion on measures envisaged by the Irish Government.

On 21 December 1977<sup>4</sup> the Commission had authorized Ireland to take measures in respect of national road transport involving exemptions from certain provisions of the Council Regulation of 25 March 1969 on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport.<sup>5</sup>

##### Improvement of the situation of the railways

2.1.64. On 19 September<sup>6</sup> the Council adopted a Regulation laying down uniform costing principles for railway undertakings.<sup>7</sup>

This Regulation—which derives from the Council Decision of 20 May 1975<sup>8</sup> on improved cooperation between the railways—aims at making it possible to cost according to uniform principles and thus have

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 237 of 7.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 247 of 18.10.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 281 of 6.10.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 33 of 3.2.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 77 of 29.3.1969.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 258 of 21.9.1978.

<sup>7</sup> Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.1.112.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975.

available an important and valid element in making decisions on accepting or refusing an international goods traffic or on discontinuing existing traffics. The additional cost of a new traffic and the total cost of this traffic will be taken into consideration. Initially, these principles apply only to transport operations carried out by complete train loads and they will be applicable as from 1 January 1979. An Advisory Committee will help the Commission to study application of the principles and give its opinion on any improvements.

2.1.65. By virtue of the Council Decision of 20 May 1975 on the improvement of the situation of railway undertakings and the harmonization of rules governing financial relations between such undertakings and States,<sup>1</sup> the Commission must present to the Council before 1 January 1979 a report on the long-term aims to be pursued and the measures to be taken so as to encourage the partial, or total, integration of railway undertakings at Community level.

The Commission consulted railway and government experts on 20, 21 and 28 September with a view to preparing this report.

### *Infrastructures*

#### **Infrastructure cost**

2.1.66. On 7 September the Commission amended its Regulation of 18 December 1970<sup>2</sup> specifying the items to be included under the various headings in the forms of accounts shown in Annex 1 to the Council Regulation of 4 June 1970<sup>3</sup> on an accounting system for expenditure on infrastructure. The aim of the amendments, made in the light of the experience gained in the meantime, is to give a more precise idea of the total amount of expenditure on railway infrastructure.

### **Sea and air transport**

2.1.67. On 19 September<sup>4</sup> the Council formally adopted a Decision on the activities of certain non-Community countries in the sea transport sector, to which it had agreed on 12 June.<sup>5</sup>

### **Advisory Committee on Transport**

2.1.68. The Advisory Committee on Transport met in Brussels on 28 and 29 September and examined the first part of a draft report on the development of combined transport. The Committee also heard statements by the chairmen of the groups of rapporteurs concerned with the influence of the energy issue on national and Community policies and hindrances at border crossing points. These statements explained the progress of the work and the difficulties encountered.

### **Energy policy**

#### **Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy**

#### **Energy situation: prospects and policy**

2.1.69. The Commission has prepared a Communication, which it sent to the Council on 22 September, on the energy situation in the Community, prospects and policy, for the next Council meeting on energy matters to be held in October.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 278 of 23.12.1970.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 130 of 15.6.1970.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 285 of 21.9.1978.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.108.

This Communication is to enable the Ministers to exchange views about the energy situation and to discuss the implementation of the conclusions regarding energy matters reached by the European Council in Bremen<sup>1</sup> and the Western Economic Summit in Bonn.<sup>2</sup>

The Communication first of all briefly examines the current energy situation. There are some positive features—for example energy consumption was virtually static between 1976 and 1977 while GDP increased by 2%. In the same period, Community energy production increased by 8% and the Community's import dependence fell from 59% to 56%.

Member States' forecasts of energy demand in 1985 show a fall compared with the forecasts made last year, partly because of energy savings and price effects. But at the same time there are some disturbing features:

- (i) coal production is declining and stocks have reached a very high level;
- (ii) the estimates for installed nuclear capacity of 90 GWe in 1985 will have to be reduced to 80 GWe;
- (iii) surplus oil refinery distillation capacity remains a threat to the health and stability of Community oil markets.

The medium- and long-term picture for energy supplies continues to give grounds for concern. Renewed economic growth might lead to a relative increase in energy demand. The cost of energy imports might then be an obstacle to the attainment of economic and social objectives. To reduce the Community's dependence on imports to 50%, the Commission considers that the efforts already made need to be intensified.

It is necessary in particular:

- (i) to limit Community oil imports in 1985 to 500 million toe;

- (ii) to take rapid action on the Commission proposals for hydrocarbon exploration and for refining;

- (iii) to take steps against a further decline of coal burnt and Community coal production by decisions on relevant Commission proposals;

- (iv) to make every possible effort to recover the slippage in nuclear programmes;

- (v) to provide for incentives, in particular financial incentives, for energy saving;

- (vi) to encourage the development of new energy sources;

- (vii) to intensify the coordination of Member States' energy policies in the light of approved Community objectives;

- (viii) to ensure a favourable climate for the energy investment necessary.

### Energy supplies

2.1.70. On 19 September the Commission sent to the Council a report on the Community's energy supplies; it covers 1977 (estimates) and the first half of 1978 (forecasts). This paper is a summary of the information obtained from the Member States under the Council Regulation of 21 June 1976.<sup>3</sup>

It emerges from the report that during 1977 the Community's inland consumption of energy increased by 0.4% as compared with 1976, and that in the first half of 1978 it is likely to increase by 1.3% compared with the same period in 1977. Net imports of energy in the first half of 1978 are likely to be some 2% lower than in the first half of 1977; net oil imports are even expected to fall by about 4%.

This is due to the very considerable increase in Community oil production which, from

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2 (Section 5).

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 1.1.3.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 198 of 23.7.1976.

just below 26 million toe in the second half of 1977, is expected to rise to about 33 million toe in the first half of 1978. Stocks of energy products held in the Community at the end of June 1978 should represent—on the basis of inland requirements in 1977—about 105 days' consumption of solid fuels, 88 days' consumption of oil products and 18 days' consumption of natural gas.

## Sectoral problems

### Hydrocarbons

#### *Financial support for Community projects*

2.1.71. On 19 September the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Decision concerning financial support totalling 39 million EUA for 47 technological development projects in the hydrocarbon sector.

This proposal was made under the Council Regulation of 9 November 1973<sup>1</sup> concerning Community financial support for industrial projects aimed at encouraging technological developments in the exploration, exploitation, storage and transport of hydrocarbons. Between 1974 and 1977, 95 received support totalling 128 million EUA.

As the aim is to improve the reliability of the Community's oil supply, the Commission selected the projects on the basis of the following criteria:

- (i) improving geophysical prospecting techniques;
- (ii) increasing recovery rates (secondary recovery methods);
- (iii) improving production techniques for very deep sub-sea fields;
- (iv) making better use of small deposits;
- (v) reliability of production methods;

(vi) possibility of exploiting heavy and viscous crudes.

#### *Oil prices*

2.1.72. On 8 September the Commission approved a report, to be sent to Parliament and the Council, on the price of oil in the Community in 1977.

This report, drawn up under the Council Directive of 4 May 1976,<sup>2</sup> analyses the development of import prices for crude oil and petroleum products, consumer prices of the main petroleum products and the revenue obtained by the oil companies from their sales. The information on which it is based was sent to the Commission by the Member States on the basis of data coming direct from the oil companies.

The following trends emerge from this analysis:

- (i) increases in the price of crude oil decided on by the producing countries during the year were offset by the depreciation of the dollar so that Community countries actually paid an average of 1% more for their oil supplies.
- (ii) the consumer prices of petroleum products, inclusive of duty and tax, vary considerably from country to country because of differences in tax systems. On the other hand, prices exclusive of duty and tax are very close to each other as a result of the gradual unification of the markets within the Community.
- (iii) on the whole, consumer prices remained stable. There was a slight increase in overall revenue, but, on average, it remained below the increase in the cost of crude. The consequence has been a slight increase in the

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

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 140 of 28.5.1976, and Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2282.



deficit on the activities of refining and distributing during the year.

This overall views covers situations which obviously differ from one Member State to another, depending on their economic and monetary situation and the competitive structure of their markets.

#### *Steps to be taken in the event of supply difficulties*

2.1.73. To improve the operation of the Community crisis mechanism introduced by the Council Decision of 14 February 1977<sup>1</sup> for exports of crude oil and petroleum products from one Member State to another in the event of supply difficulties, the Commission sent to the Council on 13 September<sup>2</sup> a proposal to amend this Decision. This proposal seeks to incorporate in the legal machinery set up by the Decision a Community procedure by which Member States may, under certain circumstances, revoke export licences which have been issued.

### **Coal**

#### *Intra-Community trade in power-station coal*

2.1.74. On 28 September<sup>3</sup> the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Regulation on Community financial measures for intra-Community trade in power-station coal.

This proposal sets out the details of an aid system the principles of which were outlined in a Commission Communication last February.<sup>4</sup> It seeks to raise the annual volume of intra-Community trade in power-station coal from the present level of 4 million tonnes to some 10 million tonnes by means of aid of 10 EUA per tonne. The proposal also contains provisions guaranteeing that the intro-

duction of the aid measures will not give rise to difficulties or discrimination on the common market in steam coal.

#### *Coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry*

2.1.75. After consulting the ECSC Consultative Committee and receiving the Council's opinion, on 29 September<sup>5</sup> the Commission amended its Decision of 20 December 1973,<sup>6</sup> already amended on 15 July 1977,<sup>7</sup> concerning coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry.

The Decision as amended extends the temporary relaxation of the criteria for entitlement to aids and alignment rebates to cover 1978.

## **Research and development, science and education**

### **Science, research and development**

#### **Research in climatology**

2.1.76. On 18 September the Commission forwarded to the Council an important proposal for a five-year (1979-83) research programme in climatology (indirect-action).

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 61 of 5.3.1977, and Bull. EC 2-1977, point 2.1.63.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 229 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 243 of 13.10.1978.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 2-1978, point 1.5.6.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 275 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 361 of 29.12.1973.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 180 of 20.7.1977, and Bull. EC 7/8-1977, point 2.1.107.

<sup>8</sup> Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.8.

## Recycling of secondary raw materials

2.1.77. On 15 September the Commission forwarded to the Council<sup>1</sup> a new—and final—proposal for a programme of research in the field of raw materials, the aim being to reduce the Community's dependence on external sources of supply and to save energy resources; adoption of this programme would complete the range of activities already approved by the Council, namely uranium exploration and extraction,<sup>2</sup> primary raw materials,<sup>3</sup> and paper and board recycling.<sup>4</sup>

The latest proposal for a four-year (1979-82) indirect-action research programme relates to the recycling of urban, industrial and agricultural waste, or 'secondary raw materials'.

The proposed programme, which provides for a total allocation of 13 million EUA and which would be reviewed during its third year, should lead to the development of a considerable number of waste-recycling techniques. The following areas of research are envisaged: recovery of materials and energy from urban waste; thermal treatment of waste; fermentation and hydrolysis of organic waste of agricultural, industrial and domestic origin; recovery of rubber waste. In each of these fields, current research in the Member States will be coordinated and additional research will be initiated at Community level. An Advisory Committee on Programme Management (ACPM) would assist the Commission in the implementation of this programme.

## Codes and standards for fast breeder reactors

2.1.78. On 20 September the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a five-year (1979-83) research programme (indirect-action) concerning codes and standards for fast breeder reactors.<sup>1</sup>

The proposal is intended as a contribution to the creation of a reliable technical basis in the industry which will allow gradual harmonization of the calculation and manufacturing codes and standards that ensure the structural integrity of components in sodium-cooled fast breeder reactors.

The proposed Community activities form part of the working programme defined in the Commission's communication to the Council of 2 August 1977<sup>5</sup> on the fast breeder reactor option in the Community—justification, achievements, problems and prospects for action. They also derive from the Council Resolution of 22 July 1975<sup>6</sup> on technological problems associated with nuclear safety.

The activities, which will be carried out on the basis of contracts concluded with the industrial organizations concerned, will cover three areas: manufacturing standards and quality control of components; structural analysis and calculation and design codes for components; specifications and reference tests on materials. The estimated cost of this five-year programme, which will be borne by the Community budget, is approximately 6 million EUA, including the remuneration of the three employees assigned to the implementation of the programme.

The Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) delivered a favourable opinion on the draft proposal of which it was informed by the Commission at its meeting of 6 July 1978;<sup>7</sup> the proposal was drawn up in agreement with the Fast Reactor Coordinat-

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 233 of 3.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.98 and OJ L 72 of 14.3.1978.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.97 and OJ L 72 of 14.3.1978.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.99 and OJ L 107 of 21.4.1978.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1977, point 1.3.4.

<sup>6</sup> OJ C 185 of 14.8.1975 and Bull. EC 7/8-1975, point 2262.

<sup>7</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.126.

ing Committee<sup>1</sup> and its specialized working party on codes and standards, to which, for the implementation of this programme, the Commission proposes to assign terms of reference similar to those of the Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs).

### Scientific and Technical Research Committee

2.1.79. At its meeting on 25 and 26 September the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) dealt primarily with the following points:

(i) the Commission proposal for a second research programme of concerted action in the field of medicine and public health;<sup>2</sup> CREST delivered a favourable opinion for submission to the Council and the Commission;

(ii) the Commission proposal for a revision of the second (1976-80) environmental research programme (indirect-action);<sup>3</sup> this proposal was approved subject to confirmation;

(iii) proposal for a third (1979-82) indirect-action research programme on reference materials and methods (Community Bureau of References—CBR) and applied metrology;<sup>4</sup>

CREST will deliver a final opinion on this subject at its next meeting.

2.1.80. On 29 September the CREST Energy Research and Development Subcommittee continued the discussion which it had commenced earlier<sup>5</sup> on the proposal forwarded by the Commission to the Council on 10 August 1978<sup>5</sup> for a second four-year (1979-83) research programme (indirect-action) in the field of energy (energy saving, production and use of hydrogen, solar energy, geothermal energy, systems analysis and strategy studies).

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Subcommittee delivered a draft opinion for submission to CREST, which will examine this problem in October; in view of their close links this opinion will emphasize the need for complete coordination between the R & D activities and the activities provided for by the demonstration and implementation projects<sup>6</sup> in energy-saving and alternative sources of energy, particularly at the level of the Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs) with responsibility for the two types of activity.

### High-temperature alloys for gas turbines

2.1.81. From 25 to 27 September more than 250 European and American delegates attended an important conference in Liège which was organized by the Belgian Centre de Recherches Métallurgiques (CRM) under the auspices of the Commission. The conference reviewed the results of the first stage (1974-77) of the 'COST 50 project', in which ten European countries are participating, and assessed worldwide progress in the field of gas-turbine materials: corrosion and coating, creep and structural stability, fatigue and manufacturing processes. As a result of this conference, the organizers and those of similar conferences which are held at Silver Spring, USA, decided to arrange joint seminars on either side of the Atlantic every two years.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.123.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.123.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.120.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.122.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.125, and 5-1978, point 2.1.113.

<sup>6</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.101 and OJ L 158 of 16.6.1978.

## Safety of nuclear installations

2.1.82. A meeting on the safety of nuclear installations—devoted to the problem of the safety aspects of steel components—was held on 18 and 19 September under the auspices of the Commission and the OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). As a result of the discussion it was possible to define priority activities in three areas, namely fracture mechanisms; welding and heat treatment; destructive and non-destructive testing. The progress of work in these three areas will be reviewed at the next meeting in May 1979.

## Multiannual programmes

### Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs)

2.1.83. At a meeting on 5 September the ACPM responsible for systems analysis within the framework of the four-year programme relating to energy research and development<sup>1</sup> reviewed the work accomplished in this sector and recommended the setting up of a working party of model users on which the major electricity producers in the Community would be represented. The Committee also began discussions with a view to organizing a conference on the analysis of energy systems, to be held in Dublin in June 1979.

2.1.84. The ACPM responsible for uranium exploration and extraction, which was set up specifically for this programme,<sup>2</sup> held its inaugural meeting in Brussels on 27 September. The meeting was devoted to an initial examination of the forty-six proposals received from research institutes in the Member States following the Commission's invitation to tender.<sup>3</sup>

## Education

### Mobility in higher education

2.1.85. At present fewer than 1% of the Community's four million students receiving higher education are attending courses of study in a Member State other than their own. With a view to remedying this situation, the Commission transmitted two important Communications to the Council on 27 and 28 September, together with a set of proposals aimed at promoting student mobility, which is currently impeded by too many administrative and financial obstacles in the various national education systems.

These proposals form part of the action programme in the field of education<sup>4</sup> adopted by the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council on 9 February 1976, and in particular of the sections of this action programme that are concerned with the development of a common policy of admission to higher-education establishments for students from other Member States and with the creation of a Community scholarship scheme for higher-education to supplement existing national systems covering undergraduate and graduate students, research workers and teachers.

As regards the first point, a major provision of the proposals is that foreign students should not be subject to any existing national quota systems and that they should not have to pay higher enrolment fees than national students. Other proposals relate to admission standards and the language ability required of candidates and to administrative procedures which facilitate mobility.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 231 of 2.9.1975 and OJ L 10 of 13.1.1977.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.98 and OJ L 72 of 14.3.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 110 of 11.5.1978.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 2-1976, point 2252 and OJ C 38 of 19.2.1976.

As regards the second point, the Commission proposals provide for the award of 650 scholarships a year to students wishing to take a one-year course in another Member State as an integral part of their degree course. This opportunity would be available to students in all disciplines except for those in modern language departments, to whom other arrangements would apply.<sup>1</sup> The scholarship system proposed by the Commission would serve, in particular, as a stimulus to the development of courses planned jointly by several higher-educational establishments in the Community.

### Education Committee

2.1.86. On 19 and 20 September, in preparation for the November meeting of the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council, the Education Committee continued the discussion—began at its preceding meeting—of the two Communications<sup>2</sup> transmitted by the Commission in June 1978 relating to the study of the Community in schools and to the teaching of modern languages.

### Joint meeting of senior officials of the Ministries of Education and Employment

2.1.87. A seminar organized by the Danish Government was held in Copenhagen from 25 to 27 September in connection with the resolution adopted by the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council on 13 December 1976<sup>3</sup> concerning the transition from school to working life. The seminar was attended by senior officials of the Member States' ministries responsible for education and for employment and social affairs. An initial discussion was held on the coordination of Member States' policies with a view to facilitating the transition from school to working life for young people.

## Scientific and technical information and information management

### *Industrial property*

2.1.88. On 26 September the Commission approved a draft agreement between the Commission and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) concerning the preparation, publication and distribution of a journal dealing with information and documentation on patents. The activities undertaken as part of the first three-year Community plan of action in scientific and technical information and documentation<sup>4</sup> have demonstrated how valuable such a journal would be; it will make possible the dissemination of information on patents and the collection of useful data for the development of future Commission activities in this field.

### *Industrial and technological innovation*

2.1.89. At the invitation of the Commission, representatives of local authority associations from the Member States of the Community met in Luxembourg on 11 and 12 September to determine the most appropriate forms of collaboration which would enable them to make more efficient use of new technologies with a view to improving the quality of the public services for which they are responsible.

Since the local authorities constitute a vast market, the new technologies could be applied or developed in such fields as manage-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.4.3.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3 and 2.1.132.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 308 of 30.12.1976.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 100 of 21.4.1975 and Bull. EC 3-1975, point 2249.

## 2. External relations

Scientific and technical information

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ment systems, waste disposal, the monitoring and reduction of pollution, public transport systems, the management of public-service vehicles (ambulances and fire-fighting vehicles), construction techniques, etc.

During the meeting it was decided to set up a Standing Technological Conference of European Local Authorities as the appropriate machinery for achieving these aims; one of the first tasks of this Standing Conference will be to promote a better exchange of information between local authorities which could lead to consultations and possible co-operation.

### Enlargement

#### Greece

##### Visit by Mr Jenkins to Athens

2.2.1. The President of the Commission visited Athens on 28 and 29 September to have talks with the Greek President, Mr Tsatsos, the Prime Minister, Mr Karamanlis, other Ministers concerned with the EEC-Greece accession negotiations and representatives of the business world.

The Greek press took a close interest in all aspects of the visit, which was widely reported. Speaking to Greek journalists Mr Jenkins made a number of points: the talks concentrated on the negotiations and the future of the Community after Greece becomes a Member; both sides agreed that the talks were proceeding according to the agreed timetable and that it should be possible to conclude the negotiations on all major issues by the end of the year, although some minor points could be settled at the beginning of 1979.

Mr Jenkins noted that the months ahead were likely to be difficult and flexibility would be required from Greece and the Member States in order to keep to the planned timetable. He stressed that Greece would be a full member with full political rights from the moment of her accession to the Community and underlined the Commission's commitment to the success of the negotiations.

##### Accession negotiations

2.2.2. The eighteenth session of the Conference at Deputy (Ambassador) level was held in Brussels on 29 September. Discussions covered textiles—from the external re-

lations angle—State aids and regional policy, State monopolies and substantive problems which have emerged during the examination of Community secondary legislation.

2.2.3. The Commission and the Greek Delegation continued their examination of Community secondary legislation covering the harmonization of legislation in agriculture.

2.2.4. During September Greek and Commission experts undertook a sector-by-sector examination of agriculture. The Commission will use the findings to make proposals to the Council for the further conduct of the negotiations in this sector.

## Spain

2.2.5. Mr Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Minister responsible for relations with the European Communities, visited Luxembourg and Brussels on 13 and 14 September. During this visit he talked to the Commission President, Mr Jenkins, and to Mr Gundelach and Mr Natali, Vice-Presidents.

Mr Sotelo's discussions with Mr Natali focused on the work in progress within the Commission to prepare the opinion on Spain's application for accession. The Commission expects to be able to present its opinion to the Council by the end of the year.

2.2.6. Meetings between Commission staff and the Spanish authorities on technical matters continued throughout September in Brussels and Madrid. The object is to provide a clearer picture of various sectors of the Spanish economy in order to pinpoint any problems that might hamper Spain's integration into the Community.

## Political cooperation

### Ministerial meeting

2.2.7. A ministerial-level political cooperation meeting was held in Bonn on 14 September under the chairmanship of Mr Genscher, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the Council. The Commission was represented by Mr Haferkamp and Mr Cheysson.

According to the statements made to the press by Mr Genscher, the main topics discussed were political cooperation and enlargement, Turkey, the UN, the Middle East and Africa.

### Statement on the Camp David meeting

2.2.8. When the Foreign Ministers met in the Council on 19 September the President made the following statement on behalf of the Nine:

'The nine countries of the European Community congratulate President Carter on the great courage with which he initiated the Camp David meeting and brought it to a successful conclusion. They also express their appreciation for the great efforts made by President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin.

The Nine have for years advocated a just, comprehensive and lasting peace-settlement on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 of the Security Council of the United Nations. The position of the Nine was clearly set out in the Declaration of the European Council of 29 June 1977. This remains their position. On this basis the Nine welcomed the initiative of President Sadat in November 1977.

The nine Governments hope that the outcome of the Camp David conference will be a further major step on the path to a just,

comprehensive and lasting peace, and that all parties concerned will find it possible to join in the process to contribute to that end.

For their part the Nine will lend their strong support to all efforts to achieve such a peace.'

