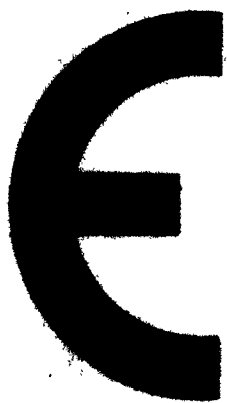


Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Commission



No 12 1982

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Bulletin

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PART ONE
SPECIAL FEATURES

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

ECU = European currency unit

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

DKR = Dansk krone

DM = Deutsche Mark

DR = Greek drachma

FF = Franc français

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

IRL = Irish pound / punt

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

LIT = Lira italiana

UKL = Pound sterling

USD = United States dollar

1. Supplementary and amending budget No 1/1982

Parliament calls for a definitive solution to financial imbalance in the Community budget

1.1.1. At the end of 1982 the budgetary authority had to give a decision on two draft budgets—a draft supplementary and amending budget for 1982 which the Commission had presented in October,¹ and the draft general budget for 1983.

While the budgetary procedure for 1983 was concluded after the Council had accepted the increases made by Parliament in second reading, the supplementary and amending budget suffered a different fate. The main purpose of the Commission's preliminary draft was to finance the measures in favour of the United Kingdom decided by the Council on 25 and 26 October² on the basis of the agreement reached in May.³

Following its debate and the conciliation procedure with the Council, Parliament rejected the draft budget by a large majority⁴ because it considered that the Council had not gone far enough towards satisfying the conditions it had laid down in first reading.

1.1.2. In presenting its preliminary draft budget in October, the Commission had relied mainly on expected surpluses in the EAGGF Guarantee Section to cover both financial compensation to the United Kingdom for 1982 (850 million ECU) and a special energy development programme (210 million ECU).

While the Council endorsed these proposals, Parliament took a very hostile attitude in the first reading of the draft before it. In the resolution of 14 December, Parliament:

'1. Puts on record its grave concern at the proliferation of measures of national compensation contrary to the principles of a single comprehensive budget, transparency and political and financial control which form the basis of the Community budget;

2. Warns against the risk that these measures, through their prolongation and extension to an increasing number of countries,

may undermine the essential cohesion of the Community;

(...)

6. Puts on record at this stage its firm resolve to reject any further transitional solution and calls upon the Commission and Council, as a matter of urgency, to propose and approve by the earliest possible date a financial reform based on a mechanism for ensuring financial balance in accordance with the guidelines repeatedly defined by Parliament;

7. Declares that it is unable to accept the draft supplementary budget:

(a) without a political guarantee that these are the last special compensatory measures,

(b) unless the draft budget is amended to extend the validity of these special measures in the context of existing common policies,

(c) unless the expenditure for these financing operations is classified as non-compulsory...'

1.1.3. During the conciliation procedure which followed Parliament's first reading of the draft budget, the Council adopted the following position:

'The Council shares the view of the European Parliament as to the importance and urgency of finding, in the context of the development of common policies, a lasting solution to the Community's internal imbalances, which will enable subsequent recourse to *ad hoc* budgetary measures to be avoided in line with the Parliament's wishes.

In this connection, the Commission has furthermore announced that it will be submitting proposals to the Council and to the European Parliament on a system of financing suited to an enlarged Community.'

Furthermore, to meet Parliament's wish that the special measures (in favour of the United Kingdom) should be placed in the context of Community policies, the Council stated its

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.2.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, points 2.3.4.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.3.10 and 2.3.11.

⁴ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

readiness to accept the amendment adopted by Parliament in its first reading concerning a total of 21 million ECU for Community energy development programmes for Member States other than Germany. The Council also stated its willingness to present six-monthly reports to Parliament on the utilization of the amounts received by the United Kingdom under the special measures and to arrange for on-the-spot checks by Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control. The Council was, however, unable to accept Parliament's other amendments, including the one on the classification of the expenditure.

1.1.4. At its sitting of 16 December Parliament adopted by a large majority a resolution rejecting this draft budget.¹ It noted in particular that the Council had 'not shown any clear political will to find a definitive solution to the problem of the financial imbalances in the Community budget' and had 'rejected all Parliament's amendments situating the special measures for 1982 within the framework of common policies'.

In a second resolution Parliament called on the Commission and the Council 'to submit as soon as possible new financial and budgetary proposals which provide an effective follow-up to the mandate of 30 May and lay the basis for a lasting Community solution to the 'unacceptable' situations which have arisen for a number of Member States'.

Parliament's intention was to make it clear that its rejection of the budget was not directed against the United Kingdom and was not prompted by the level of compensation but stemmed from its ideas on the way Community policies should be financed and on the very nature of the Community.

1.1.5. The Commission's position following the rejection was clearly expressed in the following statement:

'The Commission considers that it cannot make proposals which ignore Parliament's responsibilities as one of the arms of the budgetary authority and an institution involved in the Community's legislative process.

The Commission notes that Parliament, in its capacity as an arm of the budgetary authority, has not approved the translation into budgetary terms of the agreement of 26 October and has not given its opinion on the proposals for regulations which would have transferred it into legislation.

The Commission considers that it would be legally untenable for the Council to adopt regulations on which Parliament had not given its opinion. It also considers that transfers which would achieve the aims of the draft supplementary budget would flout Parliament's wishes as expressed in its vote on that draft budget.

At the same time the Commission requests the Council and the Member States to confirm their desire to see the British and German budget problems settled on the basis of the agreements reached in May and October, as if Parliament had approved the supplementary budget. It notes that Parliament was not opposed to the figures which translated the political agreement reached in October into budgetary terms.

The Council should therefore give an undertaking here and now that the budget balances available at the end of 1982 will be used first and foremost for the implementation of the October agreement. The Commission will ensure that these balances are at least as high as the amount set aside for implementation of the 1982 supplementary budget.

At its next meeting, the Commission will discuss the possibility of initiating appropriate budgetary procedures to implement the agreements reached in May and October early in 1983 and will adopt a work programme which should meet Parliament's demands in relation to the development of Community policies and the creation of new own resources.'

1.1.6. At its meeting on 17 December the Council considered the new situation and issued the following statement:

'The Council confirms that it will respect the commitments contained in the conclusions of the Council of 26 October 1982.

The Council commits itself to use the budgetary means which are available at the end of 1982 for this purpose as a priority.

The Council notes that:

- the Commission has declared that these means are sufficient for this purpose;

¹ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

- the Commission will take steps to ensure that the two countries concerned will not be put in a worse position than intended under the conclusions of 26 October 1982;
- the Commission will shortly make preparations for initiating in the first days of 1983 the procedures necessary to fulfill the commitments contained in the conclusions of 26 October 1982;
- the Commission will elaborate a work programme for the development of the Community's policies.'

1.1.7. On 21 December the Commission decided that early in the new year it would present a new preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget to give effect to the agreement of 26 October.¹ The amounts involved would be the same as before, since they stemmed from a high-level political commitment and had never been challenged by Parliament.

The Commission's intention was to produce a new preliminary draft reflecting as far as possible Parliament's amendments and political resolutions.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.4.

2. European Council in Copenhagen

1.2.1. The final European Council of the year took place in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December with Mr Poul Schlüter, the Danish Prime Minister, in the chair. Like Mr Amintore Fanfani, the Italian Prime Minister, and Mr Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Schlüter was attending his first European Council. Mr Thorn and Mr Ortoli represented the Commission.

The European Council discussed the economic and social situation, the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal and relations with the United States and Japan. As regards the economic and social situation, the European Council drew up a timetable for certain specific sectors such as the strengthening of the internal market, research, innovation and energy, the establishment of NCI III, young people and the reorganization of working hours. The European Council's political commitment to enlargement was reaffirmed, and the Council was asked to complete the revision of the market organizations for Mediterranean products by March 1983. As regards relations with the

United States and Japan, the European Council stressed that overriding priority should be given to strengthening international cooperation to combat the recession and that a genuine and effective dialogue should be launched between the United States and the Community.

As for political cooperation questions, declarations were made on East-West relations, Poland, Afghanistan, and the situation in the Middle East (including Lebanon).

The discussions were based on three Commission communications (the Community's economic and social situation; investment; the problems posed by enlargement) and on the Commission's report on European Union.

Community problems: the Presidency's conclusions

1.2.2. At the end of the meeting, the Presidency issued the following statement on the economic and social situation, enlargement, relations with non-member countries and the common fisheries policy.

The economic and social situation

1.2.3. The European Council welcomes the report from the General Affairs Council on the implementation, so far, of the economic strategy that it had itself laid down in March and June. In particular, it reaffirms the detailed conclusions from the Joint Council of 16 November 1982 and the Council (economic and financial affairs) of 15 November 1982.

The European Council fully endorses the need for a comprehensive strategy for achieving a marked improvement in the employment situation through the creation of durable new jobs. The implementation of this strategy must be continued comprising a broad range of interlinked and mutually supportive economic and social policies both at Community and national level.

To this end the European Council agrees on the following priority goals:

- re-establishing economic stability;
- taking into account the degree of stability achieved, encouraging productive activity, and contributing to economic recovery and structural improvement, particularly through continued reduction of interest rates and through support for productive investments, especially in innovative sectors;
- creating more employment opportunities and professional training possibilities for young people to permit a fulfilment of their justified aspirations. In this connection it is important that they are given a chance to take advantage of the opportunities of tomorrow's high-technology industries;
- exploring carefully the possibilities for greater flexibility offered by the reorganization of working time and mobility of labour;
- strengthening the common market and intensifying action to eliminate practices and measures which restrict trade and distort competition;
- pursuing a vigorous energy policy with a view to saving energy and diversifying supply;
- strengthening the European Monetary System; increasing international cooperation and concertation in the field of monetary and financial policy and trade policy.

The European Council agrees that a time-scale for specific actions at Community level should be established to complement the parallel efforts being undertaken nationally by each Member State. It therefore instructs the Council:

- to decide, before the end of March 1983, on the priority measures proposed by the Commission to reinforce the internal market;

- to speed up the adoption of the Commission's current and forthcoming proposals in the field of research, innovation and energy;
- to agree rapidly and before the next European Council on the Commission's proposal to expand the NCI by a further 3 000 million ECU;
- to give urgent consideration at the next Council (social affairs) to the Commission's proposals for ways and means to ensure young people professional training or a first work experience, and on the reorganization of working time.

The Council (general affairs) will report to the European Council in March on the implementation of this work-programme.

Enlargement

1.2.4. The European Council reaffirms its political commitment to the enlargement of the Community with Spain and Portugal. The European Council asks the Council (general affairs) to press ahead with the negotiations with both countries as rapidly as possible.

The European Council welcomes the inventory presented by the Commission, which in its view constitutes a new impulse to the enlargement process.

The European Council stresses the importance of rapid progress within the Community on a number of important issues in order to facilitate a harmonious enlargement of the Community. In particular, the European Council asks the Council (agriculture) to complete urgently and before March 1983 the revision of existing rules for certain Mediterranean agricultural products on the basis of Commission proposals.

The European Council invites the Commission to explore with the two candidate countries the introduction of certain measures in these countries before accession in order to prepare their economy for accession in particularly sensitive sectors.

The European Council asks the Council (general affairs) to examine the issues set out in the Commission's inventory with a view to balanced decisions.

A report on progress will be submitted for its next session.

Relations with non-member countries

1.2.5. The European Council stresses that the overriding priority for the Community's economic and commercial relations with other industrialized countries will be strengthening of international cooperation in all major areas to coun-

teract recession, with particular emphasis on a return to a stable monetary, financial and trade situation.

The European Council states the readiness of Member States to work for a substantial increase of IMF quotas and their determination to contribute to an early decision to this effect.

The European Council welcomes the outcome of the GATT ministerial meeting and confirms the Community's readiness to take part constructively in the continuing work within the GATT.

The European Council recalls its conclusions of June that a genuine and effective dialogue should take place between the United States and the Community in areas of possible dispute. The European Community is determined to pursue a constructive dialogue in the appropriate form with a view to ensuring solid and confident relations between the Community and the United States.

It notes with satisfaction the EC/US arrangement on steel and the lifting of United States sanctions related to the Siberian pipeline.

With regard to relations with Japan the European Council was informed on the work already done by the Commission, and it expects the Council (general affairs) at its session in December to take decisions on the various ways and means of improving commercial relations between Japan and the Community.

The Community has successfully remained united in the face of difficult problems over recent months. The European Council is convinced that unified and coherent Community positions are more than ever indispensable to achieving the objectives set out above.

The European Council welcomes the work undertaken within the Council on the recent important Commission initiative in the field of the Community's relations with developing countries. It stresses the importance of proceeding from this stage towards proposals to be followed up by Council decisions on priority questions such as the negotiations for the new ACP Convention.

There is agreement on the urgent need to bring about an improvement of developing countries' ability to cope with their economic and financial problems. This will be an important factor in favour of international economic recovery.

Common fisheries policy

1.2.6. The Council noted the progress made in the negotiations about a common fisheries policy. It emphasized the need for agreement at the meeting of the Council of Fisheries Ministers on 21 December.

Political cooperation questions

East-West relations

1.2.7. The European Council reviewed recent developments in East-West relations.

Following the change of leadership in the Soviet Union the governments of the Ten emphasized that their relations with that country will continue to be based on the same principles of firmness and dialogue. They call upon the Soviet Union to make the necessary contributions to improve confidence in international affairs. The Ten are ready to respond positively to such efforts and to work together with the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe for a more constructive East-West relationship.

Therefore, the European Council expressed the hope that all participating States in the CSCE meeting in Madrid would take the necessary decisions to permit the meeting to arrive at an early and positive conclusion.

With this in mind, the Ten confirmed their commitment to real progress in Madrid by negotiating a substantial and balanced concluding document which will contain a precise mandate for a conference on disarmament in Europe as well as further progress within the human dimension of the Helsinki Final Act. In doing so they will cooperate with other allied and friendly States including the neutral and non-aligned participating States.

Poland

1.2.8. The European Council discussed recent developments in Poland and noted with regret that a large number of persons remain in detention, that martial law continues, and that the free trade union, Solidarity, has been dissolved.

It also noted, however, that the recent release of some internees, including the leader of Solidarity, might constitute a step towards the fulfilment of the appeal made by the Ten on 4 January 1982.

The Ten will continue to follow developments in Poland closely and in particular study the implications of the possible lifting of martial law, including the conditions under which this will take place.

Afghanistan

1.2.9. The European Council in particular expressed the view that the new Soviet leadership would make an important contribution to the improvement of international relations in general

and of East-West relations in particular by reassessing its position on the question of Afghanistan. It endorsed the verdict of the international community on the situation in Afghanistan, embodied in the fourth successive vote of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The people of Afghanistan should be permitted to regain their national sovereignty and independence and the status of a non-aligned State.

It expressed its readiness to support any realistic efforts to achieve a political solution and recalled the European Council proposal of 30 June 1981 for a comprehensive settlement of the conflict.

The situation in the Middle East, including Lebanon

1.2.10. Following a report by the Presidency on recent contacts, the European Council discussed events in the Middle East, where two aspects in particular continue to cause deep concern.

First, as regards the Arab-Israeli conflict, the European Council expressed its disappointment at the delay in grasping the political opportunity created by the initiative contained in President Reagan's speech on 1 September 1982, and the will to peace expressed in the declaration of Arab Heads of State meeting at Fez on 9 September 1982.

It called upon each of the parties to assume its international responsibilities without further hesitations. It expects each of the parties to cease to ignore the United Nations Security Council resolutions and explicitly make known their approval of these resolutions.

Secondly, the European Council continued to view the situation in Lebanon with the greatest concern. It particularly noted that in spite of the various efforts made by the negotiators on the spot, no significant progress had yet been achieved towards the withdrawal of the Israeli, Syrian and other foreign forces.

The persistence of this situation would constitute a threat to the integrity and unity of Lebanon, carrying serious dangers for the whole region.

The withdrawal of foreign forces could be of a progressive nature, but should take place within a fixed and short period of time under conditions

which would permit the Lebanese authorities to exercise fully their rights of sovereignty over all of Lebanon.

The Ten have already demonstrated their willingness to contribute to the solution of the problems, especially by giving their support to the UN forces and UN observers established by the Security Council as well as the multinational force in Beirut to which two of their number contribute. The Ten and the Community are equally prepared to continue to contribute to the reconstruction of Lebanon.

Statements and comments

1.2.11. At the final press conference Mr Poul Schlüter gave a very favourable assessment of this meeting. Although there had not been any spectacular decisions, at least a working programme had been produced for specific issues. Mr François Mitterrand described this European Council as more productive than the previous meetings, chiefly because more specific conclusions had been reached on a number of matters.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl found that the discussion had been extremely 'intense' and useful. The most important features had been the debate on the economic and social situation and the emphasis placed on the need to fight unemployment, especially among the young: Europe's reputation with the public, particularly the young, depended on its ability to help solve the unemployment problem. Mr Kohl wanted Germany, during its coming six-month term as Council President, to make an important contribution to progress on enlargement, development of the internal market and the Community's relations with the United States.

Mr Thorn was glad that the Ten had been able to tackle problems like investment, the NCI and the internal market earnestly and with a certain degree of unanimity.

3. EEC-United States ministerial meeting

1.3.1. On 10 December a United States delegation led by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, had lengthy discussions at Commission headquarters, during which the whole Euro-American 'dispute' was reviewed.

The Commission delegation was led by Mr Thorn and included Mr Ortoli, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Davignon and Mr Dalsager. The US ministerial delegation consisted of Mr Regan, the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Block, the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr Baldrige, the Secretary of Commerce, and Mr Brock, the Representative for Trade Negotiations. The meeting was the third between Members of the Commission and members of the US Government. The first had taken place in December 1981¹ and the second in Washington in February 1982.² The aim of the meeting was to clear the air after the tensions which had arisen in 1982³ and to examine the issues which were still causing disagreement.

The discussions centred on trade, East-West relations, economic policy and agriculture.

1.3.2. Speaking to the press, Mr Thorn made a preliminary statement in which he commented that in the most difficult political and economic situation since the war, the United States and the Community, which together handled a third of world trade, had a responsibility and a special incentive to coordinate their points of view. Exchanges had been frank and sincere and, rather than dwelling on the past, the discussions had dealt directly with concrete problems, attempting to define a joint approach. Mr Thorn stated that it was now time to act and that actions should replace words.

Mr Shultz declined to make a preliminary statement, but in answer to questions he summed up the discussions on the most important issue, agriculture, by saying that the problems had not been resolved but that steps were being taken towards a solution. This was also the gist of the answers to questions given by the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr Block, who stated that there would be no farm war. Most of the other answers to questions on agriculture given by Mr Thorn, Mr Dalsager and Mr Block followed the line of the official conclusions, which were as follows: 'We have had a frank discussion on the problems we face in agriculture. We are agreed to avoid disruption of world markets... We agreed that an intensive exchange of views at official level should start in January on actions which could be taken within existing systems... An evaluation of the progress made should be made before the end of March.'

Mr Thorn stressed that the common agricultural policy was not negotiable and that the Commission had given no undertaking in the discussions. The measures which both sides wanted to take to avoid disruption of world markets would be exactly in line with their respective policies. As regards economic policy, Mr Regan said that he was less worried than he had been six months ago about a world financial crisis. He referred to the measures taken by his Government to reduce inflation and interest rates.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.2.41.

² Bull. EC 2-1982, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.4; Bull. EC 10-1982, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.4; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.59.

4. Proposals on agricultural prices and related measures for 1983/84

1.4.1. On 21 December the Commission adopted its proposals on agricultural prices and related measures for 1983/84 and transmitted them to the Council on 22 December. By sending its proposals in late December, the Commission is trying to ensure that the agricultural prices are discussed and adopted before the beginning of April, which is the start of the marketing year for certain products. The three features of the proposals for 1983/84 are simplicity, continuity and progress. They are simple in that, unlike the proposals for previous years, they are accompanied by only a few related measures. Secondly, the proposals meet the need for continuity which the Commission stressed in its Report on the Mandate,¹ on which it expanded in its memorandum entitled 'Guidelines for European Agriculture'.² The Council has already begun to give effect to some of those guidelines by its decisions of 17 and 18 May 1982.³

Thirdly, the proposals show the progress which the common agricultural policy is making in adapting to what are sometimes rather difficult circumstances.

1.4.2. Taking into account the general economic situation in the Community, the Commission is proposing a 5.5% increase in the common prices for the majority of products. Although such an increase gives little room for manoeuvre, the Commission is still endeavouring to improve price relativities. Where the market situation makes it possible, the Commission is proposing price increases of more than 5.5%; this applies to various Mediterranean products such as cotton, some varieties of tobacco, dried fodder, peas and field beans, sunflower seed, soya beans and silk worms. For these products the increases range from 6% to 8.7%. For some products facing a difficult market situation, the proposed increase is less than 5.5%. This is the case with cereals and sugar, for which an increase of about 4% is proposed.

The price proposals were drawn up against a background of record levels of agricultural

output in 1982, which enabled producers' incomes to rise faster than costs. In real terms, average agricultural incomes in the Community increased by more than 5% in 1982.

1.4.3. The level of agricultural production, while improving agricultural incomes, has certain implications for the management of markets. New surpluses are looming on the horizon, making it more necessary than ever to maintain control over those products which have frequently been in surplus in the past. To achieve this, the Commission is continuing with the long-term programme which it announced last year—that is, the establishment of guarantee thresholds and the introduction of producer co-responsibility should these thresholds be exceeded.

The Commission has proposed that the intervention prices for cereals, milk products and colza should be increased by a lower percentage than that which would have been proposed if production in these three sectors had not exceeded the guarantee thresholds fixed for 1982. The Commission intends to pursue this policy further since, for 1983/84, it is proposing production thresholds based on its action programme for the period up to 1988/89.

1.4.4. BY proposing an adjustment of the existing monetary compensatory amounts, the Commission is also endeavouring to bring about a return to the single market. This would mean that the common prices expressed in national currencies could reflect more closely the different economic situations in the various Member States.

The Commission's proposals for individual products

1.4.5. For cereals, with the exception of durum wheat, the Commission is proposing an increase of 4% in the intervention price,

¹ Supplement 1/81 — Bull. EC.

² Bull. EC 10-1981, points 2.1.83 to 2.1.92; Supplement 4/81 — Bull. EC.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.1.73 to 2.1.99.

in order to reduce the gap between the guaranteed prices paid to Community growers and those received by growers in competitor countries. Since the production threshold for 1982 was exceeded, the Commission, in accordance with the Council Regulation of 18 May 1982,¹ proposes that the co-responsibility levy be set at 1%, bringing the net increase for 1983/84 to 3%. The Commission is also proposing that the guarantee threshold for 1983/84 should be set at 120.56 million tonnes.

By suggesting a slight decrease in the difference between the reference and support prices for common wheat of minimum breadmaking quality, an increase in the premium for bread rye and stricter quality criteria for exports, the Commission is pursuing its policy on product quality which it launched some years ago.

Lastly, as regards cereal substitutes, the Commission is continuing to negotiate within GATT so that imports of corn gluten feed in particular may be stabilized.

1.4.6. For milk, the Commission is proposing a 5.5% increase in the target price.

For milk products, since provisional figures indicate that the guarantee threshold was exceeded by 2.2% in 1982, the Commission is proposing that the intervention price should be raised by only 3.2%, that the guarantee threshold for 1983 should be set at the level of the production threshold in 1982 plus 0.5% and that the co-responsibility levy should be kept at the same rate (2%) and subject to the same conditions as in 1982/83. To support the incomes of small-scale milk producers, however, the Commission is proposing that for 1983/84, as for 1982/83, 120 million ECU should be made available as direct aid, on terms to be laid down. As regards consumption, the Commission is proposing the extension of the special measures for the disposal of butter stocks, including consumer subsidies and a five-year guarantee on Community financing of the milk programme.

1.4.7. For beef, the Commission is proposing a single 5.5% increase in the guide price and the fixing of the intervention price at

90% of the guide price. The Commission feels that the recording of market prices on the basis of live weight should continue for a further year in tandem with the Community scale for the grading of carcasses, before the latter is adopted as the sole basis for recording prices. From 1983/84 onwards, however, the Community scale could be used as a basis for intervention purchases. For 1984/85 the Commission would then propose that the Council should fix the guide and intervention prices per 100 kg of carcase weight according to the Community scale. Lastly, the Commission is proposing that the existing premiums should be kept at their present level for 1983/84.

1.4.8. For sugar, in view of the serious imbalance on this market and the poor outlook on the world market, the Commission is proposing a 4% increase in the institutional prices; if there is no improvement on the world market, the Commission and the Council would also have to decide, as in 1982/83, to raise the ceiling for the 'B' levy to 37.5% of the intervention price for 1983/84. The Commission is also proposing a reduction in the reimbursement of storage costs and a 6% increase in the threshold price for molasses.

1.4.9. For olive oil, the Commission is proposing a 5.5% increase in prices and aid. It notes that the problem of monitoring production aid has still not been resolved. For this reason, it intends to make every effort to improve the monitoring and the supervision of production aid under the existing arrangements.

In the oilseed sector the Commission is hoping to encourage production still further by a 6.5% increase in prices for sunflower seed and soya and a 6% increase for linseed.

For colza, the Commission is proposing a 4.5% price increase, the guarantee threshold having been exceeded in 1982; the special premium for 'double zero' varieties will be maintained, however. For 1983/84 the Commission is proposing that the guarantee threshold should be set at 2.29 million tonnes.

¹ OJ L 164, 14.6.1982.

Now that the trial period for castor seed is over, the Commission acknowledges that this crop cannot be introduced into the Community by traditional means and recognizes the need for agronomic and technological research in this area. The Commission is therefore ready to consider any appropriate research projects; in the mean time, it is proposing that the 1982/83 target and minimum prices should be kept at the same levels for 1983/84 and that the validity of the basic Regulation¹ should not be extended at the end of the 1983/84 marketing year.

As regards protein products and fibre plants, the Commission is proposing price increases of more than 5.5% with a view to encouraging production still further.

1.4.10. For wine, the Commission is proposing that the guide price for all types of wine should be increased by 5.5%, that the beginning of the marketing year should be moved from 16 December to 1 September and that the Community should make a financial contribution towards promotional campaigns on behalf of table wine.

1.4.11. For the other Mediterranean products such as tobacco and fruit and vegetables, the Commission is proposing that price increases should once more be geared to the varieties and the products concerned. Thus, the increases proposed in the norm price for tobacco range from 4% to 7.5%, while the increases in the premiums range from 5% to 8.5%, depending on the variety. For fruit and vegetables, price increases of 5.5% are proposed, except in the case of tomatoes (3.5%). In Greece there are large increases for products such as mandarins (10%) and sweet oranges (13.9%). The Commission is proposing that the marketing premiums for oranges and mandarins should be increased by 5.5%.

Monetary adjustments, prices and incomes

1.4.12. The Commission is proposing that the monetary compensatory amounts should be reduced by 2.8 points in the Federal Republic of Germany and by 2.3 points in the

Netherlands and the United Kingdom. In October the Council decided that negative compensatory amounts should no longer apply in Belgium or Luxembourg and that they should be reduced by 3 points in France.² These decisions will apply from the beginning of the marketing years for the various products. As things stand, therefore, there is no need for any further adjustment. The combined effect of the price increases and the proposed dismantling of the MCAs should mean that the average percentage increases in the common prices expressed in national currency will range from 1.3% in Germany to 9.4% in Belgium. Since agricultural incomes per labour unit increased in real terms in all Member States of the Community in 1982 and since inflation rates are slowing down, these increases as expressed in national currency should help to overcome the problems of farm incomes in the various Member States.

1.4.13. As regards the effect of its proposals on food prices, the Commission considers that the average increase in retail food prices will be less than 2% which would raise the cost of living by about 0.3%. Since an increase of 8.8% is forecast for consumer prices in 1983, the Commission considers that the consumer will be only slightly affected by its proposals. The maximum long-term effect on food prices may be put at 1.8%.

Budgetary consequences

1.4.14. The net impact of the proposals on the Community budget should be about 330 million ECU in 1983 and 640 million ECU in 1984. The Commission's aim is to ensure that, over a number of years, agricultural expenditure grows at a slower rate than the Community's own resources. Currently, the average rate of increase in agricultural expenditure between '1980' (average for 1979, 1980 and 1981) and 1983 is put at 9.7% and will thus fall short of the average rate of increase in own resources, namely 9.9%.

¹ OJ L 332, 24.12.1977.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.69.

5. Changes in the system for the supply of nuclear materials for peaceful uses set up under the Euratom Treaty

1.5.1. On 8 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal that the system for the supply of nuclear materials for peaceful uses be adapted to the circumstances of the 1980s.¹

The proposed system, while putting an end to the Supply Agency's buying and selling monopoly, establishes the unity of the 'nuclear common market' with the aim of promoting solidarity between countries which have real industrial capacity in this area and their partners.

It was during the Suez crisis in 1956, which spotlighted Europe's vulnerability as regards oil imports, that Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty was drawn up. In accordance with that Chapter, a Community Supply Agency under the supervision of the Commission was granted a veritable monopoly in the buying and selling of nuclear materials. The aim of setting up such an Agency with a monopoly of that kind was to ensure that users would have equal access to the resources and to implement a common supply policy.

Principal features of the proposed system

1.5.2. As provided in the Treaty, the Commission made proposals to amend Chapter VI in 1964 and again in 1970, but nothing came of them. In view of the industrial and commercial maturity of the nuclear industry, it is now becoming increasingly evident that the current provisions are out of tune with the realities of the market in nuclear fuel materials and services. The Commission therefore considers that they should be adjusted. The adjustment would be effected very simply—a Council decision by qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission. The Commission proposal is built around a number of major objectives intended to develop real solidarity between the Ten.

A unified nuclear common market

1.5.3. The advantage of establishing a unified nuclear common market is twofold: (i) the Member States that do not have the industrial capacity for a complete nuclear fuel cycle could rely with greater confidence on the others and avoid having to make investments incommensurate with their nuclear programme; (ii) those countries that do possess fuel-cycle technology would be able to find wider outlets for their nuclear industries, since the latter also have a role to play in exporting. The principle of the unity of the market implies a general prohibition of any restrictions on transfers of nuclear materials within the Community, on imports from outside the Community or on the use and storage of materials in the Community. Any conditions and restrictions that might prove to be necessary would be applied solely in accordance with a Community procedure.

International powers of the Community

1.5.4. The security of the Community's nuclear supplies may also be jeopardized as a result of the action of non-Community countries, in view of the Community's dependence on imports of certain nuclear materials and the tendency of the countries involved to impose restrictions on nuclear trade that are liable to affect the unity of the market. In order to mitigate this risk, a common attitude towards non-Community countries must be adopted. It should preferably be reflected in agreements concluded by the Community. Where the Community cannot or does not wish to enter into such agreements, the Commission must authorize Member States that so wish to conclude bilateral agreements, provided they are compatible with the Treaty. As regards exports

¹ OJ C 330, 16.12.1982.

of nuclear materials, the principle of prior authorization by the Commission is maintained and in fact extended to all exports in order to ensure that exports are consistent under all circumstances with the general interests of the Community.

**Solidarity in the event
of disruption of supplies**

1.5.5. Although the risk of a disruption of supplies is less in the case of imported nuclear materials than in that of oil, the Commission feels that there has to be a Community solution to any problems that may arise. To this end, the proposed arrangements include a consultation procedure to facilitate cooperation between Community investors; maintain the Community's financial support for uranium prospecting and extend it to cover the territories of non-Community countries; provide for the possibility of building up decentralized buffer stocks and, in the event of an imbalance between

supply and demand, of taking appropriate action on prices and import controls.

*

The Commission is proposing that the Supply Agency be retained—albeit with a modified role—as the preferred instrument for carrying out joint action in the field of nuclear supplies. It is also proposing the introduction of specific penalties and supervisory measures in order to ensure compliance with the new provisions proposed. Finally, it considers that the supply arrangements outlined above will make it possible to achieve the essential aims of the Euratom Treaty as regards supplies, while allowing economic operators the freedom of action they are entitled to expect in view of the development which the nuclear industry has undergone. These arrangements are fully compatible with the international commitments of the Community and its Member States with regard to the supply, utilization, movement and supervision of nuclear materials.



PART TWO
ACTIVITIES
IN DECEMBER 1982

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

2.1.1. The European Council devoted a major part of its deliberations on 3 and 4 December to discussing the economic and social situation in the Community.¹ The priority goals on which it agreed included strengthening the European Monetary System and increasing international cooperation and concertation in the field of monetary and financial policy and trade policy.

