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

Commission of the European Communities
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contents

PART ONE **SPECIAL FEATURES**

1. The Community's reactions to the invasion of Afghanistan 7
2. North-South relations: towards 'global negotiations' 10
3. Technical barriers to trade: new Commission approach 12

PART TWO **ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY 1980**

1. Building the Community 18
 - Economic and monetary policy 18
 - Internal market and industrial affairs 20
 - Customs union 22
 - Competition 23
 - Financial institutions and taxation 23
 - Employment and social policy 25
 - Regional policy 27
 - Environment and consumers 28
 - Agriculture 29
 - Fisheries 35
 - Transport 38
 - Energy 38
 - Research and development, science and education 39

| | |
|--|----|
| 2. Enlargement and external relations | 42 |
| — Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries | 42 |
| — Commercial policy | 42 |
| — Development | 45 |
| — International organizations and conferences | 48 |
| — Industrialized countries | 50 |
| — Developing countries | 52 |
| — Diplomatic relations | 54 |
| — Political cooperation | 54 |
| 3. Institutional and political matters | 54 |
| — Institutional developments and European policy | 54 |
| — Institutions and organs of the Communities | 57 |
| • Parliament | 57 |
| • Council | 63 |
| • Commission | 66 |
| • Court of Justice | 67 |
| • Economic and Social Committee | 71 |
| • European Investment Bank | 73 |
| — Financing Community activities | 75 |

PART THREE DOCUMENTATION

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Units of account | 78 |
| 2. Additional references in the Official Journal | 81 |
| 3. Infringement procedures | 81 |
| 4. Convergence and budgetary questions | 82 |
| Publications of the European Communities | |

Supplements 1979

- 1/79 European Union — Annual reports for 1978
- 2/79 Accession of the Communities to the European Convention on Human Rights — Commission memorandum
- 3/79 Forestry policy in the European Community
- 4/79 Second Community programme for consumers
- 5/79 Air Transport: A Community approach — Memorandum of the Commission
- 6/79 Employee participation in asset formation — Memorandum of the Commission
- 7/79 Shipbuilding — State of the industry and crisis measures
- 8/79 A transport network for Europe — Outline of a policy
- 9/79 European Union — Annual reports for 1979



PART ONE

SPECIAL FEATURES

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

BFR = Belgische frank/Franc belge

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

DKR = Dansk krone

FF = Franc français

DM = Deutsche Mark

LIT = Lira italiana

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

UKL = Pound sterling

IRL = Irish pound

USD = United States dollar

1. The Community's reactions to the invasion of Afghanistan

Afghanistan

1.1.1. The events in Afghanistan have provoked reactions of various kinds on the part of Community and political cooperation bodies.

1.1.2. On 11 January the Italian representative at the United Nations made a statement on behalf of the nine Community countries at an emergency session of the General Assembly.

Meeting in Brussels in the political cooperation context on 15 January, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine adopted a declaration condemning the Soviet intervention, while on the same day the Council took a number of economic decisions concerning the USSR and humanitarian measures to help the Afghan refugees.

These were presented to Parliament the following day by Mr Ruffini, the President of the Council, and were the subject of a debate followed by a resolution.

Throughout January the Community authorities took steps in different areas (agricultural exports, development aid, etc.); on 31 January Mr Jenkins gave Parliament's Political Affairs Committee an account of what had been done.

Statement by the Member States of the Community at the UN

1.1.3. On 11 January Mr La Rocca, Italy's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, made a statement on behalf of the Community countries at an emergency session of the United Nations General Assembly on the following lines. The Nine were convinced of the need for the immediate withdrawal of the Soviet troops and reaffirmed the Afghan people's right to have their country's sovereignty, independence and territorial

integrity respected and to decide on their own form of government, without any foreign interference whatsoever. The Nine therefore urged the Soviet Union to observe the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter and to bring its military intervention in Afghanistan to an end forthwith. On 14 January the Nine voted in favour of the Assembly Resolution condemning the Soviet action and requesting the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Declaration by the Nine (political cooperation)

1.1.4. The Foreign Ministers of the Nine adopted the following declaration at their political cooperation meeting on 15 January:

'The Foreign Ministers of the nine countries of the European Community have focused their attention on the Afghan crisis, in the light of its dramatic developments, the debate in the Security Council and the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The nine Ministers have reaffirmed their grave concern with regard to the crisis created by the military intervention of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, which represents a serious violation of the principles of international relations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

They have emphasized that the explanations given by the Soviet Union to justify its intervention in Afghanistan are unacceptable. They take the view that the Soviet intervention constitutes a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of a non-aligned country belonging to the Islamic world and constitutes furthermore a threat to peace, security and stability in the region, including the Indian sub-continent, the Middle East and the Arab world.

It is with great concern that the Foreign Ministers of the nine countries of the European Community have noted that despite the almost universal protests against the Soviet military intervention, the

Soviet Union has vetoed a Resolution on the Afghan crisis sponsored by non-aligned countries and supported by a considerable majority of members of the Security Council.

They urge the Soviet Union to act in conformity with the Resolution on the Afghan crisis adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations with an overwhelming majority, which calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan.

The nine countries of the European Community have devoted continuous efforts to the cause of *détente* and they remain convinced that this process is in the interest of all members of the international community. They are, however, convinced that *détente* is indivisible and has a global dimension. They therefore urge the Soviet Union, in conformity with the standards and principles of the United Nations Charter, to allow the Afghan people to determine their own future without foreign interference.

In formulating their position on this important question, the Foreign Ministers of the member countries of the European Community have also been keenly aware of the sufferings borne by the Afghan people as a whole as a result of the crisis, including those Afghans who are being forced to leave their country.'

Conclusions of the Council

1.1.5. The press release published after the Council met—also on 15 January—included the following conclusions:

'The Council decided to cancel the 1979 Community food aid programme for Afghanistan.

The Council also agreed to take a decision at the earliest opportunity on the proposals which the Commission would submit to it very shortly on emergency aid to be provided via the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees for Afghan refugees. This aid would be combined with such national aid as Member States might grant for this purpose.

Following the measures decided on by the United States concerning deliveries of agricultural products to the Soviet Union, the Council laid down the principle that Community deliveries must not replace, directly or indirectly, United States deliveries on the USSR market. With this in mind, the Council requested the Commission to take the necessary measures as regards cereals and products derived there from and to propose other possible measures for other agricultural products while respecting traditional patterns of trade. A consultation procedure was being instituted with the other main cereal-exporting countries in order to avoid disturbances on the world market.'

Parliament debate

1.1.6. Opening the debate in Parliament on 16 January, Mr Ruffini, the President of the Council, commented on the line that was being taken by the Nine in the light of the discussions in Brussels the previous days.

Stating that there was nothing about the situation in Afghanistan which justified foreign intervention and that such intervention was a threat to *détente*, Mr Ruffini went on to say:

'We are gravely concerned for the future of *détente*. We know—and the Nine have always had this firm conviction—that there is no alternative to *détente*. We are also aware that *détente* must, by its very nature, be global and therefore indivisible... We have consistently followed the line of not giving up the gains of *détente* in our international dealings, and whenever possible we have tried to promote talks on the control and limitation of troops and arms... In the present international situation, if *détente* is to develop naturally, the obstacle represented by the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan must be removed... The people of Afghanistan must be left to decide their own future, with a government of their own choice and the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of their country must be respected. It follows that the Soviet Union must withdraw its troops from Afghanistan... The Nine issued a statement reiterating their deep concern at the situation in Afghanistan resulting from the

USSR's military intervention, which constitutes a serious violation of the principles of international relations enshrined in the United Nations Charter. They emphasized that the explanation given by the Soviet Union to justify its intervention in Afghanistan was unacceptable. The Soviet intervention constitutes blatant interference in the internal affairs of a non-aligned Islamic country and a threat to peace, security and stability in that region, including the Indian sub-continent, the Middle East and the Arab world.¹

Following the debate, in which a large number of speakers took part,¹ Parliament adopted a Resolution condemning the Soviet intervention and requesting the Commission to reconsider immediately all economic, trade financial and credit relations between the USSR and the European Community.