### Address by Mr Genscher to the United Nations General Assembly

2.2.9. On 26 September Mr Genscher, President of the Council, addressed the thirty-third session of the General Assembly on behalf of the Community. Much of his speech, which covered various aspects of Community activity, was devoted to European political cooperation.<sup>1</sup>

## Multilateral trade negotiations

2.2.10. As previously arranged, the various groups and subgroups involved in the negotiations resumed work at the beginning of September in all sectors except agriculture, for which the first meetings are due to take place at the beginning of October. The main business of the meetings was the discussion of the drafts which had emerged from July's intensive bilateral and multilateral talks<sup>2</sup> and the overall position of the negotiations outlined in the statement by several delegations on the current status of the Tokyo Round negotiations.<sup>3</sup>

2.2.11. At the meeting of Foreign Ministers on 19 September, the Council, after hearing a report from Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, reviewed the latest developments in the multilateral trade negotiations in Geneva. The Council confirmed the

Community's determination to bring the negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion by 15 December, as announced by the Bremen European Council<sup>4</sup> and the Bonn Western Summit<sup>5</sup> in July.

The Council also discussed the problem that would arise with the expiry of the discretionary powers vested in the United States Administration under the Trade Act to waive the automatic application of countervailing duties in cases of export subsidy; such duties would otherwise be applicable even where no prejudice is caused. The Commission informed the Council that in reply to a message from the United States negotiator, Mr Strauss, it had pointed out its concern at the situation caused by the uncertainty as to whether Congress would extend these powers, which are due to lapse on 3 January 1979.

The Council issued the following statement after the meeting:

'The Council expressed gravest concern at the situation which would arise in that event and in particular gave its entire support to the Commission's view that it would not be realistic to conceive of a possible conclusion to the negotiations without an assurance that the waiver regarding compensatory duties would be extended. The Council also confirmed the importance, in the context of a balanced overall outcome to the negotiations, of the GATT rules being applied in a uniform manner by all partners, a point which the Bonn Summit Declaration deemed to be vital.'

<sup>1</sup> Point 3.3.1.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 3.5.1.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 1.1.3.



## North-South Dialogue: Development cooperation

### Continuation of the North-South Dialogue

2.2.12. Relations between industrialized and developing countries were discussed at a large number of international meetings in September, both in the Community and elsewhere.

#### *Community institutions*

2.2.13. The European Council in Bremen<sup>1</sup> last July stressed the absolute need for progress in the North-South Dialogue, and the Community institutions—in particular the Commission—have undertaken a good deal of work here.

The Commission prepared communications for the Council on the guidelines for a new international development strategy;<sup>2</sup> the resumption of negotiations on the Common Fund<sup>3</sup> in the context of the UNCTAD Integrated Programme on Commodities, and the forthcoming negotiations for an international rubber agreement;<sup>4</sup> the preparation of the United Nations Conference on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology;<sup>5</sup> general guidelines on aid to non-associated developing countries for 1979.<sup>6</sup>

The Commission also reached basic agreement on the 1979 generalized preferences scheme.<sup>7</sup> It continued its work on trade-promotion measures for the developing countries.<sup>8</sup> And the negotiations for renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention—which were officially opened on 24 July<sup>9</sup>—got under way at ambassador level.<sup>10</sup>

On 26 September Mr Genscher, President of the Council, addressed the 33rd United Nations General Assembly on the Community's position as regards the continuation of

the North-South Dialogue.<sup>11</sup> The Community also put forward its suggestions regarding the least-developed countries at the UNCTAD Council meeting.<sup>12</sup>

#### *International meetings*

2.2.14. Several meetings dealing with North-South relations began in September.

The 33rd United Nations General Assembly,<sup>13</sup> preceded by the meeting of its Committee of the Whole,<sup>13</sup> has already tackled this problem. The UNCTAD Trade and Development Board<sup>12</sup> adopted a number of important decisions, and now that further preparatory meetings<sup>14</sup> have been held in the framework of the Integrated Programme on Commodities, negotiating conferences are due to be held for certain products and the conference on the Common Fund is to resume.

The annual general meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank<sup>15</sup> also discussed North-South relations, which were considered in greater detail by the Group of Twenty-Four.<sup>16</sup> The United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries<sup>17</sup> (Buenos Aires, 30 August to 12 September), at which the Community was represented, adopted a plan

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2 (Section 10).

<sup>2</sup> Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

<sup>3</sup> Point 2.2.16.

<sup>4</sup> Point 2.2.17.

<sup>5</sup> Point 2.2.22.

<sup>6</sup> Point 2.2.26.

<sup>7</sup> Point 2.2.19.

<sup>8</sup> Points 2.2.20 and 2.2.21.

<sup>9</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

<sup>10</sup> Point 2.2.56.

<sup>11</sup> Point 3.3.1.

<sup>12</sup> Point 2.2.31.

<sup>13</sup> Points 2.2.29 and 2.2.30.

<sup>14</sup> Points 2.2.17 and 2.2.18.

<sup>15</sup> Points 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.

<sup>16</sup> Point 3.4.3.

<sup>17</sup> Point 2.2.34.

of action at the end of what was regarded as a most fruitful meeting. Mention should also be made of the symposium which was held from 25 to 27 September near Charleroi, Belgium—with the participation of European, American and Japanese journalists—on future developments in and between industrialized countries and their implications for developing countries.

### **UNCTAD Integrated Programme, commodities and world agreements**

#### **The Trade and Development Board and the implementation of the Integrated Programme**

2.2.15. The Trade and Development Board, which met in Geneva from 29 August to 17 September,<sup>1</sup> extended the original deadlines for implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities until the end of 1979. Moreover, following nearly a year of meetings, the UNCTAD Secretary-General announced the resumption of the conference on the Common Fund (adjourned in December 1977) from 14 to 27 November.

#### *Common Fund*

2.2.16. Since negotiations are to resume on the Common Fund set up under the Integrated Programme for Commodities, the Commission adopted a communication to the Council on 28 September, outlining a Community policy.

The communication only sets out to give the main technical aspects under discussion, with a view to making reasonable forecasts for success in the negotiations.

The Commission bases its estimate that the immediate financial needs of the Fund will

be between USD 1 000 million and 1 500 million on the following assumptions:

(i) the main role of the Fund will be to facilitate the safe, economic, fair and viable financing of buffer stocks, financed under existing or planned international product agreements;

(ii) only six of the eighteen products might lend themselves to the creation of buffer stocks (tin, cocoa, coffee, rubber, jute and hard fibres);

(iii) the Fund should not have to finance any measures (requested by the developing countries) other than those connected with the stabilization of the market, whether agreed or to be agreed, within each product agreement.

As to the Fund's financial resources, the Commission feels that these could come mainly from deposits by the different agreements concerned, from guaranteed loans, and to a lesser extent from capital subscriptions and voluntary contributions.

Participation in the Fund would be open to all interested countries. The Community as such should also be able to join.

#### *Preparatory meetings*

##### **Natural rubber**

2.2.17. The Community and its Member States played an active role at the meeting of the Preparatory Group on Natural Rubber, which was held in Geneva from 28 August to 8 September to make final preparations for the UN Negotiating Conference on Natural Rubber, to be held in Geneva from 13 November to 8 December.

The main task of the Group was to prepare a basic document containing drafting options

<sup>1</sup> Point 2.2.31.

and proposals on most of the main elements likely to constitute the final Agreement. This task was satisfactorily completed with the closest participation of the Community, and a single working document is now ready for the Negotiating Conference, containing complete or relatively complete draft texts presented by the producer countries, the USA, the EEC and Japan, and suggested texts on particular points by Canada and China. In addition, major participants such as the producers, the EEC, the USA, the USSR and China made a series of statements stressing issues which would be of vital concern to them at the Negotiating Conference.

With a number of administrative matters also dealt with by the Group, the formal preparations for the Negotiating Conference have now been completed.

## Tea

2.2.18. The Commission was represented at the first meeting of the intergovernmental group of experts (Geneva, 18 to 26 September) set up under the Integrated Programme for Commodities by the first preparatory meeting on tea in January.<sup>1</sup>

The experts examined a joint UNCTAD and FAO study on the consequences that might follow from implementation of an international tea agreement based on a storage mechanism and export quotas.

The study did not receive the group's approval as experts from African exporting countries are against export quotas within an international mechanism for regulating supply, while the experts from consumer countries, including those from the Community, remain convinced that tea prices can be stabilized in the long term only by means of a buffer stock, which, however, would be a costly exercise.

To conclude, the group asked the UNCTAD and FAO Secretariats to go further into the various problems arising from the buffer stock and the respective costs of the various stabilization measures.

A second meeting of the group could be held in July 1979, followed immediately by the second preparatory meeting on tea originally scheduled for December 1978.

## Generalized system of preferences

2.2.19. On 20 September the Commission took a basic decision on the draft Generalized Scheme of Preferences for developing countries for 1979.<sup>2</sup>

## Commercial, industrial and technical cooperation

### Commercial cooperation

2.2.20. In the context of commercial cooperation between the Community and the developing countries of South-East Asia, Commission departments continued working on their programme for about ten States to attend major international trade fairs. Stands were set up at the Berlin and Munich trade fairs, the International Leather Week in Paris, the Marseilles Fair and the Bari Fair, mainly for the sale of craft products.

2.2.21. Groups of businessmen from Mexico, Panama and Colombia visited the capitals and main industrial towns of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom in September. Meetings with European business representatives were organized in each town with

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.2.9.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.26.

the help of specialized agencies in the Member States to promote and expand trade between Latin America and Europe, particularly in raw hides and skins, wood, fisheries and craft products.

### Technical cooperation

2.2.22. On 20 September the Commission transmitted a Communication to the Council on the preparation of the United Nations Conference on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology, which will take place in Geneva from 16 October to 10 November.

The communication sets out to give the broad outline of the Community position at the Conference.

The proposed negotiations will raise certain problems for the Community and its Member States, such as:

- (a) the legal status of the code;
- (b) participation by the Community as such in its adoption;
- (c) its compatibility with Community law.

The Communication proposes that the Community's approach to the Geneva Conference should be one of openness to its partners' needs, particularly the developing countries, though the Conference should be asked to bear in mind the competences and legal requirements of the Community in the drafting and adoption of the future code.

### Food aid and emergency aid

#### *Emergency aid*

2.2.23. On 1 September the Commission decided to grant emergency aid of

7 500 EUA for measures to prevent an epidemic of cholera in Angola. This aid, channelled through the World Health Organization, will cover the supply of vaccines and other medical products and the services of a health expert.

2.2.24. On 26 September the Commission decided to grant aid totalling 160 000 EUA to flood victims in India. The supply of essential goods and repairs to housing will be handled by Catholic Relief Services.

2.2.25. On 15 September the European Parliament<sup>1</sup> passed two resolutions on aid to the Sahel and aid to victims of the Ganges and Yamuna floods.

### Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.26. On 22 September the Commission transmitted a Communication to the Council setting out the Commission's ideas on the general guidelines for financial and technical aid for non-associated developing countries in 1979.

### Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.27. By the end of September the Commission had approved 105 projects submitted by the NGOs since the beginning of the year for amounts totalling 6 448 787 EUA.

2.2.28. Preparations for the campaign to inform public opinion continued in September.

Following contact with ACP and Community circles, the NGO Liaison Committee,

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

meeting in Brussels on 14 September decided to hold the 'European' seminar in Brussels from 10 to 12 January 1979.

## International organizations

### United Nations

#### *General Assembly*

##### Opening of the thirty-third session

2.2.29. The thirty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly opened in New York on 19 September. The discussions, which will last until the end of the year, will be focused on three major issues: the Middle-East situation, southern Africa and certain difficulties arising in the North-South Dialogue.

The Community's stand on the various matters likely to be raised at the session was stated in the address to the Assembly on 26 September by Mr Genscher, President of the Council and Chairman for European political cooperation.<sup>1</sup>

##### Meeting of the Committee of the Whole

2.2.30. The United Nations Committee of the Whole met earlier in New York, from 5 to 9 September. This Committee, set up in December 1977 by the UN General Assembly,<sup>2</sup> is responsible for monitoring progress in the negotiations for a new international economic order and giving a new impetus to further the North-South Dialogue should the need arise.

When its first session resumed on 5 September, after breaking off last May<sup>3</sup> following a

controversy over the interpretation to be given to its terms of reference, the Committee of the Whole was unable to agree on the bases for the necessary consensus and once again suspended the session, on the understanding that its Chairman would report to the General Assembly.

The fundamentally different attitudes that the groups continue to take on the role of this Committee and its procedures concern in particular its negotiating capacity and its relations with existing UN negotiating bodies.

At the September meeting the Community and the developing countries had agreed on a compromise solution proposed informally by the Chairman of the Committee. This text went a long way towards meeting the wishes of the Group of 77, and particularly their wish that the Committee of the Whole should act as a negotiating forum on questions relating to the North-South Dialogue. But the United States considered that the text went beyond the Committee's terms of reference adopted in December 1977 by the General Assembly and could not accept the compromise.

The General Assembly will have to consider the interim report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole and to decide on the Committee's role.

### *UNCTAD*

#### Trade and Development Board

2.2.31. The UNCTAD Trade and Development Board held its annual meeting in Geneva from 29 August to 17 September. The main item discussed was the provisional

<sup>1</sup> Point 3.3.1.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 12-1977, points 2.2.7 and 2.2.36.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.2.23.

agenda for the fifth session of the Conference, to be held in Manila in May 1979. It was agreed that UNCTAD should consider ways and means of facilitating structural changes in the international economy and certain major aspects of monetary and financing cooperation systems.

At the meeting of the full Board the Community described its experience of economic adjustment and the close cooperation maintained with the fifty-six partner States of the Nine under the Lomé Convention. To give the Board the benefit of this experience, it gave the detailed analysis of interdependence between the various countries and sectors which it already presented at the first session of the Committee of the Whole. The spokesman for the group of industrialized countries was at pains to emphasize that the concept of interdependence inevitably imposed obligations on all countries and groups of countries, and on all the different sectors of the economy.

The Board extended the deadline initially laid down for implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities approved in Nairobi until the end of 1979 and passed resolutions by consensus determining the procedures to be followed for copper and tungsten. A motion by the developing countries to prevent unilateral action to exploit the sea-bed was adopted against the wishes of the Community Member States.

The Secretary-General of UNCTAD also informed the Board of his decision to convene the United Nations Negotiating Conference for a Common Fund within the framework of the Integrated Programme for Commodities in the light of consultations since the beginning of the year. This Conference, adjourned early in December 1977,<sup>1</sup> will meet again from 14 to 27 November 1978.

The Board went on to agree on new consultation procedures for generalized preferences,

in line with the views expressed by the Community: these new procedures would be informal and confidential and in no way affect the operation of existing bilateral arrangements.

During the discussions on application of special measures to assist the least-developed countries, the Community suggested that greater stress might be laid on:

- (i) an analysis of the factors that had enabled some of the least-developed countries to achieve a faster rate of economic growth than others;
- (ii) determination of specific trade openings;
- (iii) improvement of capacity to absorb aid;
- (iv) development and exploitation of renewable sources of energy;
- (v) transport and communications.

Lastly, the Board approved a request by the group of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP group) for recognition by UNCTAD as an inter-governmental body. This group, a product of the Lomé Convention, will in future be able to participate more directly in UNCTAD meetings with observer status.

### *Food and Agricultural Organization*

#### **Regional conference for the Middle East**

2.2.32. The Community took part in the FAO Regional Conference for the Middle-Eastern Countries in Damascus from 9 to 16 September.

The twenty-four countries of this region were represented, along with several other members of FAO (United States, France, United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany) and a number of international and regional organizations. The Community spo-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.2.12.

kesman described his organization's role and activities in international organizations, and particularly in FAO.

The Conference laid great stress on the improvement of agricultural structures. In connection with implementation of the FAO priority programme in the Middle-East region and the examination of regional projects, the participants discussed projects of common interest to these countries and to EEC Member States (France, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany). Attention was drawn to the need to coordinate projects in the future, especially in sectors where FAO had already acquired considerable experience.

### *International Monetary Fund and World Bank*

#### **Annual Meeting of the IMF and IBRD**

2.2.33. The Community attended the Annual Meeting of the governors of the IMF and the IBRD in Washington from 25 to 28 September.<sup>1</sup> The Interim Committee also met from 22 to 28 September and the Development Committee on 22 September.

### *United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries*

2.2.34. The United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (Buenos Aires, 30 August to 12 September) finally approved a plan of action. The countries will have to organize the cooperation themselves with the support of the worldwide network of United Nations economic and social agencies, which will act as liaison centres between Third World coun-

tries and the special secretariat set up within the United Nations Development Programme.

### *World Intellectual Property Organization*

2.2.35. The Commission approved a draft agreement with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) regarding the dissemination of information and documentation on patents<sup>2</sup> in September.

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

2.2.36. At the second part of the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (New York, 21 August to 15 September), progress was made on a number of points. A further session of the Conference is to be held in Geneva from 19 March to 27 April 1979, when informal negotiations will be held to revise the informal composite negotiating text (in the form of a preliminary draft convention) and ascertain whether this text, revised on the basis of the talks that have taken place since it was worked out, might constitute an acceptable draft for a formal convention.

At the discussions held in New York in August and September, special attention was focused on problems relating to exploitation of the sea-bed. As at the meeting of the UNCTAD Board<sup>3</sup> in Geneva in September, the Group of 77 stated that they were firmly opposed to any form of unilateral national action to exploit the sea-bed. The United States Delegation, on the other hand, took the view that all countries were at present entitled to explore and exploit the sea-bed at great

<sup>1</sup> Points 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.

<sup>1</sup> Point 2.1.88.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.2.31.

depths in accordance with the rules of international law relating to the high seas. A similar position was taken by a number of Community countries which have a direct interest in the exploitation of sea-bed resources. The Soviet Union and East European countries backed the 77.

The Head of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, as representative of the President of the Council, reaffirming the declaration made on behalf of the Member States in May,<sup>1</sup> wrote to the President of the Conference on 11 September, asking that the final clauses of the future convention should include a provision enabling the Community as such to become a contracting party, jointly with its Member States. But this was not discussed at the session.

Since a number of points have still to be settled, some further meetings will probably be held in 1979, and a new session may well be held in New York in July or August.

## Fisheries Commissions

### Baltic Sea Commission

2.2.37. The Commission was represented with observer status at the fourth annual meeting of the International Baltic Fisheries Commission, alongside delegations from the Federal Republic of Germany and Denmark, which are parties to this Convention. This meeting, held in Warsaw from 18 to 22 September, produced recommendations relating to total authorized catches for certain kinds of fish in 1979. Proposals regarding technical rules applicable to fishing in the Baltic were also discussed.

## Commercial policy

### Formulating and implementing the common commercial policy

#### Import arrangements

#### Instruments of commercial policy

2.2.38. At its meeting on 19 September the Council approved the special Regulation concerning the common system applicable to imports from the People's Republic of China;<sup>2</sup> the arrangements which applied previously were those laid down in the general Regulation applicable to State-trading countries adopted by the Council on 19 December 1969.<sup>3</sup>

#### Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.39. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries,<sup>4</sup> the Commission took the following measures in September to relax import restrictions:

— *Federal Republic of Germany-Czechoslovakia*: amendment of the amounts of two import quotas for undergarments;<sup>5</sup>

— *Italy-Hungary*: exceptional opening of an import quota for aluminium foils and rolled aluminium;<sup>5</sup>

— *Italy-Bulgaria*: exceptional opening of an additional import quota for honey;<sup>6</sup>

— *Italy-USSR*: exceptional opening of an import quota for honey;<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.2.27.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.2.68.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 19 of 26.1.1970.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

<sup>5</sup> OJ C 232 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>6</sup> OJ C 248 of 19.10.1978.



— *France-Poland*: exceptional opening of an additional quota for sheep;<sup>1</sup>

— *France-German Democratic Republic*: exceptional opening of a quota for sheep.<sup>1</sup>

### **Investigation, surveillance and safeguard measures**

#### *Anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedures*

2.2.40. In addition to anti-dumping measures taken under the crisis plan to deal with the difficulties facing the Community iron and steel industry,<sup>2</sup> a number of decisions have been taken in other sectors.

On 8 September<sup>3</sup> the Council decided to impose a definitive anti-dumping duty on kraft liner paper and board originating in the United States. This was confirmation of the provisional measure which the Commission introduced on 7 March last<sup>4</sup> and then extended on 6 June<sup>5</sup> for three months.

The Council terminated the anti-dumping procedure concerning imports of ferrochromium originating in South Africa and Sweden<sup>6</sup> following undertakings given by the South African and Swedish exporters<sup>7</sup> regarding prices.

#### *Safeguard measures*

2.2.41. On 28 September<sup>8</sup> the Commission adopted a Regulation making imports into France of gloves originating in Malaysia subject to authorization. The reason for this measure was the sharp rise in imports which has disrupted the French market and caused serious injury to Community manufacturers. The Regulation sets a quantitative limit for imports of Malaysian gloves between 1 August and 31 December 1978.

### **Commercial agreements: tacit renewal or extension**

2.2.42. On 19 September<sup>9</sup> the Council authorized the extension or tacit renewal of a number of trade agreements between Member States and other countries (fourth batch for 1978). The expiry dates or deadlines for denunciation of these agreements fall between 1 November 1978 and 31 January 1979.

### **Specific measures of commercial policy**

#### *Textiles*

##### *Community surveillance*

2.2.43. On 19 September<sup>10</sup> the Commission adopted a Regulation on Community surveillance of imports of certain textile products originating in Greece. The object is to improve administrative cooperation between Greece and the Community on trade flows, to be based on harmonized statistical data.

##### *Safeguard measures*

2.2.44. On 13 September<sup>11</sup> the Commission introduced quantitative limits for imports into the United Kingdom of untreated cotton

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 248 of 19.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.2.46.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 247 of 9.9.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 69 of 11.3.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 153 of 9.6.1978.

<sup>6</sup> OJ C 90 of 13.4.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.2.43.

<sup>7</sup> OJ C 232 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 278 of 3.10.1978.

<sup>9</sup> OJ L 260 of 23.9.1978.

<sup>10</sup> OJ L 257 of 20.9.1978.

<sup>11</sup> OJ L 253 of 15.9.1978.

yarns for retail sale originating in Turkey. Such imports are to be suspended until the end of the year.

### *Operation of the agreements*

2.2.45. Under two Regulations adopted on 1 and 5 September the Commission also made imports into the United Kingdom of woven fabrics or fine animal furs originating in Argentina<sup>1</sup> and certain garments (knitted trousers) originating in Singapore<sup>2</sup> subject to authorization by the UK authorities. These measures were taken after the Community had initiated the procedures provided for in the bilateral agreements with Argentina and Singapore.

### *Iron and steel products*

#### **Negotiation of arrangements with non-member countries**

##### *Arrangements concluded*

2.2.46. In conclusion of the negotiations which the Commission began with South Korea in May concerning imports of iron and steel products into the Community from South Korea an arrangement was signed on 18 September. This was the last of a series of negotiations with non-member countries. The arrangement is substantially the same as those already concluded with several countries.