European Monetary System

Medium-term financial assistance

2.1.2. On 17 December the Council (economic and financial questions) adopted a Decision concerning the extension of the machinery for medium-term financial assistance until 31 December 1984, unless the definitive phase of the EMS is set up before that date.²

Community borrowings

New Community Borrowing and Lending Instrument (NCI)

2.1.3. The European Council, meeting on 3 and 4 December,¹ instructed the Council to act promptly, before the next European Council meeting, on the proposal empowering the Commission to contract loans under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community.³

2.1.4. On 16 December Parliament approved the Commission's proposal almost unanimously.⁴

Economic situation

2.1.5. On 17 December the Council carried out its third quarterly review of the economic situation in the Community, after an oral introduction by Mr Ortoli. Following its review, it adopted the Annual Report

on the Economic Situation in the Community and laid down economic policy guidelines for 1983 to be followed by the Member States.⁵

2.1.6. The Council, which had held an exchange of views on the Commission's communication on budget discipline and economic convergence at its July meeting,⁶ again considered the problems raised by the communication in the light of an oral report by Mr Ortoli on developments in that field.

Mr Ortoli drew the Ministers' attention to three essential points: the Member States must have authority and control over their budgets; the Member States must see to it that budget procedures are so organized as to prevent distortions during the budget year, in the interests of sound management; budget policy and budget management imply a need for medium-term measures.

Monetary Committee

2.1.7. The Monetary Committee held its 286th meeting in Brussels on 15 December, with Sir Kenneth Couzens in the chair. It discussed the general economic situation.

Economic Policy Committee

2.1.8. The Economic Policy Committee met twice:

- on 1 December it held its 127th meeting (in its 'budget' composition) to discuss implementation of the guidelines set out in the Commission's communication on budget discipline and economic convergence;⁶ and
- on 13 December it held its 128th meeting (plenary) to discuss the general economic situation.

¹ Point 1.2.3.

² OJ L 368, 28.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.1.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 1.1.7; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.2.

⁴ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.3; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.4.

⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.3.

Internal market and industrial affairs

2.1.9. In the context of the Commission's proposals—sent to the Council in July—aimed at strengthening the internal market by streamlining personal checks at frontiers within the Community,¹ Parliament passed two resolutions (on local transfrontier traffic and the simplification of formalities at Community airports) on 17 December.²

Free movement of goods

Industrial products

2.1.10. On 17 December the Council adopted a Directive³ amending the framework Directive of 4 March 1974 relating to the Community type-framework Directive of 4 March 1974 relating to the Community type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors⁴ and the 19 separate Directives adopted so far concerning certain components or features of these tractors.⁵

This instrument will raise the maximum speed from 25 to 30 km/h and is important in that it will have the effect, within the optional harmonization system, of encouraging manufacturers to come into line with the many existing Directives. The proportion of current production of agricultural tractors that will be covered by Community provisions now goes up from 40 to 90%.

2.1.11. On 3 December the Council amended⁶ for the third time its Directive of 27 July 1976 relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations,⁷ introducing provisions for the authorization of the use of polychlorinated terphenyls (PCT). This temporary exemption applies exclusively to premises notified for this purpose to the competent authorities.

Pharmaceuticals

2.1.12. At the beginning of December the Commission sent the Council and Parliament

its fourth report on the functioning of the Committee for Proprietary Medical Products, which covers the Committee's activities between July 1981 and September 1982.

Business law

Companies

Division of public limited-liability companies

2.1.13. On 17 December, acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council adopted the sixth company law Directive—concerning the division of public limited-liability companies.³ This Directive is linked with the third Directive, adopted in 1978, concerning mergers.⁸

The main purpose of the new Directive is to facilitate the restructuring and rationalization of companies by enabling a company to transfer all its assets and liabilities simultaneously to several different companies, already in existence or newly formed, without being required to go through winding-up procedures, which are frequently lengthy, complicated and costly.

While these rules apply only to operations carried out by public limited-liability companies subject to the law of one and the same Member State, the effects of this harmonization will extend beyond national frontiers on account of the equivalent protection afforded throughout the Community to persons to whom such operations apply. It is also a contribution towards the setting up of a Community-wide capital market.

¹ OJ C 197, 31.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.10.

² Point 2.4.10; OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

³ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982..

⁴ OJ L 84, 28.3.1974.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.9.

⁶ OJ L 350, 10.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

⁸ OJ L 295, 20.10.1978.

In this connection, provision has been made for a number of specific guarantees to protect the interests of shareholders, in particular the publication of very detailed draft terms of division, the preparation of a report by an independent expert on the fairness of the share exchange ratio and the making available of a number of other documents enabling an assessment to be made of the soundness of the operation.

As regards the protection of employees, the provisions of the Directive of 14 February 1977 on the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings¹ are applicable.

Lastly, creditors are protected by further guarantees in addition to those provided in the case of mergers, since division operations normally involve greater risks than mergers by virtue of the division of the assets by which debts are secured. For example, the Directive provides for the joint and several liability of all the companies benefiting from the transfer of assets and liabilities, where a company to which a liability is transferred fails to satisfy its creditor.

The Directive also empowers the Member States to relax certain procedural requirements where division takes place under the strict supervision of a court having broad powers to ensure that the operation does not prejudice the rights of the persons concerned.

Free movement of persons and freedom to provide services

Mutual recognition of diplomas and access to occupations

2.1.14. At its meeting on 30 November and 1 December the Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health, as is its custom at each meeting, reviewed the situation in the Member States with regard to freedom of movement for the various professions in the health sector for which Directives had been adopted. It also continued its exchange of information on progress with regard to the rules on access to the professions of doc-

tor, nurse, dentist and midwife. The tables on pages 23 to 25 give statistics for the migration of doctors, nurses responsible for general care and dental practitioners in 1981.

Industry

Steel

2.1.15. The Council adopted on 13 December a number of conclusions designed to reinforce the present system of crisis measures:²

- it expressed its support for the guide prices that the Commission contemplated applying from 1 January, stressing the need to keep a close watch on the market;
- it gave its approval to an intensification of delivery checks on steelmakers and stockholders aimed at enforcing quota and price requirements more effectively;
- after a preliminary discussion of the Commission's proposal to include additional products in Annex I to the ECSC Treaty, it invited the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee to give further consideration as a matter of urgency to all the repercussions such a step would have, so that it could act in pursuance of Article 81 of the Treaty.

2.1.16. In December the Commission approved the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1983.³ Given the steady deterioration in the economic climate in the Community and in the world at large, the programme forecasts that steel consumption will amount to 22.10 million tonnes, which corresponds to a production of approximately 23.70 million tonnes as compared with 25.6 million tonnes during the fourth quarter of 1982. The Commission notes that no improvement can be foreseen before the summer of 1983, when lower inflation rates and tax relief measures should stimulate economic activity, provided that interest

¹ OJ L 61, 5.3.1977.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.16.

³ OJ C 332, 18.12.1982.

Table 1 — *Number of doctors who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1981 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)¹*

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg ²	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 478 ³	52	17	93	13	12	546	57	6	129
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	23	5	9	6	0	0	37	4	2	4
France	50	12	4	0	4	8	12	0	0	2
Italy	49	5	0	5	1	1	47	1	1	11
Netherlands	58	3	1	31	5	0	35	1	0	0
Belgium	11	19	0	46	2	3	16	0	1	1
Luxembourg	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	28	1	2	5	1	0	7	50	2	0
Ireland	2	0	0	0	0	0	362	0	0	0
Denmark	30	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Greece	214	7	0	0	0	0	24	1	0	111
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR)	*	8	10	8	0	8	39	4	2	58
France	*	0	4	0	6	1	13	0	0	5
Italy	*	7	0	5	1	0	49	1	1	63
Netherlands	*	3	1	0	5	3	36	1	0	0
Belgium	*	23	0	71	0	0	16	0	1	1
Luxembourg	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	*	1	2	7	1	0	0	50	2	2
Ireland	*	1	0	1	0	0	362	0	0	0
Denmark	*	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Greece	*	9	0	1	0	0	25	1	0	0

¹ This table does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess but in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant doctors). It does include all migrant doctors, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State. In France, however, unlike the other Member States, migrants may follow a course of specialized training without having received authorization to practise. They do not therefore appear in the statistics provided by France for this table.

² All Luxembourg medical students have to obtain their training abroad; those who subsequently became established in their home country have therefore not been included in the table.

³ Not including Hesse.

* Data not available.

Table 2 — Number of nurses responsible for general care who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1981 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 132	147	44	63	80	—	239	585	9	2
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	4	21	12	17	2	*	*	1	1	0
France	13	0	8	4	15	*	*	1	2	1
Italy	10	3	10	0	1	*	*	0	0	0
Netherlands	34	36	1	6	14	*	*	1	1	0
Belgium	9	35	7	10	38	*	*	0	0	0
Luxembourg	0	0	1	1	2	*	*	0	0	0
United Kingdom	52	41	4	21	4	*	*	0	2	0
Ireland	3	4	0	3	1	*	*	582 ¹	1	0
Denmark	5	7	1	1	3	*	*	0	2	0
Greece	2	0	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	1
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR)	*	21	15	17	13	*	34	1	1	0
France	*	0	8	4	19	*	11	1	2	1
Italy	*	3	0	0	2	*	4	0	0	0
Netherlands	*	36	1	0	37	*	40	1	1	0
Belgium	*	35	10	12	0	*	4	0	0	1
Luxembourg	*	0	1	1	1	*	2	0	0	0
United Kingdom	*	41	8	26	4	*	0	582 ¹	4	0
Ireland	*	4	0	2	1	*	115	0	1	0
Denmark	*	7	1	1	3	*	28	0	0	0
Greece	*	0	0	0	0	*	1	0	0	0

NB This table does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess but in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant nurses). It does include all migrant nurses responsible for general care, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State.

¹ This figure relates primarily to Irish nationals who qualified in the United Kingdom; a precise figure is not available.

* Data not available.

Table 3 — Number of dental practitioners who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1981 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)¹

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg ²	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 80 ⁴	20	0 ³	28	6	5	103	1	2	1
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	2	0		0	0	0	5	0	1	0
France	3	4		0	3	2	3	0	0	0
Italy	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	7	2		3	0	0	1	0	0	0
Belgium	1	3		11	1	0	1	1	0	0
Luxembourg	0	0		0	0	3	0	0	0	1
United Kingdom	16	5		14	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0		0	0	0	84	0	1	0
Denmark	30	4		0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	19	2		0	0	0	9	0	0	0
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR)	*	0		0	0	0	5	0	1	0
France	*	0		0	3	2	3	0	0	0
Italy	*	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	*	2		0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Belgium	*	4		14	0	2	1	0	0	0
Luxembourg	*	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	*	6		14	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ireland	*	0		0	0	0	84	0	1	0
Denmark	*	4		0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	*	4		0	0	0	9	0	0	0

¹ This table does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess and in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant dental practitioners). It does include all migrant dental practitioners, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State.

² All Luxembourg dental students have to obtain their training abroad; those who subsequently became established in their home country have therefore not been included in the table.

³ Italy has until 28 July 1984 to give effect to the dentists Directives.

⁴ Not including Hessen.

* Data not available.

rates can be held at their present level or further reduced. The main branches of the industry confirm the gloomy outlook for the short term: the survey of market trends and the opinion poll among business circles reflect the current stagnation, which confirms

the forecasts made during the last quarter of 1982. Stocks should pursue their downward trend, while with imports on the increase and exports declining, crude steel production in the Community should work out as follows, in comparison with previous quarters:

(million tonnes)

	III/81	IV/81	I/82	II/82	III/82	I/83
Real consumption	25.43	27.72	28.16	28.27	22.01	22.10
Stock change	- 1.50	- 0.82	+ 2.09	± 0	- 1.00	1.20
Imports	1.77	2.47	3.28	3.16	2.41	2.70
Exports	8.30	7.42	5.28	6.14	5.59	5.50
Production	30.46	31.85	32.25	31.25	24.19	23.70

In view of the sluggishness of the market and the pressing need to support the objectives in steel products pricing, the Commission set appreciably smaller production quotas for the first quarter of 1983 than those for the preceding quarter. The following table compares total quotas and production by product category during the different quarters of 1982.

The rates of abatement for the first quarter of 1983¹ were determined in the light of the trends observed by the Commission for the various categories of product, and their high level reflects the gloomy outlook for the first quarter of 1983. If market trends so require, the Commission can alter the rates at the beginning of the quarter, and on 8 December it accordingly adopted a Decision² amending

'000 tonnes

Category	Production			Quotas				
	I/82	II/82	III/82	I/82	II/82	III/82	IV/82	I/83
Ia Hot-rolled coil	5 657	5 650	4 200	5 661	5 584	4 420	3 880	3 330
Ib Uncoated sheet	3 662	3 819	3 260	3 418	3 833	3 212	3 028	2 560
Ic Galvanized sheet	933	1 073	755	1 003	1 174	900	869	720
Id Other coated	558	619	520	595	713	634	629	525
IV Wire rod	—	—	2 100	—	—	2 244	2 244	2 200
V Reinforcing bars	1 807	1 524	1 570	2 262	1 929	1 534	1 567	1 550
VI Merchant bars	2 377	2 255	1 710	2 691	2 626	2 176	2 192	2 150
II Reversing mill plate	1 725	1 535	1 230	1 662	1 684	1 335	1 270	1 140
III Heavy sections	1 318	1 134	890	1 282	1 156	1 086	997	960

Article 9 of Decision No 1696/82/ECSC of 30 June 1982.³

2.1.16a. The Commission adopted guide prices for various categories of tonnage steel products that should be applied in the Community from 1 January 1983,⁴ as part of the reinforcement of the present system of crisis

measures.⁵ These prices, which are established in ECU per tonne, are generally based

¹ OJ L 341, 3.12.1982.

² OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

³ OJ L 191, 1.7.1982.

⁴ OJ L 370, 29.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.16.

on the average list prices of modern, low-cost plants. The Commission may well publish new guide prices if it observes an improvement in the light of its continuous market survey. It also adopted a Decision concerning the requirement for Community undertakings to declare their deliveries of certain steel products.

2.1.17. The Commission also adopted in December:

- a communication¹ on the information to be supplied by steel undertakings applying for special treatment under Articles 14 and 15 of Decision No 1696/82/ECSC of 30 June 1982² and on the criteria laid down by the Commission for the application of these Articles;
- individual Decisions imposing fines on four steel undertakings in pursuance of Articles 60 and 64 of the ECSC Treaty;³
- a Decision extending until 31 December 1983 the term of validity of the system of retrospective statistical surveillance in respect of imports of ECSC steel products and rapid statistical surveillance of exports of these products.⁴

Electronics and information technology

2.1.18. On 13 December the Council adopted a Decision setting up an Advisory Committee of users with the task of coordinating the activities of the Member States and Community institutions in their assessment of the need for a Community interinstitutional information system (INSIS).⁵

2.1.19. On 21 December the Council adopted,⁶ after Parliament had delivered a favourable opinion,⁷ the proposal for a Decision on a preparatory phase for a Community research and development programme in the field of information technology (ES-PRIT).⁸ A large number of organizations have indicated their interest in making proposals for the pilot project, and they have been informed that the closing date for receipt of proposals is 21 February 1983.⁹

Customs union

Simplification of customs formalities

Simplification of formalities in intra-Community trade

2.1.20. On 20 December the Commission approved a proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of the standard declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade.¹⁰ This proposal, which is a follow-up to the proposal for a Regulation on the simplification of formalities in trade between Member States, which was sent to the Council on 9 July, will make it possible to dispense with a number of customs and other administrative documents (notably in the statistical, transport and taxation fields). It forms part of the measures set in train by the Commission in order to strengthen the Community internal market.

Community transit

2.1.21. On 17 December the Council adopted, on a proposal from the Commission, an amendment to the Regulation on Community transit, the aim being to relax the rules relating to the operation of the guarantee under the transit arrangements.

2.1.22. On 17 December Parliament adopted a resolution⁷ on the 1982 programme for the attainment of customs union.¹¹ The House regrets that very little progress has been made since 1979 and calls on the Commission and the Council to take steps to re-

¹ OJ C 318, 4.12.1982.

² OJ L 191, 1.7.1982.

³ OJ C 324, 10.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

⁵ OJ L 368, 28.12.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1981, point 2.3.22.

⁶ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁷ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁸ OJ C 314, 30.11.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.20.

⁹ OJ C 341, 29.12.1982.

¹⁰ OJ C 203, 6.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.21.

¹¹ OJ C 80, 30.3.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.16.

move once and for all checks on passengers and goods at the Community's internal frontiers.

Common Customs Tariff

Nomenclature

2.1.23. On 25 November and 17 December the Commission adopted three Regulations to ensure uniform application of the Common Customs Tariff nomenclature, concerning:

- (i) the sixth amendment to the Regulation of 20 December 1979¹ laying down conditions for the entry of flue-cured Virginia type, light air-cured Burley type (including Burley hybrids), light air-cured Maryland type and fire-cured tobacco;²
- (ii) the tariff classification of chewing gum and copolymerization products.³

Economic tariff matters

Tariff quotas

2.1.24. In December the Council adopted a number of Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for the following products:

- (i) ferro-silicon;⁴
- (ii) ferro-silico-manganese;⁴
- (iii) ferro-chromium containing not more than 0.10% by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not more than 90% by weight of chromium (super-refined ferro-chromium);⁴
- (iv) sweet, clear-fleshed cherries, marinated in alcohol and intended for the manufacture of chocolate products;⁴
- (v) certain textile products from Turkey (1983);⁵
- (vi) sweet peppers originating in Cyprus (1983);⁵
- (vii) wine of fresh grapes originating in Cyprus (1983);⁴
- (viii) liqueur wines originating in Cyprus (1983);⁴

(ix) certain textile fibres originating in Cyprus (1983);⁶

(x) men's and boys' outer garments originating in Cyprus (1983);⁶

(xi) dried grapes originating in Cyprus (1983);⁴

(xii) newsprint (1983) and certain other types of paper (1983);⁷

(xiii) certain fishery products (1983);

(xiv) certain wines, having a registered designation of origin, originating in Algeria (1983);⁶

(xv) apricot pulp originating in Turkey (1983);⁶

(xvi) prepared or preserved sardines originating in Tunisia (1983);⁶

(xvii) prepared or preserved sardines originating in Morocco (1983).⁶

Generalized tariff preferences

2.1.25. In 1983 the Community will continue to apply a system of generalized tariff preferences for developing countries and territories.⁸ Accordingly, on 8 December the Council adopted Regulations setting out the scheme and the rules of application for certain industrial, textile, agricultural and steel products.

In addition, the Commission adopted four Regulations in December.⁹ The first defines the concept of originating products for the purposes of application of the GSP, while the other three derogate from that instrument in favour of three regional groups: ASEAN, the Central American Common Market and the Andean Group.

¹ OJ L 341, 31.12.1979.

² OJ L 338, 30.11.1982.

³ OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 358, 20.12.1982.

⁵ OJ L 372, 30.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 375, 31.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 361, 22.12.1982.

⁸ OJ L 363, 23.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.23.

⁹ OJ L 377, 31.12.1982.

Suspensions

2.1.26. In December the Council adopted three Regulations temporarily suspending autonomous CCT duties on:

- (i) certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1983);¹
- (ii) certain products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the CCT, originating in Malta (1983);¹
- (iii) certain industrial products.²

Community surveillance of imports

2.1.27. In December the Council adopted a number of Regulations establishing ceilings and Community surveillance for the following:

- (i) certain products originating in Malta;³
- (ii) certain petroleum products refined in Turkey;³
- (iii) certain products originating in Austria, Finland, Norway or Sweden;
- (iv) certain products originating in Yugoslavia (1983).

Origin of goods

2.1.28. On 21 December the Council adopted the Regulations implementing in the Community Decisions No 2/82 of the various EEC-EFTA Joint Committees. Under the decisions, for a three-year trial period starting on 1 January 1983 a rule of origin is to be introduced based on the simple criterion of a maximum foreign components percentage for products falling within Chapters 84 to 92 of the CCT (mechanical appliances; electrical machinery; transport equipment; precision, optical or medical instruments, etc.). The figure of 40% or 30% was adopted for most products, though a lower percentage was set in certain cases. The new rules constitute an alternative to the existing rules and should make matters considerably simpler for industry, while also reducing the costs incurred in determining the origin of products.

2.1.29. On 21 December the Council adopted a Regulation on the implementation of Decision No 3 of the EEC-Norway Joint

Committee amending Protocols 1 and 2 to the EEC-Norway Agreement. This decision results from changes made to the CCT and the Norwegian customs tariff.

On the same day the Council adopted a Regulation on the implementation, as regards tariffs, of Decision 1/80 of the EEC-Turkey Association Council for the second stage (1 January 1983 to 31 December 1984) of the dismantling of tariffs on imports into the Community of agricultural products originating in Turkey.

Customs procedures with economic impact

Inward processing

2.1.30. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution⁴ on the Commission proposal⁵ for a Directive concerning the implementation of Article 18 of the Directive on the harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of inward processing.

Temporary importation

2.1.31. On 21 December the Council adopted the Regulation on the temporary importation of goods.⁶

The purpose of this Regulation, a major piece of customs legislation, is to harmonize the procedures governing temporary Community importation of goods—excluding vehicles—for use other than under the inward processing arrangements.

Temporary importation arrangements already existed in the individual Member States pursuant to international conventions which were drawn up for the various processing sectors and goods concerned but were applied in different ways.

¹ OJ L 372, 30.12.1982.

² OJ L 359, 20.12.1982.

³ OJ L 358, 20.12.1982.

⁴ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁵ OJ C 200, 4.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.27.

⁶ OJ L 376, 31.12.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.34.

The Regulation will standardize the conditions for use and will provide a means of specifying the goods it is intended to cover. In addition to providing for complete exemption from import duties in 'normal' cases of temporary importation—and also in a number of other specific cases—it establishes a system of partial exemption too; under this system, each month of use gives rise to payment of a percentage of the amount of import duties which would normally have been payable if the goods temporarily imported had been released for free circulation, where the goods in question do not meet all the conditions laid down for complete exemption—save in exceptional cases to be determined subsequently in accordance with the Committee's procedure.

In addition, the Regulation allows each Member State to import certain goods under cover of complete exemption for a maximum period of three months in the case of occasional imports.

The Regulation is to enter into force on 1 January 1983 but will not be implemented until 1 July 1984, so that parallel tax measures can be introduced at the same time.

General legislation

2.1.32. On 7 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation determining the persons liable for payment of a customs debt.¹

This proposal is a logical follow-up to the Directive of 25 June 1979 on the harmonization of provisions relating to customs debt.² Since all the situations that can give rise to a customs debt have now been defined at Community level, the purpose of the proposal is to determine, for each situation, the person or persons liable for payment.

Competition

2.1.33. On 17 December Parliament adopted its resolution³ on the Commission's Eleventh Report on Competition Policy.⁴

General rules applying to undertakings

2.1.34. On 23 December the Commission adopted a new Regulation on the application of Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty to categories of specialization agreements; the Regulation enters into force on 1 January 1983. It largely reiterates the principles set out in the earlier Regulation on the subject, in that it declares a block exemption for specialization agreements between small and medium-sized enterprises, but it widens the exemption to include specialization taking the form of joint manufacture.⁵

The Commission also extended until 30 June 1983 the Regulation exempting exclusive distribution agreements, which would otherwise have expired on 31 December 1982.⁶

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Prohibited restrictive practices

2.1.35. On 14 December the Commission adopted a Decision condemning certain restrictive practices in the rolled zinc products and zinc alloys industry.⁷ The firms involved are the leading French, German and Belgian manufacturers:

- Compagnie Royale Asturienne des Mines ('CRAM'), France;
- Rheinisches Zinkwalzwerk GmbH & Co. KG ('RZ'), Germany;
- Société des mines et fonderies de zinc de la Vieille-Montagne ('VM'), France;
- Société minière et métallurgique de Penarroya ('PYA'), France;
- Société anonyme de Prayon ('Prayon'), Belgium.

The relevant facts can be summarized as follows.

¹ OJ C 340, 28.12.1982.

² OJ L 179, 17.7.1979.

³ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.16.

⁵ OJ L 376, 31.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 373, 31.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 362, 23.12.1982.

1. CRAM and RZ had engaged in concerted practices whose object and effect was to protect their respective domestic markets against all uncontrolled imports. In sales agreements which they both concluded with the same Belgian wholesaler they inserted a clause stipulating that the goods they supplied were to be sold only in a specified country outside the Community. When it emerged that the wholesaler was not complying with this clause, and was selling the goods in question on the German market, CRAM and RZ took joint action to force him to stop.

For this infringement, which, although serious, did not last very long, fines were imposed of 400 000 ECU (FF 2 625 000) on CRAM and 500 000 ECU (DM 1 157 230) on RZ. The two companies bear the same degree of responsibility for the concerted practice, but account was taken of the difference in their sizes.

2. A reciprocal agreement between CRAM, RZ and VM obliged them to supply large quantities of rolled zinc products to each other for what amounted to an indefinite period in the event of one or the other of them being temporarily unable to produce, for whatever reason. The Commission concedes that it is legitimate for competing producers to help one another out with one-off deliveries, particularly where this is not done on an exclusive basis. But it cannot accept agreements such as the one concerned here, which are so general in nature that they substitute ongoing mutual assistance for the normal risks of competition.

3. Under an agreement between CRAM and PYA, PYA undertook to refrain, for 15 years at least, from production, investment or research and development in the field of rolled zinc products, in return for an undertaking by CRAM that it would be allowed one third of the French market in zinc alloys.

4. Under an agreement between CRAM and Prayon, Prayon was to obtain supplies of rolled zinc products solely from CRAM for at least 15 years.

The last three restrictive agreements were not notified, and thus cannot be exempted under Article 85(3) of the Treaty. In any event, despite certain features of rationalization, the tests for exemption do not appear to be satisfied given the duration of the restrictions and the fact that some of them were not indispensable.

2.1.36. On 15 December the Commission adopted a Decision finding that the practice of fixing minimum prices for sales of cognac, which was instituted in 1979 by industry agreements concluded under the auspices of the Bureau National Interprofessionnel du Cognac (BNIC), infringed the competition rules laid down in the EEC Treaty (Article 85). The BNIC terminated this practice only in March 1982, after repeated representations had been made by the Commission.

The BNIC represents the interests of cognac wine-growers, cooperatives, distillers and shippers. Its members are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture on the basis of proposals from the trade associations to which they belong.

The fact that the BNIC fixed minimum prices for sales of cognac, which were subsequently made binding on the whole industry through extension orders made by the French authorities, had the effect of restricting competition by preventing cognac producers from determining freely the prices of their products, which are widely exported, particularly within the common market.

In view of the gravity and duration of the infringement, as well as the particular circumstances of the case, the Commission decided to fine the BNIC 160 000 ECU (approximately FF 1 million).

The Decision confirms the position consistently maintained by the Commission, that trade or industry-wide associations, even when entrusted with functions of general interest, including quality control, as in the present case, may constitute associations of undertakings within the meaning of Article 85.¹ It also makes it clear that decisions by

¹ See in particular the Commission Decision of 26 July 1976 in *Pabst & Richarz/Bureau national interprofessionnel de l'armagnac*: OJ L 231, 21.8.1976.

such associations may be censured under the competition rules, even if, as in the present case, they have subsequently been extended by decision of the public authorities.

Distribution

2.1.37. On 7 December the Commission adopted a Decision finding that National Panasonic United Kingdom Ltd, a wholly owned marketing subsidiary of Matsushita Electrical Trading Company, one of the largest companies of its kind in the world, had infringed Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty by imposing an export ban on one of its dealers in the United Kingdom.¹

Although no written agreements existed between National Panasonic UK and its dealers, it nevertheless operated a network of authorized dealers and in 1976 and 1978 prohibited one of them, Audiotronics, from exporting Matsushita hi-fi products to other EEC Member States. Such exports could have been attractive for dealers, because of the price differences between five Member States throughout the relevant period.

In view of the gravity and duration of the infringement a substantial fine would have been justified. However, Matsushita has taken steps since mid-1981 to regulate its overall marketing and distribution policies in the EEC, and has drawn up a compliance programme for distribution of its products in strict conformity with EEC rules on competition, to be implemented by all its European subsidiaries. These steps were regarded as an extenuating factor in assessing the fine, which was set at 450 000 ECU.

2.1.38. On 10 December the Commission adopted a Decision holding that the resale ban on Colombian green coffee contained in the supply contracts between the Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia (FNC) and coffee roasters throughout the EEC infringed the competition rules (Articles 85 of the EEC Treaty).²

FNC, a semi-state body set up under Colombian law, markets all green coffee originating in Colombia. For this purpose it concludes annual contracts either direct with the coffee roasters or, in the case of France and

Belgium with two distributors which sell the green coffee to a group of roasters previously approved by FNC.

Other than conditions of sale, these contracts contain a clause obliging the roasters to use all the Colombian green coffee in their roasting plants, and forbidding the two distributors from reselling the green coffee to roasters other than those previously authorized by FNC.

The Commission found that this clause infringed Article 85(1), being an obstacle to trade in green coffee between roasters. FNC stated during the proceedings that it would withdraw the clause from its 1983 contracts.

This decision is the first to be taken that affects the green coffee distribution business in the EEC.

Industrial and commercial property: trade mark rights

2.1.39. On 16 December, acting in response to a complaint by the proprietor of a trade mark — Mr Segers, a small Dutch manufacturer of fine-cut tobacco for hand-rolled cigarettes—the Commission prohibited the unjustified restrictions on competition resulting from the trade mark delimitation agreement between Mr Segers and BAT Cigaretten-Fabriken GmbH ('BAT'), Hamburg.³

The complainant, who owns the Toltecs trade mark, had concluded an agreement with BAT, which owns the Dorcet trade mark, in order to induce the latter to withdraw the opposition it had entered at the German Patent Office to the registration of the Toltecs mark on the ground of an alleged risk of confusion with its own mark.

This agreement, which was not notified to the Commission, contains obligations which were held to be prohibited and which do not qualify for exemption because of their adverse effects on the distribution of the relevant products.

¹ OJ L 354, 16.12.1982.

² OJ L 360, 21.12.1982.

³ OJ L 379, 31.12.1982.

Firstly, Mr Segers undertook to sell fine-cut cigarette tobacco in Germany under the Toltecs trade mark only through importers approved by BAT or under other conditions imposed by BAT. The Commission considered that, since there is no serious risk of confusion between the two trade marks, such an obligation constitutes a restriction on competition inadmissible under Article 85.

In *Terrapin v Terranova* the Court held that it was permissible for the owner of a trade mark to prevent the importation of products of a firm established in another Member State and bearing a name giving rise to confusion, provided there are no agreements restricting competition nor legal or economic ties between the undertakings, and that their respective rights have arisen independently of one another.¹

Secondly, Mr Segers undertook not to exercise his rights arising from the registration and use of his Toltecs trade mark as against BAT, even if BAT's Dorcet trade mark remained unused for a period exceeding the five-year period during which, under German law, a trade mark must be used to avoid any risk of cancellation.

As a result of this no-challenge clause, Mr Segers cannot release himself from the restrictions to which he has agreed by availing himself of the priority acquired by his Toltecs trade mark *vis-à-vis* Dorcet; the latter, which had already been registered for five years when the agreement was concluded, has never been used to date.

The Commission considered that such a clause constitutes a particularly serious restriction as it enables firms to avoid the obligation to use trade marks and, by congesting national trade mark registers, to impede penetration by new branded products. In view of the fact that this was the only clause involved and that this was the first penalty imposed in the field of industrial property, the Commission fined BAT 50 000 ECU.²

Abuse of dominant positions

2.1.40. On 10 December, acting on a complaint, the Commission found that British

Telecommunications ('British Telecom') had abused its dominant position by prohibiting private message-forwarding agencies in the United Kingdom from relaying telex messages received from and intended for other countries.³

However, British Telecom informed the Commission late in October 1982 that it had decided to withdraw the measures objected to, and that it would communicate its decision to telecommunications authorities in other countries and to message-forwarding agencies in the United Kingdom.

The restrictions in question prevented users established in other Community Member States from taking advantage of differences in tariff structures or real costs, or indeed currency fluctuations, to relay telex messages intended for countries outside Europe via the United Kingdom. The prohibition of such traffic had no technical or commercial link with the provision of telecommunications systems.

British Telecom acted partly in implementation of a recommendation of one of the Consultative Committees of the International Telecommunication Union and in response to pressure from national telecommunications authorities which were worried about possible losses of revenue. Further, British Telecom did not attempt to enforce compliance with the restrictions by disconnecting message-forwarding agencies in the United Kingdom from the public network.