Measures taken by the Community

1.1.7. The events in Afghanistan provoked immediate, concrete measures by the Community affecting agriculture, food aid and humanitarian aid, and commercial policy.

1.1.8. The Council and the Commission took steps to ensure that US agricultural exports to the USSR would not be replaced, directly or indirectly, by supplies from the Community.²

1.1.9. The Council cancelled implementation of the 1979 food aid programme since it was impossible for the Commission to monitor allocation of the aid.³

A decision was taken, on the other hand, to grant exceptional emergency aid, comprising financial assistance and emergency food aid, to the Afghan refugees.³

1.1.10. Lastly, the Council decided that other possible measures should be examined concerning trade, with particular reference to export credits.

Mr Jenkins' address to Parliament's Political Affairs Committee

1.1.11. The whole range of Community measures was described by Mr Jenkins at a public meeting organized by Parliament's Political Affairs Committee on 31 January, more particularly, Mr Jenkins rehearsed the measures taken in agriculture, stressing the coordination of the positions of the Community and the United States on exports of foodstuffs. Mr Jenkins referred in this context to his visit to Washington and the positive reaction in the United States to the steps taken by the Community.

Mr Jenkins pointed out that the Community's action should not be confined to negative measures: these should preferably be accompanied by positive steps such as the strengthening of links with the countries in the region, notably Turkey, Pakistan, India and other Asian countries; action should also be taken with regard to the European continent (Yugoslavia). He ended his statement by stressing the fact that the current political situation called for increased cohesion and solidarity on the part of the Community. Everything possible should be done to prevent a rift between the United States and the Community; the USSR, for its part, should realize that the events in Afghanistan constituted a profound change in world politics.

¹ Points 2.3.10 to 2.3.12.

² Point 2.1.36.

³ Point 2.2.23.

2. North-South relations: towards 'global negotiations'

The Commission's guidelines

1.2.1. The adoption by the United Nations Assembly last December of a Resolution in favour of opening North-South economic negotiations within the United Nations system is felt by the Commission to mark the beginning of a process of major political importance. The Communication transmitted to the Council on 25 January to help prepare the Community position at the negotiations therefore welcomes this initiative.

In its Communication, the Commission refers to the changes that have occurred on the international scene since the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (the 'North-South Dialogue') was held in Paris from 1975 to 1977. It describes the changed international context in which the new negotiations will take place. It tries in particular to make the subject it suggests for priority examination revolve around a central theme: the development of the least developed countries and the removal of barriers to world economic growth.

The major innovation of the 'global negotiations'

1.2.2. The Commission Communication emphasizes the profound changes which have come about on the international scene since the CIEC, which was to some extent a failure. The energy problem is now seen as structural and no longer tied to shifts in the world economic situation. Moreover, the individual groups of countries' interests now differ much more markedly, but at the same time interdependence has increased.

In its analysis of the General Assembly's Resolution the Communication points out in particular that:

(i) the new international economic order is looked upon as the ultimate aim, the direc-

tion in which the global negotiations should be conducted in order to contribute towards the establishment of a new system of international economic relations by means of bold initiatives and new, global solutions;

(ii) it is agreed that the negotiations should not only 'contribute to the solution of international problems ... and to steady global economic development' but also 'reflect the mutual benefit, common interest and the responsibilities of the parties concerned, taking into account the general economic capability of each country'.

The Commission stresses in particular two points which sum up the major innovation embodied in the negotiations: first, the subject of energy as such is raised once again, at the instigation of the developing countries themselves; second, the concept of economic interdependence seems to have matured: it is no longer seen in terms of the developing countries obtaining concessions from the industrialized countries whose boundless wealth was supposed to secure prosperity in all corners of the world, but far more as a joint effort to work out solutions to common problems.

The aims and subjects suggested by the Commission

1.2.3. The Commission's Communication goes on to examine what the Community's aims should be and the major subjects to be discussed.

The suggested *aims* would be to ensure a dynamic balance between energy supply and demand (security of supply, development of energy resources in the developing countries,

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.43.

etc.); to avoid the collapse of Third World markets; and to help the poorest countries (by developing food production, reinforcing world food security arrangements and improving the exploitation of mineral resources in the developing countries).

As regards the subjects for discussion, the Commission feels that the negotiations should concentrate on certain major clusters of problems, which are interrelated and concern the international community as a whole. As a guideline in the general context already referred to, namely 'the removal of the main obstacles to world growth and development problems', the Commission wants to focus on a small number of subjects which tie in with most, if not all, of the major problems of international economic relations, while at the same time dealing in a coherent way with the five fields mentioned in the General Assembly's Resolution (trade, development, raw materials, energy, and monetary and financial matters).

Nature and mechanics of the negotiations

1.2.4. The Commission stresses the need to establish appropriate machinery of these specific economic negotiations within the United Nations system—in other words, arrangements different from standard techniques in international discussions.

The Commission feels that it would be desirable for politicians to be involved in these negotiations by making provision for one or more general or specialized ministerial sessions. Also, a central negotiating body should be set up to steer all areas of the negotiations, which would partly be conducted by *ad hoc* working parties or even in other specialized international agencies.

As for the Community's participation, the Commission wants to keep to the formula adopted at the CIEC, where the Community spoke with one voice through the Member State chairing the Council and through the Commission.

3. Technical barriers to trade: new Commission approach

Technical barriers: new approach

1.3.1. In a Communication sent to Parliament in January, and also to the Council, the Commission proposes a new approach to Community policy on technical barriers to trade. This emphasizes the positive, preventive aspects to be borne in mind in this connection, whereas the preoccupation to date has been the removal of barriers already in place. The Commission, then, is proposing a new 'philosophy' in this area with the fundamental aim of contributing to the attainment of a genuine internal market here too.

Objective

1.3.2. The Commission summarizes its aims as follows:

'The Commission's intention... is to follow up and intensify its efforts to ensure that free trade within the Community is implemented in full. A good deal of work has already been done, and the task of the future is not merely to safeguard the Community patrimony and continue the current activities on the same lines as in the past, but also and above all to supplement them by taking account of other aspects that up to now have not been given the same priority. Clearly, the aim to be achieved is to establish an internal market and to enable the consumer and the enterprises to take advantage of it... The removal of barriers cannot be regarded as a separate issue from the various policies that the Commission must follow—it is obvious that that policy is a crucial factor, and it must therefore be effective and realistic. The choice of priorities will be guided by those areas of industry in which action is more necessary than elsewhere, and the means must be selected according to their effectiveness. For the Commission to sponsor a flood of directives that it would have the utmost difficulty in managing would be pointless: the aim is the free movement of goods within the Community, and in order to achieve that aim the Commission intends to broaden its present activities by placing as much emphasis on the prevention of barriers as on the removal of those already created.

Lastly, the Commission will keep the European Parliament informed of the progress of the work in an oral report. Any suggestions put forward by Members of the Parliament during the discussion would be given very careful attention by the Commission, and would be taken into account wherever possible in its subsequent activities.'

Action to date

1.3.3. The Communication details the Community's efforts to date in this area:

'... The removal of technical barriers to trade is one of the requirements for the establishment of the Community's internal market. Goods must be able to move freely so that the consumer can reap the benefits of competition between manufacturers and of a wider choice of products, and in order that the manufacturers in turn can take advantage of the economies of scale offered by a market of 260 million inhabitants (soon to rise to over 300 million) and find in the internal market adequate scope for the development of new products before setting out to penetrate markets outside the Community.

This is why the Commission has always laboured to break down these insidious non-tariff barriers to Community trade, especially those of a technical nature. Up to now, practically all its efforts in this field have been directed to the removal of barriers resulting from differences between the provisions of law, regulation or administrative action.