Under the arrangement, which is valid until the end of the year, the South Korean authorities have given an undertaking that iron and steel companies will charge prices delivered to the Community which do not undercut the delivered prices on Community lists by more than 6% for ordinary steels and 4% for fine and special steels. Since the ob-

jective of the arrangement is to maintain the traditional flow of trade, Korean exports are not to exceed an agreed level. In return, and provided that the arrangement is properly applied, the right of Community iron and steel companies to align their prices on the delivered prices of Korean manufacturers has been suspended by the Commission decision of 29 September,<sup>3</sup> which specifies the products covered by the arrangement.

##### *Consultations*

2.2.47. The Commission held consultations in September with a number of countries concerning the operation of the arrangements concluded with them.

##### *Operation of arrangements*

2.2.48. At its meeting on 19 September the Council discussed certain external aspects of the crisis plan. It directed the appropriate bodies to examine the overall report on the operation of arrangements with non-member countries which the Commission is to present shortly.

#### **Anti-dumping arrangements**

2.2.49. The Commission decided in September to terminate the anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedure for certain types of iron and steel plate originating in South Korea<sup>4</sup> since arrangements had been reached between the Community and the South Korean Government.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 244 of 6.9.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 246 of 8.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 275 of 30.9.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 230 of 28.9.1978.

2.2.50. On 15 September Parliament passed a Resolution<sup>1</sup> on the effects of the Community's trade policy on the level of economic activity in the nine Member States. Reference is made in particular to the specific problems confronting the textiles and iron and steel industries.

## Mediterranean countries

### Agreements with the Maghreb countries, the Mashreq countries, Israel and Portugal

2.2.51. On 26 September the Council adopted the Regulation on the conclusion of the Cooperation Agreements with Algeria,<sup>2</sup> Morocco,<sup>3</sup> Tunisia,<sup>4</sup> Egypt,<sup>5</sup> Syria,<sup>6</sup> Jordan<sup>7</sup> and Lebanon<sup>8</sup> and also the Additional and Financial Protocols with Israel,<sup>9</sup> Portugal<sup>10</sup> and Malta.

The Agreements with the Maghreb countries were signed in April 1976,<sup>11</sup> and those with the Mashreq countries in January 1977,<sup>12</sup> with Israel in February 1977,<sup>13</sup> with Lebanon in May 1977<sup>14</sup> with Portugal in September 1976<sup>15</sup> and with Malta in March 1976.<sup>16</sup>

### Cyprus

2.2.52. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Kyprianou, accompanied by Mr Rolandis, the Foreign Minister, paid a visit to the Commission on 26 September.

President Kyprianou and the Commission President, Mr Jenkins, discussed political developments in Cyprus and relations between Cyprus and the Community.

### Israel

2.2.53. Exploratory conversations took place on 25 September between an Israeli delegation and a Commission delegation in connection with the application of Article 22 of the Agreement between the Community and Israel. The delegations reviewed the results achieved by the Agreement since its entry into force and discussed possible ways of improving it.<sup>17</sup>

2.2.54. On 21 and 22 September at the request of the Joint Committee, a group of experts from the Commission and Israel examined the technical aspects of a whole range of problems relating to import difficulties encountered in their trade with each other.

## ACP States and the OCT

### Official visit to the Commission by the President of Somalia

2.2.55. On 14 September the Commission received for the first time an official visit from the President of the Somali Democratic Republic, Major-General Siad Barre.

<sup>1</sup> Point 2.3.12 and OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 263 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 264 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 265 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 266 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 269 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 268 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 267 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>9</sup> OJ L 270 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>10</sup> OJ L 274 of 29.9.1978.

<sup>11</sup> Bull. EC 1-1976, points 1301 to 1311 and 4-1976, point 2332.

<sup>12</sup> Bull. EC 1-1977, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

<sup>13</sup> Bull. EC 1-1977, points 1.3.6 to 1.3.9 and 2-1977, point 2.2.37.

<sup>14</sup> Bull. EC 5-1977, point 2.2.41.

<sup>15</sup> Bull. EC 9-1976, points 1301 to 1304.

<sup>16</sup> Bull. EC 3-1976, point 2338.

<sup>17</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.66.

In his talks with Mr Jenkins, President Siad Barre referred to the tradition of cooperation between the Community and Somalia and thanked the Commission for the aid it had given in the past, emphasizing in particular the spirit of friendship and understanding in which the aid had been granted.

The question of Community aid to Somalia was discussed, and in particular Community aid granted by Member States and by the Commission following the cancellation of economic agreements between Somalia and the USSR.

## **Negotiations for the renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention**

### **First negotiating session at ambassador level**

2.2.56. Following the Ministerial Conference held on 24 July in Brussels<sup>1</sup> to mark the official opening of the negotiations for the renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention, the negotiations proper got under way between the ACP ambassadors and the Commission at a plenary session held on 18 September also in Brussels.

Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission, delivered the opening speech and presented the Commission negotiators.

Mr Asante, Chairman of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors, set out a number of important lines that his side felt was planning to pursue during the discussions. The Commission delegation gave the Commission's view of the objectives and methods for the first stage of the negotiations. Both parties reached agreement on this matter and agreed to begin discussions on the various issues involved the same week in more restricted sessions.

## **Lomé Convention**

### *Accession to the Convention*

2.2.57. On 25 September<sup>2</sup> the Council adopted a Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Agreements on the accession of the Republic of Cape-Verde, Papua New Guinea and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Príncipe to the Lomé Convention, which were signed in Brussels on 28 March 1977.<sup>3</sup> These Agreements will enter into force on 1 November 1978.

The accession of these countries brings to fifty-three the number of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries which are party to the Lomé Convention. They are the forty-six original signatories, the Seychelles, the Comoros and Surinam, which acceded to the Convention in 1976, and the Republic of Jibuti, which acceded in February 1978. The Act of Accession to the Convention of the Solomon Islands is expected to be deposited in the near future, as the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers formally approved the accession of that State by decision dated 24 July.<sup>4</sup> Lastly, the Government of Tuvalu has stated its intention of acceding to the Convention once Tuvalu becomes independent on 1 October this year.

### *Institutions*

#### **ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly**

2.2.58. Following a meeting of the Joint Committee from 25 to 27 September, the

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 271 of 27.9.1978.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 3-1977, point 2.2.51.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.71.

ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly held its annual session<sup>1</sup> in Luxembourg from 27 to 29 September under the joint chairmanship of Mr Colombo, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Muna, President of the Cameroon National Assembly. Mr Tapa, the Health Minister and acting Finance Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, represented the ACP Council, Mr von Dohnanyi, President of the Council, represented the Council, and the Commission was represented by Mr Cheysson, the Member with special responsibility for development.

The main business was the examination of Mr Guillabert's report on the annual report of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers and on the present situation of the Lomé Convention as the time approaches to negotiate a successor agreement.

The Assembly adopted an important resolution recommending that the new convention should last longer and that specific solutions should be worked out for the problems concerning certain mining products (copper and phosphates) and rubber. It was also considered that the question of a reference to human rights in the future convention should be tackled. The resolution further condemned South Africa, in particular for its policy on Namibia, and called on the Community to take action against the oil companies which infringe the Rhodesia embargo.

The Assembly also adopted a resolution calling on the Joint Committee to organize *ad hoc* informal meetings with representatives of business and social interests in the ACP community.

As part of its consultations with business and social interests, the Joint Committee met ACP and Community representatives on 28 September to examine the various aspects of the textiles problem.

### *Trade, industrial, financial and technical cooperation*

#### **Trade cooperation**

2.2.59. Under their programme for attending major international trade fairs, the ACP States were represented at numerous such events in September. A total of forty-seven exhibition stands were built at the trade fairs held in the Federal Republic of Germany (Overseas Import Fair in Berlin; Food Exhibition in Munich), in France (International Leather Week in Paris; Marseille Fair), in Italy (Levante Fair in Bari), in Sweden (Göteborg Fair), in Algeria (Algiers Fair) and in Kenya (Nairobi Fair).

Attendance at these trade fairs has enabled the representatives of the foreign trade agencies and the managements of private-sector businesses in twenty-five African ACP States to study export markets and to establish links with many businessmen who were able to judge the quality of the tropical products exhibited on the stands of the various ACP States.

2.2.60. The African Groundnut Council and European industrialists (oil manufacturers, oil cake importers, etc.) have on numerous occasions discussed promoting trade in groundnut products with a view to determining the ways of and objectives for stepping up ACP exports to European markets.

### **European Development Fund**

#### **New financing decisions**

2.2.61. Following the favourable opinion given by the EDF Committee, the Commis-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.2.60.

sion took the following financing decisions on 27 and 28 September 1978:

<i>Solomon Islands:</i>	
Fisheries Training School	280 000 EUA
<i>Ivory Coast and Ghana:</i>	
Aboisso-Axim Road	22 800 000 EUA

## Other countries

### Industrialized countries

#### United States

##### *Official visit by Mr Vredeling*

2.2.62. Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission with special responsibility for employment and social affairs, paid an official visit to the United States from 4 to 9 September. The talks he had with Mr Ray Marshall, Secretary of Labour, covered the following subjects:

- (i) development of fair labour standards in international trade;
- (ii) youth unemployment;
- (iii) the restructuring and adaptation of industrial sectors in difficulties;
- (iv) health and safety at the work place;
- (v) problems of women's employment;
- (vi) migrant workers.

The Vice-President and the Secretary of Labour considered there were certain specific subjects which they should examine together in the months ahead, namely policies regarding sectors in difficulties and safety and health at the work place. The Commission

and the Labour Department will exchange experience and information on the other subjects.

Mr Vredeling and Mr Marshall agreed that more emphasis should be given to social and employment questions in the development of commercial and economic policy, and this factor should be taken into consideration in future cooperation between the Commission and the United States.

Mr Vredeling also met Mr George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, the central trade union federation in the United States.

In Baltimore Mr Vredeling was informed about the vocational training and job-creation programmes which have been put into operation by the federal and regional authorities.

#### Canada

##### *Regular high-level consultations*

2.2.63. The eleventh round of regular consultations<sup>1</sup> between the Community and Canada took place in Ottawa on 27 and 28 September.

The discussion covered multilateral points of mutual interest such as the economic situation in the wake of the Bonn summit, the multilateral trade negotiations and North-South issues.

Both sides explained recent internal developments in agricultural and industrial policy. In the footwear sector, where Canada applies quantitative restrictions under Article XIX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the two sides agreed to extend the consultation period until 31 December.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.2.47.

2.2.64. Meetings also took place of the two subcommittees of the Joint Cooperation Committee established in 1976 under the Framework Agreement for Commercial and Economic Cooperation between Canada and the Community.

The General and Preparatory Subcommittee reviewed current cooperation in environmental matters, science and technology, and regional development questions.

It agreed to the holding of an experimental workshop on obstacles to trade between the Community and Canada; it will take place in Canada in November and will deal with competition policy.

The Industrial Cooperation Subcommittee exchanged views on industrial development policies in Canada and the Community and reviewed the current state of cooperation in the Subcommittee's working groups on forestry products, telecommunications and data processing, aerospace, and the nuclear industry. The Subcommittee discussed the recently established link between the Commission's Business Cooperation Centre and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, which will help to promote joint ventures and related arrangements between Canadian and Community firms.

## EFTA countries

### *Switzerland*

#### *Euratom-Switzerland Cooperation Agreement in controlled thermonuclear fusion*

2.2.65. On 14 September His Excellency Mr C. Caillat, Head of the Swiss Mission to the European Communities, and Mr G. Brunner, Member of the Commission, signed a co-operation agreement between the European

Atomic Energy Community (EAEC) and the Swiss Confederation in controlled thermonuclear fusion and plasma physics.

The purpose of this agreement, similar to the one signed with Sweden on 10 May 1976,<sup>1</sup> is to enable each of the contracting parties, by pooling their research in controlled thermonuclear fusion and plasma physics, to derive the maximum benefit from the funds allocated to their respective research programmes, to avoid unnecessary duplication and thus to attain more rapidly the common objective of these research programmes, namely the generation of electricity at competitive prices by the use of controlled thermonuclear fusion. Under the agreement, Switzerland, with a view to taking part in the JET (Joint European Torus) project, will become a member of the Joint Undertaking responsible for the construction and operation of this large experimental device.

#### *Joint Clock and Watch Committee*

2.2.66. The Joint Clock and Watch Committee, set up by the 1967 EEC-Switzerland Clock and Watch Agreement, met in Lucerne on 25 September, with Mr Cornelio Sommaruga, Senior Official of the Trade Division of the Federal Department for Public Economy, in the chair.

The delegations examined the practical questions arising from the application of the 1967 and 1972 Clock and Watch Agreements and held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the problems of commercial policy facing the contracting parties' clock and watch industries. They confirmed their mutual confidence which is expressed in a common wish for cooperation and consultation.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2273.

## Developing countries

### Asia

#### Singapore

2.2.67. Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, was received at the Commission on 25 and 26 September by Mr Jenkins, President, and by Mr Brunner, Mr Cheysson and Mr Natali.

The main points raised by the Prime Minister related to the Community's intentions concerning its development cooperation, energy and enlargement policies. The discussions also covered the outlook for the EEC-ASEAN ministerial meeting which is to take place in Brussels on 20 and 21 November.

## State-trading countries and the CMEA

### China

#### *Official visit by Mr Haferkamp*

2.2.68. At the invitation of the Chinese Government a Community delegation led by Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission with responsibility for external relations, visited the People's Republic of China from 24 September to 2 October.

The delegation, which was made up of Mr Berns, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Committee, senior Commission officials, and representatives of business and social interests in the Member States, went first to Peking then on to Shanghai, Hangchow and Canton.

This was the third visit to China by a Community delegation following those by Sir Christopher Soames, then Vice-President of

the Commission, in May 1975,<sup>1</sup> and by a Commission delegation in July 1977.<sup>2</sup>

The talks follow the visits to the Commission last April by Mr Li Chiang, the Chinese Foreign Trade Minister, for the signing of the trade agreement with China,<sup>3</sup> and in May by Mr Ku Mu, Chinese Vice-Premier.<sup>4</sup>

The Community delegation met many Chinese political leaders: Premier Huo Kuo Feng, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Energy and the Metallurgical Industry.

In view of the high level of these meetings, the substance of the talks and the serious discussions with Chinese economic leaders, the visit can be considered a major success.

During the talks the Chinese leaders confirmed their desire to develop relations with the Community. In particular China takes a very favourable view of the enlargement of the Community and its action to help developing countries, notably the ACP and ASEAN States.

It wishes to strengthen its relations with the Community by increasing economic links and contacts. The Chinese leaders told Mr Haferkamp that they were planning to take an active part in world trade and to undertake a vast development programme in which external economic relations would assume an increasingly important role each day.

The European businessmen in the delegation were well satisfied with the contacts they made during the visit.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1975, points 1201 to 1205.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.2.74.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 4-1978, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.2.70.



### 3. Institutional and political matters

#### Other countries

#### *Import arrangements*

2.2.69. On 19 September the Council adopted a Regulation concerning the common system applicable to imports from the People's Republic of China, to replace with regard to that country its Regulation of 19 December 1969 establishing common rules for imports from State-trading countries.

The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure that the objectives of the Trade Agreement between the Community and the People's Republic of China are attained, in particular as regards the progressive extension of the list of products, for which imports from China are liberalized. The list annexed to the Regulation was extended to include a further eighteen tariff headings, so that the Community has now liberalized for China 712 full headings and 95 subheadings of the 1 012 headings in the 1978 Common Customs Tariff.

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2.2.70. At its 13 September sitting Parliament<sup>1</sup> passed a Resolution on the Trade Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of China.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 123 of 11.5.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.3.9 and OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978.

#### Institutional developments — European policy

##### **Position of the European Communities in public international law**

2.3.1. In a Resolution moved by Sir Derek Walker-Smith (C/UK) at the September sittings,<sup>1</sup> Parliament expressed its views on the capacity of the European Community as a subject of international law and, in particular, as a party to international agreements including agreements not expressly referred to in the Treaties.

Parliament endorsed the opinions of the Court of Justice, whereby:<sup>2</sup>

'The power of the Communities to enter into commitments with third countries derives implicitly from the provisions of the Treaties granting the Communities powers over internal matters provided that the aim is the achievement of one of the objectives of the Communities;

All Community powers to conclude trade agreements with third countries preclude—by their very existence—the exercise of any concurrent powers by the Member States'.

The Resolution went on to emphasize the implications of the judgments given by the Court, asserting:

'The Community's authority to negotiate and conclude external agreements whenever the international objectives are directly related to internal Community objectives'.

It noted that 'such Community authority derives from the Treaties, that is to say, from the explicit provisions read in the context of the Treaties as a whole and their specified objectives, and from the necessary implications which flow from the provisions of the Treaties'.

The Council and the Commission were therefore urged 'to use the instruments available to the Communities in such a way that the Communities' international rela-

<sup>1</sup> Points 2.3.5 to 2.3.18.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 268 of 22.11.1975 and OJ C 107 of 3.5.1977.

tions further the achievement of the objectives laid down in the Treaties of Paris and Rome'.

### Acquisition and possession of firearms

2.3.2. The disparities between Member States' laws on firearms, which make it easier to import and acquire this type of weapon illegally, prompted several members of the European Parliament to question the Commission during one of the September sittings. In an oral question, Mr Fellermaier (S/D) and others asked whether the Commission did not feel, in the face of the new wave of violence, that, to eliminate the loopholes, the European Convention on the Control of the Acquisition and Possession of Firearms by Individuals should be signed and ratified without delay.

Replying on behalf of the Commission, Mr Davignon welcomed the cooperation initiated by the Council of Europe. As far as the Commission was concerned, its role was to ease the task of the European authorities (Ministers of the Interior and Justice) which had made the first moves towards intergovernmental cooperation. But if the Member States were not all in support of a Community operation, there was no legal basis which would clearly justify action by the Commission.

For the Christian Democrat Group, Mr de Gaay Fortman (NL) pointed out that all crime, whether terrorist or 'ordinary', affected economic and social life, and this brought it within the Community's province. He also said that since intergovernmental cooperation was not concerned with the harmonization of laws on the acquisition and possession of firearms, action might be taken on the basis of Article 235 of the EEC Treaty.

### A weekend for thought

2.3.3. As a repeat of the first weekend meeting last year,<sup>1</sup> the Commission met informally at Comblain-la-Tour in the Belgian Ardennes on 16 and 17 September in order to consider the future development of European policy.<sup>2</sup>

### Informal meeting of the Social Affairs Ministers (Frankfurt, 21 and 22 September)

2.3.4. A number of questions concerning European social policy were discussed by the Community Ministers at a meeting in Frankfurt on 21 and 22 September at which the Commission was also represented. The items reviewed included the question of the free movement of workers after enlargement, preparations for the Tripartite Conference and Community measures bearing on the employment of young people.

## Institutions and organs of the Communities

### Parliament

#### *Part-session in Luxembourg from 11 to 15 September*

2.3.5. Parliament's September sittings<sup>3</sup> broadly reflected the results of the European Council in Bremen and the Economic Summit in Bonn. With the presentation by the Council of the draft budget for 1979, Parlia-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 9-1977, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

<sup>2</sup> Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.13.

<sup>3</sup> This report was prepared from *Le point de la session* published by Parliament's Secretariat. The complete texts of the Resolutions passed by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 239 of 9.10.1978 and the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 233.

The political group and nationality of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: C-D = Christian Democrats, S = Socialists, L = Liberals and Democrats, C = European Conservatives, EPD = European Progressive Democrats, COM = Communists and Allies, B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

ment saw the substantial amendments made to the Commission's budget proposals. Several questions of commercial policy were debated, including the state of the GATT multilateral negotiations, the entry into force of the EEC-China Agreement and the prospects for developing relations with Yugoslavia. On the subject of internal policies, a Resolution was adopted expressing Parliament's opinion on the proposal for a common organization of the sheepmeat market and on the question of taxation on wine and alcoholic beverages. The House also held a searching debate on the problem of unemployment among young people.

The more technical items on the agenda included discussion of reports on the development of an agricultural advisory service in Italy and on coordination of Member States' laws relating to self-employed commercial agents. The House also approved the Commission's proposals for Directives on flood-protection programmes in the Hérault valley and for the acceleration and guidance of collective irrigation works in Corsica, both of which form part of the operations to assist the Mediterranean regions.<sup>1</sup> Two Resolutions were also adopted urging the Commission to set up an emergency aid scheme for the Sahel and to give urgent consideration to granting funds to victims of the floods in India. Lastly, Parliament devoted two brief debates to the question of the Community's position in public international law and to European legislation relating to the acquisition and possession of firearms.<sup>2</sup>

### General budget for 1979 (12-13 September)

2.3.6. The President of the Council, Mr Lahnstein, set out the main lines of the draft budget for 1979 established by the Council. As a result of the cuts made in the approp-

riations entered by the Commission in its preliminary draft,<sup>3</sup> the draft budget amounts to 13 798 million EUA in total appropriations for commitment (8.62% up on 1978) and 13 021 million EUA in total appropriations for payment (5.32% up on 1978); the increases proposed by the Commission were 15.46% and 12.11% respectively.

The biggest cuts made by the Council were in the social, energy, research, industrial policy and development-aid sectors.

The Council President gave the following reasons: in view of the present strains on national budgets, the Council had wanted to make the best possible use of limited resources; similarly, the figures for payment appropriations had to be realistic, and not leave substantial amounts over at the end of the budget year (as had occurred in previous years). Lastly, it was not a good thing to enter appropriations for plans and schemes on which decisions had not yet been taken and for which the Commission had not even produced proposals. Surveying the various sections of the budget, Mr Lahnstein pointed out, especially in regard to the Social and Regional Funds, that the Council had made its cuts in the payment appropriations just because the pace at which payments were being made was too slow. If need be, transfers of appropriations would be considered.

Speaking for the Commission, Mr Tugendhat restated the principles which had guided his choice. He was convinced that the Commission's preliminary draft embodied the most realistic, centre-of-the-road approach. Though allowance must be made for the budgetary constraints and difficulties of Member States in certain areas, in others 'we feel we have to be daring'. Naturally overestimates concerning payments should be avoided so that

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.73.

<sup>2</sup> Points 2.3.1 and 2.3.2.

<sup>3</sup> Point 2.3.54.

unspent balances do not accumulate; but this had happened in previous years because Member States had not submitted their claims promptly enough. It was up to them to speed up the procedures and then the level of appropriations proposed by the Commission would prove justified. As to the Council's refusal to enter appropriations for plans or schemes on which a decision had not been taken, Mr Tugendhat pointed out that any decision for which budget funds were not available could not be put into effect.

Once again the debate on the budget revealed the cleavage between the Council's and Parliament's concept of the budget: for one, it is simply an accounting device, for the other, a political instrument. As early as July, when the Commission presented the preliminary draft,<sup>1</sup> Parliament had regretted its modest size. So the great majority of Members were up in arms over the fact that the Council had cut the appropriations still further.