In view of these circumstances the Commission did not impose a fine. The decision is important in that it constitutes the first case in which the Community's competition rules have been applied to the telecommunications industry.

¹ Judgment in Case 199/75 [1976] ECR 1039.

² In its *Penneys* Decision (23.12.1977: OJ L 60, 2.3.1978; Seventh Report on Competition Policy, point 141) the Commission opposed a no-challenge clause relating to trade marks on the ground that its effects were prolonged beyond five years.

³ OJ L 360, 21.12.1982.

Mergers

2.1.41. On 9 December the Commission authorized the British Steel Corporation, London ('BSC'), and Johnson & Firth Brown, Sheffield ('JFB'), to set up a joint company under the name 'Sheffield Forgemasters'.

The objective of the merger, against the background of recent trading losses in the forgings and castings sector, is to rationalize production facilities and create a company capable of competing profitably with other forgemasters and foundries in the Community and in non-member countries.

The parent companies will withdraw from the lines of businesses in which the new firm is to operate, which takes the joint venture outside the scope of Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty and Article 85 of the EEC Treaty.

The ECSC Treaty products involved in the merger are forging ingots and stainless steel bars. So far as forging ingots are concerned, Sheffield Forgemasters will be the main UK producer but it will be no stronger than several other large competing producers elsewhere in the Community: and in fact 25% of the supplies to the UK market are imported from other countries inside and outside the Community. This percentage could well increase, having regard to the general surplus of capacity and the contracting market for this product. For stainless bars, the merger will have no perceptible effect on competition, as JFB alone is contributing facilities for this product, and it has only a small share of the Community market. The examination of the aspects of the joint venture which concern the ECSC Treaty led to the conclusion, therefore, that the conditions for authorization laid down in Article 66(2) ECSC are met.

The main products concerned in the merger—namely open-die forgings, drop forgings, heavy steel castings and forged or cast-iron and steel rolls—come within the ambit of the EEC Treaty. Hence the Commission checked on the possible applicability of Article 86, taking into account the fact that a merger may constitute an abuse of a dominant position if it strengthens a pre-ex-

isting dominant position for the relevant products in a substantial part of the common market. The examination concluded that the joint venture would not have this effect.

State aids

General aids

Belgium

2.1.42. On 21 December the Commission decided not to raise any objection to a Belgian scheme to create employment zones.

Under the original scheme, the Belgian Government proposed to give tax exemptions (notably from corporation tax and property tax) for 15 years for the creation of new high-technology industries employing a maximum of 500 employees at the beginning of operations. These advantages were to be limited to zones of not more than 150 ha in Wallonia and Flanders and 50 ha in Brussels situated in areas suffering from structural unemployment. Government administrative procedures were to be simplified in these zones.

These original proposals gave rise to certain doubts about their possible adverse effects on competition, particularly on account of the potential intensity of the aid, its attractiveness to mobile international investment and the dangers of transfer pricing.

In order to alleviate these doubts and to limit the aid more closely to objectives in the common interest, the Belgian Government modified its original proposals. It reduced the period of exemption from 15 to 10 years, reduced the maximum size of recipient firms from 500 to 200 employees, listed seven high-technology sectors which would be eligible, and made the scheme an experiment by limiting to three years the time during which firms could begin obtaining the tax exemptions.

On the grounds that the potential intensity of the aid was low, and the aid was strictly limited to the promotion of objectives in the

common interest (small and medium-sized enterprises and high technology), the Commission raised no objection to the scheme, subject to the condition that the Belgian Government should notify all the proposed employment zones to it for prior approval, in order to make certain that the areas suffer genuinely from structural unemployment and that their location is in conformity with the Commission's Decision of 22 July 1982 on Belgian regional aids.¹ The Commission informed the Belgian Government that it could not accept the creation of employment zones in Brussels. It will also receive a detailed annual report.

Regional aids

Germany

2.1.43. On 21 July the German Government notified the Commission of a regional economic development programme planned by North Rhine-Westphalia. The programme rescheduled the areas which the Land Government intended to assist out of its own resources.

On 15 December the Commission informed the German Government that it had decided to initiate the procedure provided for in Article 93(2) of the Treaty in respect of the assistance granted in certain areas under this programme. The areas concerned are the labour market regions Borken-Bocholt, Siegen and Gummersbach, whose socio-economic situation can be regarded as good in terms of both Community and national averages.

The Commission did not, however, oppose the grant of aid in the Aachen and Gelsenkirchen labour market regions.

The Commission agreed to the assistance planned in the Hagen labour market region and the Lengerich section of the Osnabrück labour market region, where job losses caused by the restructuring of the steel industry threatened to create regional problems; this assistance is to be granted up to the end of 1985 only.

Industry aids

Textiles

2.1.44. On 8 and 21 December the Commission decided to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of three planned aid measures notified by the Belgian Government as part of its textiles plan; the measures were intended to assist a stockings and tights firm and two carpets and floor-coverings firms.

In all three cases the Commission took the view that the assistance would be used to finance investment aimed at increasing output which for the most part would be sold in the Community countries. The stockings and tights section of the industry is experiencing overcapacity problems, and Belgian carpet manufacturing is already highly competitive, so that the assistance would be to the detriment of other Community firms and would damage the common interest.

Shipbuilding

2.1.45. On 21 December the Council adopted a Directive² extending the fifth Directive on aid to shipbuilding³ for a further two years.

In its opinion, delivered on 17 December, Parliament said that it was vital for the tightening up of control over aid to be accompanied by the implementation of a policy of modernizing and defending the Community's shipbuilding industry.⁴

Research and development

Germany

2.1.46. On 8 December the Commission decided not to oppose the implementation of the fourth space programme notified by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany under Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.38.

² OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

³ OJ C 310, 27.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.26.

⁴ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

The programme is to cover the years 1982-86; it aims to encourage fundamental research, to promote innovation through the application of space technology particularly in public services, to make industry more competitive so that it can secure a share in the world space products market, and to promote international cooperation in the space field.

Projects whose results can already be marketed will be a matter for the industry itself, and will not be supported financially by the State. State aid will be granted only to space R&D projects, most of these being carried out in cooperation on an international and European scale, notably in the framework of the European Space Agency or in cooperation between two or more countries.

Domestic German projects will be supported by means of public orders or through grants, which may account for 25-100% of the cost depending on the risk which the project represents for the firm. The fourth space programme makes no provision for low-interest loans.

The amount set aside for the scheme in 1982 was DM 746 million, of which 51% was the Federal Republic of Germany's contribution to the European Space Agency; 13% was devoted to the DFVLR research centre (Deutsche Forschungs- und Versuchsanstalt für Luft- und Raumfahrt eV); 19% was earmarked for the financing of projects themselves, such as TV-Sat (direct broadcasting by satellite), Rosat (X-ray satellite) and Galileo (Jupiter exploration); and the rest was for studies, preparatory work and the use of orbital laboratories, such as Space Lab.

Parliament's resolution of 25 April 1979 on Community participation in space research¹ stressed the importance of the benefits which the Community could derive in the short term from space activities; and the need for a European space policy was reaffirmed in a fresh parliamentary resolution of September 1981.² This second resolution referred among other things to the low level of European financial commitment in the field of space activities as compared with the considerably higher amounts allocated by the USA,

by the USSR and also, proportionately, by Japan.

The Commission accordingly considered that the measures set out in the programme qualified for exemption from the principle of incompatibility of State aids with the Treaty, under Article 92(3)(b), as they constituted aid to promote the execution of an important project of Community interest.

Public undertakings

2.1.47. Following the rejection by the Court of Justice of the actions brought by the British, French and Italian Governments seeking a declaration that the Commission Directive on the transparency of financial relations between Member States and their public undertakings is void,³ the Commission has informed the Member States that it intends to study such financial relations in several specified Community industries. These are motor vehicles, man-made fibres, textile machinery, manufactured tobacco and shipbuilding.

The Commission chose these industries because they face particular difficulties at Community level which make them sensitive from a competition point of view, or because of the lack of transparency in the use of public resources, or because of complaints it has received.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Banks

2.1.48. On 17 December Parliament gave its opinion⁴ on the proposal for a Directive on the supervision of credit institutions on a consolidated basis.⁵

¹ OJ C 127, 21.5.1979.

² OJ C 260, 12.10.1981.

³ OJ L 195, 29.7.1980.

⁴ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁵ OJ C 258, 9.10.1981; Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.1.35.

This proposal aims to extend the powers of the authorities responsible for supervising banks so as to ensure better supervision of groups headed by a bank or a credit institution.

Supervision on a consolidated basis is mandatory in all cases where a bank has a majority or controlling holding in another bank or financial institution, and Member States may require it where a minority holding is relatively large.

To verify the accuracy of figures published in the accounts of subsidiaries established in other Community countries, the authority responsible for supervising the parent institution may appoint an auditor approved in the country in question to verify such accounts.

Parliament approved the whole of the Directive, subject to a few amendments which are not intended to modify its scope, namely that the minimum holding which makes consolidation mandatory should be increased from 20% to 25%, and the amount fixed as the threshold for excluding very small holdings should be raised.

2.1.49. The Commission has published the third edition of the list of credit institutions,¹ which gives the situation at 31 December 1981.

The list enumerates 9 487 credit institutions in all 10 Community countries. For the first time it includes building societies in the United Kingdom and *caisses rurales* in Luxembourg.

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Value-added tax

2.1.50. On 21 December the Commission adopted a proposal for a Twelfth VAT Directive designed to establish at Community level the types of business expenditure on which the VAT charged will not be deductible. Until this proposal is adopted by the Council, Member States are free to maintain

all the exclusions from the right to deduct input tax at present permitted under their national laws.

Excise duties

2.1.51. Parliament did not deliver its opinion on the proposals for a third stage of harmonization of excise duties on manufactured tobacco until December;² to give itself time to examine these proposals and to limit the uncertainty for the interests concerned, the Council decided on 21 December to extend the second stage by a further year, until 31 December 1983.³

Tax-free allowances

2.1.52. On 30 December the Council adopted a Directive⁴ extending the current derogation whereby Denmark is authorized to apply more restrictive quantitative limits on goods imported by Danish residents after a stay in another country than those provided for under the Community arrangements for tax-free allowances for travellers.⁵

Employment, education and social policy

Council meeting

2.1.53. The Council meeting on employment and social affairs held on 10 December was devoted to an exchange of views on the review of the European Social Fund⁶ and in particular on the ways and means of implementing the conclusions of the European Council of 3 and 4 December in Copenhagen⁷ with regard to measures to help young

¹ OJ C 311, 29.11.1982.

² OJ C 13, 17.1.1983; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.30.

³ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 12, 14.1.1983.

⁵ OJ L 336, 27.12.1977; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.40.

⁶ Point 2.1.58.

⁷ Point 1.2.3.

people. It also adopted a recommendation on the Community's retirement age policy.¹

Employment

Reorganization of working time

2.1.54. On 10 December the Council adopted the recommendation on the principles of a Community policy with regard to retirement age,² on which it had expressed a favourable view in May.³ Accordingly, a new Community objective providing for greater flexibility in the rules governing retirement age was incorporated into the social policies of the Member States. This means that workers will have greater freedom of choice regarding the age at which they retire and better preparation for retirement—without, however, excluding the possibility of transition from full-time work to complete retirement. Moreover, in this way pension schemes will be better able to adjust to demographic changes and labour market conditions.

2.1.55. On 14 December the Commission sent to the Council a memorandum on the reduction and reorganization of working time, which was drafted in response to the Council Resolution of 12 July on Community action to combat unemployment.⁴

In this paper the Commission deals with the question of reducing and reorganizing working time in the context of the most intractable problem currently facing the Community, namely the high and ever-increasing level of unemployment. The memorandum calls for a more positive approach to working time as an instrument of employment policy and examines how a reduction in the working time of individual employees might create jobs for a greater number of people. The memorandum concludes that the desired conditions can be achieved and that the Community should endorse and promote the combined reduction and reorganization of working time.

The Commission will pursue contacts with and between employers' and workers' organizations in order to establish a basis for the achievement at Community level of an agreement between Member States to take action to speed up the trend towards a reduction and reorganization of working time coupled with measures to improve competitiveness and safeguard basic social rights.

2.1.56. On 9 December the Commission adopted an amendment⁵ to its proposal for a Council Directive on voluntary part-time work,⁶ which takes account of changes requested by Parliament during its September part-session.⁷

Free movement of workers

2.1.57. The National Employment Office and the Ministry of Labour in Italy organized a seminar in late November and early December, with the Commission's help, to update the skills and knowledge of their SEDOC personnel. It emerged that despite the current situation on the labour market, mismatches between jobs offered and manpower available persist, in particular in the more highly skilled occupations, so that SEDOC (the European System for the International Clearing of Vacancies and Applications for Employment) continues to fulfil its supporting role among the panoply of measures to bring workers into contact with employers.

Financial instruments

European Social Fund

2.1.58. The Council had an initial exchange of views on the Commission's opin-

¹ Point 2.1.54.

² OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.31.

⁴ OJ C 186, 21.7.1982.

⁵ OJ C 18, 22.1.1983.

⁶ OJ C 62, 12.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1981, points 1.1.4 and 1.1.5.

⁷ OJ C 267, 11.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.26.

ion on the review of the European Social Fund,¹ and in particular on the ways and means of implementing the conclusions of the European Council of 3 and 4 December² with regard to measures to help young people. The Council pledged to do all in its power to ensure that tangible progress was made towards a reform of the Fund.

2.1.59. Pending implementation of the new rules governing the Fund, the Council decided,³ on a proposal from the Commission,⁴ to extend decisions relating to Fund assistance for young people, textile and clothing workers, migrant workers and women.

2.1.60. On 20 December the Commission approved the fifth batch of applications for assistance from the ESF for 1982. These applications had been approved by the Fund Committee and involved the following amounts:

- 10 304 ECU to help women (Article 4)
- 78 463 000 ECU for young workers affected by employment difficulties (Article 4)
- 185 022 000 ECU for operations to re-train unemployed or underemployed workers in less developed regions of the Community (Article 5).

Redeployment of workers in ECSC industries

2.1.61. In December, acting under Article 56(2)(b) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided to contribute 64.19 million ECU towards redeployment expenses for 14 319 workers affected by closures or cut-backs in iron-ore mines, coalmines and steel plants in the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom.

2.1.62. Additionally, the Commission decided to distribute the third tranche of 50 million ECU towards the financing of social measures implemented to help steel workers affected by restructuring programmes in the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. This amount was transferred from the Community's general budget to the ECSC budget by Council Decisions of 21 September,⁵ which means that a total of 162 million ECU has been committed to date.

Education and vocational training

Education Committee

2.1.63. The Education Committee met on 16 and 17 December to examine the report on the activities of the European Centre for Vocational Training and its plans for 1983-85. The Commission's report on the impact of the new information technologies on education and a preliminary report by the working party on the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study were referred to the Committee.

Cooperation in the field of education

2.1.64. A conference on 'Europe in the Curriculum' was held in Brighton from 6 to 10 December. It was organized by the Schools Council, a body responsible for the development of school syllabuses in England and Wales, under the auspices of the Commission and with its financial support, and was attended by some 60 experts from Member States and applicant countries and experts from other European countries.

The conference discussed the introduction of the European dimension, or exchanges of experience and information at European level, which will be of valuable assistance to the Commission in its activities regarding the correspondence between the various educational systems.

New technologies

2.1.65. On 10 December the Council declared itself favourably disposed towards the proposal for a resolution on new Community initiatives during the period 1983-87 with regard to new information technologies and vocational training.⁶

¹ OJ C 308, 25.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

² Point 1.2.3.

³ OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.44.

⁵ OJ L 277, 29.9.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.3.2.

⁶ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.41.

Transition from school to working life

2.1.66. On 14 and 15 December the Commission met the group of national coordinators for the second programme of pilot projects drawn up in compliance with the resolution adopted by the Council and the Ministers for Education, meeting within the Council, on 12 July.¹ There were discussions on the proposals for pilot projects put forward by the Member States to find technical means of coordinating and directing the programme as a whole.

Exchange of young workers

2.1.67. On 10 December the Council took note of the Commission's report on the programme of exchanges for young workers in the period 1979-81.

Social security, living and working conditions

Social security and protection

2.1.68. The Council also confirmed its approval of the four-year programme of Commission activities regarding medium-term projections for expenditure on social protection and the revenue to finance it.²

2.1.69. Lastly, the Council considered that specific Community action to combat poverty was necessary and invited the Commission to make corresponding proposals.

The elderly

2.1.70. On 3 December the Commission organized an information meeting — the second this year — with the Administrative Board of the Committee of Family Organizations in the European Communities.

2.1.71. Additionally, the Commission lent its support to the various bodies grouped together in the Eurolink-Age association in arranging a meeting to map out its future activities.

Social integration of the handicapped

2.1.72. As part of the implementation of its new action programme, the Commission pursued its discussions with the liaison group of government representatives with a view to setting up a network of demonstration projects at local level on the social integration of handicapped persons.

The Commission also launched the second phase of its discussions on the employment problems of handicapped persons in collaboration with the Centre national pour la sociologie du droit social (National Centre for the Sociology of Social Legislation) at the Free University of Brussels.

Lastly, in December the Commission held a meeting with representatives of the principal non-governmental associations organized for or by handicapped persons at European level with a view to resuming the dialogue with these organizations and involving them in the implementation of the action programme.

Industrial relations

2.1.73. On 14 December Parliament issued its opinion³ on the proposal for a Directive on procedures for informing and consulting the employees of undertakings with complex structures, in particular transnational undertakings.⁴ This brought to a close the consultation procedures which had given rise to extensive discussions in September and October during which Parliament proposed various amendments.⁵ At the November part-session Mr Richard explained the Commission's position on the changes Parliament

¹ OJ C 193, 28.7.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.62.

² Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.57; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.43.

³ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁴ OJ C 297, 15.11.1980; Supplement 3/80 — Bull. EC.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.4.8; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.43.

wished to make. The Commission began consultations with all interested parties with a view to preparing an amended proposal to be transmitted to the Council in the first half of 1983.

Social security for migrant workers

2.1.74. On 21 December the Commission presented a proposal to the Council for an amendment to Regulations 1408/71 and 574/72 on the application of social security systems to employed persons and their families moving within the Community. The proposed amendment concerns the taking into account of accidents at work, occupational diseases, entitlement to maternity allowances and the computation of the net wages of certain frontier workers in determining the level of cash benefits in the event of incapacity to work.

Living and working conditions

Housing¹

2.1.75. Under the eighth and ninth housing schemes (first and second instalments) for workers in the ECSC industries, the Commission approved loans for a total of 1 600 000 ECU to finance the building of 858 housing units in Ireland, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

2.1.76. Under the ninth scheme (second instalment) the Commission decided to grant global loans to be administered via financial institutions in Belgium (1 044 000 ECU), the Federal Republic of Germany (5 642 000 ECU), France (5 358 000 ECU) and Luxembourg (266 845 ECU).

Health and safety

Health and safety at work

2.1.77. On 10 December the Council continued its consideration of the proposal for a second Directive on the protection of workers exposed to asbestos.² At the end of its discussions, which mainly concerned levels of action and maximum concentration values, the Council noted a broad measure of agreement on the proposal.

2.1.78. The Council took note of the Commission's second report on the action programme of the European Communities on safety and health at work of the sixth annual report of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.

Health and safety (ECSC)

2.1.79. On 14 and 15 December the Mines Safety and Health Commission held its annual information meeting for the sectors of industry concerned. This year, the meeting was of particular interest to engineers of the Member States' mines administrations. Papers on the work of the Safety and Health Commission covered the following topics: fire in mines, dust explosions, dealing with fire-damp, underground electrification, hygiene in mines, oil and gas drilling, and safety problems connected with transport and extraction cables.

2.1.80. On 9 December the Commission obtained the ECSC Consultative Committee's endorsement of a memorandum concerning a safety programme for the steel industry. Allocated financial aid of one million ECU, this Community research programme will be carried out by eight Community firms. It will deal with safety in steelworks using ingot-moulds or continuous casting and with related activities.

2.1.81. As part of the second ECSC research programme on safety in mines,³ the Commission decided to grant 432 000 ECU in financial aid for four projects relating to fire in mines and underground transport.

On 17 December the Commission adopted a second decision concerning the promotion of four research projects dealing with safety in mines, to which a total financial aid of 641 000 ECU has been allocated. The objec-

¹ Only the decisions to grant loans are reported in this section. The actual payments made in the weeks and months following the decisions are reported in the *Financing Community activities* chapter, under *ECSC — Loans paid out*.

² OJ C 262, 9.10.1980; OJ C 301 18.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.46.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.71.

tive of two of these projects is to prevent the risk of dust explosion and fire-damp ignition by picks; the third project relates to fire extinction by nitrogen injection and the fourth to the safe use of steel cord conveyor belts.

2.1.82. On 9 December the Commission granted 826 420 ECU in respect of six projects under the fourth programme on ergonomics.¹ The purpose of these projects is to establish standards for the heat stress to which miners and steelworkers are subjected.

Health and safety (Euratom)

2.1.83. The Commission laid before the Council a proposal² to amend Annexes I and III to the Directive of 15 July 1980 concerning the basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation. The purpose of the proposal is to align the annexes with the latest recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection, particularly as regards the derived limits for radionuclides. Values would be given not only for radionuclides already referred to in the annexes, but also for a number of others which are due to be added in view of their increasing use in medical research and industry.

2.1.84. An information and training session on radiation protection was held in Luxembourg on 13 and 14 December for the benefit of representatives of the European Trade Union Confederation. The topics dealt with included progress in implementing the Directive on basic safety standards,² variations in the dose received by nuclear workers, compensation for industrial diseases caused by ionizing radiation, the practical organization of radiation protection in nuclear power stations, and the health risks associated with industrial applications of laser beams.

Cultural sector

2.1.85. A seminar on 'Romanticism in the nineteenth-century European novel' was held in Brussels on 2 and 3 December. It was or-

ganized with Commission support by the cultural counsellors and cultural institutes of the Member States in Brussels, and chaired by Professor M. Janssens of the Katholieke Universiteit te Leuven. This event was a token of stronger action in the cultural sector, which provides a special role for the Member States' cultural counsellors and cultural institutes in developing cooperation in the arts.³

The papers presented and the debates on them not only promoted the exchange of information on a key aspect of the literature of the Member States but also shed light on common sources of inspiration for the romantic novel in Europe—ideals of freedom, the importance of the individual, the lure of the absolute, the cult of the imagination, attachment to nature, the discovery of the real world, and the presence and respect of common values despite awareness of national characteristics.

Against that background the seminar considered, in particular, Goethe's *Werther*, Manzoni's *The Betrothed (I Promessi Sposi)*, romanticism in the French nineteenth-century novel, the multiple facets of romanticism in the English novel, particular features of the Irish novel in its three phases (individualist, literary and nationalist), Hendrik Conscience's Flemish novel *In the Year of Miracles (In 't Wonderjaar)*, the French-language novel in Belgium, the Dutch *dichtverhaal* and Greek aspects of the European novel as seen from Ippolito Nievo's *Memoirs of an Octogenarian*.

It is the hope of both organizers and participants that this seminar will initiate closer and more regular cooperation between Member States' cultural counsellors and cultural institutes with a view to stronger Community action in the cultural sector and more penetrating research into the elements that go to make up the European identity.

2.1.86. In December the Commission contributed 100 000 ECU to financing the restoration of a neo-classical building which

¹ Bull. EC 9-1980, point 2.1.33.

² OJ L 246, 17.9.1980.

³ Bull. EC 9-1982, points 2.1.111 and 2.1.112.

is to become the archaeological museum of the island of Milos. Half this sum is a capital contribution and the other half will be used for interest relief on a 'conservation loan' of 165 000 ECU from the EIB.

Regional policy

Coordination and programmes

Regional development studies

2.1.87. In December the Commission approved nine completed studies which it had financed either in whole or in part (from budget Items 5400 and 5401). These include the final phase of the study on the factors governing choice of location in the Community's regions (FLEUR). Three studies relating to Ireland concern economic cooperation between Ireland and Northern Ireland, a strategy for locating industry on the Shannon estuary and the surrounding area, and the development of indigenous energy resources in the border areas of Cavan, Monaghan and Leitrim.

2.1.88. Under the new budget Item 5410, the Commission authorized the cofinancing of four preparatory studies for integrated operations under the regional policy, at a cost of 411 000 ECU.

Financial instruments

European Regional Development Fund

ERDF aid: fourth allocation for 1982

2.1.89. On 20 December the Commission approved the fourth allocation of grants for 1982 from the European Regional Development Fund, totalling 1 278.23 million ECU. These grants will go to 2 077 projects in all the Member States, costing a total of 5 727.94 million ECU.

Under the Regulation of 18 March 1975 establishing the ERDF,¹ as amended by the Regulation of 6 February 1979² and 16 December 1980,³ the Fund Committee had endorsed these projects on 25 and 26 November. The Regional Policy Committee had been consulted beforehand, on 12 November, on infrastructure projects costing more than 10 million ECU.

The aid granted under this allocation was distributed among the Member States as shown in Table 4.

¹ OJ L 73, 21.3.1975.

² OJ L 35, 9.2.1979.

³ OJ L 349, 23.12.1980.

Table 4 — Grants from the ERDF (fourth 1982 allocation)

(converted at January 1982 rates)

	Number of grant decisions	Number of investment projects	Investment assisted (million ECU)	Assistance granted (million ECU)
Belgium	14	20	77.61	12.17
Denmark	13	71	56.72	7.75
Germany (FR)	37	123	314.53	29.71
Greece	18	59	280.92	74.01
France	85	312	1 171.85	344.34
Ireland	4	20	154.54	25.84
Italy	64	1 059	2 659.67	539.75
Luxembourg	1	1	10.80	2.23
Netherlands	1	1	20.40	5.98
United Kingdom	77	411	980.90	236.45
Total	314	2 077	5 727,94	1 278,23

The total of 1 278.23 million ECU breaks down as follows:

- 1 172.59 million ECU to help finance 1 633 infrastructure projects, comprising 772 million ECU to finance 68 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, 376 million ECU to finance 1 519 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each, and 24 million ECU to finance 46 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each in regions covered by the Directive on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas.

The total cost of infrastructure investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 4 772.74 million ECU.

- 105.64 million ECU to help finance 444 projects in industrial (including small business) or service activities, comprising 30 million ECU to finance 15 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, and 75 million ECU to finance 429 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each.

The total cost of industrial (including small business) and services investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 955.20 million ECU.

2.1.90. Including this fourth allocation, the Fund has granted a total of 1 862.19 million ECU this year to help finance 3 277 investment projects. This brings the number of projects financed since the Fund was set up to 17 773 and the total aid granted to about 7 156 million ECU.

On 22 December the Commission, acting under Article 12 of the Fund Regulation, decided to make a grant of 300 000 ECU towards two studies closely related to ERDF operations. The two studies concern the United Kingdom and Italy.

Supplementary measures for the United Kingdom

2.1.91. The Commission approved a further grant from the Community for eight infrastructure programmes totalling 186 369 000 ECU under the supplementary measures for the United Kingdom.

At the same time eight earlier decisions were adjusted by changing the distribution of the

grants among the regions and the multiannual public works programmes in the United Kingdom, in line with expenditure actually made by public authorities during the 1981/82 financial year.

Aid for disaster victims

2.1.92. On 15 December the Commission decided to grant the following emergency aid from Article 690 of the budget: 1 500 million ECU to help the people of south-west France worst hit by the floods and bad weather last November;¹ 250 million ECU to help the people of Italy worst hit by the floods and bad weather, especially in Tuscany, last November; and 500 000 ECU for the people of Greenland who have been hit since last summer by disastrous weather conditions which are disrupting the economy and depriving them of their livelihood.

On 21 December the Commission decided to grant emergency aid of 250 000 ECU by means of a transfer from Article 691 to Article 690 to help those in Emilia-Romagna who suffered most from the floods and disastrous weather conditions which affected that region of Italy last November.¹

2.1.93. On 16 December Parliament adopted two resolutions concerning the consequences of the blizzard of 27 November and the exceptionally bad weather on 6 and 7 November in France.²

Environment and consumers

Environment

Council meeting

2.1.94. A Council meeting devoted to environmental matters was held in Brussels on 3 and 4 December with Mr Christensen, the Danish Minister of the Environment and Nordic Affairs, in the chair; it resumed on 17 and 18 December. At the meeting, the

¹ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.65.

² OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

Council adopted resolutions on the implementation of a third Community action programme on the environment,¹ the control of water pollution,² and the import into the Community of skins of pups of certain species of seal.³ The Council also formally adopted a Regulation on the implementation in the Community of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and two Directives—one on air quality standards for lead,⁴ the other on methods for the surveillance and monitoring of the environments affected by wastes from the titanium dioxide industry.⁴ The Council had signified its agreement to the substance of these instruments on 24 June.⁵ The Council also held detailed discussions on other, unresolved problems and took note of several communications concerning lead levels in petrol, transboundary atmospheric pollution, vehicle noise, the indemnification of victims of oil pollution and the training aspects of environmental protection.

Action programme on the environment

2.1.95. On 17 December the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States approved a resolution on the continuation and implementation of a Community environment policy and action programme for 1982-86.⁶

This third programme follows on from the first two, adopted in 1973⁷ and 1977⁸ respectively, and reaffirms the principles embodied therein. It advocates the implementation of an overall strategy making possible (a) the incorporation of environmental concerns in the Community's other policies and (b) the long-term use of natural resources.

Action by the Community relating to the environment

2.1.96. Since 1971, the year in which the Commission first tackled environmental problems, Community policy on the environment has to an ever-increasing extent been undergoing transformation. Essentially 'remedial' at first, the policy has become 'preventive' over the years, and now seeks to bring environmental concerns into the deci-

sion-making process and to promote this by means of positive support measures. Two series of tasks are involved as far as policy-making at Community level is concerned. Firstly, legislation will be supplemented, tightened up and brought into line with changing conditions; secondly, the new Community financial instrument placed at the Commission's disposal by Parliament will contribute to increasing the effectiveness of certain means of implementing Community environment policy objectives.

This is why, on 14 December, the Commission proposed that the Council should adopt the appropriate legal basis for measures which would cover financial support to priority domains, namely clean technologies and the protection of certain sensitive areas of Community interest.

On its own responsibility, and further to its Decision of last July,⁹ the Commission decided, on 13 and 16 December, to grant the following financial support: 314 913 ECU for the protection of the natural environment in certain sensitive areas of Community interest and the training of environment specialists, and 395 000 ECU for developing clean technologies. This new set of projects, announced in advance in the July Decision, means that the entire allocation available for Article 661 under the 1982 budget will have been committed.

Legal aspects

2.1.97. The Commission held a seminar in Athens from 8 to 10 December, in conjunction with the Institute for European Environmental Policy, in order to examine the consequences of Greek accession to the Community for Greek policy with regard to the environment.

¹ Point 2.1.95.

² Point 2.1.100.

³ Point 2.1.104.

⁴ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1982, points 2.1.85, 2.1.90 and 2.1.96.

⁶ OJ C 294, 10.11.1982.

⁷ OJ C 112, 20.12.1973.

⁸ OJ C 139, 13.6.1977.

⁹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.83.

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Freshwater and marine pollution

2.1.98. On 3 December the Council conducted a thorough review of a proposal for a Directive which the Commission had put forward on 17 February 1981 laying down limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment.¹ The proposal comes under the framework Directive of 4 May 1976 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community.² In this field, the Council had already adopted an initial Directive on mercury on 22 March 1982.³

At the end of its discussions, which concentrated mainly on the problems of what arrangements would apply to new industrial plant, the Council invited its subordinate bodies to continue examining this proposal with a view to a possible decision some time in the future.

2.1.99. On 14 December, pursuant to the Council Directive of 4 May 1976 on the pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community,¹ the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Directive⁴ laying down limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges into the aquatic environment for various industries using mercury in their products or processes, other than the chloralkali electrolysis industry. (Legislation concerning the latter had already been adopted in the Council Directive of 22 March³). The proposed new legislation also contains provisions which are designed to eliminate the pollution of Community waters by mercury from certain very scattered sources which discharge into the sewer system.

2.1.100. As part of the initiatives taken at Community level to solve the problems arising from the pollution of the aquatic environment, the Council on 17 December approved a resolution relating to the control of water pollution. The resolution, which is in keeping with the Directive of 4 May 1976,²

is a follow-up to the communication sent by the Commission to the Council on 22 June;⁵ this included a list of 129 substances which might be included in List I of the Annex to the Directive. The aims are (a) to bring the Member States, through more active participation whenever possible, to expedite work on this subject and (b) to step up research into a number of substances, so that separate directives can be adopted if necessary.