... Though this record shows that the procedures envisaged in the General Programme for the Removal of Technical Barriers to Trade, which was adopted in 1969 and revised in 1973, have been put into effect by the Commission with the necessary energy and drive, it does not mean that the situation is satisfactory.

The aim is not to accumulate directives, but to remove hindrances to trade. This is an objective that is still a long way from realization and will not be achieved by merely following up the work

NB: Subheads supplied.

already under way, for the barriers that can be dealt with by directives issued in accordance with Article 100 of the EEC Treaty are only a part of the actual barriers.

All the national standards being drawn up by the national standardization authorities at the rate of dozens every week are not in fact provisions of law, regulation or administrative action. These national standards are not designed deliberately in order to create obstacles but are generally meant to serve worthy aims: rationalization of production, improvement of product quality, protection of workers, users, consumers or the environment, more economic use of energy and the like.

Be that as it may, the way they are drawn up and the fact that only the national industry is actively involved in their preparation gives the national manufacturers a twofold advantage over their competitors: they can be sure that in the preparation of these standards due consideration will have been given to their views and their manufacturing processes; they are aware of the intended pattern of development and modification in advance of their competitors, and therefore have time to prepare for it. The effect of these national standards in some of the member countries is enhanced by the importance attached to them by the inspection authorities and by the publicity given to certificates of conformity with the national standards.'

Working methods

1.3.4. As regards the barriers set up as a result of differences in the laws, regulations and administrative provisions, serious thought should also be given to the working methods adopted by the Commission. The Communication makes the following points in particular:

'...On a number of occasions the European Parliament has openly complained at having to examine very technical proposals without understanding the place they occupy within the programme as a whole. The Commission, of course, transmits its proposals as and when they are drawn up in order not to delay the work of the Council, and this

method results in a fragmentary presentation which makes it still more difficult to understand very complex and specialized documents...

But the method adopted hitherto for the removal of technical barriers to trade poses yet another fundamental problem: it results in a growing burden of responsibility for the Commission and a constantly increasing workload for its staff. Whereas a few years ago the task of Commission officials in this field was to draw up new proposals and justify them to the other Community institutions, today much of their work is taken up with the management of directives already adopted, i.e. controlling their implementation in the Member States (nearly 250 actions for infringement are pending) and adapting them to technical progress.

These last-mentioned tasks are bound to grow with the Community patrimony, i.e. with the number of directives adopted by the Council, and will entail a steady expansion of the Commission's staff. Even if this increase of work at Community level and the wider responsibilities undertaken by the Commission brought about a corresponding reduction in the workload and responsibilities of the national administrations, an indefinite reinforcement of the Commission staff dealing with these matters would be unacceptable.'

Review of activities: forestalling the creation of barriers

1.3.5. These reflections have prompted the Commission to state:

'...The Commission must therefore review the whole of its activities in connection with the removal of barriers to trade in the light of the policies it intends to pursue.

From the point of view of the industrial policy, it would be a mistake to think that the removal of barriers is an operation without effect on the evolution of industrial structures. The establishment of a single internal market will primarily benefit those industries—whether of the Community or outside—that are able to take advantage of the economies of scale that can be expected to ensue from the development of this internal market. Those economies can be achieved only by

stepping up series production, and, since the development of the market is generally not likely to enable every company to multiply its production, keener competition will bring about changes of structure either in the form of mergers or, for instance, by more intensive specialization on the part of the undertakings concerned.

...The Commission will have to tackle the problem from several angles: it should seek not only to remove the barriers, as it has done hitherto (by directives based on Article 100), but also try to prevent such barriers from arising. Whether the obstacles are created by provisions of law, regulation or administrative action or in some other way, this twofold approach must be such that no time is lost in identifying problems, not merely from the legal standpoint but according to their economic importance and the time limits within which they have to be resolved.

The Commission will also continue its work in implementation of Article 100, though it will concentrate more of its attention on those areas in which it is most anxious to succeed in order to avoid dissipation of effort. It has never been the Commission's policy to harmonize for the sake of harmonizing, and up to now it has not only kept within the bounds of the programmes approved by the Council, but it has always tackled new areas in close consultation with the parties concerned, namely those most affected by the walling-off of the market and most conscious of the need to do away with national barriers.

Since, however, the number of officials who can be assigned to a task of this kind is limited, it will become more and more necessary to make a strict selection from among the requests received from industry in order to give maximum efficiency to the Commission's activities.⁷

Coordination of standardization policies

1.3.6. '...In parallel the Commission proposes to hold meetings—as often as needed, and not less than twice a year—of the national officials responsible for standardization policy in order to coordinate their activities. At these meetings, the delegation from each Member State will give a

detailed account of its current programmes and its intentions with respect to technical specifications that it intends to make mandatory; it will also indicate any difficulties that might be arising in its exports to other Member States as a result of this type of barrier.

It will be essential to find joint solutions to these difficulties, which may be due either to the specifications themselves or to the inspection formalities.

...The Commission feels sure that many of the problems can be solved, at any rate in part, by procedures less formal, and thus more flexible, than the issue of directives.

...Coordination between the national standardization bodies, which the Commission has always encouraged, must be developed and strengthened. A major factor in that coordination will be the transformation of the CEN¹ and CENELEC² into effective organizations. For that purpose, there must first be a firm commitment to these bodies on the part of the Governments of the Member States and the Commission.

At the political and technical level, this must take the form of more active participation in their work (notably with regard to their organization and control) and in the decisions taken. The meetings of the CEN and CENELEC should cease to be a confrontation of national interests, and become a forum for the pooling of information by the national experts. Where the problems encountered are outside the sole competence of the standardization experts, the Commission, in association with national officials, will study the various options, point out the main guidelines, and define priorities.

If European standardization is to fulfil any useful purpose, European standards will have to be prepared, without "deviations", at the rate of several hundred a year. This will not excessively complicate the work of the standardization institutes in the Member States, since the European standards will have to be included in the national standardization systems and the work done at European

¹ European Committee for Standardization.

² European Commission for Electrotechnical Standardization.

Technical barriers: new approach

level will not need to be repeated nationally. One need only think of the work being done over and over again by the eight standardization authorities in the Member States—each jealous of its prerogatives and independently drawing up its own national standards—to realize the absurdity of the situation and the amount of work and money that could be saved by European organizations with a suitable mode of operation...


The Commission also intends to promote the representation of consumers on standardization bodies as it announced in its second programme for a policy for consumer protection and information...¹

Moreover, the draft national standards will be communicated to the standardization bodies in other Member States early enough to enable them to make observations that can be effectively taken into consideration. Lastly, observers appointed by the standardization institutes of other Member States will be able, upon request, to be present at the standardization work carried out by a national institute on a given subject. These decisions, which have been taken in the last few months by the responsible officials of the Member States acting on a proposal from the Commission, should quickly produce positive results. The Commission will follow their implementation closely.

The Commission's work would be incomplete if it did not also endeavour to remove barriers engendered by the national requirements with respect to certification and inspection. In this field there is a wide variety of procedures, which are either laid down by provisions of law or regulation or which, although not legally binding, do in fact offer real advantage to those for whom they are most easily accessible...

These problems are difficult to pin down. Many of them can be resolved by harmonization of the national standards and the creation of an adequate body of European standards. Pending the outcome of this laborious work, however, the Commission has undertaken, in agreement with the officials responsible for standardization in the various Member States, to draw up an inventory of national certification procedures and the obstacles to trade they entail.²

¹ OJ C 218 of 30.8.1979; Supplement 4/79 — Bull. EC.



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN JANUARY 1980**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary union

New Community borrowing and lending instrument

Second tranche of 500 million EUA proposed by the Commission

2.1.1. On 29 January, the Commission laid before the Council a proposal for a Decision empowering the Commission to contract a second tranche of borrowings amounting to 500 million EUA under the new Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI—the 'Ortoli facility'), the purpose of which is to promote investment in the Community.