Parliament's stance was confirmed in the Resolution moved by Mr Bangemann (*L/D*), which stated that the decisions of the European Council in Bremen and the Bonn Economic Summit<sup>2</sup> endorsed Parliament's guidelines in that they expressly laid down that the objective of Community policy was to combat unemployment through economic recovery. It therefore considered that the Community budget must contribute to the joint effort required from the national budgets in order to respond to the economic situation and implement the political decisions to promote economic recovery. Pointing out that in most of the areas covered by the budget the volume of appropriations was still not sufficient for them to have an economic and political impact, Parliament agreed to take the necessary budgetary steps to enable the objectives established at the highest political level of the Community to be achieved and

to exploit to the full the opportunities offered by the Treaties and the Financial Regulation.

The contradiction between the level of appropriations and the resolve to promote economic recovery expressed at Bremen and Bonn was thus the keynote of what most speakers had to say. In the same vein, the Commission was urged, particularly by Mr Bangemann, general rapporteur for the budget, to lose no time in submitting the proposals which were still to come in respect of new operations for which budget entries had been made.

The viewpoints expressed during the debate reflected a hardening of Parliament's attitude towards the Council, which might even culminate in the rejection of the budget. This was largely the tone of the statements by Mr Aigner (*C-D/D*), Mr Spinelli (*COM/I*) and Mr Cointat (*EPD/F*). On the Commission side, Mr Tugendhat, in response to Members' concern, indicated that, once it was able to do so, the Commission would not fail to draw the budgetary consequences of decisions taken by the European Council.

### The Bremen and Bonn Summits

2.3.7. The Community's economic situation was also the focus of the debate on the outcome of the European Council in Bremen and the Economic Summit in Bonn. The Council President, Mr Genscher, and the President of the Commission, Mr Jenkins,<sup>3</sup> reported on the results of these meetings<sup>3</sup> and spoke of their importance for the future of the Community.

In his speech, Mr Ortoli highlighted the link between economic stability and monetary stability, which the European Council in Bre-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.3.6.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2 and 7/8-1978, point 1.1.3.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.1.8 and 1.1.9.

men had formally recognized by deciding to create a zone of monetary stability and take concerted action to attain the objective of economic growth.

The great majority of Members applauded the fresh impetus given to the Community. But this did not mask the difficulties that would have to be overcome to implement the decisions which had been taken, nor the effects they might have on external problems, particularly where the dollar was concerned. Lord Ardwick (S/UK) contended that 'the effect of the proposals on unemployment will be the single most important criterion by which we judge them'; like other Members, he held that 'no progress can be made towards economic and monetary union without transferring larger resources to the Community'. Many Members felt, as Mr Ansquer (EPD/F) put it, that Europe 'will or will not be' according to whether the EMU project materialized or not. But the success or failure of Bremen did not depend solely on the Community but also on the Member States, said Mr Lange (S/D) and here it was up to the Members of the European Parliament to get the national parliaments to ensure that the decisions taken were respected. This was also the view of Mr Sandri, who, on behalf of the Italian Communists, emphasized the fact that creation of a zone of monetary stability was a challenge implying that the States concerned must draw the inferences at national level. To this Mr Pintat (L/F) added that without economic stability, there could be no political Europe.

## Commercial policy

### *GATT negotiations* (12 September)

2.3.8. As the final stage of the GATT negotiations was about to begin, Mr Haferkamp painted a relatively bright picture of the situ-

ation. Referring to the joint statement adopted by the Western countries on 13 July last<sup>1</sup> he reminded the House that it dealt particularly with non-tariff barriers, which are raising the thorniest problems.

Though, by and large, the House broadly endorsed the guidelines set out by Mr Haferkamp, it voiced its misgivings concerning the instrument as represented by GATT itself, its methods and even the results which could be hoped for from these negotiations. Mr Pisani (S/F) caught the mood of the House when he said that GATT was now a precinct in which products were being negotiated whereas it should be the forum for discussing policies, structures and procedures. Could this be the source of a new world economic order when so many countries were not around the negotiating table? Mr Pisani had other questions to put to the Community: if the American authorities refused to abolish the American Selling Price and the Buy American Act, shouldn't the Community introduce equivalent mechanisms? In view of the turmoil now beginning, the Community simply must marshal its forces in order to avoid worse upheavals and unbridled protectionism.

From another angle, Mr Spinelli (COM/I) dwelt on the problems arising for the developing countries, whose potential demand must be converted into real demand. A genuine growth plan should therefore be devised which was not solely of benefit to the industrialized countries. But, said Mr Spinelli, such objectives could not be attained with the mechanisms of GATT.

Replying to the speakers, Mr Haferkamp stressed that care was being taken to ensure preferential treatment for the poorest developing countries. To allay the misgivings expressed by Mr Kaspereit (EPD/F) about the concessions which might be made in agricul-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 3.5.1.

ture, he reminded him that the common agricultural policy was not negotiable.

*EEC-China Agreement*  
(12-13 September)

2.3.9. Parliament expressed general satisfaction with the commercial agreement between the Community and China, which came into force on 1 June 1978.<sup>1</sup> The report presented by Mr Müller-Hermann (C-D/D) stressed the interesting prospects for fruitful cooperation offered by the agreement but also pointed to the difficulties which China would meet in balancing trade. Parliament was glad that the agreement contained a clause whereby Chinese exports would have to take account of market prices; this clause could serve as a prototype in Community relations with State-trading countries.

In its Resolution the House emphasized 'the importance, for the strengthening of relations between the two parties, of the provisions of the agreement relating to the promotion of visits by persons and groups representing economic, trade and industrial circles'. Considering the decisive role which the Joint Committee responsible for administering the agreement would have to play, Parliament called upon the Commission 'to begin forthwith its preparations for the first meeting of this body, having regard in particular to the possibilities for Community participation in developing the use of China's resources of raw materials and having regard in general to China's needs in each sector of the economy'.

*Relations with Yugoslavia*  
(12 September)

2.3.10. Questioned by Mr Bettiza (L/I) on the development of relations with Yugo-

slavia, Mr Haferkamp told the House that the Commission would shortly be submitting proposals for the gradual elimination of disparities between the existing cooperation agreement and similar agreements concluded between the Community and Mediterranean countries. He promised to investigate what Mr Dewulf (C-D/B) had described as the unduly harsh attitude of customs officers towards young Western tourists passing through Yugoslavia on their holidays.

*European Export Bank*  
(12 September)

2.3.11. Mr Kaspereit (EPD/F), Chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations, asked the Commission what action had been taken on the plan to establish a European Export Bank.<sup>2</sup> Mr Haferkamp reminded the House that the Council had still not taken a decision on this proposal, which it had received in 1976 and which Parliament had approved in principle with a few reservations. The Commission wanted the Council to discuss it properly and to come to a decision. Consequently the Commission was standing by its proposal and was unable to say whether or not it would present a new proposal.

*Effects of Community commercial policy on economic activity*  
(14-15 September)

2.3.12. Mr Vandewiele (C-D/B) presented a report on the effects of the Community's commercial policy on the level of economic activity of the Nine. The report provides many facts and figures on the general economic situation, the Community's trade bal-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 4-1978, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 2-1976, point 2308.

ance, changes in the pattern of world trade and on some of the crisis industries (textiles, footwear, iron and steel, and shipbuilding).

The conclusions of the report as contained in the Resolution which Parliament passed include the view that the Community should prevent the collapse of certain important industries in the nine Member States, which could result from the increased competition from imports from non-member countries. The Council and the Commission were accordingly urged to make use of the supervisory and intervention powers conferred on them by the Treaties, in the hope that, in future, greater account would be taken of the effects of external agreements concluded by the Community on the level of activity of industries in difficulty in the nine Member States, and that all appropriate measures would be taken to enable them to overcome disadvantages resulting from such agreements.

The House believed, however, that temporary unilateral import restrictions should be introduced only as an exceptional measure and in the absence of any other solution. It approved the market organization agreements recently concluded by the Community with a number of non-member countries, which have enabled the Community temporarily to curtail the losses suffered by producers in the nine Member States and welcomed in this connection, the beneficial effects of such agreements on the Community's textile and iron and steel industries. It considered, however, that it was only by implementing an industrial policy involving the organized restructuring and redeployment of the activities of the Nine that the Community would be able to adapt to the requirements of the new world economic order now evolving. Parliament drew the attention of the Commission and the Council to the need to ensure strict observance of the existing provisions relating to certificates of origin

and inward and outward processing and to end the abuses which have come to light in this connection. It reiterated the importance it attached to ensuring that the current multilateral negotiations in GATT enabled the provisions of the safeguard clauses in Article XIX to be applied more flexibly, above all with regard to the principle of the selective application of these clauses.

### **Eliminating border controls**

(13 September)

2.3.13. With a question to the Council from Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (S/UK) and other Members, Parliament reverted to the question of abolishing border controls, which the questioners found to be certainly no less cumbersome than when the Community was first established. Replying on behalf of the Council, Mr von Dohnanyi pointed out that removal of customs, technical or tax barriers would not for all that mean doing away with all controls: frontiers were still the strategic points for checking on a number of factors bearing on a series of policies which were still not, or not yet completely, harmonized within the Community. Border controls took several forms: they involved customs clearance of goods, taxation, formalities relating to agricultural products, health checks (including plants), statistics, verifications under the rules of origin, etc. Then currency fluctuations necessitated the collection or payment of monetary compensatory amounts. Lastly, every frontier had its police controls.

The Council felt that what mattered most was to press on with the work of harmonization in taxation, customs legislation, the veterinary field, plant health, etc. so that systematic checks at the Community's internal borders would no longer be required; the other thing was to examine whether all the current formalities were absolutely necessary. The German Presidency was taking this very

seriously. After the debate in Parliament in July<sup>1</sup> it had been working with Commission staff on compiling a list of areas where further advances appeared possible.

### Agricultural policy

#### *Sheepmeat market* (14 September)

2.3.14. Mr Herbert (*EPD/IRL*) presented a highly critical report on the Commission proposal for establishing a common organization of the market in sheepmeat.<sup>2</sup> After a debate full of argument for and against, Parliament passed a Resolution, opposed by the British Members, the French Communists and a few Socialists, in which it supported a common organization based on the fundamental principles of the common agricultural policy: free trade within the Community, Community preference and financial solidarity.

The majority of Members agreed with the rapporteur that 'the Commission's proposals did not offer the prospect of reasonable and stable prices for Community producers and consumers while at the same time being costly to the Community budget'. Parliament believed, therefore, that the Community should introduce arrangements enabling a realistic price level to be set which took sufficient account of production costs, so as to make sheep production at least comparable with other forms of agricultural production, backed up by arrangements which would adequately support that price level (premiums to sheep producers, aid for private storage and export refunds).

Measures must also be taken to encourage production particularly in mountain areas and in other less-favoured areas. The House considered that there would be ample scope for imports from non-member countries but

that such imports must be closely monitored and subject to adequate controls. It recognized that implementing a common organization of the sheepmeat market might give rise to certain difficulties and therefore called on the Commission to take effective action to alleviate these difficulties over a transitional period. Parliament also endorsed its rapporteur's concern over the possible consequences for Community producers of the accession of the applicant countries. Finally, following an amendment tabled by the Conservatives, the House dropped Mr Herbert's request to the Commission to prepare positions relating to wool production, considered by the Treaty as an industrial product, although Mr Gundelach had not explicitly ruled out the possibility.

Replying to the many critical comments, Mr Gundelach stoutly defended the Commission's proposals, which it had no intention of changing. He declared that the market organization proposed by the Commission basically adhered to all the principles of the common agricultural policy. He could see no other way than to establish the free movement of sheepmeat since this was a rule of the Treaty. Nevertheless, a system of intervention and refunds, would send up prices and storage costs and, consequently, budgetary expenditure. A rise in prices would set off a fall in consumption, which would negate the aim. The only way was therefore to think in terms of income support for producers to allow for the wide variations in prices within the Community.

#### *Taxes on wine and alcoholic beverages* (14 September)

2.3.15. The problem of the very heavy taxes on wine which exist in some Member States has been debated many times in Par-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.3.10.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.53.



liament. The serious repercussions on wine consumption in non-producing countries have always been a worry to the Community authorities, particularly because of existing surpluses, which must be absorbed by distillation and uprooting poor quality vineyards.

The Resolution contained in the report presented by Mr Pisoni (*C-D/I*) and other Members suggests an overall approach to the problem.

The report proposes the following plan to the Commission:

- (i) alcoholic beverages to be divided into groups, with no discrimination by Member States between beverages of one and the same group (beers and wines, for example), although they may fix for each of these groups, and within certain limits, the VAT rate which they see fit;
- (ii) a bracket for the tax on each group of beverages.

In conclusion Mr Pisoni said that a Community policy implied that everyone had to make sacrifices and that it would be trespassing against the Community spirit to reduce wine to a luxury drink.

During a lively debate, support for the report was provided by speakers from the producer countries, while speakers from consumer countries tended to oppose it, defending freedom of choice and drinking habits to justify freedom of taxation. For the Commission, Mr Burke said that though it sympathized with those who wanted to put an end to the distortions of competition in respect of alcoholic beverages, the Commission intended to take a different approach from that suggested by Mr Pisoni (some points of which were, moreover, contrary to the Treaty) and would stand by its proposals already before the Council.<sup>1</sup>

Having pointed out that the range of taxes on alcoholic beverages was enormously wide (nil in Italy and 4 000 EUA in Denmark), Mr

Burke emphasized, in reply to several speakers, that the purpose was not to impose new tastes but simply to allow them to evolve under a fair tax system which eliminated any distortion of competition.

*Agricultural advisory service in Italy*  
(14-15 September)

2.3.16. Parliament adopted the report presented by Mr Vitale (*COM/I*) on the development of an agricultural advisory service in Italy. The House stressed the extreme importance and desirability of Community action to develop such a service in Italy with a view to implementing the structural policy as well as the various measures contained in the Mediterranean package.<sup>2</sup> The House therefore approved the Commission's proposal,<sup>3</sup> but, instead of a centralized body with a rigid hierarchy, would prefer decentralization at regional level with the Italian Government being allowed to decide which institutes, either new or already in existence, would be the most suitable for implementing the Community measure. It was therefore felt to be 'undesirable to provide for the establishment of a completely new advisory institute which would involve pointless duplication of expenditure, decision-making centres and bureaucratic complications'.

**Employment of young people**  
(13 September)

2.3.17. At the request of Mr Pisani (*S/F*) and others on behalf of the Socialist Group, Parliament devoted a fresh debate to the problems of employment. In his opening statement Mr Pisani described the problem of unemployment in its general economic

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chapter III; Supplement 3/72 - Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.73.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 169 of 14.7.1978.

setting, endeavouring to debunk the theory that economic growth was in itself the guarantee of full employment. Far from it! Certain types of growth destroyed employment.

In his reply the Council President, Mr von Dohnanyi, spoke of what had been done in recent months to prepare an overall strategy under which the Community's scope and competence would have to be mobilized to ensure new conditions for growth, stability and better employment in the Community.

Mr Vredeling said that the Commission was paying special attention to all the problems which the November Tripartite Conference would be tackling.

Members were inevitably divided on such a controversial subject; many different reasons were given as the causes of unemployment, most of which were coloured by the political persuasions of the speakers.

### **Approximation of laws** (11-12 September)

2.3.18. Parliament welcomed the Commission's proposal for coordinating Member States' laws relating to self-employed commercial agents.<sup>1</sup> The report drawn up by Mr Keersmaecker (C-D/B), which Parliament adopted, welcomed the submission of this proposal but urged the Commission to make various amendments concerning the definition of a commercial agent, his rights and obligations, proof of the contractual relationship and its duration. The Resolution stressed that part-time agents involved in mail-order sales from catalogues published periodically should be excluded from the field of application of the Directive. The House also hoped that the Commission would shortly submit proposals for coordinating Member States' laws governing commercial travellers, insurance agents and agents of financial institutions.

## **Council**

2.3.19. The Council held four meetings in September on economic and financial affairs, foreign affairs, agriculture and fisheries.

### **533rd meeting — Economic and financial affairs** (Brussels, 18 September)

2.3.20. *President:* Mr Matthöfer, German Finance Minister.

*Commission:* Mr Jenkins, President, and Mr Ortoli, Vice-President.

*European Monetary System:* The Council continued the discussions it began on 24 July on the European Monetary System, in accordance with the conclusions reached by the European Council in Bremen on 24 July.<sup>2</sup> It asked the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors to complete their work so as to be able to submit final reports for the Council's October meeting.

The Council also asked the Economic Policy Committee to continue its discussions, in accordance with Council instructions issued on 24 July and with the conclusions reached at the Bremen European Council calling for the parallel study of measures needed under the system to strengthen the economies of the less prosperous Member States. A report is to be submitted for the Council's November meeting.

*Preparation of annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank:* The Council approved the statement to be made by its President at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund in Washington.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 13 of 18.1.1977.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2.

<sup>3</sup> Points 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.

*Loans to promote investment in the Community:* A second meeting of the Conciliation Committee took place with Parliament on the proposals for a Decision authorizing the Commission to contract loans to promote investment in the Community.<sup>1</sup> Each of the two institutions agreed that it would consider what further action to take on this proposal in the light of this exchange of views.

**534th meeting — Foreign affairs**  
(Brussels, 19 September)

*2.3.21. President:* Mr Genscher, German Foreign Minister.

*Commission:* Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Ortolli and Mr Haferkamp, Vice-Presidents; Mr Cheysson, Mr Giolitti, Mr Davignon and Mr Tugendhat, Members.

*Relations with China:* The Council approved the special Regulation concerning the common system applicable to imports from the People's Republic of China, a system which hitherto has been governed by the provisions of the general Regulation applicable to State-trading countries.<sup>2</sup>

*GATT multilateral trade negotiations:* The Council heard a report by the Commission on the progress of the GATT trade negotiations and the steps taken to conclude them by mid-December in accordance with the Bonn Summit Declaration.<sup>3</sup>

*Relations with ASEAN:* The Council began to prepare the Community position for the ministerial meeting to be held with these countries in Brussels on 20 and 21 November. Satisfaction was expressed with the results of the ambassadors meeting on 11 July.

*Iron and steel:* The Council agreed in principle to the extension for two months of the deposit system in the iron and steel industry, subject to certain alterations in the implementing rules which will be finalized very

shortly and confirmed by the Council in an appropriate manner.

It also discussed some external aspects of the crisis measures applied by the Commission.<sup>4</sup>

*Relations with Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey:* The Council again considered the tariff arrangements to be applied to Community imports of certain citrus fruit originating in these countries. It was noted that some delegations required further time for thought before being able to state a firm position on the Commission's amended proposal.

**535th meeting — Fisheries**  
(Brussels, 25 September)

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

*Commission:* Mr Gundelach, Vice-President.

*External aspects of fisheries policy:* The Council took note of the conclusion of negotiations by the Commission for a framework agreement on fisheries between Community relations regarding fisheries with a number of non-member countries.

*Internal aspects:* The Council also discussed, without reaching any decisions, certain internal aspects of the common fisheries policy, mainly on the basis of a series of Commission proposals on technical measures for the conservation and management of resources. The Council examined the possibilities for herring fishing, particularly in the light of national measures adopted.

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 132 of 6.6.1978.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.2.69.

<sup>3</sup> Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 3.5.1.

<sup>4</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3.

<sup>5</sup> Point 2.1.59.

<sup>6</sup> OJ C 160 of 6.7.1978; OJ C 240 of 10.10.1978; OJ C 242 of 12.10.1978.

### 536th meeting — Agriculture (Brussels, 26 September)

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

*Commission:* Mr Gundelach, Vice-President.

*Structural measures in the Mediterranean regions:* The Council continued its review of a series of measures proposed for developing agriculture in the Mediterranean regions of the Community.<sup>1</sup>

*Wine:* The Council resumed its examination of various proposals for wine recently made by the Commission.<sup>2</sup>

*Milk products:* Mr Gundelach made a statement by way of introduction to the reports on the situation in the milk sector, submitted by the Commission in accordance with the conclusions reached by the Council at its meeting from 8 to 12 May, with a view to enabling the problems in this sector to be reassessed.<sup>3</sup>

*Agreements with the Maghreb and Mashreq countries, Israel and Portugal:* The Council formally adopted the Regulations on the conclusion of the Cooperation Agreements with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon and the Additional and Financial Protocols with Israel and Portugal.<sup>4</sup>

## Commission

### Activities

2.3.24. The Commission held four meetings in September. It also spent the weekend of 16 and 17 September considering in detail the likely developments in European policy,<sup>5</sup> particularly with a view to the priority tasks for the last two years of its term of office. The Commission's deliberations on routine matters were mainly devoted to rationaliza-

tion of the wine market and of the milk products sector, steel and energy policy, social security and education, and development aid policy. The Commission took stock of work in progress on enlargement (notably negotiations with Greece) and the implementation of a European Monetary System.<sup>6</sup> It also adopted its work schedule for the last quarter of the year. The principal results of its deliberations were as follows:

*Wine market:* The Commission transmitted to the Council a set of additional proposals relating to structures in connection with its plan for progressively establishing balance on the market.<sup>7</sup>

*Milk products:* In a report to the Council containing details of new guidelines for milk policy the Commission recorded its concern at developments in the milk sector.<sup>8</sup>

*Steel:* Having received a favourable opinion from the ECSC Consultative Committee<sup>9</sup> the Commission approved the forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1978. It also extended for two months the decision establishing a system of deposits on imports of steel products into the Community.<sup>10</sup>

*Energy:* The Commission adopted a report to the Council on the energy situation in the Community.<sup>11</sup> It notes in particular that implementation of the common energy policy remains both necessary and urgent. Further to the series of proposals already

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 12-1977, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

<sup>2</sup> Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.6.

<sup>3</sup> Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3 and Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.72.

<sup>4</sup> Point 2.2.51.

<sup>5</sup> Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.13.

<sup>6</sup> Points 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.

<sup>7</sup> Point 2.1.45.

<sup>8</sup> Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3.

<sup>9</sup> Point 2.1.12.

<sup>10</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.3.2.

<sup>11</sup> Point 2.1.69.

transmitted to the Council, the Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation introducing a system of Community aid for the supply of coal to power stations.<sup>1</sup>

*Social security:* The Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal which would extend to non-employed insured persons and members of their families moving within the Community the rules on social security for migrant workers.<sup>2</sup>

*Education:* The Commission approved two Communications to the Council designed to encourage student mobility between higher education establishments. One proposes the introduction of common rules on the admission of students from other Member States to higher education establishments and the other a programme of Community scholarships.<sup>3</sup>

*Budget:* The Commission sent the Council the draft letter of amendment to the draft budget for 1979.<sup>4</sup>

*Development aid:* With a view to the preparatory work for the special session of the United Nations General Assembly planned for 1980, the Commission sent a Communication to the Council on the preparation by the Community of a new international development strategy.<sup>5</sup> It also approved a Communication to the Council on the preparation of the United Nations conference on a code of conduct on transfer of technology<sup>6</sup> and transmitted to the Council a Communication on general guidelines on financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries for 1979.<sup>7</sup>

*Generalized preferences:* The Commission endorsed in principle the 1979 generalized tariff preference scheme for developing countries (except for the arrangements for textile products which are still being worked out).