2.1.101. Meeting at The Hague on 9 December, the Heads of Delegation to the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution continued their discussion of the problem of pollution caused by discharges of chlorides. They took note, in particular, of the research into the underground disposal of the salts from the potash mines in Alsace. Two sites, according to the experts, appear to lend themselves to this process; further information is needed, however, before a final decision can be taken. At the same meeting the French authorities said it was possible the National Assembly might ratify the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chlorides; this would be conditional, however, on an exchange of letters or on the agreement of an additional protocol (the text of which was distributed at the meeting).

Chemicals

2.1.102. As part of the work being carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme on the preparation of a Global Framework Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer,⁶ the Commissions was represented at a further meeting in Geneva from 9 to 17 December. A new convention text was drawn up, highlighting the possibility of scientific and technological cooperation between the signatories with a view to continuous evaluation of the state of the ozone layer.

¹ OJ C 118, 21.5.1981; Bull. EC 2-1981, point 2.1.34.

² OJ L 129, 18.5.1976; Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2232.

³ OJ L 81, 27.3.1981; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.55.

⁴ OJ C 20, 25.1.1983.

⁵ OJ C 176, 14.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.86.

⁶ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.78.

Protection and rational use of land, the environment and natural resources

Land

2.1.103. On 3 December the Council continued its discussions on the proposal for a Directive which the Commission had put forward on 16 June 1980¹ and which provides for the inclusion in the Member States' existing authorization procedures of an environmental impact assessment of certain public and private projects.

A suggestion from the chair regarding future work was favourably received by a majority of the delegations, which gives hope for progress in this field.

At the close of its discussions the Council confirmed the importance it attaches to this subject and invited its subordinate bodies to continue their discussions and report to it at its next meeting in June 1983.

Flora and fauna

2.1.104. Having noted the large number of petitions received on the subject, the Council on 3 and 17 December held a detailed discussion on the proposal for a Regulation on rules for a prohibition to import skins of harp and hooded seal pups and products derived therefrom into the Community.²

The Council decided to halt such imports until 1 March 1983.³ Ministers agreed a compromise resolution which represents a political commitment by each Member State to adopt where possible any measures required to prevent these imports.

2.1.105. On 3 December the Council formally adopted a Regulation on the implementation in the Community of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,⁴ which it had approved in June.⁵

International cooperation

2.1.106. The Commission participated as an observer in a meeting to review Greece's environment policy, organized by OECD in

Athens from 27 November to 2 December. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain from the Greek authorities the information required for OECD's evaluation report.

Consumers

Consumer information, education and representation

2.1.107. In December the Commission amended its proposal for a system for the rapid exchange of information between Member States and the Commission on dangers arising from the use of consumer products,⁶ following the opinion delivered by Parliament in June.⁷

2.1.108. At its meeting in Brussels on 14 December the Consumers Consultative Committee (CCC) adopted its action programme for 1983 and issued an opinion on the CENELEC harmonization document relating to the electrical safety of toys operating on a very low voltage and an opinion on the new proposal for a Directive on toy safety.⁸

In its action programme for 1983 the CCC stresses the need to give a fresh impetus to the Community's consumer protection and information programme in order to meet the special requirements of consumers in this period of crisis.

In its opinion on the CENELEC harmonization document, the CCC regrets that this body has concerned itself only with harmonizing the rules on the least dangerous electrical toys, i.e. those operating on 24 volts or less, and considers that if toys operating on a supply exceeding 24 volts are

¹ OJ C 169, 9.7.1980; Bull. EC 6-1980, point 2.1.85.

² OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.58.

³ OJ C 14, 18.1.1983.

⁴ OJ L 384, 31.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.96.

⁶ OJ C 321, 22.12.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1981, point 2.1.73.

⁷ OJ C 182, 19.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.99.

⁸ OJ C 228, 8.9.1980; Bull. EC 7/8-1980, point 2.1.75.

not made subject in the near future to harmonized safety regulations, they should be banned.

Finally, in its opinion on the new proposal for a Directive on toy safety the CCC expresses its overall approval of the new version while recommending that the Commission should refer only to those points of the CEN standards which are considered acceptable to consumers, namely the safety requirements and testing methods.

Agriculture

Council meeting

2.1.109. At its meeting on 13 and 14 December the Council discussed the brief it had received from the European Council in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December¹ to revise the existing rules for certain Mediterranean agricultural products on the basis of Commission proposals.²

On the veterinary front the Council reacted favourably to a compromise extending for one year the foot-and-mouth derogations in respect of live animals and fresh meat granted in 1976 to Ireland, the United Kingdom and Denmark. It also held a wide-ranging policy debate on current progress on the health problems associated with intra-Community trade in fresh meat and with importing animals and fresh meat from non-member countries.

The Council also continued discussions on imports of New Zealand butter into the United Kingdom,³ guidelines for the negotiation of framework agreements with certain non-member countries for the multiannual supply of agricultural products and the introduction of minimum standards for the protection of laying hens kept in battery cages.

Pending more detailed discussion the Council extended the Regulation on the introduction of the ECU into the common agricultural policy until 31 January 1983.

Finally, the Council was briefed on the Commission's meeting with US representatives on 10 December.

Cereal substitutes

2.1.110. On 8 December, on the basis of a Commission proposal,⁴ the Council adopted a Regulation on the import system applicable to manioc at the beginning of 1983.⁵ Also on 8 December the Commission adopted detailed rules for the application in 1983 of the import arrangements for manioc originating in non-member countries other than Thailand;⁵ this was followed on 16 December by the adoption of similar rules for manioc originating in Thailand.⁶

Prices and related measures for 1983/84

2.1.111. On 22 December the Commission sent the Council its proposals on prices and related measures for the 1983/84 marketing year.

The Commission's proposals, which allow for an average price increase of 5.5%—varying depending on the product—also reflect the fact that the guarantee thresholds introduced for milk, cereals and colza when the prices for the current marketing year were fixed⁷ have been exceeded. The Commission is also proposing an adjustment of the monetary compensatory amounts (Table 5).

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.112. At its meeting on 13 and 14 December, acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council extended to 31 January 1983⁸ the 1979 Regulation introducing the ECU into the common agricultural policy.⁹

¹ Point 1.2.4.

² Bull. EC 10-1981, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9.

³ Point 2.1.121.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.85; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.91.

⁵ OJ L 349, 9.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.

⁷ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.1.76, 2.1.79 and 2.1.90.

⁸ OJ L 362, 23.12.1982.

⁹ OJ L 84, 4.4.1979.

Table 5 — Prices proposed for the various products

1	Type of price or amount	1982/83		Proposal for 1983/84		Period of application	Greece (*)	
		Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)	Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)		Amount fixed 1982/83 (ECU/t)	Amount proposed 1983/84 (ECU/t)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Common wheat	Target price	250.61	8.7	261.41	4.3	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	179.27	8.5	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
	Reference price for bread wheat - average quality ^(b)	209.10	8.5	215.29	3.0		CP	CP
Durum wheat	Target price	339.20	8.9	355.42	4.8	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	298.36	8.5	312.08	4.6		CP	CP
	Aid ^(c)	92.85	9.0	97.96	5.5		CP	CP
Barley	Target price	228.27	8.7	238.17	4.3	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	179.27	8.5	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Rye	Target price	228.27	8.7	238.17	4.3	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	179.27	6.0	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Maize	Target price	228.27	8.7	238.17	4.3	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	179.27	8.5	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Rice	Target price - husked rice	496.69	10.2	523.16	5.3	1. 9.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price - paddy rice	290.55	12.0	306.53	5.5		CP	CP
Sugar	Basic price for sugarbeet	39.32	9.5	40.89	4.0	1. 7.1983-30. 6.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price for white sugar	514.10	9.5	534.70	4.0		CP	CP
Olive oil	Producer target price	3 027.70	11.0	3 194.2	5.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	2 179.30	11.0	2 299.2	5.5		CP	CP
	Production aid	666.00	11.0	702.6	5.5		256.50	405.20

Table 5 (continued)

1	Type of price or amount	1982/83		Proposal for 1983/84		Period of application	Greece (*)	
		Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)	Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)		Amount fixed 1982/83 (ECU/t)	Amount proposed 1983/84 (ECU/t)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Oilseeds	Target price							
	— colza and rape seed	463.90	9.0	484.50	4.4	1. 7.1983-30. 6.1984	CP	CP
	— sunflower seed	544.40	14.0	579.80	6.5	1. 9.1983-31. 8.1984	CP	CP
	Basic intervention price							
	— colza and rape seed	421.30	8.5 ¹	440.1	4.5	1. 7.1983-30. 6.1984	CP	CP
	— sunflower seed	497.30	14.0 ¹	529.6	6.5	1. 9.1983-31. 8.1984	CP	CP
	Guide (norm) price							
	— soya seed	527.40	14.0	561.7	6.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP
	— flax seed	515.00	11.0	545.9	6.0	1.10.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
— castor seed	663.90	11.0	663.9	0.0	1.10.1983-30. 9.1984	CP	CP	
Minimum price soya seed	464.10	11.5	494.3	6.5	1.11.1983-30. 9.1984	CP	CP	
Minimum price castor seed	632.30	11.0	632.3	0.0	1.10.1983-30. 9.1984	CP	CP	
Dried fodder	Fixed-rate aid	8.01	14.0	8.49	6.0	19. 5.1983-31. 3.1984	CP	CP
	Guide price	168.81	14.0	178.94	6.0	1. 7.1983-30. 6.1984	162.70	174.58
	Aid for dried potatoes	14.89	11.0	15.78	6.0		5.73	9.08
Peas and field-beans	Activating price	476.00	13.8	517.6	8.7		CP	CP
	Guide price	314.00	x	334.4	6.5	1. 7.1983-30. 6.1984	CP	CP
	Minimum price	274.10	12.0	291.9	6.5		CP	CP
Flax and hemp	Fixed-rate aid (per ha)							
	— fibre flax	335.02	13.0	355.12	6.0	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	83.76	118.37
	— hemp	304.26	13.0	322.52	6.0		76.07	107.51
Cotton	Guide price	858.80	13	918.9	7.0	1. 8.1983-31. 7.1984	CP	CP
	Minimum price	815.90	13	873.0	7.0		CP	CP

Table wine Type	RI	Guide price	3.27	11	3.45	5.5	16.12.1983-15.12.1984	CP	CP
	RII	(per degree/hl or per hl, according to type)	3.27	11	3.45	5.5		CP	CP
	RIII		51.03	11	53.84	5.5		CP	CP
	AI		3.02	11	3.19	5.5		CP	CP
	AII		68.00	11	71.74	5.5		CP	CP
	AIII		77.66	11	81.93	5.5		CP	CP
Raw tobacco	Guide price Intervention price			2		4.75	Récolte 1983	CP	CP
Fruit and vegetables	Basic price			9-12 ^(d)		5.5 ^(d) (^e)	1983-1984	(^d)	(^d)
Milk	Target price for milk	268.10	10.5	282.80	5.5	1. 4.1983-15. 9.1984	CP	CP	
	Intervention price								
	— for butter	3 497.00	10.0	3 608.10	3.2				
	— for skimmed-milk powder	1 462.30	10.4	1 508.70	3.2				
	— for cheese								
• Grana padano 30-60 days	3 530.40	11.3	3 642.70	3.2					
• Grana padano 6 months	4 295.10	11.8	4 431.60	3.2					
• Parmigiano-Reggiano 6 months	4 693.0	12.0	4 842.20	3.2					
Beef and veal	Guide price for adult bovines (live weight)	1 918.70	8.5	2 070.90	5.5	4. 4.1983- 2. 4.1984	CP	CP	
	Intervention price for adult bovines (live weight)	1 962.90	11.0	1 863.80	5.5				
		1 726.80	8.5						
		1 766.60	11.0						
Sheepmeat	Basic price (slaughter weight)	4 098.20	10.5	4 323.60	5.5	4. 4.1983- 2. 4.1984	CP	CP	
Pigmeat	Basic price (slaughter weight)	1 946.80	10.5	2 053.87	5.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP	
Silkworms	Aid per box of silkworm eggs	100.0	17.6	106	6.0	1. 4.1983-31. 3.1984	73.02	84.01	

¹ In 1982/83 the system of regionalized intervention prices was replaced by a single intervention price system. The increases of 8.5% and 14% refer to the lowest price under the old system.

² Increase of between 8 and 16% but change in relation to guide price.

Where necessary, account has been taken of the effect of activating the production threshold.

(^d) Prices in Greece are given only if they differ from common prices. CP = common price.

(^b) The price is reduced by 10.40 ECU per tonne for 1982/83 and by 11.62 ECU per tonne for 1983/84 where special intervention measures in respect of the minimum bread-making quality are applied.

(^c) For the regions of Greece which did not receive any national aid before accession: 23.21 ECU/ha for 1982/83 and 48.13 ECU/ha for 1983/84.

(^d) In the case of Greece lower prices must be fixed for tomatoes, peaches, mandarins and oranges, and higher prices for pears (alignment plus price increase included). Common prices are applied for cauliflowers, lemons, table grapes, apples, apricots and aubergines and proposed for pears through price alignment.

(^e) Except for tomatoes (plus 3.5%).

It also adopted with effect from January two amendments¹ to the agri-monetary provisions involving:

- the 1977 Regulation;² under this amendment provision is made for the amounts expressed in ECU and not connected with the price-fixing to be adjusted in order to preclude a reduction in national currency of the amounts in question as a result of the revaluation of the representative rates; prior to this amendment the Regulation provided for an adjustment of 2% only;
- the 1971 Regulation;³ under this amendment a special rule for calculating monetary compensatory amounts in the wine sector will apply only if all the Member States concerned apply negative monetary compensatory amounts.

Market organizations

2.1.113. On 6 December the Commission proposed that the Council authorize Greece to apply transitional measures in respect of the common organization of the markets for a further year.⁴

2.1.114. On 14 December the Commission sent the Council its annual report on the situation on the agricultural markets,⁵ which is presented in conjunction with the agricultural price proposals.

Prices and specific measures

Fresh fruit and vegetables

2.1.115. On 7 December the Commission fixed the export refunds on fruit and vegetables.⁶

2.1.116. After extending until 31 December 1986⁷ the application of Class III to certain fruit and vegetables, the Commission adopted a Regulation⁸ amending the Regulation of 19 March 1982 applying quality Class III to certain fruit for the 1982/83 marketing year.⁹

Wine

2.1.117. On 3 December the Council extended by one year certain provisions concerning the addition of alcohol to products

in the wine sector;¹⁰ on 13 December it fixed the activating prices for table wines (16 December 1982 to 15 December 1983).¹¹ These prices are around 11% up on the previous year's prices.

2.1.118. The Commission has drawn up its forward estimate for the 1982/83 wine year.¹² This predicts a total production of around 171 million hectolitres and end-of-year stocks equivalent to just over five months' normal consumption.

2.1.119. The Commission fixed the reference prices for the current marketing year,¹³ the free-at-frontier reference prices applicable to wine imports from 16 December,¹⁴ and the accession compensatory amounts for the period 16 December 1982 to 15 December 1983.¹⁵

The Commission also adopted a package of measures authorizing the conclusion of long-term private storage contracts for certain table wines and grape must for the 1982/83 wine year,¹⁶ fixing exports refunds¹⁶ and fixing special rates for converting the free-at-frontier reference prices of imported liqueur wines into national currency.¹⁷

It also authorized Greece to abolish customs duties on grape must from the other Member States and abolished these duties on must imported from Greece by the other Member States in order to enable Greece to maintain its exports.¹⁸

¹ OJ L 362, 23.12.1982.

² OJ L 106, 29.4.1977.

³ OJ L 106, 12.5.1971.

⁴ OJ C 336, 22.12.1982; see also OJ L 291, 19.11.1979.

⁵ *The Situation of the Agricultural Markets — Report 1982*, available from the Commission, reference COM(82)794.

⁶ OJ L 348, 8.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 360, 21.12.1982.

⁸ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁹ OJ L 76, 20.3.1982.

¹⁰ OJ L 347, 7.12.1982.

¹¹ OJ L 353, 15.12.1982.

¹² OJ C 342, 30.12.1982.

¹³ OJ L 331, 26.11.1982.

¹⁴ OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

¹⁵ OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

¹⁶ OJ L 365, 24.12.1982.

¹⁷ OJ L 350, 10.12.1982.

¹⁸ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982.

Lastly, the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a consolidated version of the general rules for distillation operations involving wine and the by-products of wine-making, which had been amended in the course of the year.¹

Milk and milk products

2.1.120. In view of the build-up of butter stocks and as a follow-up to the decisions adopted in November,² the Commission organized a standing invitation to tender for 25 000 tonnes of butter for export to non-member countries, including the Soviet Union.³

As no acceptable tenders were submitted, no contracts were placed.

2.1.121. The Council was unable to reach final agreement on Community imports of New Zealand butter for 1983. However, on 21 December, on a proposal from the Commission, it did adopt a Regulation determining the quantity of New Zealand butter which the United Kingdom is authorized to import during January 1983 and reviewing the import levy for New Zealand butter.⁴

Beef and veal

2.1.122. The Council fixed Community tariff quotas for frozen beef and veal,⁵ frozen buffalo meat⁵ and high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal⁶ for 1983.

Under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade the Community has undertaken to open an annual 20% tariff quota, amounting to 50 000 tonnes for frozen beef and veal, 2 250 tonnes for frozen buffalo meat and 29 800 tonnes for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal.

2.1.123. At its meeting on 13 and 14 December the Council adopted the 1983 estimates for beef and veal, and fixed 1983 imports at 60 000 tonnes for the processing industry and 237 000 head for fattening.

2.1.124. In view of the tension on the beef and veal markets in Greece the Commission extended its authorization to Greece to suspend customs duties on beef and veal imports from the other Member States.⁷

Sheepmeat

2.1.125. On 23 December, following the Council's decision of 21 December on arrangements for sheepmeat and goatmeat imports from non-member countries,⁸ the Commission fixed the quantities of these products which may be imported into sensitive market areas from certain non-member countries in 1983.⁸ It also fixed the quantities which may be imported from Hungary in 1982 and 1983.⁶

Sugar

2.1.126. On 30 November the Commission amended⁹ the Regulation laying down detailed rules for the buying-in by intervention agencies of sugar manufactured from beet and cane harvested in the Community.¹⁰ The new Regulation avoids the need for the periodic fixing of standard amounts by providing for an automatic adjustment formula reflecting the intervention price for each marketing year.

In view of the sugar production level expected for the 1982/83 marketing year as a result of yields 20% above the average for recent years, combined with disposal problems, the Commission has suspended for 1982/83 application of the limit laid down for the carrying-forward of sugar.¹¹

Processed fruit and vegetables

2.1.127. In the course of the month the Commission amended the following:

- the Regulation¹² allocating imports of preserved cultivated mushrooms originating

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 2.1.102 to 2.1.105.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, points 2.1.79 to 2.1.84.

³ OJ L 348, 8.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 368, 28.12.1982.

⁵ OJ L 340, 2.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 353, 15.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁸ OJ L 365, 24.12.1982.

⁹ OJ L 339, 1.12.1982.

¹⁰ OJ L 246, 27.9.1977.

¹¹ OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

¹² OJ L 346, 2.12.1981.

in non-member countries for the period 1 January to 31 December 1983;¹

- the Regulation² laying down protective measures applicable to imports of cultivated mushrooms in brine;³ the new Regulation replaces the system of annual import licences by a system of quarterly import licences;
- the Regulation⁴ extending the period of storage of certain quantities of dried figs and dried grapes held by the Greek storage agencies beyond the end of the 1981/82 marketing year;⁵ the extension covers the period 31 December to 31 March 1983.

Structures

Coordination of agricultural research

2.1.128. In December the Commission adopted a proposal for joint research programmes and for the coordination of agricultural research, covering specific new projects for implementation during the five-year period 1984-88.

Fields covered by the projects include the utilization and conservation of agricultural resources (energy production and saving, soil and water utilization), regional and structural problems (Mediterranean agriculture, agri-food industry) and the improvement of crop and animal productivity (rational use of inputs, deficit products, animal health and welfare).

The Commission is planning to contribute 65 million ECU to these projects.

Agricultural legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.129. On 21 December, acting on a proposal from the Commission,⁶ the Council adopted a Directive⁷ amending the 1964 and 1972 Directives as regards certain measures relating to foot-and-mouth disease, Aujeszky's disease and swine vesicular disease,⁸ endorsed by Parliament on 17 December.⁹ The Council also adopted a Directive⁷ on the notification of animal diseases within the Community.

2.1.130. On the same day the Council adopted a Decision on a financial contribution from the Community to the campaign against foot-and-mouth disease in south-east Europe,¹⁰ endorsed by Parliament at its December part-session.⁹

2.1.131. Following the campaign implemented by Germany for the accelerated eradication of classical swine fever, four more German regions have satisfied the conditions for recognition as officially swine-fever-free.¹¹

2.1.132. By three Decisions dated 13 December the Commission approved the extension of the plans presented by Ireland and the United Kingdom for the eradication of bovine brucellosis and by Ireland for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis respectively.¹²

2.1.133. On 16 December the Commission adopted a Decision establishing a first list of establishments in the Republic of South Africa and Namibia approved for the purpose of importing fresh meat into the Community.¹²

2.1.134. On 17 December the Commission adopted four Decisions concerning the establishments in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Norway and Paraguay from which Member States may authorize the importation of fresh meat.¹² Under these Decisions Member States are allowed to continue importing fresh meat from the four countries in question for a period of seven months, following which such imports must be discontinued unless improvements have been made to the establishments concerned enabling them to be included on the approved Community lists.

¹ OJ L 347, 7.12.1982.

² OJ L 89, 2.4.1980.

³ OJ L 353, 15.12.1980.

⁴ OJ L 233, 7.8.1982.

⁵ OJ L 361, 22.12.1982.

⁶ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.67.

⁷ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982.

⁸ OJ L 121, 29.7.1964; OJ L 302, 31.12.1972.

⁹ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.68.

¹¹ OJ L 347, 7.12.1982; OJ L 352, 14.12.1982.

¹² OJ L 381, 31.12.1982.

2.1.135. By Decision of 10 December, in order not to disrupt existing trade patterns, the Commission authorized Member States to continue on a temporary basis to import bovine masseter muscles from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay.¹

Competition

2.1.136. Applying Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided to make no comment on the introduction of the following draft measures notified by:

Germany

Baden-Württemberg: change in the aid for sheepfarming aimed at conserving the countryside outside the areas covered by the Community Directive; aid for keeping 'Hinterwälder' cattle, a breed particularly suited to the very rigorous natural conditions in this region.

Greece

Aid for honey exports. The Commission is recommending that in future, in the case of this product which is not yet covered by a common organization of the market, the Greek authorities apply measures compatible with the relevant Community provisions.

Italy

Veneto: measures for the development of nursery-gardening and mushroom-growing aimed at extending to flower- and mushroom-growing certain investment aids for processing and marketing not covered by Community directives (the Italian authorities must comply with the aid provisions and rates applicable in this field); amendments to

the law on assistance for the primary sector involving increasing the aid for farmers in associations, with a view to promoting technical assistance.

United Kingdom

Extension for three months of the aid designed to offset rising energy costs in horticulture. This aid is compatible with Community guidelines in this field.

2.1.137. Under the same procedure, the Commission:

- took a final decision under Article 93(2) disallowing aid granted by France to the *Caisses de péréquation* in the pigmeat sector;
- decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of aid granted in Italy (Sicily) to certain cooperatives withdrawing from the market oranges produced during the 1980/81 marketing year;
- to close the Article 93(2) procedure initiated in respect of measures to assist the collective sale and special storage of durum wheat in Italy (Sardinia).²

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guidance Section

Aid

2.1.138. On 23 November, under the Regulation of 25 July 1978,² the Commission adopted its second batch of decisions for 1982 granting aid for infrastructure investments in Italy and the south of France.

¹ OJ L 361, 22.12.1982.

² Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.71.

³ OJ L 204, 28.7.1978.

Altogether 120 projects were granted aid totalling 20.3 million ECU, allocated as follows:

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
France	47	FF 40 091 869	6 028 333
Italy	73	LIT 18 874 607 115	14 257 144
Total	120	—	20 285 477

¹ Approximate figures.

2.1.139. On 21 December the Commission adopted a batch of decisions granting aid from the EAGGF Guidance Section under Regulation No 355/77.¹

Altogether 317 projects were granted aid totalling 110.3 million ECU; 45 of these projects are located in the Mediterranean regions of the Community and received aid amounting to 37.8 million ECU; 12 are in the West of Ireland and account for 5.2 million ECU.

For the projects in the Mediterranean areas and the West of Ireland the financial contribution by the Guidance Section totals up to 50% of the total cost of the investment planned.

The breakdown by Member State is as follows:

¹ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

Second instalment for 1982 (normal appropriations)

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
Belgium	19	BFR 159 500 000	3 504 894
Denmark	15	DKR 20 392 575	2 465 734
Germany (FR)	78	DM 37 471 397	15 920 686
France	28	FF 58 852 284	8 867 277
Greece	9	DR 473 865 549	7 088 129
Ireland	19	IRL 2 675 182	3 874 144
Italy	38	LIT 17 339 379 340	12 876 031
Luxembourg	1	LFR 5 087 456	111 793
Netherlands	11	HFL 10 700 000	4 185 556
United Kingdom	42	UKL 4 606 286	8 399 715
Total	260	—	67 293 959

¹ Approximate figures.

Mediterranean areas

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
France	19	FF 59 721 121	8 998 183
Italy	26	LIT 38 771 407 029	28 791 218
Total	45	—	37 789 401

¹ Approximate figures.

West of Ireland

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
	12	IRL 3 596 303	5 208 093

¹ Approximate figures.

2.1.140. On 7 December, under the Regulation of 18 February 1980 on collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards,¹ the Commission adopted a second batch of decisions on aid to be granted in 1982.

Altogether 20 projects received aid totalling 5 million ECU, broken down as follows:

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
France	17	FF 30 346 243	4 572 269
Italy	3	LIT 515 974 945	383 157
Total	20	—	4 955 426

¹ Approximate figures.

2.1.141. On 17 December the Commission adopted a Regulation altering the procedure for the submission of applications for aid from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF for projects or special programmes.²

Reimbursements to Member States

2.1.142. In the last quarter of 1982 the Guidance Section paid 227.6 million ECU to Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and Greece for expenditure in 1981 and previous years, and to Italy, France and Ireland as advance payment for expenditure in 1982 under Directives 81/527³ and 78/628⁴ and Regulations Nos 1820/80,⁵ 458/80⁶ and 270/79.⁷

Most of the expenditure reimbursed was incurred under the 1972 socio-structural Directives (modernization of farms, cessation of farming, socio-economic guidance and acquisition of occupational skills), the Directives to help the less-favoured areas and the Regulations relating to the common organization of markets.

Fisheries

2.1.143. In spite of the conclusions of the European Council and Parliament's resolution on the urgent need for a common fisheries policy⁸ the Council meeting of 21 December on fisheries failed in its attempt to establish a new common fisheries policy before expiry of the derogations to the Act of Accession on 31 December. Following its failure to obtain a majority in the appropriate committee of the Folketing, the Danish Government rejected the compromise package proposed by the Commission, despite further clarifications provided by Mr Thorn and accepted by nine of the Member States.

¹ OJ L 57, 29.2.-1980.

² OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

³ OJ L 197, 20.7.1981.

⁴ OJ L 206, 29.7.1978.

⁵ OJ L 180, 14.7.1980.

⁶ OJ L 57, 29.2.1980.

⁷ OJ L 38, 14.2.1979.

⁸ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

At the close of the discussion the Commission expressed regret that the Council had been unable to take a decision on its proposals under Article 43 of the Treaty despite the fact that they had been endorsed by nine Member States. It issued the following declaration:¹

'The Commission notes the failure of the Council to reach an agreement on its set of proposals on the common fisheries policy.

Conservation of fishery resources has been the exclusive responsibility of the Community since 1 January 1979 (Article 43 of the Treaty and Article 102 of the Act of Accession) but the Community has still not, by today, 21 December 1982, succeeded in adopting a comprehensive conservation system.

In order to enable the Community to discharge its responsibilities with regard to conservation under these circumstances, the Commission recalls that the Member States not only have the *right* to adopt the necessary measures, subject to their approval by the Commission, but also have the *duty* to take these measures in the collective interest, this being a duty which the Commission can ask them to accept. As confirmed by the Court of Justice, these rights and duties flow from the Treaty, namely Article 5 (duty of cooperation among the Member States) and Article 155 (right and obligation of supervision by the Commission).

The Commission consequently calls upon all Member States:

- to notify it without delay of the national measures of conservation they plan to adopt;
- to confirm at the same time their intention to take the necessary action, at national level, to ensure that national measures of conservation planned, which the Commission approves, are complied with;
- to respect rigorously the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2057/82 (control measures), and in particular Article 9 thereof.

With a view to ensuring that the activities of the entire fishing fleet of the Member States are as orderly and stable as possible, the Commission will, in carrying out its responsibilities, and particularly when approving national conservation measures, act on the basis of the proposals that it has submitted to the Council.

The Commission will ensure that the different national measures of conservation are as well coordinated as possible and requests the Member States' cooperation in this. The national measures must constitute a temporary system that is at once practicable, effective and non-discriminatory.

The Commission is determined to use all the means in its power to ensure that the Member States respect the obligations of which it has reminded them in this declaration.'

The Commission asked to be informed by 29 December of any natural conservation measures Member States were considering.

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.144. In the absence of Council agreement on Community arrangements for the conservation of resources, the Commission approved an Irish measure on herring fishing and two Danish measures extending the relevant technical measures until 31 December.

External aspects

Bilateral relations

2.1.145. Consultations to work out arrangements on reciprocal fishing rights for 1983 between the Community and Mauritania, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands and Spain respectively were held in December. These will continue early in the new year.

2.1.146. On 30 December the Council laid down measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the Spanish flag.²

2.1.147. On 21 December the Council approved, after Parliament had given an opinion,³ the conclusion of the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters provisionally applying the fisheries agreement with Guinea-Bissau, initialled in Brussels on 19 November.⁴

Multilateral relations

2.1.148. On 13 December the Council adopted a Decision on the conclusion of the Convention for the Conservation of Salmon in the North Atlantic Ocean.⁵

¹ OJ C 343, 31.12.1982.

² OJ L 375, 31.12.1982.

³ OJ C 13, 17.1.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.112.

⁵ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982; Bull. EC 1-1982, point 2.1.67.

Markets and structures

Organization of markets

2.1.149. On 9 December, in implementation of the new Regulation on the common organization of the market in fishery products,¹ the Commission adopted a Regulation laying down detailed rules for the granting of a carryover premium for certain fishery products,²

On 23 December, as part of the price-fixing exercise for the 1983 fishing year, the Commission adopted Regulations fixing withdrawal prices, standard values for products withdrawn from the market, reference prices, conversion factors applicable to tuna, and the amount of the carryover premium respectively.³ On the same date it also repealed the measures suspending imports of frozen squid.

Finally, on a proposal from the Commission⁴ the Council increased the guide and intervention prices for fishery products by an average of around 5% on the previous year.⁵

Structures

2.1.150. Under the Regulation of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed⁶ the Commission decided to grant aid totalling about 8.256 million ECU from the EAGGF Guidance Section (as part of the second instalment for 1982) to 42 investment projects in the fisheries sector.

Thirty-four of these projects are to be financed from general appropriations, six from appropriations specifically earmarked for Mediterranean regions and two from appropriations for the West of Ireland, as shown in the table below:

¹ OJ L 379, 31.12.1981.

² OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

³ OJ L 368, 28.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.108.

⁵ OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

Table 6 — *Second instalment of aid from the EAGGF Guidance Section for 1982*

	Number of projects	Aid (ECU)
1. General appropriations		
Germany (FR)	6	162 036
Denmark	8	510 744
Ireland	2	125 145
Italy	3	1 445 089
United Kingdom	15	1 229 710
Total	34	3 472 724
2. Appropriations for Mediterranean regions		
France	1	1 627 526
Italy	5	2 048 616
Total	6	3 676 142
3. Appropriations for the West of Ireland		
Ireland	2	1 107 790
Total	42	8 256 656

2.1.151. On 21 December, on a proposal from the Commission,¹ the Council decided² to extend for one year the interim common measure for restructuring the inshore fishing industry and aquaculture introduced in 1978.³ which had expired on 31 December 1981.⁴ The sum of 30 million ECU has been set aside for this measure for 1982. The Commission has until 31 July 1983 to take a decision on applications submitted in this connection.