As in the case of the first tranche, the funds raised will be on-lent to finance investment projects on Community territory which are consistent with priority Community objectives in the infrastructure and energy sectors. Broadening its interpretation of 'infrastructure', the Commission proposes that the second tranche should include certain very important projects for housing and advance factories, to be carried out in priority regions or in areas hard-hit by the crisis.

The basic Decision¹ empowering the Commission to contract loans for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community (the amount of such loans not to exceed 1 000 million EUA) was adopted by the Council on 16 October 1978. Pursuant to that Decision, the Commission was authorized by the Council on 14 May 1979² to make a first tranche of borrowings amounting to 500 million EUA. By the end of 1979 nearly 300 million EUA had been com-

mitted as NCI loans; as the balance will be used up during the first few months of 1980, the Commission has made this approach to the Council to initiate the authorization procedure so as to ensure continuity of action.

The new instrument has already demonstrated its usefulness: the first series of projects alone represents a total investment cost of 3 372 million EUA, of which 60% is in the priority sector of energy.

Economic situation

Economic trends

2.1.2. A somewhat firmer trend of demand and production in 1979; resumption of growth in industrial production; unemployment stable overall but with varying component trends; renewed pressure on prices; increased trade deficit; moderate monetary growth and rising interest rates: these, says the Commission, were the main economic trends in the Community in 1979, as identified at the beginning of this year. The Commission staff report now published includes the following points:

'The most recent Commission staff estimates suggest that real gross domestic product in the Community as a whole grew by 3.3% in 1979, as against 3.1% in 1978. Although aggregate consumption rose at a slightly less rapid rate, the brisker expansion in the volume of fixed investment and stockbuilding led to more vigorous growth in internal demand (4.3% in real terms, compared with 3.3% in 1978). Fixed investment growth at constant prices (3.9%) was the highest

¹ OJ L 298 of 25.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

² OJ L 125 of 22.5.1979; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.7.

recorded for the Community since 1973. However, with imports rising faster than exports, there were stronger restraining effects on activity than in 1978...

Although the leading indicators seemed to suggest the opposite, industrial production, seasonally adjusted, grew by as much as 1.2% in November. As a result, the trend over succeeding three-month periods, which had remained sluggish between July and October, turned up again. This recovery was due primarily to the faster rate of growth experienced in Italy in the early autumn and, to a lesser extent, to the steadier growth of output in Germany. There was also evidence of a distinct recovery in industrial output in Denmark. In the United Kingdom, by contrast, despite efforts in some industries to make up output lost through industrial disputes in the autumn, production was still below the peak level recorded mid-year. In France, too, there was a dip in the trend following the buoyant growth recorded in the third quarter...

In December, the unemployment rate for the Community, after showing only minor fluctuation during the course of the year, was unchanged from the previous month, at 5.5%. Among the Member States, unemployment rates declined between November and December in Germany and Ireland, countries in which unemployment fell steadily during 1979. In France and Belgium, on the other hand, the unemployment rate continued to tend upwards. In the United Kingdom, where unemployment had been easing slightly in the first three quarters, the deterioration first discernible in October became more marked. Unemployment also rose in Italy, although there had been a recent tendency, admittedly fairly irregular, for its level to come down. The deterioration noted in Denmark follows a fall in unemployment that was particularly sharp in the first half of the year and continued for most of the second. In the Netherlands and in Luxembourg, unemployment remained relatively stable throughout the year. As regards unemployment by sex, male unemployment fell in December to its lowest level since the first half of 1977...

In December, the Community consumer price index rose 0.8%. For the year as a whole, consumer price inflation thus probably amounted to 9.9%, as against 7.5% in 1978. The six-month

increase, seasonally adjusted and expressed at an annual rate, remained close to the 14.8% maximum recorded in mid-1974 following the first oil crisis. In several Member States, the movement of consumer prices clearly reflected the impact of the rise in petroleum product prices. The December increase was highest in Italy, amounting to 1.6%, but remained well below 1% in the other Community countries. During recent months, rates of increase in wholesale prices have tended to come more into line with those for consumer prices; for the year as a whole, the rise in wholesale prices was probably 10.3%, as against 4.4% in 1978...

The basic tendency for the Community's trade deficit to increase, which first started in the autumn of 1978, seems to have continued at the end of last year. While, in November, an improvement was noted in most Member States, the Italian deficit widened sharply owing in particular to the building up of stocks of crude oil. In December, the Community deficit worsened because of a further reduction in the German surplus due largely to a fall in exports, and because of increased deficits in France and Denmark...

The only exception was the United Kingdom deficit, which has been narrowing since October. Primarily as a result of the considerable increase in the price of imported crude oil—on a year-on-year comparison, the rise in the fob price expressed in dollars was about 88% in the fourth quarter of 1979—the Community's terms of trade deteriorated by 1.3% in 1979. The deterioration in the Community's trade balance between 1978 and 1979 is estimated at almost USD 20 000 million, equivalent to some 0.9% of Community gross domestic product at current prices and exchange rates."

Monetary Committee

2.1.3. The Monetary Committee held its 257th meeting in Brussels on 23 January. It elected its officers for 1980-81: Mr Haberer as Chairman and Sir Kenneth Couzens, Mr

¹ Commission, *European Economy*, Supplement A: Recent economic trends—No 2, February 1980.

Dini and Mr Horgan as Vice-Chairmen. It then continued its discussions on the future European Monetary Fund.

Economic Policy Committee

2.1.4. The 88th meeting of the Economic Policy Committee was held in Brussels on 23 January, in its reduced 'medium-term' composition, with Mr Leonard in the Chair. The Committee completed its review of medium-term questions of common interest by examining medium-term economic policy problems in the Benelux countries, and adopted a consolidated report covering all its national reviews. It also prepared, for the next meeting of the full Committee, a draft opinion on the general problems inherent in the medium-term economic outlook.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

2.1.5. On 23 January the Commission adopted a communication to Parliament on the removal of technical barriers to trade.¹ Its efforts to stem the ever-increasing flow of national measures which set up barriers to trade by introducing harmonization directives based on Article 100 of the EEC Treaty date back to 1969. The Commission feels that its activities on this front could usefully be extended in two directions:

(a) first, by attempting to curb the barriers resulting from national standards, which may not be mandatory but create obstacles none the less;

(b) second, by preventing the creation of such barriers at source.

Directives adopted

2.1.6. On 15 January the Council adopted a Directive on the ranges of nominal quantities and capacities permitted for certain pre-packaged products;² the Commission proposal³ was presented in July 1976.

The Directive is designed to provide free access to all Community countries for certain products (including foodstuffs, cosmetics, aerosols, tins and glass containers) sold by weight or volume in the quantities or capacities specified in this new Community instrument. Provision is made for other products to be added to the list later, but the process of harmonization is now well under way. The resulting standardization will permit substantial economies of scale which will be profitable to manufacturers and at the same time beneficial to consumers.

Commission proposals

2.1.7. On 17 January the Commission sent the Council two proposals for Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to roll-over protective structures (ROPS) and falling-object protective structures (FOPS) for certain construction plant.

¹ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

² OJ L 51 of 25.2.1980.

³ OJ C 193 of 18.8.1976; Bull. EC 7/8-1976, point 2117.

The technical provisions were worked out with the assistance of government experts and representatives of the Committee for European Construction Equipment and the Commission of European Inspecting Bodies, and based on international standards. The Commission proposals were prompted by a number of considerations:

(a) protection structures significantly reduce both the number and the seriousness of accidents;

(b) the sector involved is a very important one accounting for 10% of the mechanical engineering market and 25% of world production;

(c) the fact that several Member States had already taken action placed an onus on the Commission to do something about harmonization.

2.1.8. On 17 January the Commission sent the Council two proposals for Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the fuel consumption and the engine power of motor vehicles. The introduction of a Community method for measuring fuel consumption is important both as a means of monitoring reduction targets and as a means of providing purchasers and consumers with objective information. The proposals are part of the Commission's wide programme for the rational utilization of energy¹ and of its consumer action programme.