*The Commission's work schedule:* The Commission approved its work schedule for the

fourth quarter in accordance with the guidelines which emerged from its Comblain-la-Tour meeting.<sup>8</sup> General policy discussions are planned on a number of important issues on which the Commission will have to take a decision by the end of the year. Once these discussions are completed the Commission will adopt the proposals to be included in the memorandum annexed to the programme address which will be presented to Parliament in February 1979 together with the General Report on the Activities of the Communities in 1978. The Commission also discussed the terms of reference of the working party which is to study the Commission's structure and management and administration methods as agreed in principle at Comblain-la-Tour.

### Emergency aid

2.3.25. The Commission decided to grant emergency aid of 700 000 EUA (roughly LIT 740 million) for the areas in the Valle d'Ossola in northern Italy (Piedmont) hit by floods at the beginning of August. As a result of these floods fifteen people died, four disappeared, fifteen were injured and a total of 100 000 affected in one way or another. The areas involved cover seventy-two communes.

The Commission also decided to grant emergency aid of 200 000 EUA (roughly DM 500 000) to Baden-Württemberg following the earthquake in the area.

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<sup>1</sup> Point 2.1.74.

<sup>2</sup> Point 2.1.34.

<sup>3</sup> Point 2.1.85.

<sup>4</sup> Point 2.3.54.

<sup>5</sup> Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

<sup>6</sup> Point 2.2.22.

<sup>7</sup> Point 2.2.26.

<sup>8</sup> Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.13.

## Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.26. Several preliminary consultation meetings were held with the trade unions in September. Trade union committees on the chemicals and textiles industries examined the question of the crisis cartel in the synthetic fibres industry and also employment, conversion and restructuring in the industry. The European Trade Union Committee of Food and Allied Workers in the Community examined job opportunities in the hotel and service sectors. The European Trade Union Confederation's Committee on the democratization of the economy examined, with a view to submitting the unions' views, the Commission's proposal for an eighth Directive on approval of persons responsible for auditing company accounts.<sup>1</sup> A group of experts from the European Trade Union Confederation also met to discuss employment in the Community.

## Court of Justice<sup>2</sup>

### New cases

*Case 180/78* — Mrs E.W.M. Brouwer-Kaune, Heerhugowaard v Bestuur van de Bedrijfsvereniging voor het Kledingbedrijf (The Board of the Trade Association for the Clothing Trade)

2.3.27. In a dispute concerning the reduction of an invalidity benefit granted by the Netherlands to a person who already has a claim under German law to an old-age pension (into which his German invalidity pension had been converted), the Centrale Raad van Beroep asked the Court of Justice on 5 September for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Article 40 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71<sup>3</sup> with regard to the case in question.<sup>4</sup>

*Case 181/78* — Ketelhandel P. van Paassen B.V., Wateringen v Inspector of Customs and Excise, The Hague

2.3.28. The Hoge Raad (Supreme Court) of the Netherlands asked the Court of Justice on 11 September for a preliminary ruling on a series of questions including the interpretation of Annex A, 2, regarding Article 4 of the second Directive, on the harmonization of legislation of Member States concerning turnover taxes,<sup>5</sup> and in particular on the right of a Member State to consider separate undertakings which are linked to one another as a single taxable person. The Court was also asked what would be the consequences for the national court if the Member State adopted such a system but failed to enter into the consultations mentioned in Article 16 of the Directive.<sup>4</sup>

*Case 182/78* — Bestuur van het Algemeen Ziekenfonds (Managing Board of the General Sickness Fund) Drenthe-Platteland Zwolle, Meppel v Miss G. Pierik, Wapenveld

2.3.29. In a dispute concerning the reimbursement of expenses incurred in respect of a thermal cure taken in another Member State regarding which a reference for a preliminary ruling had previously been made to the Court of Justice (Case 117/77) which delivered its judgment on 16 March 1978,<sup>6</sup> the Centrale Raad van Beroep asked the Court of Justice on 11 September for preliminary rulings on further questions, in particular whether Article 22 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71<sup>3</sup> relates solely to active workers or

<sup>1</sup> Supplement 4/78 — Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> For further details, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and in the European Court Reports.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 250 of 21.10.1978.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 26 of 15.2.1967.

<sup>6</sup> Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.54.

also to workers who are in receipt of an invalidity pension, and also on certain points of the Court's judgment.<sup>1</sup>

*Case 183/78* — Firma H.P. Galster, Hamburg v Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Jonas

2.3.30. The Bundesfinanzhof (Federal Finance Court), in the course of proceedings concerning the export refund on unboned hams and loins which have been slightly dried and then frozen, asked the Court of Justice on 11 September for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of the Common Customs Tariff, namely whether the term 'frozen' under tariff heading No 02.01 covers not only meat which has been frozen when fresh but also meat which has first been 'slightly dried' and then frozen. If the answer is no, the Court is asked to distinguish the term 'fresh' under tariff heading No 02.01 from the term 'slightly dried' under tariff headings Nos 02.06 B I (b) 3 (aa) and 5 (aa).<sup>1</sup>

*Case 184/78* — Tradax England Ltd, London v Commission

2.3.31. A British firm brought an action before the Court of Justice on 14 September for the annulment of the Commission Decision of 5 July fixing the maximum amount of the export refund for the 48th partial invitation to tender for white sugar issued under Regulation (EEC) No 1634/77,<sup>2</sup> a tendering procedure in which the tenderer had committed a clerical error whose rectification it had requested without success.<sup>1</sup>

*Cases 185 to 204/78* — Officier van Justitie, Rotterdam v Firma J. van Dam & Zonen, Goedereede, and others

2.3.32. In the course of criminal proceedings in respect of twenty cases of fishing quotas for sole and plaice fixed by the Netherlands law of 1977 which have been ex-

ceeded, the Arrondissementsrechtbank Rotterdam asked the Court of Justice on 14 September for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Article 102 of the Act of Accession in order to determine the Community provisions on which the national fishing rules are based and whether they are compatible with Community law.<sup>1</sup>

*Case 205/78* — Acciaierie e Ferriere Stefana Fratelli fu Girolano SpA, Nave v Commission

*Case 206/78* — AFIM — Acciaierie e Ferriere — Industria Metallurgica — Società in Nome Collettivo di Fenotti e Zanola, Nave v Commission

2.3.33. By decisions of 27 July, the Commission imposed fines on the above two undertakings for having supplied concrete reinforcement bars at prices undercutting those laid down by the Commission in its Decision No 962/77/ECSC, thereby infringing Articles 60 and 61 of the ECSC Treaty.<sup>3</sup> The undertakings in question requested the Court of Justice on 15 September to annul these decisions.<sup>1</sup>

*Case 207/78* — Ministère public v (1) Mr G. Even, Herstal; and (2) Office National des Pensions pour Travailleurs Salariés (ONPTS), Brussels

2.3.34. In a dispute concerning the right of a French national to obtain application of the scheme of national recognition in Belgium for services to France during the Second World War, entitling an employed person to an early retirement pension without reduc-

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 250 of 21.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 218 of 9.8.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 114 of 5.5.1977.

tion, the Cour du travail (Labour Court), Liège, asked the Court of Justice on 21 September for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 concerning social security.<sup>1</sup>

*Case 208/78 — Entreprise J. Lefebvre, Neuilly-sur-Seine v Commission*

2.3.35. A French undertaking which had performed a public works contract awarded by the State of Upper Volta and financed by the European Development Fund which, owing to technical defects in the design of the work, gave rise to further work for which payment has not been made, requested the Court of Justice on 27 September 1978 to recognize the non-contractual liability of the European Communities and order the Commission to pay it a sum in respect of the portion of the work for which payment has not been made.<sup>2</sup>

*Cases 209 to 215 and 218/78 — Manufacture de Tabacs et Cigarettes H. Van Landewyck S.à.r.l., Luxembourg, and others v Commission*

2.3.36. By decision of 20 July (IV/28.852 — GB-Inno-BM/Fedetab; IV/29.127 — Mestdagh-Huyghebaert/Fedetab; IV/29.149 — Fedetab recommendation),<sup>3</sup> the Commission found that the agreements concluded between tobacco manufacturers and the decisions by an association of undertakings taken by the Fédération belgo-luxembourgeoise des industries du tabac (Fedetab) concerning the organization of the distribution and sale of tobacco products in Belgium, and the Fedetab recommendation for cigarette sales in Belgium constitute an infringement of Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty. The persons to whom the above decision was addressed brought an action before the Court of Justice on 28 and 29 September for its annulment.

*Cases 216 and 217/78 — N. Beljatsky, Berlin, and others v Hauptzollamt Aachen-Süd*

2.3.37. On the occasion of the importation into Germany of concentrated butter sold at a reduced price to certain processing undertakings pursuant to Regulations (EEC) Nos 1259/72<sup>4</sup> and 232/75,<sup>5</sup> the customs authorities reduced the monetary compensatory amounts applicable by a coefficient provided for in Article 20 of the Regulations. Having established that the persons acquiring the butter had failed to fulfil their obligation to process it into products falling within CCT tariff heading No 19.08, the German customs authorities claimed from the importers the difference between the full monetary compensatory amounts and the amounts initially paid.

When hearing these disputes, the Finanzgericht Düsseldorf (Finance Court) asked the Court of Justice on 29 September for a ruling on the question whether the reduction in compensatory amounts creates a vested right when the product is the subject of a transaction under Articles 1 to 19 of the Regulations or whether it is essential that the product be used in accordance with the Regulations and if so, whether Article 20 constitutes a legal basis for claiming payment of the full monetary compensatory amounts.

## Judgments

*Case 69/77 — Commission v Italian Republic*

2.3.38. On 3 June 1977 the Commission instituted proceedings before the Court of

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971; OJ C 250 of 21.10.1978.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 250 of 21.10.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 224 of 15.8.1978.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 139 of 17.6.1972.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 24 of 31.1.1975.



Justice to establish that Italy has failed to fulfil its obligations under Directives 74/150, 74/151, 74/152, 74/346 and 74/347 on the approximation of the laws of Member States on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.<sup>1</sup> In its judgment of 21 September, the Court held that the action was well founded.<sup>2</sup>

*Case 147/78 — Firma Köln-Bonner Eisenbahnen AG (KBE), Cologne v (1) Bundesrepublik Deutschland represented by the Bundesminister für Verkehr and (2) Land Nordrhein-Westfalen represented by the Minister für Wirtschaft, Mittelstand und Verkehr*

2.3.39. A German private undertaking providing railway and bus services claimed in the Oberverwaltungsgericht (Higher Administrative Court) for Land North Rhine-Westphalia financial compensation from the Federal Government and from the Land in respect of concessionary rates which it is obliged to charge certain categories of passengers, and the reimbursement of one-half of the costs incurred in maintaining crossing installations. The German court asked the Court of Justice on 20 June to rule on the interpretation of Decision 65/271 on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway<sup>3</sup> and on the interpretation and, if appropriate, the validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 1191/69 on action by Member States concerning the obligations inherent in the concept of a public service in transport by rail, road and inland waterway and 1192/69 on common rules for the standardization of the accounts of railway undertakings<sup>4</sup> which confine these advantages to State railway companies.<sup>5</sup>

Since the parties to the proceedings had reached agreement the Oberverwaltungsgericht withdrew its request for a preliminary ruling and the Court removed the case from the register by Order of 20 September.

*Case 158/77 — Mr J. Seidl, Regenstauf v (1) Council and (2) Commission*

2.3.40. A German poultry breeder brought an action before the Court of Justice on 23 December 1977 for damages in respect of the loss which he claimed to have suffered as a result of his undertaking being regarded as an industrial one and, consequently, of his being unable to qualify for the tax advantages granted to agricultural producers by Regulation (EEC) No 2464/69 on measures to be taken in agriculture as a result of the revaluation of the German mark.<sup>6</sup> This action follows another case in which the applicant discontinued proceedings since the Council and Commission had raised the defence that it was barred by lapse of time.<sup>7</sup>

The Court removed the case from the register by Order of 20 September since the applicant had again discontinued proceedings.

## Economic and Social Committee

### Renewal of Committee members

2.3.41. At its 19 September meeting the Council appointed the members of the Economic and Social Committee for the period from 19 September 1978 to 18 September 1982.<sup>8</sup> After consulting the Commission, the Council selected the members from lists submitted by the Governments of the Member States.

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 84 of 28.3.1974 and L 191 of 15.7.1974; Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.3.45.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 250 of 21.10.1978.

<sup>3</sup> OJ 88 of 24.5.1965.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 156 of 28.6.1969.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.3.54.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 312 of 12.12.1969.

<sup>7</sup> Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.3.48 and 12-1977, point 2.3.51.

<sup>8</sup> OJ L 273 of 29.9.1978.

2.3.42. The Council took the opportunity of stressing the importance it attaches to the Committee's opinions, both those asked for by the Council pursuant to the Treaty, and those delivered on its own initiative. Over the next four years, the Committee will have many significant new issues to discuss, such as progress towards economic and monetary union and Community enlargement. The Council has no doubt that the Committee's broad knowledge of all these matters will continue, as in the past, to be of great value to it in its work.

## ECSC Consultative Committee

### 193rd meeting

2.3.43. The ECSC Consultative Committee held a special meeting in Luxembourg on 19 and 20 September; it was chaired by Mr Ackermann, the Committee Chairman and attended by Mr Vredeling, Vice-President and Mr Vouel, Member of the Commission (representing Mr Davignon). The items on the agenda were:

- (i) consideration of the social aspects of steel policy;
- (ii) opinion on Member States' aid and interventions to assist the steel industry;
- (iii) general objectives for steel for 1980-85-90;
- (iv) the forward steel programme.

The Committee also approved a two-month extension of the deposit system.<sup>1</sup> The value of this measure was unanimously recognized.

### *Social aspects of steel policy*

2.3.44. On the basis of the working paper drawn up by the Commission in June<sup>2</sup> the

Committee made an in-depth appraisal of the main social aspects of a policy for restructuring the steel industry. One point highlighted during the discussion was the need for a new policy in order to find appropriate solutions, particularly in regard to the severely affected regions.

After a statement by Vice-President Vredeling, the draft Resolution tabled by the Workers Group was adopted with just one abstention.

The Resolution considers that the measures proposed by the Commission will enable the restructuring policy to attain its prime social objective of maintaining as many jobs as possible in the steel industry. The Committee welcomed the Commission's intention to take special financial measures to see through the planned social programme and called for parallel steps from each Member State. The Committee also recognized that the success of the restructuring plan for the European steel industry was closely tied to the application of the social side of steel policy.

### *State aid for steel*

2.3.45. Having agreed in principle at its July meeting that a non-discriminatory Community policy should be applied in respect of aid and interventions by the Member States,<sup>3</sup> the Committee proceeded to scrutinize the amendments to the Commission draft proposed by the Market and Prices Subcommittee. One of the points made was that aid coming from decentralized public bodies must clearly be seen to fall within the scope of the proposal. The proposal should also en-

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 178 of 1.7.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.3.2 and 2.1.16.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 6-1978, points 2.1.41 and 2.3.87.

<sup>3</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.3.84.

able restructuring programmes to be presented direct by firms. Lastly, some clarification was called for in regard to the degree of control which the Commission might have to apply in respect of Member States' projects involving action within the meaning of Article 67 of the ECSC Treaty.

#### *General steel objectives for 1980-85-90*

2.3.46. The Commission presented the general steel objectives for 1980-85-90,<sup>1</sup> which are purposely confined to supply and demand. They are based on 'reasonable' assumptions of moderate overall growth. As regards foreign trade, the figures put forward showed that care had been taken not to overestimate the labour available to the Community to help reduced imports from non-member countries. The main thing to note about supply was that it would in all probability exceed demand by 25 million tonnes. The Committee will continue its discussion at the October meeting.

#### *Forward programme for steel*

2.3.47. The Committee endorsed the production figure of 31 million tonnes set by the Commission in the forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1978. In approving this target, the Committee obtained the Commission's assurance that in future it would study the results of the programme month by month in liaison with the producers and that it would be prepared to make adjustments if the situation so required. The Commission also confirmed that the method would be changed next year and stressed the importance of this.

## **European Investment Bank**

### **Loans raised**

2.3.48. The European Investment Bank has decided to float a bond issue for DM 300 million on the international capital market. The issue has been underwritten by an international consortium of banks headed by Deutsche Bank AG in conjunction with Dresdner Bank AG, Commerzbank AG and Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale.

The twelve-year bonds bear interest at a nominal rate of 6%, payable on 1 October of each year. They are redeemable at par at term. A repurchase fund will provide for purchase of bonds at prices below par at any time during the first eight years of the issue's lifetime. The European Investment Bank reserves the right to redeem in advance, at par, all bonds still in circulation as from 1 October 1986.

The bonds, offered for public subscription from 20 September at 99.5%, will yield 6.06%, calculated on total lifetime basis.

The issue is listed in Frankfurt, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Munich. Proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used by the European Investment Bank to help finance its ordinary lending operations.

This bond issue brings total EIB public issues in Deutsche Marks to DM 2 430 million. In addition, the EIB has so far contracted private Deutsche Mark issues totalling DM 1 875 million.

2.3.49. The European Investment Bank has launched a USD 225 million issue, divided into two tranches: USD 100 million of eight-year notes and USD 125 million of twenty-year bonds.

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<sup>1</sup> Point 2.1.12.

The issue—entirely for the United States domestic market—has been underwritten by a syndicate of American banks headed by Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb Incorporated, Merrill Lynch White Weld Capital Markets Group, The First Boston Corporation and Lazard Frères & Co.

Carrying a coupon of 8.875%, payable half-yearly on 1 October and 1 April, the eight-year notes are offered for subscription at 99.30%, giving a yield of 9%. They are redeemable at par at term but the EIB has the option of redeeming in advance, at their nominal value, all or some of the notes in circulation from 1 October 1985 onwards. The twenty-year bonds carry a coupon of 9.125%, also payable half-yearly on 1 October and 1 April; the issue price is 99% and the yield, calculated on the full lifetime, comes to 9.236%. The bonds are redeemable through a sinking fund in six annual tranches of USD 6.25 million (1 October 1986-91 inclusive) and in seven annual tranches of USD 12.5 million (1 October 1992-98 inclusive). The Bank has the option of redeeming in advance, at a declining premium, all bonds in circulation from 1 October 1990 onwards. Application has been made to list the issue on the New York Stock Exchange.

The proceeds from the issue will be used by the Bank to help finance its ordinary lending operations.

2.3.50. The European Investment Bank has launched a FF 200 million bond issue on the international capital market. The underwriters are a syndicate of banks headed by Crédit Commercial de France.

The bonds bear interest at a nominal rate of 9.75%, payable annually, and have a maximum life of ten years; the issue price is 99.5%, giving a yield, calculated on the full lifetime, of 9.83%. The bonds are redeemable either at par at term (1 October 1988) or by purchase on the market at prices not ex-

ceeding par through use of a purchase fund, from 1 November 1978 to 30 September 1982. The Bank has the option of redeeming in advance, at a declining premium, all bonds in circulation, from 1982. Application has been made to quote the issue on the Luxembourg stock exchange.

The proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used by the European Investment Bank to help finance its ordinary lending operations.

2.3.51. The European Investment Bank is launching a BFR 2 500 million bond issue on the Belgian market underwritten by a banking syndicate composed of Société Générale de Banque, Banque de Bruxelles Lambert, Kredietbank and Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas-Belgique.

The bonds will carry a coupon of 8.50% payable annually on 16 October and were offered for public subscription at 99.75% from 9 to 13 October 1978; the yield comes to 8.54%. The issue will be redeemable at par by 16 October 1986 at the latest. The contract includes a purchase fund clause, operative from October 1978 onwards, enabling the buying back of BFR 65 million of bonds each year between 1979 and 1984 and of BFR 1 010 million in 1985 at prices not exceeding par. The EIB is entitled to redeem at par all bonds in circulation from 16 October 1982 onwards. Application has been made to list the bonds on the Brussels and Antwerp stock exchanges.

The proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used by the Bank for its ordinary lending operations.

### Loans granted

#### *Liberia*

2.3.52. Under the terms of the Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has

provided a loan of 4.9 million EUA (approx. 6.09 million Liberian or US dollars) for extension of a power-station in Liberia, at Bushrod, on the outskirts of Monrovia, the capital. The loan has been granted to the Liberia Electricity Corporation, a public body responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity throughout the country; the term is fifteen years and the interest rate 5.55%, after deduction of a 3% subsidy drawn from the resources of the European Development Fund.

The scheme which the EIB is part-financing is to cost an estimated total of 24 million EUA and will raise the station's generating capacity to 107 MW from 1980. At present the country's electricity production is just sufficient to cover needs and an increase is necessary to serve future economic development; many projects in manufacturing, craft industry and commerce depend on it. The extension will also help make more electricity available for household use.

The scheme should enable the country to cope with future demand until about 1986 when it is expected that new hydroelectric installations will come into operation.

Apart from the EIB loan, finance is also being provided by the World Bank, the Saudi Fund for Development and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa.

### *Mali*

2.3.53. Again under the terms of the Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has granted a loan of 3.65 million EUA (approx. 2 040 million Mali francs) to the Republic of Mali, to help finance construction of a rice mill at Dioro in the Ségou region.

The operation takes the form of a conditional loan carrying interest at 2% over a term fixed in principle at twenty years. The funds

have been advanced by the EIB acting as agent for the Community using resources which, under the terms of the Lomé Convention, have been reserved for various risk-capital financing operations, management of which is entrusted to the Bank. This first EIB operation in Mali will help to further the country's efforts to develop rice farming and move closer to self-sufficiency in food.

The plant to be financed by the EIB will have a milling capacity of 13 200 tonnes of processed rice per annum, which will represent important net foreign currency savings for Mali. It will also be able to offer the market various by-products like rice flour and bran.

## Financing Community activities

### Budgets

#### *General budget*

#### **Letter of Amendment to the preliminary draft general budget for 1979**

2.3.54. On 13 September the Commission adopted a Letter of Amendment to the preliminary draft general budget for 1979, which it forwarded to the Budgetary Authority on 18 September. The Commission had stated in the preliminary draft budget for 1979<sup>1</sup> that a Letter of Amendment to this preliminary draft would be introduced if the necessity arose. In the explanatory memorandum to the draft budget for 1979,<sup>2</sup> the Council noted that it would receive this letter towards the middle of September.

<sup>1</sup> Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.3.94 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.3.97; Supplement 6/78 — Bull. EC.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.3.94.