2.1.152. Also on 21 December, in line with a Commission proposal,⁵ the Council amended its Decision of 25 July 1978 on financial participation by the Community in inspection and surveillance operations in the maritime waters of Denmark and Ireland.³ The Commission for its part, acting under the same 1978 Decision, decided to reimburse the Irish Government the sum of IRL 81 391 in respect of expenditure incurred in 1981.⁶ It also endorsed an amendment to the Irish medium-term investment programme.

2.1.153. On State aids, the Commission raised no objection to the implementation of a scheme for a fish processing undertaking in Greenland and a FF 10.5 million aid package adopted by Brittany's Regional Council to assist fishing and aquaculture. However, it initiated the procedure laid down in Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of an aid scheme for producers' organizations in the inshore fishing sector in Germany on the grounds of non-compliance with the rules on the common organization of the market in fishery products.

and adopted a Regulation implementing the ASOR Agreement.⁹ It also approved the proposal for a Regulation on limited financial support in the field of transport infrastructure¹⁰ and a Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement on international shuttle services by coach and bus.¹¹

The Council took note of a Commission progress report concerning its work on international railway cooperation and the medium-term programme of specific projects eligible for Community aid. The Council also heard a report by the Commission on progress in the negotiations with Austria covering a number of inland transport measures.

Also on 16 December, the Ministers of Transport exchanged views on the common transport policy and again stressed the need for step-by-step implementation of the policy.

The Ministers then went on to discuss other subjects such as the facilitation of border crossings, the promotion of interregional air services, the weights and dimensions of road haulage vehicles and the formation of road haulage rates.

Inland transport

Infrastructure

2.1.155. On 30 December the Council adopted a Regulation¹² on limited financial support in the field of transport infrastructure¹³ which it had already approved on 16 December. Under this instrument the Community will grant financial support — within

Transport

Council

2.1.154. On 16 December the Council held its second meeting of the year on transport; it was unable to complete much business. The Council decided that the system of short-term authorizations which are part of the Community quota system⁷ should be made a permanent feature, extended the system of collecting information on shipping⁸

¹ OJ C 166, 3.7.1982.

² OJ L 5, 7.1.1983.

³ OJ L 211, 1.8.1978.

⁴ OJ L 299, 20.10.1981.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.140.

⁶ OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.

⁷ Point 2.1.159.

⁸ Point 2.1.163.

⁹ Point 2.1.167.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.155.

¹¹ Point 2.1.106.

¹² OJ L 376, 31.12.1982.

¹³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.151.

the limits of the 10 million ECU available in appropriations from the 1982 budget — to three transport infrastructure projects, namely the marshalling and customs-clearance yard at Domodossola in Italy, a section of the Evzoni-Volos road in Greece and work on the technical aspects of the Channel Tunnel.

2.1.156. In response to a request made by the Council in December 1981,¹ the Commission this December presented a report on the practical application of a method of evaluating infrastructure projects for their Community interest. On 10 December the Commission proposed an experimental five-year programme (1983-87) of transport infrastructure projects. The programme, which the Council called for on 10 June 1982,² is in two stages. The first consists of specific projects which would be eligible for financial support during 1983 and 1984. For the years from 1985 to 1987 (the second stage), the programme should be made up of projects selected after evaluation of their interest to the Community.

Approximation of structures

2.1.157. On 14 December the Commission sent the Council a progress report on work in the field of international railway cooperation. The report is a follow-up to the Commission's communication in May.³

2.1.158. On 17 December the Commission adopted a recommendation on action concerning the establishment of a high-quality international transport system and called upon the railways to report by May 1983.⁴

Operation of the market

2.1.159. At the 16 December meeting the Council examined a proposal to amend the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road.⁵ The Council was able to reach agreement only on the second part of the proposal. Consequently, on 21 December, it formally adopted a Regulation⁶ by which the system of short-term Community authorizations instituted by the Regulation of 20 December 1979⁷ is made permanent. At the same time the Council also decided that the

ceiling for short-term authorizations should be raised to 15% of the total quota of the Member State concerned.

2.1.160. On 16 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on the conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate certain national transport services.⁸

The aim of the proposal is to enable professional road hauliers to follow up an international transport operation in a country in which they are not resident by one or two national operations, subject to certain conditions.

This proposal represents another effort by the Commission to act upon Article 75(1) (b) of the EEC Treaty, which should have been implemented by the end of the transitional period, the first attempt having been made in October 1967. The Commission considers that the proposal, if adopted, could reduce the number of unladen journeys, and that, in its turn, would save energy, reduce unnecessary congestion on the roads and prevent a serious deterioration in the economic situation of road hauliers.

2.1.161. On 20 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision on the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic. The aim of the proposal is to grant the railways commercial independence particularly as regards rate formation. The corollary is that the railways are required to obtain optimum remuneration for international passenger services.

The proposal will also make it possible to extend to international passenger traffic the commercial independence which the railway companies already enjoy in international

¹ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.147.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.144.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.137.

⁴ OJ L 381, 31.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.89.

⁶ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 336, 29.12.1979.

⁸ OJ C 18, 22.1.1983.

goods traffic under the Council Decision of 19 July on the fixing of rates for the international carriage of goods by rail.¹

In this way the railways would enjoy in all their international activities the managerial independence needed to strengthen cooperation so as to optimize their financial results.

Prior examination and consultation procedure

2.1.162. On 15 December the Commission gave an opinion² in favour of the draft framework law on inland transport which the French Government had sent it in September under the Council Decision of 21 March 1962 instituting a procedure for prior examination and consultation in respect of certain laws, regulations and administrative provisions concerning transport proposed in Member States.³

The purpose of the bill is to simplify bureaucratic constraints, clarify such intervention by the authorities as is indispensable, stimulate the free play of economic and commercial mechanisms and the harmonious and complementary development of the various modes of transport. The Commission will examine the actual scope of these provisions again when it has been notified of the implementing measures that will have to be introduced.

Sea transport

2.1.163. On 16 December the Council decided to extend to 31 December 1984 the system of collecting information concerning the activities of carriers participating in cargo liner traffic between the Community and East Africa, Central America and the Far East.⁴

2.1.164. On 13 December the Council adopted a concerted action project for the European Economic Community in the field of shore-based maritime navigation aid systems (COST 301).⁵

Air transport

Aircraft safety

2.1.165. On 17 December Parliament passed a resolution calling for a Community policy on safety in aircraft.⁶ It draws attention to the need to review safety standards, particularly as regards the flammability and toxicity of materials used for fitting out the inside of aircraft, the design and resistance of seatbelts and the size of objects allowed in passenger cabins.

Cooperation with non-member countries

2.1.166. On 16 December the Council approved a proposal for a Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement between the Community and certain non-Community countries with a view to establishing uniform arrangements for international shuttle services by coach and bus.⁷

2.1.167. On 16 December the Council adopted a Regulation concerning the implementation of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Passengers by Road by means of Occasional Coach and Bus Services (ASOR).⁸

Energy

Specific problems

Oil and gas

2.1.168. Further to the decision taken in July⁹ under the Regulation of November 1973,¹⁰ the Council decided on 21 December

¹ OJ L 234, 9.8.1982.

² OJ L 361, 22.12.1982.

³ OJ 23, 3.4.1962 (amendment in OJ L 347, 17.12.1973).

⁴ OJ L 368, 28.12.1982.

⁵ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982.

⁶ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁷ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.155.

⁸ OJ L 10, 13.1.1983; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.86.

⁹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.169.

¹⁰ OJ L 312, 23.11.1973.

to grant 2.73 million ECU to seven technological development projects in the oil and gas sector.

Coal

2.1.169. On 16 December the Energy Ministers held an informal meeting in Copenhagen to discuss the role of coal and the other solid fuels in the Community's energy strategy. All who attended were convinced that it was in the interests of the Community to promote a balanced, overall strategy for solid fuels. To this end, they intend to make a careful examination of the specific proposals on the following topics already presented or being prepared by the Commission: greater use of solid fuels to reduce the Community's dependence on oil; improvements concerning the handling and transport of solid fuels; coking coal; aid for the modernization and rationalization of coal production and for the development of coal utilization; problems arising in connection with pithead coal stocks; encouraging intra-Community trade in coking coal and other solid fuels; increasing trade with non-member countries; helping to solve environmental problems arising from the extraction and use of solid fuels; and the development of the role of energy R&D and demonstration projects at Community level concerning the production, processing, conversion and use of solid fuels.

2.1.170. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution on the coal crisis in the Community.¹

Nuclear energy

2.1.171. As announced in its communication to the Council on the nuclear aspects of the Community's energy strategy,² the Commission sent to the Council a proposal to amend Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty, the chapter which deals with supplies of nuclear fuels.³ The Commission based its proposal on major principles such as market unity, exercising the Community's powers at international level and adopting specific measures as regards solidarity; these principles would replace the Euratom Supply

Agency's commercial monopoly, although the Agency would continue to facilitate the smooth functioning of the market and monitor compliance with the new provisions.

Electricity

2.1.172. On 13 December the Commission adopted its annual report to the Council on the investment situation in the electricity sector in the Community. The report indicates a slight downward revision of forecasts for conventional coal-fired thermal plants, and confirms that for three consecutive years there have been no plans for power stations fired by oil alone. With regard to nuclear power, although 85 GW installed capacity is a realistic forecast for 1985, the figure for 1990 is likely to be no higher than 111 GW. The report calls on the Member States to revise their programmes to ensure that the Community objective of covering 70% to 75% of the primary energy needs in respect of electricity generation from solid fuels and nuclear energy is attained.

Research and development

Development of the common policy

1984-87 framework programme on Community scientific and technical activities

2.1.173. On 21 December the Commission adopted a communication on the first general framework programme for scientific and technical research, development and demonstration activities for 1984-87.

This framework programme, the first of its kind, is in response to the request made to the Commission by the Council on 30 June.⁴ Its aim is to set out:

- Community socio-economic goals which are the basis of the common strategy in science and technology;

¹ Point 2.4.10; OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

² Bull. EC 2-1982, point 1.2.7.

³ Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5; OJ C 330, 16.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.164.

- the major scientific and technical objectives which it would be suitable to adopt at Community level for 1984-87;
- the specific objectives and their priorities and relative weightings which it is advisable to adopt for specific Community research, development and demonstration activities (RD&D).

Since RD&D in itself is one of the most productive investments in the long and medium term for the Member States and the Community, the finance to be allocated to it must be not only appreciably increased but also safeguarded against unforeseen circumstances or economic pressures that might have adverse effects on the redistribution of Community resources. If the proposed objectives are to be attained, the resources to be made available for 1984-87 must be equivalent to a minimum outlay estimated at about 3 700 million ECU.

It is therefore proposed in the communication that a specified percentage (about 4% per year by the end of the period under consideration) of the Community's own resources be allocated to the financing of Community RD&D activities. The subsequent decisions regarding the action to be taken in this respect would have to keep within these limits, which would be reviewed in the case of each framework programme.

Stimulation of scientific and technical potential

2.1.174. On 1 December,¹ in response to the request made by the Council on 4 November,² the Commission approved a proposal for a Council Decision adopting an experimental Community action programme to stimulate the Community's scientific and technical potential.

That proposal incorporates the scientific and technical aspects of the communication transmitted to the Council in August³ and suggests a two-year programme at an estimated cost of 7 million ECU.

JRC research programme

2.1.175. The Commission's proposals for the revision of the Joint Research Centre's

programme, particularly the Super-SARA project, in 1983 were again discussed at the Council meeting on foreign affairs on 13 December. The Council drew the following conclusions:

- The Research Ministers will come back to the matter at the Council meeting on 8 February 1983.
- The Commission will, in time for that Council meeting, obtain the advice of three independent experts on the significance of the contribution made by Super-SARA, from a Community point of view, to the field of reactor safety, having regard to research conducted in Europe and elsewhere, on how the costs compare with the results expected from the Project, and on the likelihood of cost overruns. The three experts will consider any contributions submitted by Member Governments.
- For the 8 February Council meeting, the Commission will prepare proposals for possible alternative research activities at the Joint Research Centre involving a level of resources similar to that envisaged for the Super-SARA project.

Codest

2.1.176. By a Decision adopted on 6 December³ the Commission set up a Committee for the European Development of Science and Technology (Codest).⁴ Made up of 21 members, appointed in a personal capacity by the Commission from among eminent persons of recognized standing in European scientific, technological and industrial circles, the Committee has the basic task of assisting the Commission in the preparation and implementation of its policy in regard to the stimulation of Community scientific and technical potential. The Committee is also to assist the Commission in defining the common research and development strategy and provide the Commission with elements for consideration and appraisal during the pre-

¹ OJ C 337, 23.12.1982.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.139.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.178.

⁴ OJ L 350, 10.12.1982.

paration of the overall framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities. Codest will thus be taking over the functions previously fulfilled by the European Research and Development Committee, which held its last meeting on 18 November.¹

Cooperation with non-member countries

2.1.177. On 15 December the Community signed the joint declaration of intent relating to the implementation of a European research project involving the study of the technical and economic conditions for using electric road vehicles² (COST project 302).

2.1.178. Two COST agreements for concerted action, one concerning the physical and chemical behaviour of atmospheric pollutants (project 61 A bis) and the other the analysis of organic micropollutants in water (64 B bis), were extended by the Council on 17 December.³

2.1.179. At its meeting on 13 December the Council adopted a Decision³ concerning a Community concerted-action project relating to shore-based maritime navigation aid systems (COST project 301). As a contribution to environmental protection by means of improvements to maritime safety, this research project, coordinated by the Commission, is intended to define ways and means of applying existing aid systems and to determine whether there is a need to develop new techniques to comply with the standards that are required to improve the safety of maritime traffic. The programme is for three years, starting on 1 January 1983. The coordination costs have been estimated at 2.1 million ECU and will be covered by the Community budget.

Scientific and technological objectives

Energy

2.1.180. Many schools of architecture in, and professional architects or architectural students from, all the Community countries participated in the second European solar energy competition held by the Commission

in 1982. The aim of the competition was to encourage the use of the principles of passive solar energy by those involved in architecture and project study and development in Europe.

The best projects were selected by an international jury. Prizes worth a total of 30 000 ECU were awarded to the successful candidates at the beginning of the international conference on solar architecture in Cannes on 13 December.

Industrial competitiveness

2.1.181. On 21 December the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission⁴ on which Parliament had delivered its opinion,⁵ adopted a Decision on a preparatory phase for a Community research and development programme in the field of information technology (ESPRIT).⁶ This preparatory phase will last for one year from 1 January 1983 and will concern 16 pilot projects to be financed jointly by the Community and by industry and other contracting bodies on a fifty-fifty basis (with the Community share estimated at 11.5 million ECU).

2.1.182. On 21 December the Council, on a proposal from the Commission,⁷ adopted a five-year (1983-87) programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials, the funding for which is estimated at 25 million ECU. The objective of this programme, which enables a Commission activity already in progress to be continued, is to improve measurements and analyses and achieve better agreement between the results in all the Member States. In a wide range of fields, lack of agreement between laboratories is the source of difficulties in marketing, international trade, the application of regulations, manufacturing processes

¹ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.140.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.171.

³ OJ L 378, 31.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.

⁵ OJ C 314, 30.11.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.149.

⁶ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁷ OJ C 187, 22.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.175.

and even health care. Each programme project involves cooperation between laboratories in all the Member States. The subjects will be chosen for their economic importance. Laboratories and industrial firms faced with measurement or analysis problems can help to guide the programme along the right lines by informing the Commission of such problems.

2.1.183. The certification of 10 new reference materials (fertilizers, carcinogenic organic compounds, etc.) as a result of the work of the Community Bureau of References was approved by the Advisory Committee on Programme Management (CBR) at its meeting on 14 December. This brings the number of certified reference materials up to 100. Samples are available from the Commission on request.

2.1.184. In order to improve the competitiveness of the European steel industry by reducing production costs and improving product quality and product service properties, the Commission on 8 December selected 11 research projects put forward by the industry to obtain financial assistance under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty. The total cost of these 11 projects is of the order of 5 million ECU, 2.9 million ECU of which is charged to the 1982 ECSC operating budget. This Commission decision was then transmitted to the ECSC Consultative Committee for consultation and, on 20 December, to the Council for its assent.

Agriculture

2.1.185. In December the Commission adopted a proposal for joint coordinated agricultural research programmes comprising new specific measures for 1984-88.

Developing countries

2.1.186. On 3 December the Council adopted a programme of research and development in the field of science and technology for development¹ for an initial four-year period (1983-86).² The estimated funding for the programme is 40 million ECU, and it will cover tropical agriculture and

medicine, health and nutrition in the tropics. The research will be carried out by specialized laboratories under shared-cost contracts.

Raw materials

2.1.187. So that the R&D projects in the 1978-82 programme on uranium exploration and extraction³ could be completed and uranium exploration instruments and techniques developed and improved, the Commission sent the Council on 14 December a proposal⁴ to amend the multiannual R&D programme (1982-85) in the raw materials sector.⁵

Living and working conditions

Radiation protection

2.1.188. On 16 December the Commission sent the Council and Parliament a report on the implementation of the 1980-84 research programme in the field of biology-health protection (radiation protection programme).⁶ The report states that the programme has brought about real coordination and cooperation between research scientists and therefore needs no modification.

2.1.189. As part of the second research programme on safety in mines⁷ the Commission decided to make two grants (432 000 ECU and 641 000 ECU) to a number of projects.⁸ It also granted 826 420 ECU in respect of six projects under the fourth programme on ergonomics.⁹

¹ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.139.

² Bull. EC 4-1981, point 2.1.91.

³ Fifteenth General Report, points 586 and 587.

⁴ OJ C 341, 29.12.1982.

⁵ OJ L 174, 21.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.151.

⁶ Fourteenth General Report, point 294; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.104.

⁷ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.71.

⁸ Point 2.1.81.

⁹ Point 2.1.82 and Bull. EC 9-1980, point 2.1.33.

Horizontal activities

2.1.190. On 21 December the Commission sent the Council a communication containing a proposal for a Decision on a Community research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology (FAST), 1983-87.¹ This would be a continuation and extension of the first FAST programme² adopted by the Council on 25 July 1978 to test, over a five-year period ending on 16 August 1983, the usefulness of forecasting and assessment as an instrument for selecting the broad lines of Community long-lead-time R&D.

The results of the programme, compiled by a team on the basis of reports on research jointly financed by the Community in the Member States, have demonstrated the inherent usefulness of forward study, more than ever necessary in these difficult times of radical change.

The conclusions were reached in cooperation with the numerous Community and national bodies involved.

The fundamental purpose of the second FAST programme is therefore unchanged: to analyse the effect of long-term technological change and thereby help to identify new directions for R&D and to frame other Community policies.

The new programme will focus on four priority fields:

- new forms of 'growth' for Europe, in particular the transformation of the relationships between technology, work and employment and the integrated development of renewable natural resource systems;
- new strategic industrial systems;
- the allocation of activities within the life span and its implications for production;
- the transformation of service activities and technological change.

The new programme differs from the earlier one in giving greater importance to the development of Community cooperation networks and to in-house research.

An effort will also be made to create closer functional links between the relevant Commission departments and to associate industry and union representatives in the work.

The Commission estimates the funds required for the programme at 10.5 million ECU.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.120.

² Twelfth General Report, point 421.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

2.2.1. The European Council, which met in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December,¹ reaffirmed its political commitment in favour of the Community's enlargement to include Spain and Portugal. It welcomed the inventory drawn up by the Commission,² which, in its opinion, marks a further step along the

path to enlargement. The European Council went on to express its views on the course to be followed for the accession process.¹

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.2. A deputy-level meeting of the accession negotiations took place on 21 De-

¹ Point 1.2.4.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.1; Supplement 8/82 — Bull. EC.

ember, at which the Community presented a statement on secondary legislation and the environment.

Pre-accession aid

2.2.3. On 13 December, in implementation of the Agreement¹ in force since 1 January 1981 instituting pre-accession aid of 275 million ECU for Portugal, the Commission adopted two new projects for which a Community contribution, in the form of a grant, had been requested: a project for work on the Douro river (proposed Community contribution: 6 million ECU) and a programme for the construction and equipping of 10 secondary schools (proposed Community contribution: 5.05 million ECU).

These are both infrastructure projects intended to promote a more balanced regional development, firstly by improving Portugal's transport network and its hydroelectric generating capacity, and secondly by improving secondary education infrastructure, particularly in the north and east of the country.

2.2.4. The Commission also sent a communication to the Council on 21 December on the extension of pre-accession aid. The Portuguese Government had made a request on 21 September for European Investment Bank operations to be extended after the funds provided for in the Agreement had been used up. The Portuguese asked for loans totalling 150 million ECU for 1983, a request for possible interest rate subsidies having been postponed.

In its communication the Commission proposed that the Council should act upon the Portuguese request in so far as the principle of extending the aid, the amount asked for and the period to be covered were concerned.

The Commission would submit proposals regarding interest rate subsidies in due course once it had received more precise details from the Portuguese authorities and in the

light of discussions carried out within the Community and with the applicant countries on the inventory of enlargement problems.

Bilateral relations

2.2.5. On 3 December the Council adopted the Regulation² concerning the conclusion of the transitional protocol³ to the 1972 trade agreement.⁴ The exchange of instruments notifying completion of the procedures necessary for the entry into force of the protocol took place on 22 December. The protocol will therefore be able to enter into force on 1 January 1983.⁵

Spain

Accession negotiations

2.2.6. The 13th ministerial meeting of the negotiations for Spain's accession to the European Community was held in Brussels on 13 December under the chairmanship of Mr U. Ellemann-Jensen, Danish Foreign Minister and current President of the Council. The Spanish delegation was headed by Mr Fernando Morán, newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, who underlined the interest and the will of the new Spanish Government to see the negotiations progressing in earnest and the need for Spain to have a clear perspective on enlargement.

The declarations made by both the Community and Spanish delegations were of a political nature and expressed the desire for continued cooperation.

Mr F. Morán and Mr Marín, State Secretary responsible for relations with the European Community, also had talks with the Com-

¹ Fifteenth General Report, point 624.

² OJ L 355, 16.12.1982.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.2.2; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.1.

⁴ OJ L 301, 31.12.1972.

⁵ OJ L 5, 7.1.1983.

mission President, Mr Thorn, and one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr Natali.

2.2.7. A series of technical meetings between the Commission and the Spanish authorities took place in Brussels from 29 November to 3 December; they dealt with the continuing examination of Community secondary legislation on agriculture and with an analysis of the Spanish economy and agricultural system. Special attention was devoted to the following agricultural sectors: tobacco and hops, sugar, fruit and vegetables, wine, statistics, the EAGGF and seeds.

Other sectoral meetings also took place on 6 and 7 December and dealt with the problems connected with agricultural structures in Spain.

Bilateral relations

2.2.8. Mr Natali paid an official visit to Spain on 16 and 17 December. He had meetings with the Prime Minister, Mr Felipe González, and talked at length with Mr Fernando Morán, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Manuel Marín, State Secretary responsible for relations with the European Community, Mr Miguel Boyer, Minister of Economic Affairs, Finance and Commerce, Mr Luis de Velasco, State Secretary for Commerce, and Mr Miguel Angel Fernández Ordóñez, State Secretary for Planning and the Economy.

2.2.9. The Council meeting on foreign affairs on 13 December took note of a statement by Mr Natali on the application of the 1970 Agreement with Spain, and of the comments made by the delegations.

The Council noted that the Commission intended discussing this matter with the Spanish delegation and would report to the next Council meeting.

2.2.10. Following the serious flooding in Spain, the Commission decided on 2 December to allocate emergency aid of 80 000 ECU to the League of Red Cross Societies for the flood victims.

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Instruments of commercial policy

Import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries

2.2.11. On 21 December the Council adopted, as it does each year, a Decision establishing the import quotas to be opened by the Member States in respect of State-trading countries in 1983.

2.2.12. On 23 December the Council extended¹ for 1983 the specific trade measures which it had adopted on 15 March with respect to the USSR.²

Trade protection

2.2.13. The Council adopted a Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of methylamine, dimethylamine and trimethylamine originating in the German Democratic Republic and definitively collecting the amounts secured by way of provisional duty.³

2.2.14. The Commission imposed a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of natural magnesite, caustic burned, originating in the People's Republic of China, and natural magnesite, dead-burned (sintered), originating in the People's Republic of China or in North Korea.⁴

2.2.15. The Commission informed all the parties concerned that it considered it was in the interests of the Community to allow the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of polyethylene originating in the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the USSR or Czechoslovakia⁵ to follow its normal course,

¹ OJ L 365, 23.12.1982.

² OJ L 72, 16.3.1982; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.2.52.

³ OJ L 348, 8.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

⁵ OJ C 230, 3.9.1982.

irrespective of the outcome of the complaints lodged on behalf of all Community polyethylene producers.¹

It announced that it intends to re-examine the undertakings on prices accepted in 1978 under the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of ferro-chromium originating in South Africa or Sweden.²

It also published an opinion in favour of the extension of the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of copper sulphate from Czechoslovakia³ and the USSR.⁴

2.2.16. The Commission initiated an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of television image and sound recorders or reproducers originating in Japan.⁵ It also initiated a new anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of low-carbon ferro-chromium originating in Turkey or Zimbabwe.⁶

2.2.17. The Commission decided to terminate the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of perchlorethylene originating in Czechoslovakia, Romania, Spain or the United States of America.⁶

2.2.18. Measures introducing Community surveillance of imports of light commercial vehicles, video tape recorders and motor cycles originating in Japan were adopted by the Commission in December;⁶ they will enter into force on 1 January and will remain valid until 31 December 1983.

The Commission also introduced protective measures in respect of imports into France and the United Kingdom of stoneware tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, and terminated the Community investigation procedure in respect of articles of common pottery.⁷

Moreover, the Commission renewed for one year, until 31 December 1983,⁸ the Regulations introducing Community surveillance of imports of certain motor vehicles, machine tools, colour television reception apparatus and cathode-ray tubes for colour television receivers, originating in Japan.⁹ It also extended the Community surveillance of cer-

tain phosphate fertilizers,⁸ certain live plants and certain floricultural products originating in various countries,¹⁰ and the period of validity of retrospective control of imports into the Community of footwear originating in State-trading countries or the People's Republic of China.⁸

***Treaties and trade agreements:
extension or automatic renewal***

2.2.19. On 10 December the Council authorized the extension or automatic renewal of certain trade agreements between Member States and other countries (fourth batch of 1982) due to expire between 1 November 1982 and 31 January 1983.¹⁰

Export credits

2.2.20. On 10 December the Council adopted a Decision on the rules applicable, in the field of export guarantees and finance, to certain subcontracts with parties in other Member States of the European Communities or in non-member countries.¹⁰ By this Decision, Member States undertake, when dealing in export insurance and finance, to grant Community subcontractors the same insurance and financing terms as the principal contractor. The aim is to encourage cooperation on export transactions through subcontracts between undertakings in different Member States so that greater economic efficiency can be achieved, which will make Community exports more competitive on other markets.

¹ OJ C 325, 11.12.1982.
² OJ C 232, 30.9.1978.
³ OJ C 161, 26.6.1982.
⁴ OJ C 331, 17.12.1982.
⁵ OJ C 338, 24.12.1982.
⁶ OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.
⁷ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982.
⁸ OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.
⁹ OJ L 54, 28.1.1981.
¹⁰ OJ L 357, 18.12.1982.

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Iron and steel products

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.21. Pursuant to the mandate it received from the Council on 22 November,¹ the Commission started or continued negotiations aimed at extending for 1983 the steel arrangements it had concluded for 1982 with 14 supplier countries. Arrangements were initialled in four cases (Sweden, Korea, Bulgaria and Hungary). The negotiations with the other countries should be completed some time in January.

Autonomous measures

2.2.22. On 20 December the Commission extended for 1983 Recommendation 1399/82/ECSC (anticipatory surveillance) on steel import licences² and Decision 588/80/ECSC (retrospective surveillance) on the communication by Member States of their imports.³

2.2.23. On 17 December the representatives of the ECSC Member States adopted a Decision establishing the unilateral quotas in force in Germany, Benelux and Italy with respect to State-trading countries. This Decision is an interim measure, valid for six months at the most, and will be replaced at the beginning of 1983 once all the arrangements have been concluded by a new inter-governmental decision giving the tonnages agreed in the arrangements with East European countries.

Textiles

Agreements and arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.24. The negotiations which opened in May⁴ for the renewal of the 27 bilateral textile agreements under the MFA were completed in December. The initialling of bilateral agreements with two principal suppliers (Macao on 3 December and South Korea on 13 December) brought the number of bilateral textile agreements concluded to 26. An

agreement was not possible with Argentina for reasons other than commercial policy. From 1 January the Community will introduce a special anticipatory surveillance system for Argentine products which have so far been subject to quantitative restrictions, to enable the Community to take safeguard measures if necessary.

The results of the round of negotiations are exactly in line with the negotiating directives which the Council gave the Commission,⁵ including the global ceilings for the most sensitive products, which are lower for 1983 than they were in 1982. The agreements with the principal suppliers⁶ provide for reduced access for the most sensitive products in the clothing sector.

Nearly all the agreements, which will run for four years, contain the new measures wanted by the Community: the 'surge' clause (to prevent sudden sharp increases of imports within quotas), the 'fraud' clause (goods imported under a false declaration of origin to be deducted from the real country of origin quotas) and the 'basket extractor mechanism' (a quota to be imposed on products in the event of a big increase in imports). They provide a framework for imports from MFA countries and, as a result, help create greater stability in the commercial environment of the Community industry.

The conclusion of satisfactory agreements meant that the Council was able on 13 December to confirm the Community's participation in the MFA.

In order to enable these agreements to be administered within the Community, the Council adopted a Regulation in December establishing new common rules for imports to replace the Regulation of 21 December 1978.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.12.

² OJ L 360, 21.12.1982.

³ OJ L 351, 11.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.2.10.

⁵ Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.2.8.

⁶ South Korea, Hong Kong, Macao.

⁷ OJ L 365, 27.12.1978.

Jute and coir products

2.2.25. Pending the outcome of the negotiations on the adoption, consequent on Greek accession, of the agreements concluded with India and Bangladesh on trade in jute products, the Council decided on 21 December to make the importation into Greece of certain jute products originating in these countries subject to quantitative limitation.¹

Non-ferrous metals

2.2.26. The export arrangements for certain types of non-ferrous metal waste and scrap were established for 1983 by Regulations adopted by the Council and the Commission on 21 and 22 December respectively.²

The Council Regulation introduces export quotas for copper ash and waste and an export surveillance mechanism for aluminium and lead waste and scrap. The Commission Regulation allocates the quotas for copper products among the Member States.

Development

2.2.27. At its meeting in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December,³ the European Council expressed its satisfaction at the work initiated in the Council⁴ on the Commission memorandum concerning the Community's relations with the developing countries presented in October.⁵ The European Council stressed that it was important that this should be taken as a starting point for the formulation of proposals leading to Council decisions on priority matters such as the negotiation of the new ACP Convention.

2.2.28. The question of the opening of global negotiations in the field of North-South relations⁶ was raised at the 37th session of the United Nations General Assembly,⁷ but no consensus was forthcoming.

2.2.29. On 9 December the Commission presented a communication to the Council on initial guidelines for the preparation of UNCTAD VI.⁸

Generalized preferences

2.2.30. On 8 December⁹ the Council formally adopted the Communities' scheme of generalized preferences for 1983. The Commission adopted four implementing regulations.¹⁰

Technical cooperation

2.2.31. The Commission financed and participated actively in a regional seminar on the GSP for eight developing countries in Central America and the Caribbean. The seminar, which was held in San José, Costa Rica, from 6 to 10 December, was organized by the UNCTAD/UNDP Special Project on the wider dissemination of information about the GSP.

The programme examined all the major GSP schemes as well as the attendant rules of origin, but particular prominence was given to the Communities' scheme and to its policy of development cooperation. In addition to a team from the Commission, experts from the United States and from Austria took part in the seminar. The participants were drawn not only from government departments responsible for GSP policy and export promotion but also from the private sector, including chambers of commerce and individual enterprises.

Commodities and world agreements

Tin

2.2.32. The International Tin Council met in London from 13 to 17 December. The Community, as the largest consumer, took an active part in the discussions, which re-

¹ OJ L 365, 24.12.1982.

² OJ L 362, 23.12.1982.

³ Point 1.2.5.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.19.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1982, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

⁶ Fifteenth General Report, points 654 to 657.

⁷ Point 2.2.46.