2.1.9. On 28 January the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres in mines susceptible to fire-damp.²

2.1.10. On 23 January the Commission sent the Council a proposal³ to amend the

Directive of 27 July 1976 relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations.⁴ Since it is not yet possible to do without polychlorinated terphenyls (PCT) for certain purposes, notably in aircraft engines and high-precision lenses, they must be authorized for specific uses in certain premises until a suitable substitute has been found.

2.1.11. On 28 January the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to textile names.⁵

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2.1.12. On 18 January Parliament gave its opinion⁶ on two Commission proposals, concerning the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products⁷ and cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption.⁸

At its 30 and 31 January session the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion⁹ on the Commission proposals concerning colouring matters which may be used in foodstuffs intended for human consumption¹⁰ and colouring matters in medicinal products.¹¹

¹ OJ C 208 of 18.8.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.111.

² Point 2.1.27.

³ OJ C 31 of 8.2.1980.

⁴ OJ L 262 of 27.9.1976.

⁵ Point 2.1.34.

⁶ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

⁷ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.11.

⁸ OJ C 121 of 15.5.1979; Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.8.

⁹ Point 2.3.29.

¹⁰ OJ C 201 of 10.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.12.

¹¹ OJ C 262 of 17.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.15.

Business law**Product liability
and intellectual property****Protection of industrial property**

2.1.13. On 29 January the Council took a decision on the revision of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property¹ in line with the proposal² put to it by the Commission last December.

**Free movement of persons
and freedom to provide services****Mutual recognition of diplomas
and access to economic activities****Midwives**

2.1.14. On 21 January³ the Council formally adopted two Directives on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of qualifications for midwives and on coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to their activities, approved in principle on 18 December.⁴

Industry**Textiles**

2.1.15. The group of distinguished academics responsible for looking into production⁵ held a further meeting on 11 January. The all-important role of local factors in

the different textile-producing areas of the Community was stressed and the group agreed to carry out a survey of all the textile-producing areas and to assess regional impact in an attempt to build up a clearer comprehensive picture of the textiles and clothing industry as a whole.

Customs union**Economic tariff matters****Suspensions**

2.1.16. On 29 January the Council adopted a Regulation⁶ temporarily suspending autonomous CCT duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey. These duties are being suspended totally or partially until 31 December in order to ensure that Turkey is not treated less favourably than the developing countries and territories.

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2.1.17. On 18 January Parliament delivered its Opinion⁷ on the Commission proposal⁸ of 24 July 1979 for a Council Directive on the

¹ Point 2.2.32.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.48.

³ OJ L 33 of 11.2.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.12.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.20.

⁶ OJ L 27 of 2.2.1980.

⁷ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

⁸ OJ C 201 of 10.8.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.28.

harmonization of procedures for the exportation of goods.

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific case

Distribution

Removal of restrictions on advertising

2.1.18. Access to the market of a Member State may be seriously impeded for a manufacturer in another Member State if he is deprived of the proper facilities for advertising his products. This was the thinking behind the Commission's action on a complaint filed by a British supplier of boating equipment when, in March last year, the only two Belgian specialist journals in this field, the jointly owned *Sur l'eau* and *Ik vaar*, stated that they would no longer carry advertisements for his products. The journals had been approached by Belgian manufacturers who alleged that they were competing under serious cost and tax disadvantages. In support of his case the complainant argued that his sales in Belgium had suffered seriously as a result and that boating equipment purchasers in Belgium had also been deprived of access to a cheaper and wider source of supply in another Member State.

In response to Commission representations the journals have now agreed to accept advertisements from suppliers in other Member States on the same basis as from their Belgian competitors.

Financial institutions and taxation

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Tax exemptions

Procedure applicable to the stores of vessels, aircraft and international trains

2.1.19. On 23 January the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive¹ on the Community tax procedure applicable to the stores of vessels, aircraft and international trains, i.e. goods such as catering supplies, fuels and sundry stores to be used exclusively on board.

National legislation traditionally provides, subject to certain conditions, for exemptions on the importation and exportation of such products. This is incorporated in Community legislation in the Sixth VAT Directive of 17 May 1977,² which at the same time stipulates that Community rules defining the scope of the exemption and implementing provisions are to be adopted at a later date. This is the purpose of the Directive now proposed: it would determine the Community tax procedure to apply in this field, both within the Community and in traffic with non-member countries.

The procedure covers both VAT and excise duties. A single procedure is necessary, both

¹ OJ C 31 of 8.2.1980.

² OJ L 145 of 13.6.1977.

because the two types of tax give rise to similar problems and because the tax rules applicable to one and the same transaction should be simplified. For the same reasons, the tax procedure has been modelled as closely as possible on that already suggested by the Commission for customs purposes in its proposal for a Regulation sent to the Council on 8 March 1978.¹ The principles of this latter proposal are also largely derived from the Sixth VAT Directive.

If true harmonization is to be achieved, excise duties must be included in the proposal, owing to their great importance in the tax field, given the high level of rates applied in the Member States.

Denmark derogation

2.1.20. On 31 January the Commission adopted a report to the Council on the derogation accorded to Denmark, under a Directive adopted on 19 December 1977,² relating to the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel. This Directive authorized Denmark to derogate from the Community system of allowances up to 31 December 1982, and the Commission undertook to report annually to the Council on the prices of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages in Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany, on passenger fares in Denmark and on the Danish Government's tax policy. The Commission's report (the second on this matter) concludes that in general no significant progress was achieved in 1979—as in 1978³—in reducing the differences between the prices of the products concerned. On the contrary, so far as cigarettes are concerned, the price gap increased considerably as a direct result of Danish tax increases.

Excise duties

French overseas departments

2.1.21. On 28 January the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive authorizing France not to apply in the French overseas departments the Directives, adopted by the Council on 19 December 1972⁴ and on 18 December 1978,⁵ on taxes other than turnover taxes (i.e. excise duties) on consumption of manufactured tobacco. The first of these Directives lays down the principles for a stage-by-stage harmonization of the structures of excise duties on manufactured tobacco (and, in its amended version, the criteria to be applied during the second stage); the second defines the different types of manufactured tobacco.

In adopting these Directives, the Commission and the Council had, in the absence of provisions to the contrary, interpreted Article 227(2) of the EEC Treaty as excluding the French overseas departments from the scope of the Directives. A judgment delivered by the Court of Justice on 10 October 1978⁶ set aside this interpretation, holding that, with the expiry of the two-year period provided for in Article 227(2), the provisions of the Treaty and secondary legislation applied automatically to the overseas departments.

The purpose of the proposal sent to the Council in January is to enable France, as ini-

¹ OJ C 77 of 23.3.1978.

² OJ L 336 of 27.12.1977; Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.68.

³ Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.43.

⁴ OJ L 303 of 31.12.1972.

⁵ OJ L 10 of 16.1.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.53.

⁶ Case 148/77 *Hansen & Balle v Hauptzollamt Flensburg* [1978] ECR 1787; OJ C 263 of 7.11.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.57.

tially intended, to exclude the overseas departments from the scope of the two Directives in question.

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2.1.22. At its plenary session on 30 and 31 January the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion¹ on the proposal for a Fifth Directive on the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel, which the Commission had sent to the Council on 30 November 1979.²

Employment and social policy

Employment

Employment policy response to the new micro-electronic technology

2.1.23. On 30 January the Commission adopted a Communication on the employment policy response to the new micro-electronic technology, to be discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment scheduled for 26 February.