Table 3 — Revenue

(in EUA)

Nature of revenue	Revenue estimated in current preliminary draft budget	Change proposed in Letter of Amendment	New amount
Own resources <sup>1</sup>	13 700 784 549	+200 194 000	13 900 978 549
Surpluses available	token entry	—	token entry
Portion of proceeds of the ECSC levies paid in pursuance of Article 20 of the Treaty of 8 April 1965 <sup>2</sup>	5 000 000	—	5 000 000
Deductions from staff remunerations	112 879 590	—	112 879 590
Financial contributions	10 850 732	—	10 850 732
Miscellaneous revenue	29 804 969	—	29 804 969
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 859 319 840</b>	<b>+200 194 000</b>	<b>14 059 513 840</b>

<sup>1</sup> See Table below<sup>2</sup> OJ 152 of 13.7.1967*Detail of own resources*

(in EUA)

	Revenue estimated in current preliminary draft budget	Change proposed in Letter of Amendment	New amount
Customs duties	4 745 500 000	—	4 745 500 000
Agricultural levies	1 706 000 000	—	1 706 000 000
Sugar levies	438 100 000	+ 28 900 000	467 000 000
VAT	6 811 184 549	+171 294 000	6 982 478 549
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 700 784 549</b>	<b>+200 194 000</b>	<b>13 900 978 549</b>

The Letter of Amendment covers the following areas:

- (i) expenditure on research and investment;
- (ii) EAGGF Guarantee Section;
- (iii) EAGGF Guidance Section;
- (iv) own resources estimates;
- (v) correction to 10% flat-rate refunds to Member States to cover the cost of collecting own resources.

The Letter of Amendment provides for an overall increase of 202.2 million EUA in total appropriations for commitment and 200.2 million EUA in total appropriations for payment. Changes have also been made to the revenue estimates; these relate solely to the sugar levies, which have had to be adjusted, notably to take account of the new storage levy fixed on 28 June; the rate is now 1.98 u.a. per 100 kg of white sugar instead of 1.77 u.a. as used in drawing up the preliminary

Table 4 — Expenditure

(in EUA)

	Preliminary draft				Letter of Amendment		New amount			
	Total appropriations for commitment	%	Total appropriations for payment	%	Total appropriations for commitment	Total appropriations for payment	Total appropriations for commitment	%	Total appropriations for payment	%
	1		2		3	4	5		6	
<b>Commission</b>										
<i>Intervention appropriations</i>										
• Agriculture	10 277 634 000	70.07	10 069 824 000	72.66	+ 199 270 000	+ 193 304 000	10 476 904 000	70.46	10 263 128 000	73.00
• Social	882 302 000	6.02	748 182 000	5.40			882 302 000	5.93	748 182 000	5.32
• Regional	620 000 000	4.23	390 000 000	2.81			620 000 000	4.17	390 000 000	2.77
• Research, energy, industry, transport	576 762 375	3.93	516 265 330	3.73	—	+ 4 000 000	576 762 375	3.88	520 265 330	3.70
• Development cooperation	705 233 900	4.81	564 933 900	4.08			705 233 900	4.74	564 933 900	4.02
• Miscellaneous token entry	—	—	token entry	—			token entry	—	token entry	—
	13 061 932 275	89.06	12 289 205 230	88.67	+ 199 270 000	+ 197 304 000	13 261 202 275	89.19	12 486 509 230	88.81
<i>Administrative appropriations</i>										
• Staff	417 926 300	2.85	417 926 300	3.02			417 926 300	2.81	417 926 300	2.97
• Administration	121 140 500	0.83	121 140 500	0.87			121 140 500	0.81	121 140 500	0.86
• Information	12 010 500	0.08	12 010 500	0.09			12 010 500	0.08	12 010 500	0.09
• Aids and subsidies	48 015 000	0.33	48 015 000	0.35			48 015 000	0.32	48 015 000	0.34
	599 092 300	4.08	599 092 300	4.32			599 092 300	4.03	599 092 300	4.26
<i>Reserve</i>										
• Chapter 100	50 000 000	0.34	15 000 000	0.11			50 000 000	0.34	15 000 000	0.11
• Chapter 101	5 000 000	0.03	5 000 000	0.04			5 000 000	0.03	5 000 000	0.04
• Chapter 102	10 000 000	0.07	10 000 000	0.07			10 000 000	0.07	10 000 000	0.07
<i>Repayment of 10% of own resources to Member States</i>	688 960 000	4.70	688 960 000	4.97	+ 2 890 000	+ 2 890 000	691 850 000	4.65	691 850 000	4.92
Commission total	14 414 984 575	98.28	13 607 257 530	98.18	+ 202 160 000	+ 200 194 000	14 617 144 575	98.30	13 807 451 530	98.21
<b>Other institutions</b>	252 062 310	1.72	252 062 310	1.82			252 062 310	1.70	252 062 310	1.79
Grand total	14 667 046 885	100.00	13 859 319 840	100.00	+ 200 160 000	+ 200 194 000	14 869 206 885	100.00	14 059 513 840	100.00

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draft. This adjustment—and also the updating of the production estimates—means that sugar levies will increase by 28.9 million EUA in relation to the estimates given in the preliminary draft budget.

As regards the other own resources (agricultural levies, customs duties and the 1% of the VAT base), there have been no new developments to warrant any amendments. In view of the increase in expenditure, however, the VAT percentage moves up from the 0.75% rate given in the preliminary draft to 0.77% in the Letter of Amendment.

Expressed in tabular form, the increase in expenditure is as follows:

(in EUA)

Areas	Appropriations for commitment	Appropriations for payment
Research and investment		+ 4 000 000
EAGGF Guarantee Section	+124 300 000	+124 300 000
EAGGF Guidance Section	+ 74 970 000	+ 69 004 000
Correction to 10% flat-rate refunds to Member States	+ 2 890 000	+ 2 890 000
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>+202 160 000</b>	<b>+200 194 000</b>

The preliminary draft budget, as modified by the Letter of Amendment, now stands at:

— 14 869 206 885 EUA in total appropriations for commitment (an increase of 2 166 272 801 EUA or 17% over the 1978 budget);

— 14 059 513 840 EUA in total appropriations for payment (an increase of 1 696 859 248 EUA or 14% over the 1978 budget).

The statement of the Community's revenue and expenditure proposed in the preliminary

draft budget for 1979—account taken of the Letter of Amendment—is set out in Tables 3 and 4.

## Financial operations

### ECSC

#### Loans granted

##### Loans paid

2.3.55. Under Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty the Commission granted a loan to the following company in September:

#### Conversion

##### France — Lorraine

Société Mécanique Automobile de l'Est, SMAE, Metz—subsidiary of Peugeot-Citroën (factories at Ennery and Metz).

#### Loan decisions

2.3.56. The Commission also took two decisions to grant loans under the first paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty. These loans, which have been approved but not yet disbursed, total 4 million EUA. The recipients are:

#### Industrial loans

##### Steel industry

— Rationalization of steel bar production (Forges et Laminoirs de Bretagne, Saint-Brieuc).

— Environmental protection (Thyssen Edelstahlwerke AG, Düsseldorf-Krefeld works).





**PART THREE**  
**DOCUMENTATION**

# 1. Units of account

## Units of account

### European unit of account

#### Changeover from the unit of account to the EUA

3.1.1. On account of the severe disturbances in international monetary relationships and the replacement of the system of fixed parities by floating exchange rates, the Community decided to introduce a new unit of account. Whereas the old unit of account (u.a.) was defined by reference to a given weight of fine gold, with fixed parities, the new 'basket' unit of account (EUA) reflects the day-to-day fluctuations between the various currencies on the foreign exchange markets.

A 'basket' unit of account is made up of different national currencies; the European unit of account is thus defined by reference to a sum of fixed amounts of Member States' currencies. When the EUA was introduced in 1975, these fixed amounts were obviously not chosen at random but took account, among other things, of the size of each Member State's economy.

The value of one EUA is the sum of the values of the following amounts: BFR 3.66, LFR 0.14, DM 0.828, HFL 0.286, UKL 0.0885, DKR 0.217, FF 1.15, LIT 109 and IRL 0.00759.

Depending on whether the rates of these different currencies are those recorded on the market in Brussels, Copenhagen or Paris, etc., the rate of the European unit of account is given in Belgian francs, Danish kroner or French francs, etc. The effect of this definition is that the value of the EUA in any national currency moves in line with changes in the weighted average of exchange rates in all the currencies in the basket; in other words, it reflects the aggregate movement in those currencies (Table 1).

The value of the EUA in the Member States' currencies is determined each day by the Commission on the basis of the official exchange rates notified by Member States' central banks; the value of the EUA is also calculated in a number of other currencies. Rates for the value of the EUA in the various national currencies are published

Table 1 — *Values in national currencies of one European unit of account*

National currency	1 September <sup>1</sup>	15 September <sup>2</sup>	29 September <sup>3</sup>
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.4466	40.4547	40.2016
German mark	2.56703	2.56607	2.54907
Dutch guilder	2.78677	2.78662	2.77149
Pound sterling	0.664859	0.661617	0.666864
Danish krone	7.11118	7.06536	7.05015
French franc	5.62130	5.64701	5.69694
Italian lira	1 078.11	1 079.09	1 083.29
Irish pound	0.664859	0.661617	0.666864
United States dollar	1.29191	1.29746	1.31593
Swiss franc	2.10112	2.05887	2.03578
Spanish peseta	95.1461	95.7622	94.9830
Swedish krona	5.72817	5.72203	5.79106
Norwegian krone	6.78293	6.79626	6.75940
Canadian dollar	1.48824	1.50333	1.55129
Portuguese escudo	58.6183	58.8861	59.7793
Austrian schilling	18.5280	18.5445	18.4665
Finnish mark	5.29406	5.28820	5.29665
Japanese yen	247.986	246.180	248.372

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 209 of 29 1978

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 220 of 16 9 1978

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 232 of 30 9 1978

daily.<sup>1</sup> In addition, anyone may contact the Commission to obtain this information.

### Scope of application of the EUA

3.1.2. Since it was devised in 1975, the EUA has been phased into use in various areas of Community activity: 1975: ACP-EEC Lomé Convention (Council Decision of 21 April 1975);<sup>2</sup> balance sheet of the European Investment Bank (Decisions of the Board of Governors dated 18 March 1975 and 10 November 1977);

1976: ECSC operational budget (Commission Decision of 18 December 1975);<sup>3</sup>

1978: General budget of the Communities (Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977).<sup>4</sup>

The European unit of account is now used in all areas of Community activity, apart from the common agricultural policy, operations of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund (EMCF), and the customs field. It will be used for customs purposes from 1 January 1979 onwards.

The EUA has also been in use for some time in the fields of banking and commerce (Table 2).

Table 2 — *Annual interest rates<sup>1</sup> on bank deposits denominated in EUA*

	1 September 1978	15 September 1978	29 September 1978
1 month	6½-7½	6.41-7.41	7-8
3 months	7-8	6.77-7.77	7½-8½
6 months	7¾-8¾	7.25-8.25	7¾-8¾
12 months	7½-8½	7.40-8.40	7¾-8¾

<sup>1</sup> Rates obtaining in Brussels

### 'Green' rates

3.1.3. The old unit of account (u.a.) is still used in connection with the common agricultural policy. However, the conversion procedures applied have been substantially modified; conversion into national currencies

of common agricultural prices expressed in units of account (u.a.) has long ceased to be based on fixed parities determined by reference to a given weight of fine gold and is now determined by 'representative rates', which are used in the agricultural field only. Generally referred to as 'green' rates, representative rates are fixed by decision of the Council (Table 3). The difference between these rates and the rates obtaining on the exchanges is offset by monetary compensatory amounts.

The market rates for the snake currencies (Benelux, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany) are taken to be

Table 3 — *Conversion rates into national currencies for the unit of account used in connection with the common agricultural policy*

National currency	September 1978
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	49.3486
Danish krone	8.56656
German mark	3.41258 <sup>1</sup> 3.40238 <sup>6</sup>
French franc	6.45761 <sup>2</sup> 6.00103 <sup>3</sup> 6.22514 <sup>6</sup>
Irish pound	0.739700 <sup>3</sup> 0.786912 <sup>6</sup>
Italian lira	1 096.00 <sup>4</sup> 1 030.00 <sup>5</sup> 1 154.00 <sup>6</sup>
Dutch guilder	0.340270
Pound sterling	0.586638 <sup>3</sup> 0.634204 <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For rice, pigmeat, olive oil, soya, sunflower, wine and fish

<sup>2</sup> For pigmeat

<sup>3</sup> For rice, olive oil, soya, sunflower, wine and fish.

<sup>4</sup> For wine

<sup>5</sup> For rice, olive oil, soya, sunflower and fish

<sup>6</sup> For the other products

<sup>1</sup> In the Official Journal of the European Communities and in the press

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 104 of 24 4 1975

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 327 of 19 12 1975

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 356 of 31 12 1977

## 2. Additional references in the Official Journal

Units of account

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their central rates, with the result that the compensatory amounts for these countries are not changed unless the central rates and the representative rates are adjusted. The monetary compensatory amounts for the other Member States are normally fixed each week on the basis of the average exchange rate of the relevant national currency against the currencies in the snake.

3.2.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments and notices of Community institutions or organs which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relating to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers is followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

### **Bull. EC 6-1978**

#### *Point 2.1.44*

Commission Decision of 27 June 1978 on the submission to the Commission of applications for assistance and claims for payment from the European Social Fund. OJ L 248 of 11.9.1978.

# 3. The Community at the United Nations

## The Community at the United Nations

*Extracts from the speech made on 26 September by Mr Genscher, German Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the Council of the European Communities and of European political cooperation, at the 33rd session of the United Nations General Assembly*

3.3.1. 'The Federal Republic of Germany at present holds the presidency in the European Community and in the European Political Cooperation. Therefore, I should like to begin by addressing you in my capacity as the spokesman of the Nine.

... The world today is in a state of transition, with two realities and philosophies in conflict with one another. The one reality is that of power politics. It finds expression in a gigantic arms build-up, which is constantly escalating and spreading to more and more regions, including regions of the Third World. Behind this is the obsolete idea that a State can best safeguard its interests by force and by striving for predominance.

The other, the new, reality is global interdependence. Today, all States need reliable access to the markets of others, to the technology of others, to the raw materials of others. They all need the growth of others to stimulate their own growth. They need cooperation in the fight against international terrorism. They need cooperation to protect the threatened ecological balance.

In our complex world, however, this cannot be achieved by means of power politics. Force means chaos and destruction, force means bondage and loss of freedom for all. But cooperation for everyone's benefit can result only from an order that is accepted by all nations because all nations consider it to be just and because it is in their own interest to contribute to it.

It is this perception that engenders a new international consciousness and awareness. It is nourished by respect for the independence and equality of States, by joint decisions and joint responsibilities of all, by the settlement of conflicts through negotiation and reconciliation of interests.

It is this consciousness that will determine the future. No one can turn back the wheel of history, however strong and powerful he may be. This world of ours, confronted as it is with huge common tasks, cannot but drift into self-destruction if countries still persist in trying to steer its fortunes by outmoded power politics.

This new consciousness, this awareness of interdependence, gave birth to the Europe of the Nine, which be-

lieves in a future of equality and partnership all over the world.

The Europe we are building aims to realize the great idea of the dignity and rights of man. It is by its very nature a democratic Europe. It is open to other European democracies, and we are looking forward to the accession of Greece, Portugal and Spain, making the Community of the Nine soon a Community of the Twelve. We feel ourselves linked with those European democracies which for reasons of historical tradition or other reasons have not, or not yet, become members of the Community.

However, the Europe of the Nine is not an inward-looking community. Indeed, it endeavours in the wider world as well to promote peace and the welfare of all. It is the biggest trading partner in the world, and especially of the Third World, and it is the biggest donor of development assistance.

This Europe of the Nine wants to be a centre of co-operation in the world, and it sees itself on the side of those who seek to create an order for that cooperation founded on equality and partnership.

We want one world in which the nations will meet the challenge of global interdependence through global co-operation. But we by no means want a uniform world—quite the contrary; we want a world in which all nations can themselves determine their political, economic and cultural ways of life. Mankind needs diversity if its creative forces are not to fade away.

The European Community is founded on respect for the equality of all its members and on the principle of joint decision-making. On the strength of these qualities and principles it can serve as an example for a global order giving all States, big and small, the same right and the same opportunity to play a part in the shaping of their common future. It can also serve as an example of the countries of a region forming an association and combining their efforts so as to accomplish the tasks at hand and to strengthen the independence, the political stability and the economic growth of that region.

We are glad to see that the idea of regional association among States with equal rights is gaining ground in all parts of the world, and we support this trend.

Under the Lomé Convention we are cooperating with fifty-three African, Pacific and Caribbean States. Another expression of the new form of interregional cooperation is the Euro-Arab Dialogue, with which both sides

are pursuing the common goal of placing the interdependence of the two regions on a stable basis of comprehensive and long-term cooperation. In Asia, the Europe of the Nine is establishing ever closer links with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

We follow with great interest also the work of other regional organizations, in particular, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

The Europe of the Nine welcomes the fact that the People's Republic of China is becoming more outward-looking as is in keeping with its size and its political weight. The trade agreement between the People's Republic of China and the Community expresses the desire of both sides constantly to expand their economic relations and exchanges.

It is now my privilege to describe the role of the Europe of the Nine in the world and thus our position on the central issues up for discussion at this thirty-third session of the General Assembly.

As in previous years the conflicts in Africa and the Middle East again figure prominently on the agenda. With both those regions the Europe of the Nine is most closely connected. We have a vital interest in the peaceful settlement of those conflicts.

In large parts of Africa peace has been seriously disrupted. Many African States are in the difficult process of nation-building. In southern Africa an end to racial discrimination and colonialism is still to be achieved. Thus Africa is confronted with the difficult task of settling internal and external conflicts by peaceful means and at the same time promoting its economic development. The rest of the world must assist Africa in this task. But, instead, conflicts are being aggravated by outside powers which use the opportunities provided by those conflicts to establish new spheres of influence in Africa. Africa needs peace and Africa needs economic development. It needs, as the Nigerian Head of State, General Obasanjo said at the Organization of African Unity summit meeting in Khartoum: "... massive economic assistance ... and not military hardware for self-destruction and sterile ideological slogans".

We, the Nine, support the countries of Africa in their quest for peaceful development. We do not seek to impose our political and social system on Africa. We want to see an independent and united Africa whose nations will find African solutions and answers to African questions and problems. And with that Africa we want to

cooperate on a basis of partnership, that is, on a basis of equality.

In Namibia—after a hopeful development had begun—we are now confronted with a serious situation. The Nine most deeply regret the decision taken by the South African Government to hold elections in Namibia without the United Nations being involved. We are disappointed at this unilateral step taken by the Government of South Africa. Its action brings forth great dangers for Namibia and beyond that for the whole of southern Africa. South Africa in this way is playing into the hands of those who advocate violent solutions in southern Africa.

Over the last eighteen months efforts have been made in dogged and persevering negotiations within the framework of the United Nations to pave the way for Namibia to gain independence by peaceful means. Thanks to the understanding and good will of all parties concerned it has proved possible time and again to overcome deadlock, crises and setbacks. The South African Government has now conjured up a new serious crisis which calls into question all the efforts undertaken so far. Where the negotiations had helped so far to develop an atmosphere of confidence, understanding and readiness for compromise, the old differences are now re-emerging. The results achieved in laborious and complex negotiations involving African States as responsible participants—in particular the front-line States—are in jeopardy.

The Europe of the Nine supports the appeal made by the Secretary-General to continue efforts to achieve a peaceful solution to the Namibia problem on the basis of Security Council Resolution 431 (1978) and on the basis of the Waldheim report. We are convinced that the report by the Secretary-General is in line with the Western plan for Namibia.

The Nine urgently appeal to the South African Government to consider the far-reaching consequences of its action. The new South African Government to be formed in the next few days is faced with a historic responsibility. The five Western members of the Security Council—Canada, France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany—yesterday decided to ask for a meeting of the Security Council in the course of this week and they expect that at that meeting the Waldheim report will be accepted. Such a decision should give an opportunity to the new Government of South Africa to reconsider its position, as we have requested them to do. It then has an opportunity



to put developments back on the right track, on a positive track. Without the participation of all political forces in Namibia and without the involvement of the United Nations, a peaceful, internationally recognized settlement is not possible.

The dangerous situation produced by South Africa constitutes a challenge to the people of Namibia, to the United Nations and to all those who struggle to achieve a peaceful and internationally recognized solution to the Namibia problem. Furthermore the opportunity—and nobody should overlook this—to set an example for the peaceful solution of other problems in southern Africa would be missed.

With regard to Zimbabwe the Nine hope that in spite of all difficulties it will still be possible at this late hour to arrive at a peaceful settlement with the participation of all parties involved. We are convinced that the British-American plan for Rhodesia still offers the most realistic possibility for peaceful transition to independence. The European Community is ready to offer its aid for development to a Zimbabwe which will substitute for the present minority régime an internationally accepted democratic majority government.

The Nine are urgently pressing for peaceful and rapid change in the system of apartheid in South Africa itself. That system of racial discrimination is contrary to everything in which the Europe of the Nine believes. South Africa is a multiracial society. That society can find a peaceful future only in a State that guarantees the enjoyment of human rights to all and ensures that they can live together as equal citizens.

We appeal to the future Prime Minister who will be elected shortly to make a new beginning here too. The Nine are using the influence they have to bring about a change in this direction. We are still waiting for others to follow the code of conduct for companies of the Nine in South Africa, which is designed to ensure equal treatment for black and white employees. The Nine have furthermore supported the Security Council decision to impose an arms embargo on South Africa.

The eyes of the world are also on the Middle East.

The events that have occurred since the last session of the General Assembly, especially the courageous initiative of President Sadat and the Camp David Conference, have renewed hope for a settlement to the bitter Middle East conflict which has threatened the security of the world for the past thirty years.

In view of the close ties between Europe and the Middle East, efforts to achieve a peace settlement in that region are of vital interest to us too. This is reflected in our determination to support all efforts to bring about such a settlement.

The nine Member States of the European Community have therefore paid tribute to the achievements of the participants in the Camp David Conference and its successful conclusion. They have expressed their hope that the results of that summit will represent another important step on the path to a just, comprehensive and therefore lasting peace settlement.

If such a peace settlement is to be achieved it is imperative that all parties concerned participate in its negotiation and completion. Meanwhile no obstacle should be placed in the way of this process, which should be kept open and should, through further development and wider participation, lead to a comprehensive settlement.

Proceeding from Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which have to be applied in all their parts and on all fronts, the Nine continue to believe that the settlement should be founded on the principles which they last set out in their declaration of 29 June 1977 in London, namely: the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force; the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967; respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every State in the area and its right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries; and recognition that in the establishment of a just and lasting peace account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

It remains our firm view that all these aspects must be taken as a whole.

We uphold the view that a peace settlement in the Middle East will be possible only if the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to its national identity is translated into fact. This would take into account the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people.

In this context it is important that Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 have been accepted by both Israel and its neighbours. This must be the starting-point for any progress in the peace-making process.

The situation in the Middle East is inseparably linked with the situation in Lebanon. After three years of crisis and conflict the restoration of peace and order and the

rebuilding of that country still seem remote. The Nine are still deeply concerned about this situation, which threatens not only the existence of Lebanon but the stability of the entire region.

Once more they appeal urgently to all who have an influence on developments in that country to be fully conscious of their responsibility for peace, and they hope that all parties concerned will support efforts to strengthen the authority of the Lebanese Government in the whole territory, as called for in the Security Council resolutions on Lebanon. The Nine welcome the fact that the Security Council has renewed the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force (UNIFIL). They appeal to all parties to give that Force their full support in exercising its mandate.