⁸ Point 2.2.48.

⁹ OJ L 363, 23.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.23 *et seq.*

¹⁰ Point 2.1.25.

sulted in an extension for the first three months of 1983 of the export controls applied by the producer countries. This was necessary as supply continues to exceed demand and because of the low level of prices.

Commercial, industrial, financial and technical cooperation

Possible cofinancing

2.2.33. At the end of November Commission officials received a high-ranking delegation of Swedish SIDA and Foreign Ministry officials; the discussions covered cooperation on development projects in East and southern Africa.

The meeting led to a common line of action for cofinancing one specific telecommunications project in the area. It was agreed that further possibilities for cooperation, especially in the transport and energy sectors, should be explored and that a regular exchange of information would be envisaged to this end.

The Swedish Under-Secretary of State for Development, Mr G. Edgren, also visited the Commission at the end of November. During discussions the results of the staff meeting on cofinancing were confirmed, and the two sides' attitudes to the North-South dialogue and the food strategy explored, with a view to determining convergent views and possible joint action. It was agreed that a series of meetings on food strategies would be arranged, and that close contact would be maintained on the approach to UNCTAD VI, the next possible forum where North-South issues might be discussed.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.34. On 21 December the Council adopted the Decision determining the general guidelines for 1983 concerning financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries.

These guidelines confirm that the requirements of the poorest countries and of the most needy sections of the population must form the basis for Community action and, in addition, that the Community must give

priority to projects for agricultural and rural development, in particular those designed to improve the food situation, with a view to helping to combat hunger in the world.

2.2.34a. Parliament had approved the relevant Commission proposal,¹ with certain reservations, on 17 December.²

2.2.35. On 21 December the Commission adopted financing decisions concerning 15 projects under the 1982 programme of aid to non-associated developing countries (Article 930 of the budget). The sectoral breakdown is as follows:

	ECU
Assistance for agrarian reform and integrated rural development	56 700 000
Integrated regional development	6 600 000
Applied agricultural research	2 000 000
Plant protection	3 400 000
Irrigation	18 900 000
Artisanal fishing	5 858 000
Development of small enterprises	8 300 000
Fish processing factories	2 250 000

Food aid, emergency aid and exceptional aid

Food aid

Framework agreement

2.2.36. On 3 December the Council formally adopted³ the Regulation on food aid policy and management⁴ on which it had established a common position in September 1981⁵ and which had been the subject of a conciliation procedure with Parliament in February⁶ prior to the latter's approval of the proposal in March 1979.⁷ The Regulation is intended to establish the framework

¹ OJ C 276, 19.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.19.

² OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

³ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982.

⁴ OJ C 26, 30.1.1979; Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.2.31.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.2.16.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.2.13; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.39.

⁷ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.13.

for a genuine Community food aid policy and stipulates that:

- the Council will lay down the broad lines of the operations to be undertaken (including the list and quality of the products to be supplied, lists of eligible countries and bodies, etc.); and
- the Commission, following consultations with a management committee, will determine the quantities of foodstuffs to be allocated to the various recipient countries and bodies.

Annual programmes

2.2.37. On 3 December the Council formally adopted¹ the Decision concerning the supplementary cereals food-aid programme for 1982.²

2.2.38. On 3 December the Council adopted a Regulation concerning the supply of 2 000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder as food aid for Honduras.³

Emergency aid

2.2.39. Following the Council's agreement,⁴ the Commission authorized three emergency aid measures which had been awaiting a decision (500 t of red beans for El Salvador, 1 500 t of beans for Nicaragua and 350 t of sugar for Sri Lanka).

2.2.40. The Commission also authorized the allocation of 150 t of beans and 150 t of vegetable oil to the UNHCR for distribution to Ugandan refugees in Sudan and 400 t of milk and 100 t of butteroil to a non-governmental organization for distribution to displaced persons in El Salvador.

2.2.41. On 21 December the Council approved⁵ the new Convention between the Community and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).⁶ At UNRWA's request, this Convention provides for a cut in food aid, which goes mainly to the basic rations programme, and a contribution of 16 million ECU to the education programme.

2.2.42. Parliament had approved the Commission proposal⁷ for the amendment of the Convention on 17 December.⁸

In connection with the amendment of the EEC-UNRWA Convention, the Council adopted two Regulations on 21 December⁵ dealing with:

- the supply of 435 t of skimmed milk powder to UNRWA as food aid; and
- the cancellation of the supply of 3 238 t of milk fats out of the 3 900 t allocated to UNRWA under the 1982 food aid programme.⁹

Exceptional aid

2.2.43. Following the earthquake which struck the region of Dhamar in the Yemen Arab Republic on 13 December, the Commission decided on 16 December to allocate emergency aid worth up to 500 000 ECU via the Belgian Red Cross (65 000 ECU) and the League of Red Cross Societies (435 000 ECU).

2.2.44. On 21 December, following the devastation caused by typhoon 'Nancy' in several provinces of Viet Nam, the Commission decided to grant emergency aid of up to 300 000 ECU to UNDRO for the purchase of basic necessities for the survival of disaster victims.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.45. By the end of December, 353 projects totalling 39 457 420 ECU had been submitted to the Commission by 130 NGOs.

By the end of December, Community funds totalling 25 292 805 ECU had been committed for 242 projects.

In addition, 46 campaigns to inform the European public about development issues have been cofinanced for an amount of 1 320 650 ECU.

¹ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.40.

³ OJ L 347, 7.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.21.

⁵ OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

⁶ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.2.19.

⁷ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

⁸ OJ C 341, 29.12.1982.

⁹ OJ L 120, 1.5.1982.

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

General Assembly

2.2.46. The 37th session of the United Nations General Assembly, chaired by Mr Holai (Hungary), ended on 21 December.¹

The economic issues dealt with at this session were largely in the North-South framework. The results in this area were rather uneven. For example, the Assembly failed to take a decision on the opening of global negotiations, and although it decided to keep this question on its agenda in 1983, it was generally considered by the end of the session that a further postponement of the opening of negotiations, which the Community has repeatedly backed, would be likely seriously to compromise the success of this new form of North-South dialogue.

The Assembly adopted resolutions on a number of specific topics by majority voting which revealed major differences of opinion. These included a resolution on immediate measures for developing countries (abstention by the Ten, among others), a resolution on the development of energy resources in developing countries, which recommends the creation of a World Bank energy affiliate, and a resolution on the setting up of a new committee on new and renewable sources of energy. The Ten voted in favour of the latter two resolutions. They also voted in favour of a resolution on protection against harmful substances, in which the Assembly agreed on the need to make the sale of these products to developing countries subject to certain principles, and a resolution on food problems, which was particularly difficult to draw up because of the different approaches to trade in agricultural products. The Assembly finalized the institutional structure of the Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, while the actual financing plan is to be adopted in 1983. The Assembly also adopted several texts on the

specific problems facing Africa, particularly food supplies, and unanimously passed a resolution concerning UNCTAD VI.

Although the Ten voted in favour of texts concerning the new world information order, they did not support the one laying down the principles that are to govern direct television transmitters by satellite, which include the obligation upon transmitters and receivers to hold consultations.

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

2.2.47. The Committee on the Development of Trade held its 31st session in Geneva from 6 to 10 December. The Commission representative drew attention to the fact that, despite the seriousness of the Community's economic situation, Community imports from the East European countries had continued to increase, whereas Community exports had increased much more slowly. The Community's trade deficit with the East European countries had increased considerably in the first six months of 1982 and the Commission representative pointed out that it was more necessary than ever to stick closely to the rules of international trade.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

2.2.48. As part of the preparations for the sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which is to take place in Belgrade from 6 June to 1 July 1983, the Commission presented an initial communication to the Council on 9 December. The guidelines which it contains were discussed at the Council in the course of the month.

After a brief analysis of recent changes in the world economy, the communication goes on to identify the problems connected with the major topics of UNCTAD VI (trade and development, raw materials, monetary and financial issues) and suggests initial guidelines for tackling them.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.21.

Food and Agriculture Organization

2.2.49. The Community took part in the 82nd session of the FAO Council, held in Rome from 22 November to 3 December. Discussions centred on the world food and agriculture situation, with particular emphasis on food security and the World Food Programme.

The need to increase the efficiency of development and cooperation policies and to pay more attention to price policy was emphasized. It was urged that the negotiations for a new International Wheat Agreement be resumed: this was essential if food supplies were to be boosted and stabilized. There had recently been a general improvement in world availabilities of cereals, but this had not prevented a deterioration in food security in many low-income countries, especially in Africa. Donors were invited to step up their assistance. The Community representative informed the Council of recent developments in the Community's policy in this area.

United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

2.2.50. The Montego Bay meeting finally brought to a close the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.¹ Four days of political statements preceded the ceremonies for the signing of the Final Act of the Conference and of the Convention itself.

One hundred and nineteen of the 144 countries participating signed the Convention on the first day it was opened for signature. This unprecedented occurrence in the annals of international law is tangible proof of the wholehearted acceptance of the Convention by the international community.

The Final Act was signed on 10 December on behalf of the Community by the Council Presidency and Commission jointly (the dual signature procedure); the 10 Member States also signed in their own right.

Five Member States (Denmark, France, Greece, Ireland and the Netherlands) signed the Convention itself. The abstention of the other five meant that the Community was

unable to sign the Convention, which stipulates that international organizations may sign only if a majority of their members do likewise.

The President of the Conference stated that the signing of the Convention and its ratifications were the only possible outcome hoped for by almost all members of the United Nations.

2.2.51. On 14 December Parliament adopted a resolution on the signing and ratification of the Convention.²

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Committee for Agriculture

2.2.52. The Committee for Agriculture of the OECD met at ministerial level in Paris on 2 and 3 December. The meeting was marked by an overall desire on the part of Ministers to reduce the tensions resulting from the GATT meeting. Ministers asked the Committee to suggest ways of correcting current market imbalances for consideration by governments. Ministers also welcomed the Secretary-General's intention to enter into consultations to facilitate this process.

Development Assistance Committee

2.2.53. The Development Assistance Committee met in Paris on 14 and 15 December and approved Guidelines on Aid for Maintenance and Strengthening of Existing Services and Facilities.

Industrialized countries

2.2.54. The European Council, which met in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December, adopted conclusions on relations between the Community, the United States and Ja-

¹ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.25; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.23.

² Point 2.4.7; OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

pan, the GATT ministerial meeting and international cooperation among other matters.¹

EFTA countries

2.2.55. The Joint Committees set up under the EEC-Switzerland, EEC-Austria, EEC-Sweden and EEC-Finland Free Trade Agreements met in Brussels in December. The world economic situation and outlook, international economic relations, the development of trade, the functioning of the Agreements and certain specific trade matters were examined. The Committees also took decisions on the introduction of the alternative percentage rules for products falling within CCCN Chapters 84 to 92.

The meetings were immediately followed by meetings of the Joint Committees set up under the Agreements between the ECSC Member States and these countries, at which steel market trends were discussed.

United States

2.2.56. On 10 December a US delegation headed by the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, had discussions in Brussels with a Commission delegation led by President Thorn.

Discussions concentrated on multilateral and bilateral trade issues, the international economic and financial situation, East-West economic relations and US-Community trade relations.¹

Japan

2.2.57. At its 13 December meeting the Council adopted the following conclusions on the Community's relations with Japan:

1. The Council examined the question of relations with Japan against the background of its discussion in Luxembourg on 25/26 October 1982, and on the basis of the communication of the Commission of 30 November 1982 and of the report of the high-level working party on Japan of 6 December 1982.

2. The Council underlined the vital necessity that European industries keep and continuously improve their international competitiveness. The Council agreed that the creation of conditions in-

side the Community which would permit industry fully to exploit the advantages of a single market and to enhance economies of scale was highly relevant in this context. The Council shared the view of the Commission on the need for intensified industrial cooperation, standardization and research and development within the Community.

3. Noting the lack of a satisfactory solution in the consultations conducted so far with Japan under GATT Article XXIII paragraph 1, and that there has been no substantial progress in opening up of the Japanese market, while the continuous pressure of Japanese exports to the Community market represents an important threat to certain industrial sectors in the Community, the Council stressed the necessity to take appropriate action immediately. To that purpose the Council decided as follows:

- The Community will now avail itself of the procedure laid down under Article XXIII paragraph 2, seeking the setting up of a working party by the Contracting Parties of the GATT to consider the issues which the Community has raised. The timing, modalities and detailed character of the action to be undertaken by the Community in the GATT will be finalized by the Commission in consultation with the Article 113 Committee.

- At the same time, the Commission will continue in consultation with the Article 113 Committee to pursue vigorously with the Japanese authorities the revised list of requests of 19 November 1982 for the further opening of the Japanese market.

- In order to allow the process of structural adjustment already in progress within the Community to be successfully completed, the Commission will renew the Community's request to the Japanese authorities to provide tangible assurances that from 1983 onwards Japan will pursue a policy of clearly defined and effective moderation towards the European Community as a whole as regards sectors where pressure of Japanese exports to the Community would cause significant problems. The Commission will make a report to the Council at its session of 24/25 January 1983.

4. The Council took note of the Commission's intention, in consultation with the Member States, to prolong and where necessary extend the present system of statistical surveillance of certain imports from Japan. In this context the Commission declared its willingness, in particular when so requested by Member States, to initiate safe-

¹ Point 1.2.5.

guard investigations for sensitive products under the conditions of the EEC Regulation 288/82.

5. The Council reiterated its earlier conclusion that the yen should reflect the fundamental strength of the Japanese economy.'

2.2.58. The high-level working party set up at the request of the Council meeting of 22 March¹ adopted at its sixth meeting, held on 3 December, a report for the Permanent Representatives Committee, plus appropriate recommendations regarding the realization of a genuinely unified Community market and the need for a common commercial policy towards Japan.

2.2.59. Following the Council's deliberations the Commission:

- decided on 21 December to extend the period of validity² of Community surveillance of imports of certain motor vehicles, machine tools, colour television reception apparatus and cathode-ray tubes for colour television receivers, originating in Japan,³ and to introduce Community surveillance of imports of motor cycles, video tape recorders and light commercial vehicles originating in Japan;⁴

- transmitted to the Council on 14 December a recommendation for a decision authorizing the Commission to initiate negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT in order to suspend the bindings on audio systems with laser pick-ups for a period of five years.

2.2.60. On 28 December a Japanese Government representative notified the Commission of a number of measures taken by his Government to open up the Japanese market to Community exports. These measures comprised certain tariff cuts which were significant for the following products: chocolate, biscuits and tobacco and a number of industrial products such as agricultural tractors.

The Commission has only started to examine these measures, but its initial reaction is that they are 'clearly positive'. It will formulate a definitive opinion, particularly in view of the forthcoming visit of Japan's Foreign Minister on 3 January.

Mediterranean countries

Turkey

2.2.61. Mr Türkmen, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, visited Mr Haferkamp on 8 December.

The Minister brought the Commission up to date on political developments in Turkey. He also reviewed the different problems arising in relations between Turkey and the Community.

Cyprus

2.2.62. Following the Council's adoption on 25 October of negotiating directives for trade arrangements with Cyprus for 1983⁵, the first round of negotiations, which did not reach a satisfactory conclusion, was held between the Community and a Cypriot delegation on 8 December.

On 21 December, pending the conclusion of these negotiations, the Council adopted on a Commission proposal a Regulation extending the current autonomous trade arrangements for a further six-month period.⁴

2.2.63. On 9 December Cyprus and the Community signed a Financing Agreement for a sanitation project in Nicosia, involving the construction of a system of sewers and improvement of the water supply. The amount of the Financing Agreement is 4.5 million ECU, and a 3 million ECU special loan has also been granted for the same project by the European Investment Bank.

All these funds come under the current EEC-Cyprus Financial Protocol and are designed to benefit the entire population of the island.

Malta

2.2.64. On 21 December, pending the opening of negotiations to work out trade

¹ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.2.35.

² OJ L 54, 28.2.1981; Bull. EC 2-1981, point 2.2.31.

³ OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.42.

arrangements with Malta on a contractual basis, the Council adopted a Regulation extending the current autonomous trade arrangements until 30 June 1983.¹

Maghreb, Mashreq, Israel

2.2.65. Mr Pisani, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development, and a representative of the European Investment Bank visited Lebanon from 5 to 8 December. Mr Pisani had discussions with the President, Mr Amin Gemayel, the Prime Minister, Mr Chafic el Wazzan, and other Ministers, and with the President of the Council for Development and Reconstruction, Dr Atallah.

The visit was mainly concerned with taking stock of the Lebanese authorities' requirements and wishes with regard to reconstruction. It also provided an opportunity of gauging the full extent of the humanitarian problem.

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2.2.66. On 10 December the Council adopted Regulations concluding Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters, together with implementing Regulations, concerning the additional amount to be deducted from the levy on imports of olive oil from the Maghreb countries and Turkey, for the period 1 November 1982 to 31 October 1983.¹

2.2.67. On 10 December the Council also adopted Regulations concluding Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters concerning imports of preserved fruit salads from the Maghreb countries and Israel, and one concerning imports of tomato concentrates from Algeria, for 1983.²

which was the 14th, had to be adjourned, however, because of failure to agree on the agenda. The stumbling block was whether the agenda should include an item referring expressly to the situation of ACP students and nationals in the EEC Member States (students' registration fees, discrimination, etc.). The ACP representatives wanted to express their concern officially. The Member States argued that the Community had no jurisdiction on these issues and felt that they were strictly a matter for bilateral relations and thus outside the framework of the Community or the Lomé Convention.

Cooperation

2.2.69. Mr Pisani paid an official visit to Niger from 9 to 11 December. The talks he had with the President, Colonel Kountché, and with representatives of his Government dealt primarily with all aspects of cooperation between the Community and Niger and operations carried out jointly under the Lomé Convention.

2.2.70. The Fijian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Mr Mosese Qionibaravi, visited the Commission from 13 to 15 December. Topics discussed were the second Lomé Convention, in particular the Sugar Protocol, and the national and regional indicative programmes.

2.2.71. The Tongan Minister of Foreign Affairs, HRH Crown Prince Tupouto'a, visited the Commission on 14 December. Discussions were held on the national indicative programme and on the relief work required following recent natural disasters.

2.2.72. Mrs Oyagbola, Nigeria's Minister of National Planning, visited the Commission on 13 December. Very positive discussions took place regarding the Lomé II indicative programme. It was agreed that everything possible must be done to speed up implementation of this programme, in the form of a fairly small number of projects. Priority should be given to rural development and

Developing countries

ACP States and OCT

ACP-EEC Conventions

Institutions

2.2.68. The ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors met on 7 December. This meeting,

¹ OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

² OJ L 372, 30.12.1982.

education and training, but the need to develop small businesses should not be overlooked. Reference was also made to Nigerian students in Europe and to the OAU's role as a catalyst in Africa.

2.2.73. Ethiopia's Senior Minister, Mr Ato Hailu Yimenu, visited the Commission on 13 December. Discussion centred on developments in the Special Action and in food strategy.

European Development Fund

2.2.74. In December the Commission took decisions involving the allocation of fourth and fifth EDF resources totalling 55 320 000 ECU, in respect of Commission administered projects, programmes and emergency aid, to finance operations in the following sectors:

	<i>ECU</i>
Rural production	17 900 000
Fisheries and stockfarming	2 250 000
Trade promotion	800 000
Industrial production	7 150 000
Water engineering, urban infrastructure and housing	14 500 000
Road infrastructure	8 000 000
Training	4 345 000
Emergency aid	375 000
	55 320 000

2.2.75. On 9 December the Commission transmitted to the Council the European Development Fund's balance sheets and accounts for 1981.

State-trading countries

Romania

2.2.76. The Joint Committee set up under the July 1980 ECC-Romania Agreement¹ held its second meeting in Bucharest on 2 and 3 December. The Community delegation was led by Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp and the Romanian delegation by Mr Vasile Pungan, Minister of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation.

The Community delegation expressed regret at the unsatisfactory pattern of trade with Romania over the last two years² and the continued recourse to compensation deals, which hampered Community exports, but went on to reaffirm the lasting nature of the objectives of the agreements with Romania. Accordingly, a number of quantitative restrictions were discontinued and quotas increased to improve Romania's access to the Community market.

It was agreed that Commission and Romanian officials would study in greater detail Romania's suggestion for a cooperation agreement between the parties.

USSR

2.2.77. On 23 December the Council renewed³ for 1983 the specific measures on trade with the USSR adopted in March 1982.⁴

Diplomatic relations

2.2.78. The President of the Council and the President of the Commission received His Excellency Mr Ferhat Lounes, who presented his letters of credence as Head of the Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the European Communities with effect from 13 December.

The two Presidents also received Their Excellencies Mr Mario Cabral and Mr Issa Khalfan Al-Huraimel, who presented their letters of credence as Head of Mission of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and of the United Arab Emirates respectively to the European Communities with effect from 14 December.

The new ambassadors succeed Mr Idris Jazairy (Algeria) and Mr Luis Oliveira Sanca (Guinea-Bissau).

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1980, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.9.

² In the first half of 1982 the Community's visible imports from Romania totalled 928 million ECU; exports to Romania ran at 624 million ECU.

³ OJ L 365, 24.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 72, 16.3.1982; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.2.52.

Mr Al-Huraimel is the first Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to be accredited to the European Communities and his appointment brings the number of diplomatic missions to 120.

European political cooperation

2.2.79. The European Council, which met in Copenhagen on 3 and 4 December, ex-

amined recent trends in East-West relations, the situation in Poland, Afghanistan and the Middle East, including Lebanon.¹

2.2.80. Parliament adopted a number of resolutions concerning political cooperation on 16 and 17 December.²

¹ Points 1.2.7 to 1.2.10.

² OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

3. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Supplementary and amending budget No 1/1982

2.3.1. At its December part-session Parliament¹ discussed the draft of supplementary and amending budget No 1/1982 transmitted by the Council.² After making a number of amendments to some important points of first reading, Parliament, despite a determined attempt at conciliation with the Council, rejected the draft on second reading.

1983 budget

Second reading of draft general budget by Parliament

2.3.2. At the same part-session¹ Parliament took its second reading of the draft budget for 1983. After the Council had already approved some increases in non-compulsory expenditure,³ Parliament restored some of the amendments that had not been accepted

by the Council on second reading. These increases amounted to 176.99 million ECU in commitment appropriations and 137.27 million ECU in payment appropriations. They mainly concerned the following sectors: regional development programmes for Mediterranean regions (an extra 10 million ECU for commitment and 14 million ECU for payments), measures in favour of women (6 million ECU for commitment and 2 million ECU for payment), energy (31 million ECU for commitment and 7.9 million ECU for payment), transport (10 million ECU for commitment and 3 million ECU for payment), environment (4 million ECU for commitment and for payment), education, culture and public health (5.7 million ECU for commitment and for payment), world hunger (99 million ECU for commitment and 90 million ECU for payment).

2.3.3. According to Parliament these increases lay within its margin of manoeuvre

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.7; OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.3.1; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.2.

³ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.3.2.

for non-compulsory expenditure. The Council, after fresh discussions, accepted them and thereby agreed to the new rate of increase in non-compulsory expenditure that they entail.

On 21 December the President of Parliament declared that the 1983 budget had been finally adopted.¹ It totalled 22 988.6 million ECU in appropriations for commitments and 21 558.9 million ECU in appropriations for payments. The VAT own resources rate is 0.77%.

Leaving aside the 1982 budget appropriations for the supplementary measures in favour of the United Kingdom, the 1983 appropriations were thus 6.40% up on 1982 for commitments and 6.04% up for payments.

The Commission expressed its satisfaction that for the first time in five years the European Community would have a budget in 1983 that the Commission could execute without controversy, since the Council had been able to endorse the figures passed by Parliament. The Commission would press ahead with its efforts to find a solution to the problems raised by the rejection of supplementary and amending budget No 1 and would present proposals to the budgetary authority early in 1983.

Own resources

2.3.4. In view of the delay in the application of the Sixth VAT Directive² by the Member States, the Council, after receiving the opinions of Parliament and the Court of Auditors,³ has extended⁴ by three years the transitional period during which, under the Regulation of 19 December 1977,⁵ Member States may choose either the revenue method or the returns method for determining the VAT base.

2.3.5. On 17 December Parliament approved³ an amendment⁶ to a Regulation⁵ implementing the 1970 Decision on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by own resources.⁷ It is

proposed that Community assets held on accounts in the Member States should bear interest and that the Commission be allowed to conduct verifications, provided advance notice is given, of the collection of own resources.

ECSC operational budget

2.3.6. After consulting Parliament³ and the ECSC Consultative Committee⁸ the Commission decided on 21 December to maintain the 1983 levy rate at 0.31%.⁹ With the addition of other ordinary resources (income from investment interest and from loans granted against non-borrowed funds, commitments cancelled, etc.) and extraordinary resources of 50 million ECU (transfer from the general budget to the ECSC) to finance social measures in connection with the restructuring of the steel industry, this provides full cover for the ECSC's requirements of 268 million ECU for its operational budget.

The breakdown of requirements is as follows:

	<i>million ECU</i>
Administrative expenditure	5
Redeployment aid	100
Social measures in connection with the restructuring of the steel industry	50
Research subsidies	54
Interest subsidies on investment and conversion loans	53
Aid to coking coal	6

¹ OJ L 19, 24.1.1983.
² OJ L 145, 13.6.1977.
³ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.
⁴ OJ L 373, 31.12.1982.
⁵ OJ L 336, 27.12.1977.
⁶ OJ C 231, 4.9.1982.
⁷ OJ L 94, 28.4.1970.
⁸ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.5.
⁹ OJ L 362, 23.12.1982.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.7. In December the Commission concluded three private placings in German marks equivalent to 425 900 ECU, 10.8 million ECU and 34.6 million ECU.

Loans paid out

2.3.8. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made loans in December amounting to 64.56 million ECU (industrial loans, subsidized housing and conversion loans).

Industrial loans

2.3.9. Industrial loans (Article 54) amounted to 58.04 million ECU. They were made to the following projects:

Italy

Cravetto, Turin: modernization of the steelworks and installation of a continuous casting plant;

Bisider SpA, Brescia: reduction in production capacity and improvement in competitiveness;

Acciaierie di Bolzano, Bolzano: improvement in the quality of special steels and the company's competitiveness;

Cantieri Navali Riuniti, Genoa: restructuring of shipyards;

La Magona d'Italia, Florence: installation of a second coating line at the Piombino plant.

Germany

Eschweiler Bergwerks-Verein AG, Herzogenrath: conversion of the Emil Mayrich colliery into a high-output colliery and establishment of a connecting roadway to the Westfalen colliery;

Westfälische Berggewerkschaftskasse, Bochum: construction of two mining school centres;

Deutsche Solvay Werke GmbH, Solingen: extension of an industrial power station with back-pressure system and replacement of its coal-firing system;

Saarbergwerke AG, Saarbrücken: streamlining of coal extraction system.

Subsidized housing

2.3.10. Loans for the building of subsidized housing totalled 1.46 million ECU, of which 1.25 million ECU was for mineworkers and 0.21 million ECU was for steelworkers.

Conversion loans

2.3.11. Conversion loans (Article 56) totalling 5.06 million ECU were granted to the following firms:

Germany

Various regions: Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft, Frankfurt (for small and medium-sized firms);

Saar: Auto-Service-Center Überherrn GmbH, Überherrn.

France

Various regions: Crédit industriel d'Alsace et de Lorraine CIAL, Metz (for small and medium-sized firms).

United Kingdom

Gwent: Torfaen Borough Council, Pontypool.

Denmark

Nordisk Færgefart, Faajorg.

NCI-EEC

Loans raised

2.3.12. On 14 December the Commission made a public issue of USD 200 million (211.9 million ECU) for a term of 12 years at an interest rate of 11.50%. The issue price was 99.5%.

4. Institutional and political matters

European policy and relations between the institutions

Relations between the institutions

2.4.1. On 13 December the Council examined the two outstanding questions on the draft Act for a uniform electoral procedure¹ — the principle of proportional representation and the details of the rights of citizens of the Member States to vote and to stand for election. The Council instructed the appropriate working party to continue work in preparation for further discussions at the end of January.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament²

Strasbourg: 13 to 17 December

2.4.2. Parliament devoted much of its December proceedings to budgetary matters: the general budget for 1983 and supplementary and amending budget No 1/1982. The final reading of the 1983 budget was, however, partly eclipsed by the political aspects of the supplementary budget, which was in fact rejected.

The December sittings also saw the usual debate on the report by the outgoing Council President, this time the Danish Foreign Minister, on his term of office.

The House also dealt with a wide range of subjects, which included the Law of the Sea, the 'Vredeling' Directive, for which the consultation procedure was finally completed, the free movement of persons and political cooperation.

Supplementary and amending budget No 1/1982³

(14 and 16 December)

2.4.3. Taking the floor in the debate, Mrs Carla Barbarella (*Com/I*), rapporteur for the Committee on Budgets, promptly restated the three conditions that Parliament had to attach to accepting the supplementary budget: the measures covered must be the last of their kind; they must come within the framework of Community policies (monitoring of operations, etc.); the expenditure in question must be classified as non-compulsory.

Since the Council had not acted on the demands made by Parliament during the conciliation procedure, the House rejected the supplementary and amending budget by 258 votes to 79. In the resolution Parliament:

• notes that the Council has not shown any clear political will to find a definitive solution to the problem of the financial imbalances in the Community budget;

has rejected all Parliament's amendments situating the special measures for 1982 within the framework of common policies;

• holds the Council seriously at fault since it has not made any real effort to meet the constructive proposals by Parliament, thus preventing any possibility of agreement between the two arms of the budgetary authority'.

¹ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.4.3; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.4.2.

² This report was prepared from *Le point de la session* published by Parliament's Secretariat. The complete texts of the resolutions adopted by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 13, 17.1.1983, and the report of the proceedings is contained in OJ Annex 292. The political groups of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: Soc = Socialists; EPP = European People's Party — Christian Democratic Group; ED = European Democratic Group; Com = Communists and Allies; Lib = Liberals and Democrats; EPD = European Progressive Democrats; Ind = Group for the Technical Coordination and Defence of Independent Groups and Members; NA = Non-affiliated. The countries of origin are indicated as follows: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, GR = Greece, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

³ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

Immediately after the vote, Mr Otto Møller, the Council President, confirmed the political importance the Council attached to this supplementary budget, saying that its rejection created a predicament for the Community, the full effects of which were still not clear. A crisis was looming just as the immediate economic and social situation was crying out for cooperation.

In order to emphasize the fact that its rejection of the supplementary budget was in no way directed against the United Kingdom, but bound up with its conception of how Community policies ought to be financed and of the very nature of the Community, the House adopted by 305 votes to 24 with 2 abstentions an additional resolution moved by Mrs Barbarella, which 'calls on the Commission and the Council to submit as soon as possible new financial and budgetary proposals which provide an effective follow-up to the mandate of 30 May and lay the basis for a lasting Community solution to the "unacceptable" situations which have arisen for a number of Member States'.

General budget for 1983¹

(14 and 16 December)

2.4.4. The adoption of the 1983 budget did not raise any serious problems. On 16 December the House passed two resolutions based on the reports by Mr Robert Jackson (ED/UK) and Mr Henry Saby (Soc/F). In so doing it reinstated some of the amendments which the Council had rejected at its second reading. Before Mr Jackson's report was adopted, the Council President reminded the House that in accordance with Article 203, the budgetary procedure was still open, as the maximum rate had been exceeded and no agreement had been reached between Parliament and the Council on that rate. To this, Mr Jackson replied that in approving the amendments of the Committee on Budgets Parliament had arrived at an additional 137 279 013 ECU in payments and 176 999 013 ECU in commitments and was therefore still within its margin.

Once Mr Jackson's report was adopted, a conflict seemed inevitable.

However, following the Council's acceptance of the increases voted by Parliament at the second reading, the President, Mr Dankert, declared the budget for 1983 finally adopted.

ECSC budget

(14 December)

2.4.5. Presenting the Committee on Budgets' report on the ECSC levy rate and the 1983 ECSC operating budget, Mr Konrad Schön (EPPD) pointed to the yawning gap between the ECSC's financial needs and its available own resources. He called once again for the customs revenue from coal and steel products to be assigned to the ECSC as its own resources and urged harmonization of all Community instruments (EEC, ECSC, EIB, etc.) to combat the structural crises and resulting unemployment on all fronts. But until such time as the two Community budgets were brought together, the Committee and its rapporteur were proposing that the ECSC levy rate be kept at 0.31% for 1983. The House adopted Mr Schön's report.