In a Communication on new information technologies sent to the Council on 29 November 1979³ the Commission has stressed the need for Community action and proposed a number of measures: the paper has also been discussed at the European Council in Dublin.⁴

The new Commission paper goes further into the social aspects referred to in the November Communication. It is intended to assist the governments of the Member States, the two sides of industry and the Community to identify their respective tasks and sets out various

proposals for action in response to the European Council's requests. In it the Commission examines possible ways of palliating the quantitative and qualitative effects of the spread of data technology on living and working conditions, and puts forward the following three principles on which it considers that appropriate measures should be based:

- (i) intensifying the dialogue between the two sides of industry at company level;
- (ii) closer cooperation between the two sides of industry and governments;
- (iii) developing comprehensive and flexible policies in response to the new needs.

Lastly, the Commission sets out a series of suggestions to promote discussion and action in the Community in connection with measures to be set in motion in this sphere. These suggestions mainly involve stimulating and directing economic policy in such a way that it can maintain demand, support structural changes and guide the development of emerging needs, especially in the services sector. They concern: the reorganization of working time; working conditions and improvements to the quality of life (by applying the new technology to the problems of the least-favoured groups in society, especially the handicapped); vocational training; the development of other labour market support measures (guidance, placement, mobility of labour); reinforcing social protection arrangements; setting up employment forecasting machinery; and active participation by the two sides of industry.

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¹ Point 2.3.30.

² OJ C 318 of 19.12.1979; Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.38.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.21.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.6.

2.1.24. On 16 January Parliament adopted two Resolutions on the employment situation in the Community.¹

Social protection

The fight against poverty

2.1.25. At its 30 and 31 January session² the Economic and Social Committee adopted an Opinion on the Commission proposal³ of 27 November 1979 for a Council Decision concerning an interim programme to combat poverty.

Health and safety

Health protection

2.1.26. On 31 January the Commission adopted, for transmission to the Council, the first report on progress made in implementing the Council Resolution of 29 June 1978⁴ on an action programme of the European Communities on safety and health at work. This report deals mainly with activities already brought to fruition or about to lead to concrete proposals. Several major initiatives have thus been taken, including a proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work⁵ and a proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to metallic lead.⁶

Safety and hygiene

2.1.27. On 28 January the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Directive

on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres in mines susceptible to fire damp; this instrument is therefore outside the scope of the Council Directive of 18 December 1975,⁷ from which underground work in mines susceptible to fire damp was specifically excluded. The new proposal is also in line with the Directive of 6 February 1979⁸ introducing certain forms of protection in application of the 1976 Directive.

Paul Finet Foundation

2.1.28. Meeting in Luxembourg on 18 January, the Executive Committee of the Paul Finet Foundation examined 496 cases and granted financial aid (totalling about BFR 3 728 000) to 348 young persons whose fathers had died as a result of an industrial accident or occupational disease, after being employed in an ECSC colliery, iron mine or steelworks.

¹ Point 2.3.9; OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

² Point 2.3.31.

³ OJ C 307 of 7.12.1979; Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.49.

⁴ OJ C 165 of 11.7.1978; Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.39.

⁵ OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

⁶ OJ C 324 of 28.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.70.

⁷ OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976.

⁸ OJ L 43 of 20.2.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.10.

Regional policy

Financial instruments

European Regional Development Fund

ERDF aid: first allocation for 1980

2.1.29. On 24 January the Commission approved the first allocation of grants for 1980 from the European Regional Development Fund, totalling 161.79 million EUA. These grants will go to 258 projects costing a total of 2 010.85 million EUA.

Under the Regulation of 18 March 1975 establishing the ERDF,¹ as amended by the Regulation of 6 February 1979,² the Fund Committee had unanimously endorsed these projects on 28 and 29 November 1979, except for two on which a consensus was not reached. The Regional Policy Committee had been consulted on 22 and 23 November, on projects relating to infrastructure investments costing more than 10 million EUA. It was only because the ERDF had exhausted its funds for 1979 that the Commission had to defer its decisions until 1980.

The aid granted under this allocation was distributed as shown in Table 1.

¹ OJ L 73 of 21.3.1975.

² OJ L 35 of 9.2.1979.

Table 1 — *Grants from the ERDF (first 1980 allocation)*

| Member States | Number of grant decisions | Number of investment projects | Investment assisted (million EUA) | Assistance granted (million EUA) |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| FR of Germany | 7 | 11 | 134.12 | 11.25 |
| Italy | 7 | 100 | 91.58 | 24.67 |
| Luxembourg | 1 | 1 | 2.14 | 0.50 |
| United Kingdom | 31 ¹ | 146 ¹ | 1 783.01 ¹ | 125.37 ¹ |
| Total | 46 ¹ | 258 ¹ | 2 010.85 ¹ | 161.79 ¹ |

¹ Including one project for which the assistance from the ERDF approved by the Commission in 1979 included a portion to be committed against the appropriations for 1980.

The 161.79 million EUA breaks down as follows:

(a) 71.61 million EUA to help finance 207 industrial and tourism infrastructure projects, comprising:

(i) 6.82 million EUA to finance 2 projects costing over 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 64.79 million EUA to finance 205 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each.

The total cost of infrastructure investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 346.07 million EUA.

(b) 90.18 million EUA to finance 51 projects in industrial (including small business) or service activities, comprising:

(i) 82.04 million EUA to finance 9 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 8.14 million EUA to finance 42 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each.

The total cost of industrial and services investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 1 664 78 million.

Conversion loans

2.1.30. Under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission signed a conversion loan contract for UKL 5 million (about 7.4 million EUA) with the British firm of ERF Ltd, which manufactures heavy commercial vehicles. This five-year loan will go towards the building of a new plant for the assembly of heavy vehicles at Wrexham, in North Wales, and the transfer to Middlewich, Cheshire, of the company's engineering research and development unit. The Council gave its assent at its 10 and 11 December 1979 meeting.¹

Environment and consumers

Environment

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Chemicals

2.1.31. The ecological problems facing the chemical industry were discussed at a meeting between representatives of the Commission and of the European Council of Chemical Manufacturers' Federations held in The Hague on 24 and 25 January.

Discussions centred on how the Community's environment policy relates to the long-term development of the chemical industry, having regard in particular to essential economic and energy requirements. The meeting considered the following topics in turn: Community objectives in this field and the means of attaining them; strategies to bring down the cost of environmental protection; the benefits of pollution control to the economy; and the attitude which the industry should adopt to environmental problems, chiefly by introducing 'clean' technologies into manufacturing processes.

2.1.32. The Scientific Advisory Committee set up by the Commission on 28 June 1978 to examine the toxicity and ecotoxicity of chemical compounds² held its second full meeting at Luxembourg on 15 and 16 January. It examined the problems raised by cer-

¹ OJ C 14 of 18.1.1980.

² OJ L 198 of 22.7.1978; Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.72.

tain hazardous uses of benzene and held an exchange of views on cadmium, polychlorobiphenyls, polychloroterphenyls, and their effects on human health and impact on the environment. The Committee also broadly determined its work programme for 1980. The inaugural meeting of the Committee—made up of prominent top-level scientists¹—had been held in Brussels on 24 and 25 October 1979.²

Consumers

Information, education and representation

Consumer credit

2.1.33. At its 30 and 31 January plenary session the Economic and Social Committee gave its Opinion³ on the Commission proposal⁴ of 27 February 1979 for a Council Directive on consumer credit.

Labelling of textile products

2.1.34. On 28 January the Commission sent the Council a proposal to amend the Directive of 26 July 1971 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to textile names.⁵

Although the 1971 Directive went a long way towards ensuring the provision of adequate information for consumers, who are now entitled to know the composition of articles offered for sale, the Commission felt that a number of changes and additions were needed. Many differences have emerged in the application and interpretation of the Directive since it was incorporated into national law, and these should be eliminated

because they may hamper the free movement of goods and restrict or compromise the provision of consumer information.

The proposed amendments are also intended to take into account new production techniques and new textile products being marketed.

2.1.35. At its 30 and 31 January session the Economic and Social Committee issued an Opinion⁶ on the Commission proposal⁷ of 26 October 1979 to amend the Council Directive⁸ of 17 July 1972 relating to certain methods for the quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures.