On the Cyprus question there has still been no breakthrough. A solution to the conflict must be based on the principles of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus. It can be achieved only through direct negotiations between the two communities in Cyprus. The United Nations can facilitate such negotiations but can be no substitute for them. The Republic of Cyprus is linked with the European Community by an association agreement. The Nine will continue to give every support to the efforts of the Secretary-General to bring the parties together for constructive negotiations.

The efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflicts in Africa, the Middle East and Cyprus have demonstrated time and again how indispensable is the role of the United Nations peace-keeping forces.

The members of the European Community have consistently contributed to the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations by providing troops, logistic support and financial assistance. They regard it as an urgent task to appeal to the sense of responsibility of all Members of the United Nations and ask them to increase their readiness to support peace-keeping measures. They are for this reason preparing a proposal to that effect for submission to the General Assembly.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has provided us with a broad basis on which to shape relations between the Governments and peoples of Eastern and Western Europe. What is important now is to work for the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act in all its parts. The Belgrade follow-up meeting has shown the shortcomings in its implementation, and the Nine will call persistently for these to be made good.

The Helsinki Final Act is not important for Europe alone, for détente in Europe and in East-West relations can and should release new political and economic energy to master the great challenge of our time—the elimination of hunger and want from the Third World. The developing countries need the support of the Western and of the Eastern industrialized countries. There is nothing they need less than a transfer of the East-West confrontation to their regions.

This year's special session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to disarmament was an expression of the awareness that all nations of the world have a vital interest in the success of the efforts to achieve arms limitation and disarmament.

The Nine participated in that session with joint statements and contributions and attach great importance to its results. It has strengthened by means of institutional reforms world-wide cooperation in pursuit of disarmament, and the Declaration and Programme of Action have established a broad framework for that cooperation. The task now is to develop further what has been achieved so far and use it to establish concrete arrangements. The Nine will be playing an active role in these efforts. I shall be setting out the position of my own country in detail late on.

I should now like to turn to economic issues.

In the world of today growth and development have come to be a joint objective and a joint responsibility of all States. We are confronted with the following challenge: to build up an order of cooperation for the purpose of joint management in global economic interdependence, an order towards the establishment of which all States and all groups of States will make a contribution of their own so as to be able to achieve the dual aim of sustained non-inflationary growth in the industrialized countries and an accelerated and proportionately higher rate of growth in the developing countries.

The establishment of such an order specifically requires the reshaping of North-South relations. In line with the present division of labour, the developing countries are supplying mainly raw materials, and the industrialized countries, above all, finished products. But what we need is an order designed to replace this traditional pattern of exchange by increasingly balanced cooperation and a greater degree of equality in this cooperation, and to provide the countries of the Third World with more favourable external conditions for their development.

In concluding the Lomé Convention the European Community and the States of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP) have in a regionally oriented approach undertaken to remould their relations with these objectives in mind. The Convention has already proved its value in practice, and the contracting parties intend to carry it forward in a new, further improved agreement.

Within the framework of the North-South Dialogue the Community is, furthermore, willing to help on a global scale to accelerate development and to establish a balanced pattern of North-South cooperation. It reaffirmed its willingness to work towards the achievement of these goals at the meeting of the European Council held in Bremen in July 1978.

The European Community is committed to free world trade and is ready to accept the structural changes resulting from open markets and to master the problems they create. It will help to ensure that the negotiations within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) are brought to a successful conclusion by the end of this year. The purpose of these negotiations is unmistakably to pave the way for further liberalization and once more to create a climate of long-term security for international trade. They are, furthermore, intended to create favourable conditions, in particular, for an expansion of trade between industrialized and developing countries. The Community intends to keep its markets open and to continue widening access within those markets to products, including finished products, from the developing countries.

We are determined to fight protectionism, which is a manifestation of shortsighted self-interest and is particularly detrimental to the Third World. The import planning of the Communist industrial countries is also a form of protectionism, which explains why these countries account for only 4% of the Third World's exports.

Within the framework of UNCTAD the Community is helping to achieve constructive results as regards a Common Fund and individual commodity agreements.

On the question of investment in the field of commodities, new forms of cooperation between industrialized and developing countries must be developed. We must prevent any further shift of the exploration and development of commodities to the industrial countries, something which is happening even though in many cases the developing countries have lower-cost deposits at their disposal.

Within the framework of its comprehensive development strategy, the Community and its member countries will increase the volume of their assistance and improve its quality. The poorest developing countries especially must receive an increasing share of official aid. We also seek to meet the needs of middle-income developing countries. This is why we must soon arrive at satisfactory decisions on replenishing the resources of the World Bank, of the International Development Association (IDA), and of the regional banks and funds.

It is due largely to the efforts of the member countries of the Community that the Council of Ministers of UNCTAD was in a position to take a decision on the question of indebtedness. The Community is promoting the transfer of private capital, which is an indispensable means of maintaining an adequate supply of investment capital for the developing countries and is encouraging the developing countries' access to its own capital markets.

In order to ensure that direct investments contribute fully to the development process, we must at long last evolve reliable guidelines for this field of activity. These guidelines must be designed to meet the host countries' requirement of full control over their economies and the investors' requirement of legal security.

In the field of energy the international community is confronted with the challenge of smoothly leading the world out of the era of oil into an era of new and renewable energy sources. This challenge can only be met on the basis of world-wide cooperation. Hence the community welcomes the resolution adopted at the sixty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council recommending that a conference on new and renewable energy sources be convened.

Simultaneously with the objective of establishing a more equitable international economic order, nations should pursue the objective of translating an equitable order into reality at home as well. It must be the primary aim of every development policy to satisfy the basic needs of all human beings. The poorest, too, must be given the ability and the opportunity to do productive work.

The Community considers the acceleration of the development process and the continuous reduction in the gap between rich and poor countries to be the central task of international politics in the last quarter of this century. We will fully contribute to the solution of these problems and we hope that the Communist industrialized countries, too, will begin to provide assistance on

a scale commensurate with their economic potential and will open their markets to the manufactures of the developing countries.

The Community offered constructive cooperation at the last session of the Committee of the Whole and regrets that the Committee was not yet able to fulfil satisfactorily the tasks assigned to it, but hopes that it will soon be able to continue its work in a constructive manner.

In the view of the Community it is, furthermore, important that we take a decision at this session of the General Assembly on how to prepare the development strategy for the 1980s. The nations of the Third World cannot wait any longer.

In December the United Nations will be celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We are conscious that we are still far from translating that Declaration into reality all over the world. Millions of people go hungry in many parts of the world, millions are oppressed on account of their race, sex or creed. Tens of thousands of political prisoners languish in camps and prisons. Others are deprived of their citizenship and exiled. And among those persecuted are many whose only "crime" was that they invoked their human rights. This is the reality in the year 1978.

None the less, we must not lose sight of the long-term trend of history. Since the proclamation of human rights, people all over the world have increasingly come to demand the realization of their rights, and today human rights are enshrined in the constitutions of most States. But in many countries there is a sharp contrast between constitution and daily practice.

Through the United Nations Charter, the Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Covenants, and a number of other obligations, including the Final Act of Helsinki, the rights of man have also become an international concern. Today they are one of the major issues of world politics.

Human rights comprise civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights. Freedom from want is no less a human right than freedom from fear, and vice versa. The United Nations has created a number of institutions and procedures to protect human rights. The Nine urge that they should be used more effectively, that they should be developed and improved. The Nine urge also that those countries which have ratified the human rights covenants of the United Nations should

indeed implement the provisions of those covenants. Signature without corresponding action is worth little. The will to implement a treaty must be recognizable to the world public and to the citizens of the country concerned.'

# 4. IMF: Interim Committee and Group of Twenty-Four

IMF : Interim Committee

## Press releases

3.4.1. The IMF Interim Committee and the Group of Twenty-Four issued the following press releases on their meetings in the context of the thirty-third Annual Meeting of the Governors of the IMF and the IBRD.<sup>1</sup>

### Board of Governors of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund

3.4.2. '1. The Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund held its eleventh meeting in Washington DC on 24 September 1978, under the chairmanship of Mr Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom. Mr J. de Larosière, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, participated in the meeting. The following observers attended during the Committee's discussions: Mr Gamani Corea, Secretary-General, UNCTAD; Mr Ali M. Jaidah, Secretary-General, OPEC; Mr René Larre, General Manager, BIS; Mr Emile van Lennep, Secretary-General, OECD; Mr F. Leutwiler, President, National Bank of Switzerland; Mr Olivier Long, Director-General, GATT; Mr Robert S. McNamara, President, IBRD; Mr François-Xavier Ortoli, Vice-President, CEC; Mr Jean Ripert, Under-Secretary-General for International, Economic and Social Affairs, UN; and Mr Cesar E.A. Virata, Chairman, Development Committee.

2. The Committee discussed the world economic outlook and the working of the international adjustment process.

The Committee recognized that progress had been made on various fronts in overcoming the serious difficulties that had beset the world economy during the years 1973-75. In countries that had taken policy measures to adjust to the disturbances of those years, the favourable effects were clearly evident. Nevertheless, the Committee noted, the current situation remained unsatisfactory in several important respects.

The Committee expressed concern that in most member countries rates of price increase continued to be much too high and substantial under-utilization of economic resources, including high levels of unemployment, con-

tinued to prevail. On the international adjustment process, the Committee noted that wide differences in rates of inflation and growth in domestic demand had contributed to the continuation of large deficits and surpluses on current account among the industrial countries. These imbalances had resulted in unstable foreign exchange markets during the past year, and that this instability, in turn—through its effects on prices, confidence, and investment—had made the formulation and implementation of policies more difficult. The Committee emphasized that a return to exchange market stability would require the adoption of national policies to reduce inflation and to achieve more convergent rates of growth in domestic demand. In a further observation on the adjustment process, the Committee noted that a number of non-industrial countries were encountering difficult problems of adjustment and external financing, in part because of the slow pace of world trade.

The Committee noted that inflation has continued to subside in a number of industrial countries but that it has tended to accelerate in some others, including the United States, where inflation has become the top priority of economic policy.

With respect to growth and resource utilization in the industrial world, the Committee's concern focused mainly on the abnormally high unemployment rates and substantial slack in industrial capacity prevailing outside the United States. Attention was drawn to the marked differences in growth rates in recent years between the United States, where a relatively full cyclical recovery has taken place, and most of the other industrial countries, where real economic activity has not generally expanded fast enough since 1975 to reduce unemployment.

The Committee noted that in the group of non-oil developing countries the average rate of growth in total output had been relatively well sustained, but at a level appreciably below that of the 1967-72 period, so that only little room was left for gains in real income.

The Committee reiterated its concern about the risk of increasing resort to protectionism, and stressed the importance of an early and successful completion of the multilateral trade negotiations.

In its discussion of the current situation and outlook, the Committee concluded that a welcome change in international trade flows was emerging. This reflected the effects of changes in exchange rates for major currencies

<sup>1</sup> Points 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.

that had taken place over the past year and a half. The effects on exports and imports in volume terms, which take considerable time to come through, were beginning to produce favourable shifts in the current-account balances of the United States, Japan, and certain other countries. These shifts, the Committee observed, may be expected to increase and, over time, could lead to a substantial improvement in the current-account balances of industrial countries, provided that the pattern of price increases and growth rates in domestic demand among countries was an appropriate one. Achievement of such a pattern, the Committee stressed, would require that countries adopt internal measures to offset the expansionary effects of exchange rate depreciation and the deflationary effects of exchange-rate appreciation.

The Committee reaffirmed the conviction it expressed at the April 1978 meeting in Mexico City that a coordinated strategy of policy, including measures with respect to energy, was needed in present circumstances in order to encourage non-inflationary growth of the world economy and to ensure a reduction in imbalances in international payments, thereby promoting underlying conditions conducive to economic and financial stability as well as to greater stability in exchange markets. The Committee emphasized that implementation of such a strategy for the medium term would require each country to contribute to growth of the world economy in relation to the strength of its external position and the success of its anti-inflation policy.

Successful pursuit of a medium-term strategy in the industrial countries would lead, in the Committee's view, to marked improvement of the global environment for trade and development, with substantial benefits for the developing countries and other primary producing countries. The Committee believed that an improved world trading environment would help to arrest the recent ominous tendency toward use of protectionist trade measures. In addition, the Committee emphasized the desirability of measures on the part of the developed countries to open their markets more widely to products of the developing countries, to provide those countries more generous access to their capital markets, and—more generally—to assure the developing countries an adequate inflow of real resources, including a more satisfactory level of official development assistance.

3. The Committee considered a number of questions concerning the SDR on the basis of a report of the Executive Board on the subject. The Committee reached the conclusions set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 below

with the understanding that these conclusions are interrelated and must be adopted in their entirety together with the understandings reached by the Committee on the Seventh General Review of Quotas. In the view of the Committee, therefore, decisions on all these issues relating to SDRs and on the Seventh General Review should be taken at the same time.

4. The Committee discussed the question of the resumption of allocations of SDRs and, in that connection, took into account the various views and considerations presented in the report of the Executive Board. The Committee agreed to recommend that a decision to allocate SDRs, on the basis of a proposal to be made by the Managing Director concurred in by the Executive Board by 1 November 1978, should be acted on by the Board of Governors before the end of the year in order to help meet the long-term global need to supplement existing reserve assets in a desirable manner. Such an allocation would also help to promote the objective of the amended Articles of making the SDR the principal reserve asset in the international monetary system. In the Committee's view the Fund should make allocations of 4 thousand million SDRs in each of the next three years 1979 to 1981.

5. The Committee reached the following conclusions with regard to other aspects of the SDR.

(a) It was agreed that the interest rate on the SDR should be increased from 60% of the weighted average of the short-term interest rates in the five member countries with the largest quotas to 80% of that average and that the rate of remuneration should be set at 90% of the interest rate on the SDR, that is, at 72% of the combined market rate. This change would be subject to the following understandings: (i) Shortly before the end of each financial year, the Fund would consider whether the estimated net income of the Fund for that year was sufficiently large to permit the average annual rate of remuneration applicable for that year to be raised to a level above 90 but not above 100% of the average annual rate of interest on the SDR and, in this connection, would also consider the possibility of lowering periodic charges on the Fund's currency holdings in the future. (ii) At the time that the Executive Board decides to adopt the new formula for the rate of remuneration, it would take a decision to prevent an automatic increase in the initial rate of periodic charges on the Fund's holdings that would otherwise occur under the Fund's Rules and Regulations. The Executive Board would review the Fund's financial position, and would take such action as

might be necessary to protect that position, if the Fund's total expenses exceeded its income in any period of six successive months.

(b) The Committee noted that the Executive Board had been pursuing its work with regard to additional types of uses of SDRs, namely, for loans, collateral security, and the direct settlement of obligations, that could be permitted by the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the amended Articles and expressed the hope that the Executive Board would complete this work, take the necessary decisions in the near future, and report on them to the Committee at its next meeting.

(c) The Committee endorsed the view of the Executive Board that the requirement of reconstitution of special drawing rights, namely, the obligation to maintain a minimum average balance of SDRs over specified periods, should be reduced from 30 to 15% of net cumulative allocations and that this requirement should be considered further in the light of experience.

(d) The Committee noted that the Executive Board intends to keep under review the question of a substitution account.

6. The Committee resumed its discussion of the Seventh General Review of Quotas and considered three major issues relating to it: the size of the overall increase in quotas, selective quota adjustments, and the method of payment of the increases in quotas. These issues were considered by the Committee in conjunction with the various issues relating to the SDR with which they are regarded as interrelated. The Committee recalled its view that there was a need for an increase in total quotas under the Seventh Review that would be adequate to meet the expected need for conditional liquidity over the next five years. The Committee also recalled its view that an adequate increase would strengthen the available sources of balance of payments financing by enhancing the ability of the Fund to provide such financing without heavy recourse to borrowing and by furthering the process of international adjustment.

The Committee's view was that an increase in the overall size of quotas of 50% would be appropriate to bring about a better balance between the size of the Fund's resources and the need of members for balance of payments financing over the medium term. The Committee noted that the Executive Board does not intend to propose a general adjustment in quotas for five years after the Board of Governors approves the increase in quotas under the Seventh Review, unless there is a major change in the world economy and its financing needs.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that agreement had been reached on selective quota increases for eleven developing member countries: Iraq, Iran, Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and United Arab Emirates.

Taking into account the conclusions reached on the issues relating to SDRs, including allocations of SDRs, the Committee was of the view that, for the quota increases proposed as a result of this review, participants in the Special Drawing Department should pay 25% of the quota increase in SDRs and that non-participants should pay the equivalent of 25% of the increase in foreign exchange.

The Committee agreed to request the Executive Board to prepare and complete by 1 November 1978, for final decision and vote by the Board of Governors before the end of the year, a proposed resolution on increases in the quotas of members, which would include necessary provisions dealing with participation, the effective date of quota increases, and the method of payment of the increases in accordance with the understandings reached in the Committee.

7. In view of the need of a number of members for prompt financial assistance on the scale envisaged by the Supplementary Financing Facility, the Committee stressed again the importance it attached to the entry into operation of the Facility at the earliest possible date and urged all members that are expected to contribute to the financing of the Facility to take the necessary action so that it could be brought into operation at the earliest possible date.

8. The Committee noted that, in accordance with the Committee's request, the Executive Board has begun a review of the conditionality attaching to the use of the Fund's resources and that it intends to resume its consideration of the subject as soon as possible after the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors.

9. The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting in Washington DC in the spring of 1979.'

### **Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs**

3.4.3. '1. The Ministers of the Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs held their seventeenth meeting in Washington DC, on 22 September 1978. Mr

A.G.N. Kazi, Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, was in the chair, with Mr David Ibarra-Muñoz, Secretary of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico, and Mr O.O. Vincent, Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, as Vice-Chairmen. The meeting was attended by Mr Gamani Corea, Secretary-General, UNCTAD, Mr A.M. Jaidah, Secretary-General, OPEC, Mr J. de Larosière, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, Mr R. McNamara, President, World Bank, and Mr Cesar Virata, Chairman, Joint Ministerial Committee of the Governors of the Bank and the Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries (Development Committee).

2. The meeting was preceded by the twenty-sixth meeting of the Deputies of the Group of Twenty-Four, with Mr Ziauddin Ahmad, Pakistan, as Chairman, and Mr A. Phillips O., Mexico and Mr G.O. Nwankwo, Nigeria, as Vice-Chairmen.

3. The Ministers expressed their concern over current trends in the world economy. They noted that following the satisfactory rates of expansion in world output and trade in the period of initial recovery from the severe recession of 1974-75, economic activity and world trade have slowed down though modest progress has been achieved in the abatement of inflation. They noted that in most industrial countries unemployment rates in 1978 are similar to those prevailing in the worst phase of recession in 1975, and that the short-term prospects do not suggest a significant improvement. The Ministers expressed concern over the renewed deterioration in the terms of trade of the developing countries and the increase of the current account deficit of the non-oil developing countries, which in 1978 is estimated to reach USD 32 thousand million

4. The current situation gives rise to concern because the international economy seems to be in danger of stagnation at low rates of growth of output and trade, with high rates of unemployment and inflation. This prospect is undesirable, not only because of the substantial under-utilization of resources, but also because it is giving rise to all kinds of protectionism, which make the adjustment process more difficult for developing countries.

5. The Ministers were of the view that a stronger political commitment to achieve higher rates of growth, consistent with the long-term growth potential of industrial nations, was required. They noted that policies pur-

sued by both oil-exporting and non-oil developing countries had made considerable contribution to the adjustment process. They urged that industrial countries in external surplus should increase their domestic activity and capital outflows. They expressed concern at the low level of development assistance which is far below the internationally agreed targets, and underlined the need to expand capital flows, both in the form of official development assistance and through liberalizing access to the capital markets. This will help improve the working of the adjustment process, and bring about faster recovery in the level of world economic activity.

6. They noted the persistence of an undesirable asymmetry in the adjustment process, the burden of which falls mainly on non-reserve-currency deficit countries. They urged the Fund to intensify its surveillance of surplus industrial and reserve-currency countries, in order to achieve a more equitable adjustment. This would also reduce the instability in the exchange rates of major currencies, which has given rise to considerable uncertainty and has had adverse effects on the rate of investment and economic activity.

7. The Ministers reiterated the need for a new allocation of SDRs in order to meet the global needs for international reserves, to increase net reserves of the system and also to contribute toward making SDRs the principal reserve asset in the international monetary system. In this connection, they support the proposal made by the Managing Director of the IMF for a new allocation of 4 to 6 thousand million SDRs per year over a three-year period.

8. The Ministers favoured measures to increase the attractiveness of the SDR as a reserve asset. In this context, they favoured the abrogation of the reconstitution obligation; they supported increasing the interest rate on the SDR to 80% of the weighted market rate; and they were prepared to support the remuneration rate at 90% of the SDR interest rate, provided no increase in the SDR interest rate would be acceptable and meaningful only if a new allocation of SDRs were decided upon. They favoured expanding the uses of SDRs to include three additional ones, namely: operations related to settlement of obligations, making of loans, and security for obligations. Other uses of SDRs should be further studied.

9. The Ministers considered the question of the Seventh General Review of Quotas and favoured an increase



of at least 50%. In regard to the method of payment, the Ministers were of the view that member countries should be given the option to pay their subscription wholly in their own currency.

10. Although the Ministers did not accept the view that the issue of a new allocation of SDRs be linked with the Seventh General Review of Quotas, in case it was decided to link them, and 25% of the subscription was to be in SDRs, the size of the new SDR allocation should be such as not to require a drawdown in members' SDR balances.

11. The Ministers expressed the need for the supplementary financing facility as approved by the IMF Executive Board to be made operational as early as possible and for a subsidy account to be established for the charges that would be payable by low-income countries.

12. Regarding conditionality in the use of Fund resources, the Ministers expressed concern at the multiplicity of performance criteria and some other forms of conditionality that inhibit access to Fund resources by member countries. Hence, they urged the Executive Board of the IMF to set appropriate guidelines and establish other institutional procedures related to the use of Fund resources, especially in the upper credit tranches, in support of economic adjustment programmes. In this context, they were of the view that the guidelines should be designed so as to limit the performance criteria only to relevant macro-economic variables, paying due regard to the growth considerations of member countries, and their prevailing economic and social situations.

13. The Ministers welcomed the initiative of the World Bank in preparing the *World Development Report, 1978* which provides an analysis of some of the fundamental problems confronting the developing countries. They were concerned that the projections contained in the report provided for insufficient acceleration of the growth rate of the low-income developing countries, which would leave the problem of absolute poverty practically untouched. The prospects for middle-income countries which also have substantial segments of population living in conditions of absolute poverty are also unfavourable, due to the slowdown in the growth of world economic activity and trade and increasing restrictive practices in the trade and financial spheres.