Multinationals and information of employees

(14 December)

2.4.6. On 12 October² Parliament had adopted by 166 votes to 42 with 11 abstentions the report on the 'Vredeling' Directive (with its compromise amendments supported by the EPP Group, the European Democrats, the Liberals and Democrats and the EPD Group) concerning the information and consultation of employees in companies with complex structures. But the House did not want to vote on the motion for a resolution until it knew the Commission's reaction to the amendments. On 17 November Mr Richard, Member of the Commission, announced that the Commission on the whole endorsed Parliament's amendments, particularly those relating to information to be gi-

¹ Point 2.3.2.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, points 2.4.14 and 2.4.15.

ven to employees, the frequency of information, secrecy, consultation and the election of employee representatives.

Consequently, the House adopted by 161 votes to 61 with 84 abstentions the resolution in the report by Mr Spencer (*ED/UK*).

In the debate before the vote Mr Jacques Moureau (F), on behalf of the Socialist Group, claimed that though the text went further than the code of conduct adopted by the ILO, the Socialists felt unable to vote for the report.

Mrs Tove Nielsen (DK) declared that the Liberals would support the Directive, since the results achieved were quite significant. For the European Democrats Mr George Patterson (UK) took very much the same view.

Law of the Sea

(13 and 14 October)

2.4.7. Parliament passed two resolutions, one on 'deep seabed mining and the marine environment', and the other on 'the signature and ratification of the Convention on the Law of the Sea'.

The House recommended that the Community sign the Convention,¹ pointing out that it was empowered to do so by Articles 210 and 228 of the EEC Treaty.

Parliament earnestly hoped that all the Member States would also sign and urged the Commission in any case to present proposals for Community rules on deep sea mining, including environmental aspects, such rules to be compatible with and complementary to those proposed in the draft Convention.

Council statement on the Danish Presidency

(15 December)

2.4.8. Parliament noted with pleasure the increasingly positive response to its wish to hear the President of the European Council report on the outcome of each meeting. Mr Schlüter, the Danish Prime Minister, was thus warmly welcomed. His statement and the report by the Council President, Mr El-

lemann-Jensen, gave members an opportunity to express their thoughts in a broad debate on all the immediate problems in the Community and in political cooperation.

The debate was also overshadowed by the budgetary difficulties, and almost every speaker urged the President of the Council to find a lasting and fair solution to the 'British problem'.

The disparate nature of the speeches sounded no other dominant note, and at the end Mr Dankert praised the way in which the Danish Presidency—after an unconvincing start—had joined in the proceedings of Parliament and its committees.

2.4.9. Parliament gave opinions on a number of Commission proposals, including:

- a Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community;²
- a Directive on the harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of inward processing;
- a Directive to extend the validity of the fifth Directive on aid to shipbuilding;³
- a Directive on the supervision of credit institutions on a consolidated basis;⁴
- a Directive to establish a third stage in harmonizing taxes other than turnover taxes affecting the consumption of manufactured tobacco;⁵
- a Directive to extend for a fourth time the second stage of harmonization of taxes other than turnover taxes affecting the consumption of manufactured tobacco;
- a Decision on a financial contribution from the Community to the campaign against foot-and-mouth disease in south-east Europe;⁶

¹ Point 2.2.50.

² Point 2.1.4.

³ Point 2.1.45.

⁴ Point 2.1.48.

⁵ Point 2.1.51.

⁶ Point 2.1.130.

- amendments to the 1964 and 1972 Directives as regards certain measures relating to foot-and-mouth disease, Aujeszky's disease and swine vesicular disease;¹
- a Regulation concerning conclusion of the Agreement between the Government of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea and the EEC on fishing off the Guinean coast;
- a Decision on a preparatory phase for a Community research and development programme in the field of information technologies (ESPRIT);
- a Decision determining the general guidelines for 1983 concerning financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries;²
- a Regulation amending and extending the term of validity of the Regulation of 19 December 1977³ implementing in respect of own resources accruing from VAT the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from the Member States by the Communities' own resources;
- a Regulation amending the Regulation of 19 December 1977 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources.⁴

2.4.10. The House also passed resolutions on:

- the Commission's communication on the 1982 programme for the attainment of the customs union;
- the Commission's eleventh Report on Competition Policy;
- local frontier traffic: the House wanted to see practical solutions found for opening up the Community's internal frontiers and, in particular, to improve the situation of frontier workers;
- the effects of the catastrophic snowfalls in the departments of Loire, Rhône and Haute-Loire and measures to be taken following the exceptionally severe weather conditions of 6 and 7 December 1982;
- the urgent need to conclude an agreement on a common fisheries policy;
- safety measures in aircraft: the House proposed that safety standards be made

uniform throughout the Community and that common 'differences' from the ICAO standards be determined;

- simplification of formalities at Community airports: this resolution is one more in the series which aims to enhance freedom of movement for persons;
- the crisis in the Community coal industry: the Council was urged to take the decisions to establish a European coal policy, set production targets, boost the output and utilization of coal and improve transport facilities.

2.4.11. In the field of political cooperation Parliament passed resolutions on:

- Poland: the House urged the Commission, the Council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to bring all appropriate pressure to bear on the Polish and Soviet authorities in an attempt to persuade them to rescind martial law and legalize Solidarity — the trade union genuinely representative of Polish workers.
- the refusal by the Soviet authorities to grant an exit visa to Ida Nudel, a Soviet Jew: the House called upon the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to use their good offices to persuade the Soviet authorities to grant Ida Nudel an exit visa as soon as possible;
- the release of Mrs Anna Walentynowicz, founder member of Solidarity: Parliament called upon the Polish authorities to allow an expert independent medical team access to Mrs Walentynowicz under the auspices of the Red Cross, and to release her by Christmas;
- Afghanistan: the House urged once again that all Soviet troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan immediately and unconditionally and that support for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan should be intensified; it also requested the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to do something towards solving the Afghanistan question;

¹ Point 2.1.129.

² Point 2.2.34a.

³ Point 2.1.4.

⁴ Point 2.3.5.

- reinforcing the multinational force in Lebanon;
- the situation in Lesotho: the House condemned the South African military attack on Lesotho of 9 December;
- the situation in Suriname: the House expressed its horror at the executions in Suriname and felt that if the present situation persists it must affect Community relations with Suriname, one way being for the Community to terminate aid under the Lomé Convention.
- the discovery of mass graves in Argentina: Parliament decided to send a delegation to Argentina as soon as possible in order to conduct an inquiry;

- L11.5the situation in Guatemala: Parliament urged the United Nations to set up an international committee of inquiry.

Council

2.4.12. The Council held eight meetings in December. The table below lists the number, place and date of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items of business. A more detailed account of specific items can be found in the sections of the Bulletin referred to in the footnotes.

Table 9 — Council meetings in December 1982

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
810th Brussels 3 and 4 and 17 and 18 December	Environ- ment	Mr Christensen	Mr Narjes	<p>Assessment of environmental impact of <i>certain public and private projects</i>.¹ Further discussion.</p> <p><i>Discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment</i>.¹ Proposal for Directive concerning limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment examined in detail.</p> <p><i>Seal pups</i>.¹ Resolution passed by Council and Representatives of Governments of Member States.</p> <p><i>Third action programme for the environment</i>.¹ Resolution on continuation and implementation of Community policy and action programme approved.</p> <p><i>Combating water pollution</i>.¹ Resolution approved.</p>
811th Brussels 10 December	Employ- ment and social affairs	Mrs Fenger Møller	Mr Richard	<p><i>Review of European Social Fund</i>² Exchange of views.</p> <p><i>New Community initiatives in new information technologies and vocational training (1983-87)</i>.² Policy debate.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
812th Brussels 13 December	Foreign affairs	Mr Ellemann- Jensen	Mr Thorn, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Davignon, Mr Natali, Mr Narjes, Mr Pisani	<p><i>Protection of workers exposed to asbestos.</i>² Discussions continued.</p> <p><i>Voluntary part-time work and temporary work.</i>² Policy debate.</p> <p><i>Principles of a Community policy for retirement age.</i>² Recommendation adopted.</p> <p><i>Renewal of terms of office of President and Vice-Presidents of the Commission.</i>³</p> <p><i>Steel — internal aspect.</i>⁴ Conclusions — <i>external aspect.</i></p> <p><i>Uniform electoral procedure.</i>⁵ Review of questions still outstanding with regard to draft Act.</p> <p><i>Accession of Spain.</i> Preparation for 13th meeting of Ministerial Conference.</p> <p><i>Revision of JRC programme for 1983: Super-SARA project.</i>⁶ Further review of problems arising in connection with this JRC project.</p> <p><i>Japan.</i>⁷ Conclusions reached.</p> <p><i>MFA.</i>⁸ Decision to continue Community participation.</p> <p><i>Reactivating the internal market.</i> Policy debate on organization of discussions on matters dealt with in Commission communication.</p> <p><i>1970 EEC-Spain Agreement.</i>⁹</p> <p><i>Community tariff quota for newsprint.</i> Agreement reached on opening quota for 2.5 million tonnes for 1983.</p>
813th Brussels 13 and 14 December	Agriculture	Mr Kofoed	Mr Dalsager	<p><i>Adjustment of acquis communautaire for Mediterranean products.</i>¹⁰ Views exchanged on brief given by European Council on 3 and 4 December.</p> <p><i>Estimates for beef and veal and for young bovine animals.</i>¹⁰</p> <p><i>Veterinary questions.</i>¹⁰</p> <p><i>Agri-monetary sector.</i>¹⁰</p> <p><i>Imports of New Zealand butter into United Kingdom.</i>¹⁰ Procedure discussed.</p>

Table 9 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
814th Brussels 16 December	Transport	Mr Melchior	Mr Kontogeorgis	<p><i>Situation of common transport policy.</i>¹¹</p> <p><i>Weights and dimensions of commercial road vehicles.</i></p> <p><i>Transport infrastructure.</i>¹¹</p> <p><i>Limited financial support.</i> Proposal for Regulation approved.</p> <p><i>Multiannual programme.</i></p> <p><i>Carriage of goods between Member States — facilitation of formalities and inspections.</i> Policy debate on certain issues of principle.</p> <p><i>Formation of rates for carriage of goods by road between Member States.</i> Progress report from Presidency.</p> <p><i>Shuttle services.</i>¹¹ Decision authorizing Commission to negotiate agreement with non-Community ECMT countries to establish uniform arrangements for international shuttle services by coach and bus approved.</p> <p><i>Negotiations with Austria.</i> Oral progress report from Commission.</p> <p><i>International railway cooperation.</i>¹¹ Oral progress report from Commission.</p> <p><i>Community quota for carriage of goods by road between Member States.</i>¹¹</p> <p><i>Standardization of rules relating to authorizations for carriage of goods by road between Member States.</i> Policy debate; broad agreement on substance of problems covered by proposal for Directive aimed at reducing administrative difficulties experienced with removals effected by road.</p> <p><i>Inter-regional services.</i> Detailed review.</p>
815th Strasbourg 15 and 16 December	Budget	Mr Møller	Mr Tugendhat	<p><i>Draft general budget for 1983</i>¹² <i>and draft supplementary and amending budget No 1 for 1982.</i>¹³</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
816th Brussels 17 December	Economic and financial affairs	Mr Christophersen	Mr Thorn, Mr Ortoli, Mr Tugendhat	<p><i>Annual Report on Economic Situation.</i>¹⁴ Annual Report and economic policy guidelines for 1983 to be followed by Member States adopted.</p> <p><i>Budgetary constraints and economic convergence.</i>¹⁴ Further discussion.</p> <p><i>International monetary questions.</i> Review of certain questions, notably position of Member States with regard to increase in IMF quotas.</p> <p><i>Budget situation.</i>¹³</p> <p><i>Sixth company law Directive: division of public limited-liability companies.</i>⁴ Directive adopted.</p> <p><i>Mechanism for medium-term financial assistance.</i>¹³ Decision adopted on extension of mechanism until 31 December 1984.</p>
817th Brussels 21 December	Fisheries	Mr Møller	Mr Thorn, Mr Kontogeorgis	<p><i>Common fisheries policy.</i>¹⁵ President notes Council unable to take decision on Commission proposals.</p> <p><i>Structural policy.</i> Regulation on interim common measure for restructuring inshore fishing industry and aquaculture approved.</p> <p><i>Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products coming from Canada (1983).</i> Approved.</p> <p><i>External aspect.</i> Conclusion of Agreement in form of exchange of letters provisionally applying Agreement between Government of Guinea-Bissau and EEC amending Agreement on fishing off coast of Guinea-Bissau approved.</p>

¹ Environment and consumers.

² Employment, education and social policy.

³ Commission.

⁴ Internal market and industrial affairs.

⁵ European policy and relations between the institutions.

⁶ Research and development.

⁷ Industrialized countries.

⁸ Commercial policy.

⁹ Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries.

¹⁰ Agriculture.

¹¹ Transport.

¹² Financing Community activities.

¹³ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

¹⁴ Economic and monetary policy.

¹⁵ Fisheries.

Commission

2.4.13. On 13 December the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States renewed the terms of office of Mr Thorn as President of the Commission and of Mr Ortoli, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Natali, Mr Davignon, and Mr Tugendhat as Vice-Presidents for the period 6 January 1983 to 5 January 1985.

2.4.14. On 10 December the Commission had a wide-ranging exchange of views with a visiting US ministerial delegation led by Mr Shultz, Secretary of State.²

2.4.15. The Commission also met Mr Genscher, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs and incoming President of the Council. During the talks the Commission outlined what the priorities in the various fields would be in the first half of 1983.

Activities

2.4.16. The Commission held four meetings in December, at which a wide variety of business was transacted.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.17. The Commission adopted its proposals for farm prices for 1983/84; a first framework programme for a Community scientific and technical strategy for 1984-87; proposals for Council Decisions on a second research programme (1983-87) on Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology (FAST) and on an experimental Community scheme to stimulate the Community's scientific and technical potential; a proposal for a Council Regulation on specific measures relating to the environment; and a memorandum on the reorganization and reduction of working time.

On textiles, it approved a report on the results of the negotiations for the renewal of bilateral agreements with certain non-member countries, accompanied by a recommendation for a Council Decision on continuing Community participation in the Multifibre Arrangement, and adopted a proposal for a Council Regulation on common rules for imports of certain textile products

originating in third countries. In the transport field, it approved an experimental programme on transport infrastructure.

And in relation to the ECSC, it completed the adoption of the ECSC operating budget for 1983 and took a number of decisions to reinforce the anti-crisis measures in the steel industry.

Discussions, policy debates and work in hand

2.4.18. The Commission had extensive discussions on Supplementary and Amending Budget No 1/1982 and on fisheries. Mr Haferkamp reported on the GATT ministerial meeting, highlighting the cohesion shown by the Community. The Commission also completed its preparations for the European Council in Copenhagen. And it confirmed its intention of intervening in any action which Parliament might bring against the Council for failure to act in the transport field.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.4.19. Briefing sessions were held at which experts from the Employers' Liaison Committee and the European Centre of Public Enterprises discussed with the Commission the application of the Eighth VAT Directive and the proposed Thirteenth VAT Directive. Representatives of the European Metalworkers' Federation also exchanged views and information with the Commission about the situation and medium-term outlook in the car and commercial vehicle industry.

2.4.20. A consultation meeting was held with representatives of the European Committee of Textiles, Clothing and Leather Unions on the bilateral negotiations taking place under the Multifibre Arrangement.

2.4.21. Preliminary consultations took place with European trade union representa-

¹ OJ L 368, 28.11.1982.

tives on energy policy, collective bargaining in Europe, progress on the reform of the European Regional Development Fund, employment in the hotel industry, the situation on the world coal market and the launching of experimental vocational training schemes involving more than one Member State.

Appointments at Director-General level

2.4.22. On 14 December Mr Enrico Cioffi was appointed Director-General for Credit and Investments. He succeeds Mr Antonino Nicoletti, who resigned in September.

Enrico Cioffi

Born 26 September 1941 in Milan.

Married, three children.

Baccalaureat in Latin and Greek

1966 Degree, with distinction, in economics at the Università Commerciale L. Bocconi, Milan.

1966-70 Financial analyst at the headquarters of the Istituto Mobiliare Italiano in Rome; subsequently assistant to the Manager of the Milan office.

1970-73 Deputy Manager, Morgan Vonneller Bank, Milan. Attended two training courses on credit and finance organized in Lausanne by Morgan Guaranty Trust.

1973-80 Banca Commerciale Italiana. Promoted Deputy Manager in 1975 and in 1976 seconded to be Joint Manager of a group subsidiary in Luxembourg, the Société Européenne de Banque. Subsequently appointed Manager.

From April 1979 to July 1980 member of the Management Committee of the Association des Banques et des Banquiers, Luxembourg.

1980 Director and acting General Manager, Banca Commerciale Italiana Ltd, London.

1981 Managing Director, Banco di Napoli International SA, Luxembourg.

14 December 1982 Appointed Director-General for Credit and Investments.

Court of Justice¹

2.4.23. New cases

Case	Subject	Basis
ECSC — Steel		
317/82 — Usines G. Boel and Fabrique de fer de Maubeuge v Commission	Decision fixing production quotas for steel (adjustment)	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
348/82 — Stà Industrie Riunute Odolesi SpA v Commission	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the *Official Journal* and the *European Court Reports*, and the publications of its Information Office (e.g. the annual synopsis of the work of the Court or the information quarterly).

Case	Subject	Basis
Free movement of goods		
301/82 — Clin-Midy SA and Others v Belgian State, represented by the Minister for Economic Affairs	Extent of the direct effects of a directive with regard to those subject to the jurisdiction of the Member States. Scope of Directive 65/65/EEC. Compliance with rules on prices.	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
345/82 — Wünsche Handelsgesellschaft mbH & Co. v Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Bundesamt für Ernährung und Firstwirtschaft	Validity of Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 3429/80 laying down the protective measures applicable to imports of preserved cultivated mushrooms	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Customs union		
300/82 — Gesamthochschule Essen v HZA Düsseldorf	Interpretation of Regulation (EEC) No 1798/75 with regard to the tariff classification of small plastic blocks intended for radiological research	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
321/82 — Volkswagenwerk AG v HZA Braunschweig	Interpretation of Regulations (EEC) Nos 2789/79 and 3067/79. Is production of the certificate of origin still permitted, once the customs duty has been reintroduced?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services		
344/82 — Gambetta Autos SA v 1. Bureau Central français; 2. Fonds de garantie automobile	Interpretation of the phrase 'territory in which the vehicle is normally based' in Article 2 of Directive 72/166/EEC	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Social security		
313/82 — Tiel Utrecht Schadeverzekering NV v Gemeenschappelijk Motorwaarborgfonds	Interpretation of Article 93 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 (rights of institutions responsible for benefits against liable third parties — subrogation)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
320/82 — B. d'Amario v Landesversicherungsanstalt Schwaben	Interpretation of Article 78 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 (orphans' benefits)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Competition		
318/82 — Leeuwarder Papierwarenfabrik BV v Commission ¹	Annulment of the Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 (aid granted by the Netherlands Government to a paperboard-processing firm) declaring the aid to be incompatible with Article 92 of the EEC Treaty	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
319/82 — Société de vente de ciments et bétons de l'Est SA v Fa Kerpen & Kerpen GmbH & Co. KG	Nullity in whole or in part of an agreement comprising territorial restrictions on reselling (Article 85(1) and (2) of the EEC Treaty)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
323/82 — Intermills SA v Commission	Annulment of the Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 (aid granted by the Belgian Government to a paper-manufacturing firm) declaring the aid, in the form of the Belgian Government's holding in the company, to be incompatible with Article 92 of the EEC Treaty	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
Agriculture		
311/82 — Roquette Freres SA	Interpretation and validity of Article 2(3) of Regulation (EEC) NO 2012/74 on the calculation of production refunds in respect of starch products	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
327/82 — EKRO Vee- en Vleeshandel BV v Produktschap voor Vee en Vlees	Interpretation of tariff heading 02.01.A II a 4 ex bb) and Regulation (EEC) No 2787/81 with regard to the calculation of the refund on exports to non-member countries of cuts of beef and veal including the thin flank	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
328-336/82 — Soc. Italiana per l'Industria degli Zuccheri and Others v 1. Cassa Conguaglio Zucchero; 2. Ministero dell' Agricoltura e Foreste; 3. Ministro dell' Industria, Commercio e Artigianato	Validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 1785/81 and 1556/82 — production levies in the sugar sector	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
337/82 — St Nikolaus Brenneri und Likörfabrik, G. Kniepf-Melde GmbH v HZA Krefeld	Validity of Regulation (EEC) No 851/76 in so far as it is based on Article 46 of the EEC Treaty, which is no longer applicable after the expiry of the transitional period	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Infringements		
302/82 — Commission v France	Indication of the country of origin — textiles	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
303/82 — Commission v Italy	Regional aids to Sicily — marketing of wine	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
312/82 — Commission v Italy	Restrictions on the transport of milk by road	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
314/82 — Commission v Belgium ²	Charging of fees for health checks on poultry-meat	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
315/82 — Commission v Ireland	Measures concerning radio and television programmes	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
322/82 — Commission v Italy	Quality standards for fruit and vegetables	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
324/82 — Commission v Belgium	Sixth VAT Directive — Directive 77/388/EEC	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
325/82 — Commission v Germany	Failure to give effect to the judgement of the Court of Justice in the 'Butter trips' case	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
339/82 — Commission v Ireland	Discrimination in respect of the acquisition of agricultural land	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
340/82 — Commission v France	Packaging of margarine	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
341/82 — Commission v Belgium	Packaging of margarine	Article 169 of the EEC Treaty

Disputes between the Community and its staff

- v Commission: 299/82, 304 to 310/82¹, 326/82, 343/82, 346/82
- v Commission appointing authority and JRC Ispra: 338/82 R
- v Court of Auditors: 316/82
- v Parliament: 347/82

¹ OJ C 16, 20.1.1983.
² OJ C 9, 13.1.1983.
¹ OJ C 342, 30.12.1982.

2.4.24. Judgments

Date and case	Held
ECSC — Steel	
7.12.1982, 263/82 R II — Klöckner- Werke AG v Commission	Without having lodged a bank guarantee, Klöckner submitted a new application for suspension of the implementation of the Commission's decision. The application was dismissed
9.12.1982, 258/81 — Metallurgiki Halyps SA v Commission	Application dismissed
Free Movement of Goods	
14.12.1982, 314/81, 315/81, 316/81 and 83/82 — Procureur de la République and Comité national de défense contre l'alcoolisme (CNDCA) v Alex Waterkeyn and Others; Jean Cayard and Others; Rodolphe Joël and Others; Jean Cayard and Others	Clarification of the consequences for national courts of a judgment given by the Court under the procedure laid down in Articles 169 to 171 of the EEC Treaty
15.12.1982, 286/81 — Openbaar Ministerie v Oosthoek's Uitgeversmaatschappij BV	Articles 30 and 34 of the EEC Treaty do not apply to a national measure making the offer of gifts as a means of promoting sales subject to predetermined conditions
Customs union	
9.12.1982, 82/82 — Ditta Italgrani v Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato	Council Regulation (EEC) No 1697/79 does not apply to payments of import duty or export duty made prior to 1 July 1980

Date and case	Held
Social security	
9.12.1982, 76/82 — Salvatore Malfitano v Institut National d'Assurance Maladie-Invalidité (INAMI)	Article 48(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 must be interpreted as meaning that, even where a worker has not completed a period of insurance amounting to one year, the competent institution of a Member State is required to grant invalidity benefits if he has completed the minimum qualifying period provided for under national law. Entitlement to benefits does not depend upon the worker's being insured in the Member State responsible for benefits at the time when the risk materialized.
Agriculture	
2.12.1982, 272/81 — Société Rumi v Fonds d'Orientalion et de Régularisation des Marchés Agricoles (FORMA)	Even a slight derogation from the rules on the denaturing of milk (Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1844/77) is capable of depriving the denaturing undertaking of the benefit of the special aid
2.12.1982, 273/81 — Société Laitière de Gacé v Fonds d'Orientalion et de Régularisation des Marchés Agricoles (FORMA)	Validity of Council Regulation (EEC) No 987/68 and Commission Regulation (EEC) No 756/70 with regard to the granting of aid for skimmed milk
9.12.1982, 309/81 — Klughardt OHG v HZA Hamburg-St Annen	Wild buffalo meat is included in the common organization of the market in beef and veal (Council Regulation (EEC) No 425/77)
15.12.1982, 5/82 — Maizena GmbH v HZA Krefeld	Rules for the calculation of the production refund granted in respect of maize processed into starch
16.12.1982, 71/82 — Bundesanstalt für landwirtschaftliche Marktordnung (BALM) v Fa H. und J. Brüngen	Article 9 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 73/67 is construed as meaning that the validity of an export certificate may be extended retroactively in the event that the national authority refuses, without good reason, to extend the validity of the certificate in due time
Infringements	
7.12.1982, 41/82 — Commission v Italy	Italy has failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty by not adopting the measures needed to comply with Council Directives 72/464/EEC and 77/805/EEC (manufactured tobacco)
15.12.1982, 160/82 — Commission v Netherlands	The Netherlands has failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty by not adopting within the period specified the measures needed to comply with Council Directive 73/239/EEC (direct insurance)
15.12.1982, 211/81 — Commission v Denmark	Application dismissed (Directive 76/891/EEC — electrical energy meters)

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 2.12.1982, 198 to 202/81

9.12.1982, 191/81

15.12.1982, Joined Cases 532/79, 534/79, 567/79, 600/79, 618/798 and 660/79; 543/79

15.12.1982, 799/79

15.12.1982, 737/79, 158/79

15.12.1982, 60/82

v Court of Auditors: 25.11.1982, 79/82

Applications dismissed

Application dismissed as unfounded

Judgment for the applicants in part and applications dismissed in part as unfounded

Application dismissed as unfounded

Judgment for the applicant

Application dismissed as unfounded

Application dismissed

Orders for removal from the Court Register

1.12.1982, 220/82 — Moselstahlwerk GmbH & Co. KG v Commission

15.12.1982, 114/82 — SA Robert Bosch NV v Commission

15.12.1982, 124/82 — Commission v Council

Court of Auditors

2.4.25. On 9 December the Court adopted an opinion on a draft Commission Regulation establishing the financial provisions applying to the European Agency for Cooperation and provisions concerning the Agency's relations with the Commission.

On 16 December the Court delivered opinions on a proposal for a Regulation instituting a special energy development programme¹ and on a proposed amendment² to the 1980 Regulation establishing supplementary measures in favour of the United Kingdom.³

Economic and Social Committee

203rd plenary session

2.4.26. The Economic and Social Committee held its 203rd plenary session on 15 and 16 December, with Mr Ceyrac in the chair.

Opinions

*Commission
annual economic report — 1982-83*

2.4.27. By 82 votes to 21 with 27 abstentions the Committee adopted an opinion on

the 1982 economic report.⁴ The Committee considered the Commission's latest forecasts to be over optimistic.

As regards the stimulatory measures to remedy the economic situation, the Committee's view was that priority must be given to employment, meaning in practice job-creating investment in growth areas by the public and private sector alike.

The Committee accepted the idea of moderation in the rise in labour costs. It regretted that on the monetary side the Commission had nothing to say about strengthening the EMS. It called for further integration of the internal market. And at international level it felt that every effort should be made to remove trade barriers through multilateral negotiations, particularly within GATT.

¹ OJ C 307, 24.11.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.127.

² OJ C 325, 11.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.64.

³ OJ L 284, 29.10.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.3.

Proposal for a Council Directive on crude oil saving through the use of substitute fuel components in petrol

2.4.28. The Committee welcomed the proposal,¹ which aims to reduce crude oil consumption by introducing substitute fuel components in the petrol used by internal combustion engines. It stressed the importance of reducing the lead content—and hence the amount of pollutants—in exhaust gases.

2.4.29. Opinions were also adopted on:

— a proposal for a Council Directive extending the fifth Directive on aid to shipbuilding for three years;²

— a proposal for a Regulation on measures implementing the Agreement on the International Carriage of Passengers by Road by means of Occasional Coach and Bus Services (ASOR);³

— a proposal for a Directive extending the second stage of harmonizing the structure of excise duties on cigarettes;⁴

— a proposal for a Directive to harmonize the provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of inward processing;⁵

— an action plan to encourage technological and industrial innovation;⁶

— a proposal for a Regulation on the payment of financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment in the rational use of energy;⁷

— a draft block exemption Regulation for specialization agreements.

ECSC Consultative Committee

230th meeting

2.4.30. The Consultative Committee met in Luxembourg on 9 and 10 December with Mr A. Robert in the chair.

The Committee first took note of the Commission's proposals on the establishment of the ECSC operating budget for 1983.⁸ It also delivered its opinion on Commission proposals concerning the payment of finan-

cial incentives in support of investment in the rational use of energy,⁹ support for pilot projects and demonstration projects relating to the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels,¹⁰ and the adoption of the first Community research programme on safety at work in the iron and steel industry (steel casting).¹¹

Mr Vondran (steel producers, Federal Republic of Germany) presented a report on the General Objectives for Steel (1985).¹² The Committee decided to discuss this at a later meeting since it considered that the information given on the social aspects was not explicit enough.

The Committee examined the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1983,¹³ technical changes in connection with the steel arrangement with the United States¹⁴ and guides prices. Several speakers spoke of the need for a strict policy on guide prices and tougher price discipline. Minimum prices were demanded. Several speakers were afraid that artificial shortages would arise, others regretted that import trends were not monitored and controlled more effectively. Finally, a call was made for rules to cover special steels.

¹ OJ C 229, 2.9.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.170; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.133.

² OJ C 310, 27.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.26.

³ OJ C 265, 9.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.86.

⁴ OJ C 310, 27.11.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.41.

⁵ OJ C 200, 4.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.27.

⁶ OJ C 187, 22.7.1982, Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.30.

⁷ OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.129.

⁸ Point 2.3.6.

⁹ OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91.

¹⁰ OJ C 261, 6.10.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.74.

¹¹ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.153.

¹² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.15.

¹³ Point 2.1.16.

¹⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.16.

The question of including steel sections in the Article 58 quota system as soon as possible was also raised. Because of the deterioration of the market and the considerable distortions between disciplined producers and non-disciplined outsiders, there was a demand for rules governing production and deliveries of these products.

The 230th meeting was the last chaired by Mr André Robert. Before handing over to his successor, Mr Robert stressed that the social consequences had not escaped the Committee's attention, that the Committee was aware of the sometimes dramatic problems arising when jobs were lost in areas that had always depended on the coal or steel industries and that the only genuine solution was a comprehensive conversion policy that promoted investment in steel-consuming ventures in the areas worst affected by structural unemployment.

231st meeting

2.4.31. On 10 December the ECSC Consultative Committee held its first meeting following its renewal by the Council on 3 December.¹ It elected Mr Rudolf Nickels (coal workers, Germany) Chairman and Mr Coosemans (steel users, Belgium) and Mr Robert (steel producers, Luxembourg) Vice-Chairmen. It also elected its Bureau and appointed the chairmen and members of its standing committees.²

European Investment Bank

Operations in December

2.4.32. Loans announced by the European Investment Bank in December for investments within the Community totalled 881.3 million ECU,³ broken down as follows: 523.3 million ECU in Italy, 140.2 million ECU in Denmark, 135.6 million ECU in Greece, 54.9 million ECU in France, 21.8 million ECU in the United Kingdom and 5.5 million ECU in Belgium. Of the total amount, 279.2 million ECU was provided from the resources of the new Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI—the 'Ortoli facility').⁴ Outside the Communi-

ty the Bank lent 104 million ECU to Mediterranean countries and 71.99 million ECU to the ACP States and an overseas territory.

Community

Italy

2.4.33. A total of LIT 692 700 million was lent, including LIT 183 000 million from the resources of the New Community Instrument. Several of the loans, worth LIT 428 900 million altogether, carry a 3% interest subsidy from the Community budget under the arrangements for Community assistance for reconstruction in those areas of the south hit by earthquakes in November 1980 or under the arrangements adopted when Italy joined the European Monetary System.⁵

• Loans to industry accounted for LIT 266 600 million, of which LIT 95 000 million took the form of global loans (lines of credit) for small and medium-sized businesses in the Mezzogiorno. Isveimer (the Institute for the Development of Southern Italy) received LIT 50 000 million, the Industrial Credit Department (Mediocredito) of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro received LIT 25 000 million and the Credito Industriale Sardo LIT 20 000 million—these amounts will be on-lent to investments chosen in agreement with the EIB.