Agriculture

Agricultural exports to the USSR

2.1.36. Following the measures decided on by the United States concerning deliveries of agricultural products to the Soviet Union, the Community took certain decisions with regard to its own trade with the USSR.⁹ Thus, after its meeting on 15 January the Council issued the following statement:

'The Council laid down the principle that Community deliveries must not replace, directly or indirectly, United States deliveries

¹ OJ C 21 of 26.1.1980.

² Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.71.

³ Point 2.3.32.

⁴ OJ C 80 of 27.3.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.51.

⁵ OJ L 185 of 16.8.1971.

⁶ Point 2.3.33.

⁷ OJ C 283 of 13.11.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.80.

⁸ OJ L 173 of 31.7.1972.

⁹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

on the USSR market. With this in mind, the Council requested the Commission to take the necessary measures as regards cereals and products derived therefrom and to propose other possible measures for other agricultural products while respecting traditional patterns of trade. A consultation procedure was being instituted with the other main cereal-exporting countries in order to avoid disturbances on the world market.¹

Export refunds for cereals are fixed by tender, and shortly after the events in Afghanistan an invitation to tender for large quantities of wheat and barley for all destinations was issued. On 15 January the Commission issued fresh invitations to tender¹ in which the USSR and the Socialist countries of Eastern Europe did not appear on the list of countries of destination. In order to limit this action to the USSR alone the Commission adopted on 18 January Regulations opening invitations to tender for refunds on exports of wheat and barley to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic.² Trade with these countries is such that any intention to re-export quantities of any size to the USSR would be immediately evident from the weekly tenders. The possible replacement of grain by flour was forestalled by the adoption on 31 January of a Commission Regulation fixing a negative corrective amount applicable to the export refund on common wheat flour consigned to the USSR.³

With regard to products derived from cereals, the Commission on 9 January provisionally suspended the advance fixing of export refunds for certain products in the poultrymeat sector.⁴ This suspension was twice extended, until 25 January, to allow time to assess the market situation. On 24 January the Commission adopted a Regulation establishing a more effective method of monitoring

the refunds fixed in advance for eggs and poultrymeat,⁵ which will enable tonnages and destinations to be scrutinized before advance fixing is granted. This method is applicable now and up to 31 March.

A similar system exists for controlling refunds fixed in advance on milk products and on 30 January the 'period of reflection' was increased from three to five days by a Commission Regulation. On 11 January the Commission suspended the advance fixing of export refunds for butter and butteroil,⁶ and this Regulation was twice extended, carrying the suspension to 1 February. On 22 January the Commission also suspended until 1 February the advance fixing of refunds on skimmed-milk powder.⁷ Refunds on butter, butteroil and skimmed-milk powder were reduced as from 25 January. On 2 February the refund on exports of bulk butter to the USSR, Mongolia and certain Eastern-bloc countries was discontinued.⁸ The refund on butteroil to these countries was reduced by additional amounts of 15 ECU per 100 kg. The Commission felt that no action was necessary on pigmeat for the moment. On the other hand, on 31 January it temporarily suspended the advance fixing of export refunds on certain beef and veal products.³

The Commission hopes that these measures will ensure that Community products do not replace exports from the United States to the USSR.

¹ OJ L 11 of 16.1.1980.

² OJ L 14 of 19.1.1980.

³ OJ L 26 of 1.2.1980.

⁴ OJ L 6 of 10.1.1980.

⁵ OJ L 19 of 25.1.1980.

⁶ OJ L 8 of 12.1.1980.

⁷ OJ L 17 of 23.1.1980.

⁸ OJ L 27 of 2.2.1980.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

General principles

Towards a better market balance and a streamlining of expenditure

2.1.37. At its meeting on 21 and 22 January the Council held an in-depth discussion on the Commission Communication of 4 December 1979 proposing changes in the common agricultural policy to help balance markets and streamline expenditure.¹ It examined the various aspects of the Communication, particularly those relating to milk products, sugar and isoglucose.

In conclusion, the Council directed that discussions should be pursued with all speed at the official level on the problems relating to certain other products, such as beef and veal, cereals, starch products and processed fruit and vegetables, and that the suggestions concerning milk products, sugar and isoglucose should be examined in greater detail, with particular reference to the statements made in the Council's discussions. The Council is to resume its examination of all aspects of the subject at its next meeting. By that date, it will also have received the Commission's proposals for 1980/81 on prices and related measures.

Improvement of the wine market situation

2.1.38. In order to improve the situation of the market in table wines, the 1979 harvest having been very plentiful,² the Commission adopted on 30 January a proposal for a

Council Regulation establishing general rules on distillation operations. The Council agreed in principle to such a measure during its general discussion on the wine sector on 23 January.

Improvement of the CAP: proposal on beef and veal

2.1.39. On 31 January the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Regulation introducing a Community grading scheme for carcasses of full-grown cattle. This Regulation was provided for in the proposals to improve the agricultural policy.³ Its purpose is to harmonize the various national grading schemes into a single one based on experience. The Council will be asked to take a decision on this proposal during the 1980/81 farm price review.

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.40. The monetary compensatory amounts for the United Kingdom were adjusted on 17 and 24 January as a result of the rise in the exchange rate for the pound sterling. From 28 January they were abolished for all sectors except cereals, eggs and poultrymeat and processed products obtained from agricultural products.⁴

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.107.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.2.6.

⁴ OJ L 15 of 21.1.1980 and OJ L 21 of 28.1.1980.

Prices and markets

Prices

2.1.41. On 16 January the Commission by Regulation¹ determined the average world market price and fixed the target yield for soya beans for the 1979/80 marketing year, the last to which the flat-rate aid system will apply. The world price was put at 20.187 ECU/100 kg and the yield at 2 200 kg/ha for seed grown in Italy and 2 000 kg/ha for seed grown in France.

Market organizations

Changes in basic regulations

2.1.42. On 15 January the Council adopted a Regulation² extending the scope of the basic dried fodder Regulation to include the by-products of the manufacture of protein concentrates, since these products are used for the same purpose as those already covered by the basic Regulation.

New common market organizations

Sheepmeat

2.1.43. On 14 January the Commission applied to the Court of Justice³ for a declaration that France had not respected Article 171 of the Treaty in maintaining import restrictions on sheepmeat despite the Court's judgment of 25 September 1979 declaring these restrictions unlawful.⁴

Structures policy

Implementation of socio-structural Directives

Amendment of the Directives

2.1.44. Further to its discussions at previous meetings⁵ the Council on 22 January examined certain specific questions relating to structures,⁶ namely: amendments to the Directive of 17 April 1972 as regards aid to farmers implementing a development plan;⁷ and amendments to be made to the Directive of 28 April 1975 on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas.⁸

With regard to the 1972 Directive the Council discussed the main questions raised by the Commission's proposals to lower the threshold for access to development plans and to fix a new upper limit, so that Community financial aid would be restricted to farms which really needed it to carry out development plans. Concluding its discussion, the Council directed that the matter should be further studied at the official level, in the light of the Council's discussions, and recommendations put forward for decision in conjunction with the other structural measures before the Council.

¹ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

² OJ L 16 of 22.1.1980.

³ Point 2.3.26; OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

⁴ CJEC 25.9.1979, Case 232/78; OJ C 263 of 18.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.3.43.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.111.

⁶ OJ C 124 of 17.5.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.15.

⁷ OJ L 96 of 23.4.1972; Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chapter I.

⁸ OJ L 128 of 19.5.1975; Bull. EC 5-1975, points 2223 to 2225.

Approval of national programmes

2.1.45. In application of the Regulation of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed,¹ the Commission approved a number of national programmes² in the following sectors in January:

- (i) fruit and vegetables in Rheinland-Pfalz;
- (ii) potatoes in England and Wales;
- (iii) improvement of the conditions under which grass seed for the production of fodder is marketed in the Netherlands;
- (iv) a regional programme for Northern Ireland;
- (v) oils and fats in Italy;
- (vi) fresh fruit and vegetables in France;
- (vii) tobacco in Rheinland-Pfalz;
- (viii) wine-growing in Rheinland-Pfalz;
- (ix) eggs and poultrymeat in Belgium.