14. The Ministers regarded the recommendations contained in the report as insufficient to remedy the urgent problems faced by developing countries. They therefore urged the international community to make a more determined effort towards the adoption of the main measures leading to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. In particular, in order to achieve higher levels of transfer of real resources, they recommended:

- (a) a substantial increase in the level of official development assistance;
- (b) a substantial increase of the capital of the World Bank before the first quarter of next year and a simplification of its lending procedures, and an increase in the capital of the regional development finance institutions;
- (c) early completion of contributions to IDA's fifth replenishment and timely conclusion of negotiations for the sixth replenishment, which should provide for an increase in real terms;
- (d) an increase in the flow of capital on commercial terms at longer maturities suitable for development financing.

15. As part of the efforts to stabilize the current account receipts of developing countries, the Ministers emphasized the need to strengthen the compensatory financing facility by adopting the following measures:

- (a) The limit on outstanding drawings under the Facility should be increased from 75% to 100% of a member's quota. Drawings in any twelve-month period should be increased from 50% to 100%;
- (b) The repayment period should be lengthened from the present three to five years to one of five to seven years;
- (c) Countries should be given the choice of basing the calculation of their shortfalls on their total receipts from merchandise exports or the combined receipts from merchandise exports and services;
- (d) In the calculation of shortfalls, account should be taken of the increase in the price of imports;
- (e) Increased import volume resulting from climatic or other factors beyond the control of the country concerned should also be taken into account in calculating the shortfalls;
- (f) Drawings under the facility should not be subject to any credit tranche conditionality.

16. Furthermore, the Ministers recommended the establishment of the Common Fund of the Integrated Commodity Programme, an expansion in programme lending by the World Bank, and a further examination of the feasibility of a new stabilization facility of the type of Stabex.

17. The Ministers reviewed the work of the Development Committee and concluded that it represents an appropriate forum in which issues in regard to the transfer of resources to developing countries could be dealt with. They agreed that the Development Committee should continue with its present joint composition, thus allowing it to consider issues which fall under the jurisdiction of the Fund or the Bank, or beyond them.'

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# Indhold – Inhalt – Contents

## Sommaire – Sommario – Inhoud

### Tidsskrifter / Zeitschriften / Periodicals / Périodiques / Periodici / Tijdschriften

### Enkeltudgivelser / Einzelveröffentlichungen / Non-periodical / Isolés / Non periodici / Eenmalig

<b>1</b>	Generelt / Allgemeines / General / Généralités / Generalità / Algemeen.....	7	24
<b>2</b>	Politiske og institutionelle aspekter / Politische und institutionelle Aspekte / Political and institutional aspects / Aspects politiques et institutionnels / Aspetti politici e istituzionali / Politieke en institutionele aspecten.....	7	26
<b>3</b>	Fællesskabsret / Gemeinschaftsrecht / Community law / Droit communautaire / Diritto comunitario / Communautair recht.....	8	26
<b>4</b>	Forbindelser med tredjelande / Udenrigshandel / Auswärtige Beziehungen / Außenhandel / External relations / Foreign trade / Relations extérieures / Commerce extérieur / Relazioni esterne / Commercio estero / Buitenlandse betrekkingen / Buitenlandse handel.....	9	27
<b>5</b>	Konkurrence og det interne marked / Wettbewerb und Binnenmarkt / Competition and internal market / Concurrence et marché intérieur / Concorrenza e mercato interno / Concurrentie en binnenlandse markt.....	11	27
<b>6</b>	Økonomiske, monetære og finansielle spørgsmål / Wirtschaft, Währung und Finanzen / Economic, monetary and financial affairs / Économie, monnaie et finances / Economia, moneta e finanza / Economie, geldwezen en financiën.....	13	27
<b>7</b>	Sociale spørgsmål / Soziale Angelegenheiten / Social affairs / Affaires sociales / Affari sociali / Sociale zaken.....	13	28
<b>8</b>	Industri / Industrie / Industry / Industrie / Industria / Industrie.....	16	29
<b>9</b>	Energi / Energie / Energy / Énergie / Energia / Energie.....	16	30
<b>10</b>	Transport / Verkehr / Transport / Transports / Trasporti / Vervoer.....	17	31
<b>11</b>	Landbrugspolitik / Landwirtschaft / Agriculture / Politique agricole / Agricoltura / Landbouw.....	17	31
<b>12</b>	Regionalpolitik / Regionalpolitik / Regional policy / Politique régionale / Politica regionale / Regionale politiek.....	19	34
<b>13</b>	Udvikling og samarbejde / Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit / Development and cooperation / Développement et coopération / Sviluppo e cooperazione / Ontwikkeling en samenwerking.....	20	34
<b>14</b>	Videnskab og teknologi / Wissenschaft und Technologie / Science and technology / Science et technologie / Scienza e tecnologia / Wetenschap en technologie.....	20	34
<b>15</b>	Miljø og livskvalitet / Umwelt und Lebensqualität / Environment and quality of life / Environnement et qualité de la vie / Ambiente e qualità della vita / Milieu en kwaliteit van het leven.....	21	34
<b>16</b>	Undervisning / Bildungswesen / Education / Éducation / Istruzione / Opvoeding.....	21	34
<b>17</b>	Statistik / Statistiken / Statistics / Statistiques / Statistiche / Statistiek.....	21	35
<b>18</b>	Presse og information / Presse und Information / Press and information / Presse et information / Stampa e informazione / Pers en Voorlichting.....	23	39
<b>19</b>	Diverse / Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous / Divers / Vari / Diversen.....	23	41



# Enkeltudgivelser – Einzerveröffentlichungen Non-periodicals – Isolés – Non periodici – Eenmalig

## 1

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**Mindeord om Aldo Moro.** Strasbourg, 11. maj 1978.  
1978. 30 p. Gratis

**Gedenken an Aldo Moro.** Straßburg, 11. Mai 1978.  
1978. 32 p. Gratis

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(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN  
PARLAMENTO EUROPEO - EUROPEES PARLEMENT

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Übersicht – 24. August 1978.**  
1978. 19 p. Gratis

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KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION  
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\*) CB-NF-78-005-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0415-8  
**Udtalelse vedrørende Portugals ansøgning om til-  
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Bulletin for De europæiske Fællesskaber. Suppl. 5/78.  
1978. 52 p.

\*) CB-NF-78-005-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0416-6  
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\*) CB-NF-78-005-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0417-4  
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 COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

CB-24-78-120-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0273-2  
**Regler vedrørende lægemidler i Det europæiske Fællesskab.** Maj 1978.  
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**De voorschriften inzake geneesmiddelen in de Europese Gemeenschap.** Mei 1978.  
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 LIT 5 100 HFL 13 UKL 3.25 USD 5.90

\*) CD-NM-77-001-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0187-6  
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\*) CD-NM-77-001-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0189-2  
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\*) CD-NM-77-001-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0190-6  
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\*) CD-NM-77-001-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0191-4  
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\*) CD-NM-77-001-NL-C ISBN 92-825-0192-2  
**De arbeidsovereenkomst volgens het recht van de Lid-Staten van de Europese Gemeenschappen. Samenvattend bericht: Denemarken, Verenigd Koninkrijk, Ierland.**  
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\*) CB-NM-78-002-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0248-1  
**Sammenlignende undersøgelse vedrørende retsreglerne om arbejdstageropfindelser i Det europæiske Fællesskabers medlemsstater.** Prof. Dr. T. Ramm, Universitetet i Giessen.  
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\*) CB-NM-78-002-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0249-X  
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**Samarbejdsaftale mellem Det europæiske økonomiske Fællesskab og republikken Libanon.**  
**Aftale mellem medlemsstaterne i Det europæiske Kul- og Stålfællesskab og republikken Libanon.**  
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 Atto finale. Bruxelles, 3 maggio 1977.  
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**Repertorio dei prodotti chimici NIMEXE con indicazione della loro classificazione doganale e del loro codice NIMEXE.** Febbraio 1978.

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 BFR 400 DKR 71 DM 25,80 FF 58  
 LIT 10 800 HFL 27,50 UKL 6.70 USD 12.60

CA-AR-78-013-6A-C ISSN 0378-3723  
**Månedlige bulletin over udenrigshandelen. 1958-1977.** Specialhæfte. Juni 1978.

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(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

BFR 180 DKR 30,50 DM 11,60 FF 24,30  
LIT 4 300 HFL 12,30 UKL 3 USD 5

CB-24-78-047-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0297-X  
**The Customs Union: Today and tomorrow.** Record of the Conference held in Brussels on 6, 7 and 8 December 1977. March 1978. 1978. 108 p.

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**Union douanière: réalisation et perspectives.** Compte rendu du colloque tenu à Bruxelles les 6, 7 et 8 décembre 1977. Mars 1978. 1978. 116 p. (DE.EN.FR)

BFR 200 DKR 35,30 DM 12,80 FF 29  
LIT 5 400 HFL 13,80 UKL 3.40 USD 6.30

CB-24-78-403-DA-C  
**Fortegnelse over kemiske produkter med angivelse af deres tarifiering i den fælles toldtarif.** Ajourført pr. 1.1.1978, dok. 8810. Gratis

CB-24-78-403-DE-C  
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CB-24-78-403-EN-C  
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CB-24-78-403-FR-C  
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CB-24-78-403-IT-C  
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Gratuito

CB-24-78-403-NL-C  
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(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT/NL) Gratis

\*) CB-24-78-540-DA-C  
**Toldværdi.** Anden ajourførsel. Maj 1978. (Løsblade).

\*) CB-24-78-540-DE-C  
**Zollwert.** 2. Ergänzung. Mai 1978. (Loseblattsammlung).

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\*) CB-24-78-540-FR-C  
**Valeur en douane.** 2<sup>e</sup> mise à jour. Mai 1978. (Feuillets mobiles).

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**Douanewaarde.** 2e bijwerking. Mei 1978. (Losbladig systeem). 1978. pag. diff.  
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LIT 1 600 HFL 4,10 UKL 1 USD 1.85

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**Fortegnelse over kompetente toldsteder i forbindelse med fællesskabsforsendelser.** Rettelse 9 — 1.9.1978. (Løsblade).

**Verzeichnis der für gemeinschaftliche Versandverfahren zuständigen Zollstellen.** 9. Ergänzung — 1.9.1978. (Loseblattsammlung).

**List of Customs offices authorized to deal with Community transit operations.** Amendment No 9 — 1 September 1978. (Loose leaves).

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**Elenco degli uffici doganali competenti per le operazioni di transito comunitario.** 9<sup>o</sup> aggiornamento — 1.9.1978. (Fogli mobili).

**Lijst van de douanekantoren welke bevoegd zijn voor het communautaire douanevervoer.** 9e bijwerking — 1.9.1978. (Losbladig systeem). 1978. pag. diff.  
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BFR 225 DKR 40 DM 14,50 FF 32,80  
LIT 6 100 HFL 15,50 UKL 3.80 USD 7

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Juli 1978. Gratis

\*) CC-AB-78-012-DE-C

**Die Europäische Gemeinschaft und die Länder Ost-europas.**Europa information: Auswärtige Beziehungen 12/78.  
Juli 1978. Gratis

\*) CC-AB-78-012-EN-C

**The European Community and the countries of Eastern Europe.**Europe information: External Relations 12/78.  
July 1978. Gratis

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**La Communauté européenne et les pays de l'Europe de l'Est.**Europe information: Relations extérieures 12/78.  
Juillet 1978. Gratuit

\*) CC-AB-78-012-IT-C

**La Comunità europea e i paesi dell'Europa orientale.**Europa informazione: Relazioni esterne 12/78.  
Luglio 1978. Gratuito

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**De Europese Gemeenschappen en de landen van Oost-Europa.**Europa informatie: Buitenlandse betrekkingen 12/78.  
Juli 1978.  
1978. 11 p.  
(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL). Gratis

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KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION  
COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

CB-24-78-047-EN-C

ISBN 92-825-0297-X

**The Customs Union: Today and tomorrow.** Record of the Conference held in Brussels on 6, 7 and 8 December 1977. March 1978.  
1978. 108 p.

CB-24-78-047-FR-C

ISBN 92-825-0298-8

**Union douanière: réalisations et perspectives.** Compte rendu du colloque tenu à Bruxelles les 6, 7 et 8 décembre 1977. Mars 1978.  
1978. 116 p. (DE.EN.FR)  
BFR 200 DKR 35,30 DM 12,80 FF 29  
LIT 5 400 HFL 13,80 UKL 3.40 USD 6.30

CB-24-78-120-DA-C

ISBN 92-825-0273-2

**Regler vedrørende lægemidler i De europæiske Fællesskaber.** Maj 1978.  
1978. 84 p.

CB-24-78-120-DE-C

ISBN 92-825-0274-0

**Die Regelung der Arzneimittel in der Europäischen Gemeinschaft.** Mai 1978.  
1978. 88 p.

CB-24-78-120-EN-C

ISBN 92-825-0275-9

**The rules governing medicaments in the European Community.** May 1978.  
1978. 88 p.

CB-24-78-120-FR-C

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**La réglementation des médicaments dans la Communauté européenne.** Mai 1978.  
1978. 88 p.

CB-24-78-120-IT-C

ISBN 92-825-0277-5

**La disciplina relativa ai medicinali nella Comunità europea.** Maggio 1978.  
1978. 88 p.

CB-24-78-120-NL-C

ISBN 92-825-0278-3

**De voorschriften inzake geneesmiddelen in de Europese Gemeenschap.** Mei 1978.  
1978. 88 p.  
(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)  
BFR 190 DKR 33,50 DM 12,20 FF 27  
LIT 5 100 HFL 13 UKL 3.25 USD 5.90

CB-24-78-403-DA-C

**Fortegnelse over kemiske produkter med angivelse af deres tarifering i den fælles toldtarif.** Ajourført pr. 1.1.1978, dok. 8810. Gratis

CB-24-78-403-DE-C

**Verzeichnis chemischer Erzeugnisse mit Angabe ihrer Tarifierung im Gemeinsamen Zolltarif.** Berichtigung (Stand am 1.1.1978) des Dok. 8810. Gratis

CB-24-78-403-EN-C

**Alphabetical list of chemicals together with their classification in the Common Customs Tariff.** Amendments dated 1.1.1978 of the doc. 8810. Gratis

CB-24-78-403-FR-C

**Répertoire des produits chimiques avec indication de leur classement dans le Tarif douanier commun.** Mise à jour au 1.1.1978 du doc. 8810. Gratuit

CB-24-78-403-IT-C

**Repertorio dei prodotti chimici con indicazione della loro classificazione nella Tariffa doganale comune.** Aggiornamento al 1.1.1978 del doc. 8810. Gratuito

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1978. 4 p.  
(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratis

CB-24-78-807-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0350-X  
**Élimination des entraves techniques aux échanges: Véhicules à moteur, cyclomoteurs et motocycles, tracteurs et machines agricoles, bateaux et leurs équipements de bord.** Mars 1978.

1978. 166 p. (FR).

BFR 250 DKR 44 DM 16 FF 36,50  
 LIT 6 750 HFL 17,20 UKL 4.20 USD 8

\*) CB-NP-77-030-EN-C

**Advantages and disadvantages of an integrated market compared with a fragmented market.** By Dr H. Schmidt, Prof. of Finance, University of Hamburg. Studies: Competition — Approximation of Legislation series No 30 March 1977.

1978. 462 p. (DE.EN).

BFR 300 DKR 49,50 DM 19 FF 40,50  
 LIT 7 150 HFL 20,50 UKL 4.90 USD 8.50

\*) CB-NP-78-031-NL-C ISBN 92-825-0343-7

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Studies: Serie concurrentie — harmonisatie van wetgeving nr. 31. December 1977.

1978. 218 p. (DE.EN.FR.NL)

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 LIT 4 450 HFL 11,50 UKL 2.80 USD 5.20

\*) CB-NU-78-001-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0142-6

**Étude de l'évolution de la concentration dans le secteur de la pâte, du papier et du carton en Belgique.** Par G. Labeau, professeur à la Faculté polytechnique de Mons et M. Van Kerkem, Service d'économie et de gestion des entreprises. Octobre 1977.

Série évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence n° 1-1978.

1978. 406 p. (FR).

BFR 415 DKR 73 DM 26,80 FF 60  
 LIT 11 350 HFL 29 UKL 6.70 USD 13

\*) CB-NU-78-004-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0347-X

**Étude de l'évolution de la concentration dans l'industrie du machinisme agricole en France.** Par M. Allaya, G. Gherzi, J.-L. Rastoin, avec la collaboration de T. a. Nakak et de C. Rech — IAM et INRA, Montpellier. Mars 1978.

Série évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence n° 4 — 1978.

1978. 152 p. (FR).

BFR 180 DKR 31,60 DM 11,60 FF 25,75  
 LIT 4 900 HFL 12,40 UKL 3.05 USD 5.60

\*) CB-NU-78-005-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0348-8

**Untersuchung zur Konzentrationsentwicklung in der Nahrungsmitteldistribution in Deutschland.** Von E. Greipel und D. Würgl, Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, München. Neuauflage. März 1978.

Reihe Entwicklung von Konzentration und Wettbewerb Nr. 5 — 1978.

1978. 322 p. (DE).

BFR 330 DKR 58,20 DM 21,20 FF 48  
 LIT 8 900 HFL 22,70 UKL 5.50 USD 10.50

\*) CB-NU-78-006-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0349-6

**A Study of the evolution of concentration in the sector of hoists, lifts and conveyers and in the sector of office machinery for Belgium.** By Prof. Dr H. Daems and M. De Geyndt with the assistance of L. Sleuwaegen, Studia, Brussels. March 1978.

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1978. 164 p. (EN).

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\*) CB-NU-78-007-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0449-2

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1978. 352 p. (FR).

BFR 330 DKR 58 DM 21,20 FF 47,20  
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 BFR 400 DKR 70 DM 25,80 FF 58  
 LIT 10 500 HFL 27,70 UKL 6.30 USD 12.30

CA-24-78-693-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0456-5  
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 Studien: Reihe Arbeitsrecht Nr. 2 — 1978. Juli 1977.  
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\*) CB-NM-78-002-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0250-3  
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\*) CB-NM-78-002-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0252-X  
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\*) CD-NM-77-001-NL-C ISBN 92-825-0192-2  
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 LIT 1 800    HFL 5    UKL 1.20    USD 2.10

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 LIT 8 100    HFL 21    UKL 5    USD 9.50

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**Technische Bekämpfung der Verunreinigungen in der Eisen- und Stahlindustrie. Stand der Forschungen am 30. Juni 1977. Von H. Maurer, Stahlwerke Peine-Salzgitter, und G. Will, Kommission der EG. Arbeitshygiene und -sicherheit. EUR 5977.**

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 LIT 5 550    HFL 14    UKL 3.40    USD 6.50

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 LIT 15 000    HFL 37    UKL 9    USD 17

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LIT 2 600   HFL 7,40   UKL 1.70   USD 3

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**Uddannelsesorlov i medlemslandene.** Af J.M. Gouault. Agence nationale pour le développement de l'éducation permanente - ADEP.

Studier: Serie socialpolitik nr. 26. August 1975.

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(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

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ISBN 92-825-0472-7

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1978. 6 p. + Annexe 1, 31 p. (FR)

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CA-24-78-693-DA-C

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BFR 700 DKR 123 DM 45 FF 100

LIT 18 800 HFL 48 UKL 11.85 USD 21.65

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CA-23-77-582-6A-C

ISBN 92-825-0144-2

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**Bodennutzung und Erzeugung 1974-1976.** Januar 1978.

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## 7

**Timelønninger – Arbejdstid**

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## 8

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## 9

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**Maandelijks bulletin – Kolen**

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**Bulletin mensuel – Hydrocarbures**  
**Bollettino mensile – Idrocarburi**  
**Maandelijks bulletin – Koolwaterstoffen**

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## 10

**Månedsoversigt over transport**  
**Monatsübersichten des Verkehrs**  
**Monthly tables of transport**  
**Tableaux mensuels des transports**  
**Tabelle mensili dei trasporti**  
**Maandgegevens van het vervoer**

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## 11

**Vegetabilsk produktion**  
**Pflanzliche Erzeugung**  
**Crop production**  
**Production végétale**  
**Produzione vegetale**  
**Plantaardige produktie**

A

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**Månedlig statistik for kød**  
**Monatliche Statistik von Fleisch**  
**Monthly statistics of meat**  
**Statistiques mensuelles de la viande**  
**Statistiche mensili della carne**  
**Maandelijkse statistieken van vlees**

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**Månedlig statistik for æg**  
**Monatliche Statistik von Eiern**  
**Monthly statistics of eggs**  
**Statistiques mensuelles des œufs**  
**Statistiche mensili delle uova**  
**Maandelijkse statistieken van eieren**

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**Verkaufspreise tierischer Produkte**  
**Selling prices of animal products**  
**Prix de vente de produits animaux**  
**Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti animali**  
**Verkoopprijzen van dierlijke produkten**

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**Salgspriser for vegetabiliske produkter**  
**Verkaufspreise pflanzlicher Produkte**  
**Selling prices of vegetable products**  
**Prix de vente de produits végétaux**  
**Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti vegetali**  
**Verkoopprijzen van plantaardige produkten**

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**Aankooprijzen van de produktiemiddelen**

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**Note rapide — Production végétale**  
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## 12

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## 13

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## 14

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## 15

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## 17

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**Monthly statistics of meat**  
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**Statistiche mensili della carne**  
**Maandelijkse statistieken van vlees**

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**Statistiche mensili delle uova**  
**Maandelijkse statistieken van eieren**

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**Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti animali**  
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**Prix de vente de produits végétaux**  
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**Ekspresinformation – Vegetabilsk produktion**  
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**Spoedbericht – Plantaardige produktie**

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# 18

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 PARLAMENTO EUROPEO - EUROPEES PARLEMENT

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<b>Bollettino</b>	Gratuito
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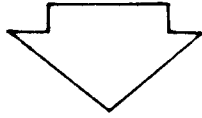
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## **EAGGF - Importance and Functioning**

**(European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund)**

This document describes the features, extent and functioning of the EAGGF and the financial mechanism which enables the common agricultural policy to be put into effect.

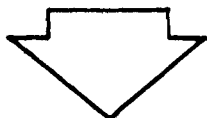
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## **FEOGA - Importance et fonctionnement**

**(Fonds européen d'orientation et de garantie agricole)**

Ce document analyse les caractéristiques, l'importance et le fonctionnement d'un outil financier, permettant à la politique agricole commune de se réaliser dans les faits, à savoir le FEOGA.

La mise en œuvre financière des politiques communautaires des marchés et des structures agricoles est faite respectivement par les sections garantie et orientation de ce fonds. L'accent est mis sur la période commençant en 1971, année où le régime définitif du financement de la politique agricole commune a été établi.

L'examen de ces deux sections y est fait sous l'angle des caractéristiques de la réglementation, tant commune que spécifique à celles-ci. Les mécanismes utilisés pour l'obtention, la gestion et la répartition des fonds aux bénéficiaires des États membres y sont décrits.

Compte tenu de l'importance des sommes gérées, environ 6 milliards d'unité de compte en 1976, le système de vérifications des dépenses ainsi que de prévention et de poursuite des irrégularités instauré au sein des services de la Commission depuis 1971 y est brièvement analysé.

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