Fiat will receive LIT 65 100 million to finance improvements aimed at increasing the productivity of its factories at Cassino (Latium), Termoli (Molise) and Sulmona (Abruzzi). The rational use of energy in industry will be assisted by loans totalling LIT 49 000 million: LIT 30 000 million will go as a global loan to the Banca Nazionale del

¹ OJ C 4, 6.1.1983.

² OJ C 15, 19.1.1983.

³ The conversion rates at 30 September used by the EIB in statistics for the current quarter were 1 ECU= DM 2.35, UKL 0.55, FF 6.64, LIT 1 324, HFL 2.57, BFR 45.64, LFR 45.64, DKR 8.23, DR 66.78, IRL 0.69, USD 0.93.

⁴ OJ L 298, 25.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

⁵ OJ L 200, 8.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

Lavoro (Mediocredito) for small and medium-sized investments in northern and central Italy, LIT 10 000 million will be used to convert a cement works at Piacenza (Emilia-Romagna) from oil to coal and LIT 9 000 million will be used to convert a cement works at Pederobba (Veneto) to coal and natural gas. Altogether these investments should save about 18 000 tonnes a year of imported oil. In addition, LIT 32 500 million will be invested in the high technology area of pharmaceuticals and phytopharmaceuticals. This is made up of LIT 18 000 million for the expansion and redesign of a factory and laboratories producing anti-cancer drugs in Lombardy and LIT 14 500 million for the construction of a factory, again in Lombardy, to manufacture plant protection products for use in farming. A loan of LIT 25 000 million to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno will be used to develop the infrastructure serving five industrial estates at Olbia (Sardinia), Bari and Brindisi (Apulia) and Sangro Aventino and Val Pescara (Abruzzi) so as to improve the efficiency of existing factories and encourage the setting up of a new ones.

- Infrastructure required for the development of the Mezzogiorno will receive LIT 261 500 million, including LIT 165 000 million for improvements to the telephone system in Sicily (LIT 150 000 million to connect about 170 000 new subscribers and LIT 15 000 million for the construction near Palermo of an international telephone switching centre) and LIT 96 500 million for water schemes (LIT 75 000 million for the construction of two sewage treatment plants to reduce pollution in the Bay of Naples, improve sanitary conditions for over 3 million people and increase water supplies to industry and agriculture, and LIT 21 500 million for improvements to the water supply in Apulia).

- Loans to earthquake areas total LIT 117 400 million and are made up of LIT 75 000 million to the State for the repairs to the Pugliese Aqueduct, which supplies water to some 1.7 million people in Apulia, LIT 29 000 million to the railway authorities for repairs to over 1 100 km of railways in Campania and the Basilicata, LIT 10 000

million to enable the ENEL (National electricity supply company) to repair its generating and distribution system in 176 municipalities of Campania and the Basilicata and a LIT 3 400 million global loan to Isveimer for the repair of production facilities in damaged small and medium-sized firms.

- LIT 47 200 million was lent in the energy sector. This is made up of LIT 40 000 million for the extension of the natural gas grid in Piedmont and Liguria (which should save about 240 000 tonnes of oil equivalent per year from 1990) and LIT 7 200 million to exploit an oil deposit in the Adriatic off Ascoli (Marche). Production is expected to reach 200 000 tonnes per year in 1983 and total between 1.5 million and 2 million tonnes.

Denmark

2.4.34. A total of DKR 1 940 million was lent, including DKR 790 million from the NCI. Of this total, DKR 750 million is to assist in construction of a 28.5-km section of the Copenhagen-Rødby motorway between the island of Zealand, on which Copenhagen is situated, and the north of the neighbouring island of Falster, from which ferries provide a link with Germany and therefore between Scandinavia and the Community. A further DKR 390 million is for the construction of a gas pipeline between natural gas deposits in the Danish sector of the North Sea and Jutland. The pipeline, which will be 230 km long and should be ready for use in 1984, will be the vital link in a network which will connect deposits in the Danish sector to both the national network and that in Germany, and hence to the Community as a whole.

By making these internal resources available, it will improve the security of the Community's energy supplies. Finally, DKR 14 million was granted for an environmentally safe waste-water disposal system for the town of Nakskov. This will enable further undertaking to be set up in the town's industrial area.

Greece

2.4.35. A loan of DR 9 050 million, including DR 3 000 million from the New Community Instrument, was made for improvements to the telecommunications network—construction of 325 new exchanges with a capacity of about 147 000 lines and extensions to some 400 local exchanges, with 186 000 lines, and 345 trunk exchanges. Additional connections between local and trunk exchanges will also be provided. The project, which forms part of a drive to install 200 000 new telephone lines each year between 1980 and 1983, will help modernize and extend local and trunk telephone services and meet growing demand throughout the country, except in the Athens and Thessaloniki areas and the eastern Aegean Islands. The works will play an important role in promoting economic development and reducing regional disparities. The European Regional Development Fund is also contributing to this work, for which the EIB lent DR 6 200 million in May.¹

In the energy sector DR 2 050 million went to the Public Power Corporation for the construction of two hydroelectric power stations with a total capacity of 360 MW. DR 1 250 million will help finance two 105-MW units at Pigai, north of Ionnina (Epirus) which, when connected to the national grid towards the end of 1985, should save about 44 000 tonnes of oil equivalent per year, and DR 800 million is for the construction of two 75-MW hydroelectric units on the river Acheloos, downstream of Stratos, to the north of Agrinion in west central Greece. This scheme, too, should come into service at the end of 1985 and will then save about 140 000 tonnes of oil equivalent per year.

A global loan of DR 1 700 million was made to the Agricultural Bank of Greece for small and medium-scale agro-industrial ventures, on-farm investment and small communal irrigation schemes which will assist the modernization and restructuring of agriculture and help it meet the challenge of Community membership. A second global loan, worth DR 1 000 million, was made to the National Investment Bank for Industrial Development, one of the main institutions

providing long-term finance for economic development in Greece. This loan will be on-lent for industrial investments, mainly concerned with creating new activities in development areas so as to reduce regional disparities. It will also be used to finance investments designed to modernize or convert small and medium-sized businesses in the Athens and Thessaloniki regions.

In addition, DR 1 300 million was lent for the modernization of the Halkis Cement Company's works at Mikro Vathy Avlidos (Viotia), north-west of Athens. This will be used to install precalcining equipment to raise production capacity to 3 million tonnes per year and electrofilters to minimize dust emission. The works will also be converted from oil to coal and equipped for the unloading, crushing and conveying of solid fuel. The project will increase capacity and create jobs in an area which qualifies for national regional development aid. When the works are operating at a full capacity in 1985, the use of coal instead of oil will save 220 000 tonnes of oil equivalent per year.

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2.4.36. A credit of DR 10.9 million (165 000 ECU) has been allocated for the establishment of a new archeological museum on the island of Milos (Cyclades). This is part of a global loan by the EIB to the Hellenic Industrial Development Bank for financing small and medium-sized investments in industry and tourism. This will promote one of the objectives of Community action in the cultural sector—protection of the architectural heritage. It is the first such project which the EIB has financed, exceptionally, because of its importance for the Community as a whole. The museum will also be of direct benefit to tourism, which is one of the island's main economic activities, and it meets one of the objectives of the country's regional development programme. It will therefore receive an interest subsidy of about 5% from the Community budget:

¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.4.41.

50 000 ECU (about DR 3.3 million) has been earmarked for this purpose. The Commission has also made a capital contribution of 50 000 ECU.

France

2.4.37. A total of FF 364 million was lent for infrastructure and sea fisheries in France. A global loan of FF 100 million to the Caisse d'Aide à l'Équipement des Collectivités Locales will be used to part-finance small and medium-scale infrastructure works in regions with development or conversion problems. Three loans, totalling FF 92.5 million, are for port infrastructure works. Marseilles will receive FF 60 million for the extension of the bulk handling terminal at Fos-sur-Mer by extending wharves, providing extra coal-handling equipment and expanding storage facilities, thus raising capacity from 2 million to 6 million tonnes per year. A large proportion of the coal goes to the Italian electricity authority so the investment is in line with the Community policy of reducing dependence on oil imports, in particular by diversifying energy sources. A further FF 17.5 million will be used to finance a new basin in the commercial port at Sète, involving the construction of some 2 850 metres of dykes, dredging and the construction of a new wharf. These works will create jobs in an area suffering from a rate of unemployment markedly higher than the national average. FF 15 million will be used to redevelop two coal terminals at Rouen by increasing their handling and storage capacity in anticipation of increased consumption, mainly for electricity generating and industrial use.

A loan of FF 51.5 million will assist modernization of the Le Mans-Nantes railway line so that trains will be able to travel at speeds of up to 200 km per hour on most of this section. This project will involve replacing some 60 level crossings by bridges or road diversions. Increased speeds, and the resulting better service, will improve access to Nantes and assist conditions for regional development in one of the country's less prosperous areas.

Finally, a loan of FF 120 million was made to the Caisse Centrale de Crédit Coopératif for small and medium-scale investment in the sea-fishing industry and associated activities in areas of France eligible for regional development aid. The EIB loan will be used to assist modernization of fishing fleets, the development of processing and packing facilities and marketing (auctions) with a view to bolstering and extending the industrial structure and safeguarding jobs in the coastal regions, some of which have been badly hit by the recession.

United Kingdom

2.4.38. A total of UKL 12 million was lent, the larger part (UKL 7 million) to the BICC group for the reorganization and modernization of facilities for the making of cables and related products in a number of factories in north-west England and Wales. This project will increase productivity in factories employing almost 2 500 people. The remaining UKL 5 million went to the South West Water Authority for works to improve or extend sewage systems and treatment facilities at Plymouth and Bideford in Devon and Wadebridge in Cornwall. This will assist industrial and tourist development in assisted areas.

Belgium

2.4.39. A loan of BFR 250 million to the Société Nationale de Crédit à l'Industrie will be used to finance small and medium-scale industrial ventures in disadvantaged areas. Such ventures, which usually create more jobs than major undertakings for the same amount of capital, are regarded as vital in helping Belgium to cope with the structural and cyclical problems which afflict various parts of the country.

Outside the Community

Mediterranean countries

2.4.40. The Financial Protocol with Yugoslavia, which came into force in July 1980, provides for the lending of up to 200 million ECU for investments of common benefit to

Yugoslavia and the Community. In December the Bank lent Yugoslavia 67 million ECU for modernizing the system for controlling and monitoring electricity generation and transmission. The project involves the installation of computerized control centres at Belgrade and eight regional centres. These will cooperate closely and the generation and transmission of electricity can now be monitored continuously, so maintaining the most economical operating conditions and permitting emergency measures to be taken in the event of a breakdown. It will also be easier to exchange electricity between Yugoslavia and the countries with which its grid is connected, Italy and Greece, and through these with several other countries.

2.4.41. A loan of 25 million ECU was made to Portugal for improvement of the east-west road from Aveiro to Vilar Formoso, which connects the Lisbon-Oporto motorway to the Spanish frontier. The works concern two sections of this road with a combined length of 57 km, between Albergaria and Viseu. They will improve communications in one of the country's poorest and least developed regions and also provide an important road link with the Spanish road system and thus with the Community network. The new road is of particular importance for the Portuguese economy because of the current extensions to the port installations at Aveiro. Moreover, the frontier post at Vilar Formoso is already the main clearing point for heavy traffic bound for Spain and the Community, and this traffic will increase as the time for Portugal's accession to the EEC approaches.

2.4.42. Under its Financial Protocol with the Community, Cyprus received a loan of 12 million ECU for the development of water resources to improve supplies to Nicosia, Famagusta and Larnaca and for a sewage project in Nicosia. The Bank will provide 8 million ECU from its own resources and 1 million ECU from the budgetary resources which it manages on behalf of the Community for the improvement of water resources and supplies. These works will also enable water from the Troödos mountains to be used. The remaining 3 million ECU, also

from the Bank's own resources, will be used for the second phase of the Nicosia sewage system. In addition to sewers, this will involve a drinking water supply system in the Old City and the extension of an existing sewage treatment plant.

ACP States and OCT

2.4.43. Under the second Lomé Convention, the EIB granted loans totalling 71.15 million ECU to ACP countries; 13.25 million ECU was from the risk capital which the Bank manages on behalf of the Community.

In Zimbabwe, a 20 million ECU loan will be used to enlarge a coal-fired power station at Hwange, in the north-west of the country, which is near an open-cast coalmine. Two further 220-MW generating units will be installed, raising total capacity to 920-MW in 1986. A 9 million ECU loan in Kenya will be used to expand the geothermal power station at Olkaria in the Rift Valley, north-west of Nairobi. Installed capacity will rise from 30-MW to 45-MW, so saving about 30 000 tonnes of oil equivalent per year. Higaturu Oil Palms Pty Ltd in Papua New Guinea has received a loan of 7.9 million ECU to extend a palm oil mill by installing a second processing line, so doubling its capacity from 30 to 60 tonnes per hour, and enlarged storage facilities which will enable the production of about 9 000 hectares of new oil palm plantations to be treated.

Seven ACP States will share a 5 million ECU loan (Fiji, 1.8 million; Papua New Guinea, 1.8 million; Solomon Islands, 425 000; Tonga, 325 000; Samoa, 325 000; Kiribati, 200 000; Tuvalu, 125 000) to help develop sea transport in the South Pacific by the purchase of some 1 000 containers for use on the shipping lines between these countries and those linking them with other Pacific countries, in particular Australia. The Bank made global loans to development banks which will on-lend the funds to help finance investments in industry, agro-industry, mining and tourism selected in agreement with the EIB. Lines of credit have been opened in favour of the Development Finance Company of Kenya Ltd (8 million ECU), the

Trinidad and Tobago Development Finance Company Ltd (8 million ECU), the Compagnie Financière de la Côte d'Ivoire (5 million ECU) and the Banque Nationale pour le Développement Economique, Burundi (1.3 million ECU). The Dominica Agricultural, Industrial and Development Bank has received aid for the same purpose in the form of a conditional loan to the State to finance part of its share in the bank's increased capital, which will enable it to extend its activities. It has also received a 700 000 ECU loan which will be on-lent for the installation of a plant to tap and bottle mineral water, almost all of which will be for export.

A 5 million ECU loan to the State in Jamaica will help it acquire shares in the capital of the newly formed National Development Bank of Jamaica. On behalf of the Community, the Bank has used 400 000 ECU to acquire equity in the Caisse de Développement de Djibouti and help place this newly

formed institution on a sound financial footing.

In Ethiopia, 500 000 ECU was lent to the Agricultural and Industrial Development Bank to finance studies into the feasibility of investments so that projects may be carried out more effectively.

OCT

2.4.44. Under the Council Decisions of 16 December 1980 earmarking specific aid for overseas countries and territories enjoying special ties with certain Member States, the Bank lent 840 000 ECU to help bolster the capital of the Ontwikkelingsbank van de Nederlandse Antillen NV, which was set up in 1981 to facilitate the financing of small and medium sized industrial and tourist undertakings in these islands, which are still heavily dependent on refining imported oil.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. ECU

Values in national currencies of one ECU

30 December 1982 ¹	
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (convertible)	45.3591
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (financial)	46.8554
German mark	2.30154
Dutch guilder	2.54455
Pound sterling	0.598268
Danish krone	8.12209
French franc	6.52290
Italian lira	1 326.36
Irish pound	0.693666
Greek drachma	68.4594
United States dollar	0.970092
Swiss franc	1.93339
Spanish peseta	121.873
Swedish krona	7.06954
Norwegian krone	6.81489
Canadian dollar	1.19923
Portuguese escudo	87.3082
Austrian schilling	16.1617
Finnish mark	5.12257
Japanese yen	226.128
Australian dollar	0.988880
New Zealand dollar	1.32291

¹ OJ C 343, 31.12.1982.

NB. Explanatory notes on the ECU and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU used in connection with the common agricultural policy

December 1982	
National currency	Value in national currency of one ECU
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	44.9704 ³ 42.9772 ²
Danish krone	8.23400
German mark	2.57524 ² 2.65660 ¹
Greek drachma	66.5526
French franc	6.37174 ³ 6.19564 ²
Irish pound	0.691011
Italian lira	1 289.00 ² 1 227.00 ⁴
Dutch guilder	2.75563 ² 2.81318 ¹
Pound sterling	0.618655

¹ For fish, seeds and (until 15 December) wine.

² For other products.

³ For pigmeat, olive oil and (from 16 December) wine.

⁴ For fish.

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

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 7/8-1982

Point 2.1.177

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a modification for the year 1983 in the research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community and for the European Economic Community (1980 to 1983)

OJ C 315, 1.12.1982

Bull. EC 9-1982*Point 2.1.95*

Revised forecasts for the outlook for the Community coal market in 1982

OJ C 316, 2.12.1982

Bull. EC 10-1982*Points 2.4.66 to 2.4.70*

Opinions delivered by the Economic and Social Committee during its session of 27 and 28 October 1982

OJ C 326, 13.12.1982

Bull. EC 11-1982*Point 2.1.37*

Commission Decision of 27 October 1982 on a proposed aid by the Belgian Government in respect of certain investments carried out by an oil company at its Antwerp refinery

OJ L 350, 10.12.1982

*Point 2.4.20***Court of Auditors**

Annual report concerning the financial year 1981 accompanied by the replies of the institutions

OJ C 344, 31.12.1982

3. Infringement procedures

Initiation of proceedings for failure to implement Directives

3.3.3. In December the Commission sent letters of formal notice to Member States for failure to implement Directives in the following nine cases:

- Council Directive 77/452/EEC of 27 June 1977 concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of the formal qualifications of nurses responsible for general care, including measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services¹ (France);
- Council Directive 77/453/EEC of 27 June 1977 concerning the coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of the activities of nurses responsible for general care¹ (France);
- Council Directive 78/686/EEC of 25 July 1978 concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of the formal qualifications of practitioners of dentistry, including measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services² (France);
- Council Directive 78/687/EEC of 25 July 1978 concerning the coordination or provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of the activities of dental practitioners² (France);
- Council Directive 79/115/EEC of 21 December 1978 concerning pilotage of vessels by deep-sea pilots in the North Sea and English Channel³ (Ireland);

- Council Directive 79/116/EEC of 21 December 1978 concerning minimum requirements for certain tankers entering or leaving Community ports³ (Netherlands);
- Sixth Council Directive 77/388/EEC of 17 May 1977 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes — Common system of value added tax: uniform basis of assessment⁴ (France);
- Council Directive 71/305/EEC of 26 July 1971 concerning the coordinating of procedures for the award of public works contracts⁵ (Italy);
- Council Directive 75/439/EEC of 16 June 1975 on the disposal of waste oils⁶ (France).

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. In December the Commission delivered five reasoned opinions concerning two Member States in the following cases:

- Restrictions on entry into the port of Sète (France);
- Customs clearance of video tape recorders (France);
- Use of French in regard to imports (France);
- Discriminatory rates of duty on spirits (France);
- Packaging of beverages (Denmark).

¹ OJ L 176, 15.7.1977.

² OJ L 233, 24.8.1978.

³ OJ L 33, 8.2.1979.

⁴ OJ L 145, 13.6.1977.

⁵ OJ L 185, 16.8.1971.

⁶ OJ L 194, 25.7.1975.

4. Eurobarometer

3.4.1. A new Eurobarometer survey carried out in October 1982 was published by the Commission.¹

This report on public opinion in Europe was divided into three parts:

The mood of Europeans

3.4.2. As at the end of previous years, interviewees were asked about their hopes and fears for the year ahead in key areas of their own lives and the life of their country. On the whole, replies to the question 'will 1983 be better or worse than 1982' were the same as at the end of 1981: the pessimists (38%) still outnumber the optimists (25%), but the ratio between them has improved a little since the end of 1980. On the industrial front the majority of those interviewed in most countries expect strikes and industrial disputes to increase in 1983. This pessimism extends to the international scene. Here the only notable change compared with 1981 is in the United Kingdom, where the proportion of people expecting a troubled year has fallen from 50% to 35%. Taking a longer view, the number of people who considered that there was a danger of world war in the next ten years increased sharply between 1977 and 1980. It has fallen since then and 18% of Europeans now consider war probable, i.e. consider that there is more than one chance in two, compared with 24% at the end of 1981 and 34% at the end of 1980. The Irish are a little more apprehensive than other Europeans, while the Danes and the Greeks are far less worried. Two other topics were dealt with for the first time in this Eurobarometer: changes in the country's general economic situation and the financial situation of individual households. Thirty-eight percent of interviewees considered that the financial situation of their household is worse now than it was 12 months ago (compared with 15% who claim the opposite), while 62% feel that the general economic situation of their country has deteriorated (compared with 14% who consider that it has improved).

The past six months have seen little change in satisfaction with life. Italy, where there has been a statistically significant decline in satisfaction, is an exception. The feeling of happiness has not been covered in the Eurobarometer survey for three and a half years. The most recent findings are slightly lower than those for April 1979. On average, 18% of contacts claimed to be 'very happy', 59% 'fairly happy' and 21% 'not too happy'. The Dutch are well in the lead with 44% claiming to be 'very happy', the Greeks and the Italians bringing up the rear with 10% and 9% respectively.

Although satisfaction with the way democracy works varies considerably from country to country, it emerges again as a relatively stable short-term indicator. However, this average reading may conceal major differences within a given country, depending on individual socio-political attitudes, notably attitudes to the government in power. For instance, there was a significant decline in the level of satisfaction in Ireland between April and October 1982, no doubt heralding the political crisis and change of government.

Attitudes to Europe and the Community

3.4.3. First, an attempt was made to gauge the feeling of dependence on political decisions made in other countries. It had been assumed that there would be a positive correlation between this and a favourable attitude towards Europe. This did not prove to be the case, at least as the question was worded. Be that as it may, it is interesting to note that almost seven Europeans out of 10 — a little more in Denmark and a little less in Germany — are aware that their countries are dependent on decisions taken elsewhere. More than 40% of those interviewed, in other words more than half of those who felt that their countries were dependent, thought that this dependence would increase in the future.

Replies to the standard question on the unification of Western Europe show that there is still a rather vague consensus in favour of Europe: an average of 70% 'for' and 14% 'against', with a majority 'for' in all 10 countries, including Denmark (40% 'for' and 37% 'against') and the United Kingdom (61% 'for' and 21% 'against'). It should none the less be noted that this 'emotional' consensus has declined almost everywhere since 1973, particularly in Germany.

Fifty-four percent of those interviewed would be in favour of joint action to fight unemployment, while 33% would expect better results if their country acted on its own. The Community option was chosen in seven of the 10 countries, the exceptions being Ireland (45% as against 47%), Luxembourg (44% as against 46%) and the United Kingdom (44% as against 50%).

In reply to the question already put in 1978 and 1981, only 33% of Europeans said that they would be prepared to make some personal sacrifice, such as paying additional tax, to help another country in economic difficulties; 54% would not countenance this idea. Only in Italy

¹ Eurobarometer — Public Opinion in the European Community at the end of 1982, No 18 (Brussels, December 1982).

would a majority accept this approach (48% for, 38% against). The British were most opposed to the idea (70% against, 22% for).

A sizeable majority in every Member State feels that their country has benefited less than the other nine from Community membership.

Since early 1981, assessment of this has been more unfavourable than favourable, except in Ireland and Greece. However, this decline in the perception of the Community climate seems to have been halted and there was even a slight improvement between April and October 1982.

The general attitude towards the Community has changed little over the last six months: 51% feel that it is a 'good thing' and 15% feel that it is a 'bad thing'. One exception is Belgium, where favourable replies dropped from 57% to 41%, probably because of the serious difficulties that country is now experiencing. In Denmark, where the balance between supporters and opponents of the Common Market has been continually shifting since 1973, the supporters now have an appreciable lead over the opponents (35% to 28%). Unfavourable replies still predominate in the United Kingdom (40% against 29%), although the margin has been narrowing over the past 18 months (43% and 27% in April 1982, 48% and 24% in April 1981).

To complete this section on attitudes to Europe and the Community, we turn to an analysis of replies to a number of questions designed to measure public awareness of the European Parliament: the next European elections are due in the spring of 1984.

Public awareness is pretty poor at present: 54% of Europeans claim to have read or heard something about the Parliament recently, slightly more than in the autumn of 1978, eight months before the first European elections. The proportion varies considerably from country to country. The

Germans come top of the table with 70%, followed by the Dutch with 66%; the Danes (42%) and the French (40%) are at the bottom. Of those who claim to have read or heard something about the Parliament, 27% have formed a generally favourable opinion, 33% a generally unfavourable impression. But — and this is undoubtedly disturbing — 40% couldn't say or had formed no impression at all.

Spain and Portugal

3.4.4. The interest in the Community shown by Spaniards has always been comparatively slight, although not as slight as that of the Portuguese, and in both cases it is tending to decline as negotiations drag on. In October 1982 62% of Spaniards considered Community matters 'important' or 'very important', although only 24% said that personally they were 'very interested'. The percentages in Portugal were 32% and 10%, about half the Spanish level. If the answers to these two questions are combined, we find that only 13% of Spaniards and 5% of Portuguese feel very involved in Community affairs while 31% and 62% respectively do not feel at all involved. No doubt the level of awareness of the remainder of the general public could be raised, but at the moment there is little interest in questions which still seem abstract and remote.

Only 12% of Spaniards and 6% of Portuguese consider themselves sufficiently well-informed about Community matters.

The attitudes themselves, and the general trend of public opinion, have changed little since the previous survey. Six Spaniards out of 10 (59%) and one Portuguese in three (31%) support European unification, and slightly smaller proportions (48% of Spaniards and 24% of Portuguese) consider that Community membership would be a good thing for their country.

Publications of the European Communities

Publications of the European Communities

12 — 1982

Introductory note

This catalogue includes the newly published monographs and series issued during the period to which it relates by the Institutions of the European Communities, and also their current periodicals. Publications of which English versions have been issued are only listed in that language; otherwise another version, but only one, is included, in the following order of choice:

French,	Spanish,
German,	Portuguese,
Italian,	Greek,
Dutch,	others.
Danish,	

Where other language versions also exist, cross-references are provided by means of a code (those codes should not be used for ordering purposes):

IT: 1 - 12

which means that the Italian version is described in the Italian catalogue of January under No 12. This number is specific to each catalogue; it is a sequence number printed in consecutive order, opposite each entry in the classified list.

Arrangement

The catalogue is divided into three parts, as follows :

Part I — The classified list provides a subject classification of the titles included under 20 headings each divided into subheadings (see below).

Under each subheading, monographs and series are listed first in alphabetical order; there then follows a similar list of periodical titles.

Full entries for monographs and series appear only once; otherwise cross-references are given to the full entries identifying them by the sequence numbers already described. Periodical titles only appear in the classified list as cross-reference entries, full entries being found in Part II.

Part II — The list of periodicals presents full details of each current Community periodical, listed alphabetically.

Part III — The indexes of titles and series are listed alphabetically and cross-refer using the abovementioned sequence numbers to the entries in Part I of the monthly catalogue. These indexes cumulate throughout the year.

How to obtain publications. Publications may be priced for sale, gratis, or of limited distribution. Those of the last two classes may be obtained from the issuing institutions, or, where they are published by the Information Offices of the Commission, from those offices, whose addresses are given in the lists on pp. 4 and 5. Publications of limited distribution are, however, generally only for the attention of governments of Member States, Community departments and other authorities concerned.

Orders for priced publications should be directed to the Sales Offices listed on the last page.

All orders should quote the full title, as well as the ISBN or ISSN where such a number precedes the prices in the catalogue.

Abbreviations and conventional signs. The text languages of publications are indicated by the following abbreviations :

DA Danish	GA Irish
DE German	IT Italian
GR Greek	NL Dutch
EN English	ES Spanish
FR French	PT Portuguese

A string of such symbols separated by diagonal strokes denotes a publication in which different language versions of the same text appear under one cover.

The abbreviation 'multi' indicates a publication with a mixed multilingual text.

Prices, which exclude any value-added tax which may be chargeable, are fixed in various currencies, using the following abbreviations :

BFR Belgian franc	HFL Dutch guilder
DKR Danish crown	IRL Irish pound
DM German mark	LIT Italian lira
DR Greek drachma	PTA Spanish peseta
ESC Portuguese escudo	UKL Pound sterling
FF French franc	USD US dollar

	work title	subtitle	author
sequence number	404	NIMEXE 1979: Analytical tables of foreign trade - Statistical Office of the European Communities [External trade (red cover) - Commission of the European Communities]	series title
volume number		n.A 01-24: Live animals and animal and vegetable products; fats and oils, foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco - xvii, 620p., xix-xlii; 30cm; softcover; 1670g; (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)	issuing institution
volume title			pagination
related edition reference in the French catalogue	FR: 82 - 1 - 397		language of the text
catalogue number	CA-NC-80-001-7A-C		weight
		ISBN 92-825-1815-9: set: ECU 393,75, BFR 15 750, IRL 261, UKL 233, USD 497	binding
			format
		ISBN 92-825-1802-7: volume: ECU 50, BFR 2 000, IRL 33.20, UKL 29.60, USD 63.	ISBN number + prices of the set
			ISBN number + prices of the volume
397	NIMEXE 1979: Tableaux analytiques du commerce extérieur - Office statistique des Communautés européennes [Commerce extérieur (couverture rouge) - Commission des Communautés européennes]	n.A 01-24: Animaux vivants et produits des règnes animal ou végétal, graisses et huiles, aliments, boissons et tabacs - xvii, 620p., xix-xlii; 30cm; broché; 1670g; (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)	
	EN: 82 - 1 - 404	CA-NC-80-001-7A-C ISBN 92-825-1815-9: ensemble: Écu 393,75, BFR 15 750, FF 2 266	
		ISBN 92-825-1802-7: volume: Écu 50, BFR 2 000, FF 288.	

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1 General, political and institutional matters

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- 1 **Corps diplomatique accrédité auprès des Communautés européennes**: 31 octobre 1982 - Direction générale Relations extérieures: Commission des Communautés européennes 1982 - 193p.: 21cm: broché: 260g: (FR)
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- 5 **Association of the overseas countries and territories: Compilation of texts (V - 1 January 1981 - 31 December 1981) - Council of the European Communities - Bruxelles - Brussel - 239pp.: 21cm: softcover: 320g: (EN)**
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- The competitiveness of the Community industry** 151

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- Un exemple de l'optimisation du système énergétique français 44
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- The United Kingdom solar pilot test facility. The design, construction and first phase of operation 1.
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- 12 **Survey of the collection, recycling and safe disposal of the hospital wastes in the member states of the European Communities - microfiche 24x, 128pp.: (EN) [Environment and quality of life - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7877 CD-NO-82-025-EN-A : BFR 240.**

16 Scientific and technical research

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- 13 **Adsorption of substances in aqueous effluents on activated carbon - microfiche 24x, 84pp.: (EN) [Technical coal research - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7832 CD-NB-82-023-EN-A : BFR 120.**
- 14 **Alcune considerazioni sul dosaggio del carbonio organico nei fertilizzanti ed emendanti organici mediante ossidazione con bicromato - Monfrini, C.: Lanza Serrini, G.: Serrini, G. - microscheda 24x, 27pag.: (IT) [Informazione BCR - Direzione generale Mercati dell'informazione e innovazione: Commissione delle Comunità europee] EUR 7663 CD-NV-82-003-IT-A : BFR 120.**

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- 21 **BUSH - a computer code for calculating steady state heat transfer in LWR rod bundles under accident conditions** - microfiche 24x, 78pp.: (EN) [Nuclear science and technology - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7765
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- 22 **The certification of form gas oils for sulphur content** - Lindsey, A.S. - microfiche 24x, 54pp.: (EN) [BCR-Information - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7815
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- 25 **Compte-rendu final de la comparaison des pyrhéliomètres étalons des états de la Communauté économique européenne** - Plazy, J.L. - microfiche 24x, 18p.: (FR) [Energie - Direction générale Marché de l'information et innovation: Commission des Communautés européennes] EUR 7792
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- 26 **Construction of a photovoltaic cell based on the photoelectrochemistry of organic dyes at transparent semi-conducting electrodes** - Nasielski, J.: Kirsch-De Mesmaeker, A. - microfiche 24x, 94pp.: (EN) [Energy - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7795
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- 36 **The escalating supply rationing cases. Studies of the UK energy economy's dependence on imported fuels** - microfiche 24x, 42pp.: (EN) [Energy - Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation: Commission of the European Communities] EUR 7714
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- 39 **Étude des phénomènes de passivation du fer blanc et de l'acier galvanisé** - Servais, J.P.: CRM, Liège - microfiche 24x, 162p.: (FR) [Recherche technique acier - Direction générale Marché de l'information et innovation: Commission des Communautés européennes] EUR 7744
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