The Commission considers that these programmes, which are designed to improve processing and marketing of the products concerned, are consistent with the objectives of the Regulation of 15 February 1977.

Agricultural legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.46. On 22 January the Council formally adopted seven animal health directives,³ on which it had reached agreement in December.⁴ Details are as follows:

- (i) The text concerning tuberculosis and brucellosis introduces into the Directive regulating trade in live animals some degree of relaxation of the controls affecting herds

from Member States which have attained a given health status with regard to tuberculosis. It also formally recognizes the brucellosis tests conducted in Ireland in particular. The text also marks the end of the derogations in respect of the two abovementioned diseases which have been granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom since their accession.⁵

- (ii) As regards the control of swine fever, adoption of this initial Directive will act as a starting point for the approximation of national laws by introducing surveillance of herds, it being understood that more detailed provisions are to be introduced before long. Meanwhile, it has been acknowledged that it is necessary for derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom in respect of this disease to be extended for six months.

(iii) The texts on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh poultrymeat are designed to relax the rules while maintaining the necessary health guarantees. It will now be possible for poultry for the production of foie gras to be slaughtered on the farm, which is technically necessary, but on condition that satisfactory health standards are observed.

- (iv) Lastly, a text fixes the conditions necessary for the protection of animal health in connection with trade in meat-based products. At its 14 to 18 January part-session Parliament endorsed four of these proposals,⁶ which enabled the Council to adopt them together.

¹ OJ L 51 of 23.1.1977; Bull. EC 2-1977, point 2.1.34.

² OJ L 36 of 13.2.1980; OJ L 49 of 23.2.1980.

³ OJ L 47 of 21.2.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.115.

⁵ OJ L 158 of 26.6.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.87.

⁶ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

Animal husbandry legislation

2.1.47. On 25 January the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation relating to the zootechnical standards applicable to breeding animals of the porcine species.¹

Plant health legislation

2.1.48. On 30 January the Commission sent the Council two proposals for Directives on pesticide residues. The first concerns the fixing of maximum levels for residues in and on cereals for human consumption and the second the fixing of maximum levels for residues in and on foodstuffs of animal origin.

The use of pesticides is unavoidable in modern agriculture. The residues which may remain in products of vegetable and animal origin are not without risks for human health, and most Member States have therefore adopted provisions imposing maximum levels for such residues. However, these provisions differ from one Member State to another, resulting in barriers to trade in the Community, which need to be removed.

Conditions of competition

2.1.49. Under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty the Commission has decided to terminate the procedure initiated² under Article 93(2) of the Treaty in respect of the subsidy provided for in Clause 53 of a Sicilian bill concerning special measures to support and develop the economy of the island (compensation for the effects of natural disasters suffered by wine-growers). In this connection the Commission took account of the informa-

tion provided and undertakings given by the Italian authorities.

It also decided to make no comment at present on the following Sicilian bills:

(i) measures in the agricultural sector: this provides in particular for low-interest loans for the implementation of investment plans relating to agricultural structures and the grant of subsidies for the purchase and modernization of facilities for the storage, processing and sale of agricultural products;

(ii) implementation of the system of Community premiums for the stockfarming sector: this provides for aid for the purchase of equipment for the identification and computer registration of calves eligible for premiums under the Community provisions in question;

(iii) measures in support of wine cooperatives and consortiums of such cooperatives: this provides for loans for working capital. The Commission stressed that it will re-examine this type of measure in connection with its constant review of systems of aid existing in the Member States as required by Article 93(1) of the Treaty.

2.1.50. The Commission also decided to make no comment on the following:

(i) the amendment to an existing aid measure in the Federal Republic of Germany for the reimbursement of excise duty on light fuel oil used in horticulture for heating glass-houses;

(ii) a draft measure in North Rhine-Westphalia providing for a subsidy for the conversion from light fuel oil heating to coal

¹ OJ C 44 of 21.2.1980.

² Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.117.

or other energy sources and a subsidy for the execution of investment plans to facilitate energy supplies for horticulture under glass;

(iii) an adjustment to aid granted by the Agricultural Training Board in the United Kingdom for the training of employers, self-employed persons and employees in the agri-foodstuffs industry.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guarantee Section

2.1.51. On 29 January the Council adopted an amendment¹ to the Annex to the Regulation of 2 August 1978 laying down general rules for the financing of interventions by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section.² The purpose of the amendment is to update the list of measures constituting intervention of the kinds designed to stabilize agricultural markets.

Fisheries

First steps towards an agreement on the common policy on resources

2.1.52. After two years of stagnation since its meeting on 30 and 31 January 1978,³ the Council has taken a step towards an agreement on the internal system for the conservation of resources. On 29 January a consensus was reached on the total allowable catches (TACs) for 1980 and a common system for the recording and notification to the Commission of catches taken by fleets of Member States in Community waters. Progress was

also made on external aspects with the lifting of United Kingdom reservations, thereby enabling the Council to authorize the signature of several agreements which had been blocked until then.

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.53. Agreement on the TACs for 1980 was reached by slightly raising in some cases the maximum figures proposed by the Commission and by fixing only provisional figures which are to be reviewed in the light of new scientific advice on particularly controversial stocks (cod and saithe in certain zones of the North Sea).

The decision was accompanied by a declaration taking note of the concern of some delegations, in particular the Danish Delegation, with regard to certain species and of the Commission's intention to take account of this in its proposals on the allocation of quotas among Member States.

At the request of the Netherlands, supported by France, Ireland and Denmark, the Council left open the possibility of adopting a positive TAC for herring in the North Sea whereas the Commission had proposed that the prohibition on herring fishing should be retained.

2.1.54. The system proposed by the Commission for the recording and transmission of information on catches by vessels of Member States will be applied in two stages. The

¹ OJ L 28 of 5.2.1980.

² OJ L 216 of 5.8.1978.

³ Bull. EC 1-1978, points 2.1.53 and 2.3.33.

Member States are forthwith under the obligation of transmitting to the Commission each month the quantities landed on their territory. At a second stage, the control measures will be supplemented in accordance with rules to be decided on by the Council acting by a qualified majority before 1 July 1980: requiring masters of fishing vessels to keep on board a register of catches giving the dates and fishing grounds; a declaration to be completed on unloading; compliance with certain rules on transshipment.

2.1.55. As regards national measures for the conservation of resources, the Commission on 29 January approved four Netherlands provisions on the establishment of an interim system for catch quotas for sole, plaice and other protected species.

External aspects

2.1.56. On 21 January the Council decided to proceed to the signature of two fisheries agreements in the form of an exchange of letters between the Community and Canada. Under these arrangements, the EEC-Canada Fisheries Agreement concluded in December 1979 is extended until 31 December 1980 and salmon fishing in 1980 by Community vessels in Greenland waters is limited.

2.1.57. Consultations between the Community and Canada on the management in 1980 of certain common stocks in Greenland and Canadian waters were concluded on 29 January. The delegations agreed on the fixing of TACs and quotas for the stocks concerned and on continuing cooperation on fisheries control.

2.1.58. Since the United Kingdom had lifted its reservations and in view of the progress

made in implementing the internal system, the Council on 29 January authorized the signing of framework agreements on fisheries with Norway, Spain and Guinea-Bissau.

2.1.59. During January consultations with Spain were resumed with a view to fixing reciprocal fishing rights for 1980. For the same reasons as in November and December,¹ these consultations were unproductive. In view of this situation the Community was unable to accept an extension of the interim system whereby Spanish fishermen had been allowed to continue to fish in Community waters during January. Consequently reciprocal fishing rights were suspended from 1 February. Consultations will resume in February.²

The consultations with certain Scandinavian countries on the fixing of reciprocal fishing rights for 1980 could not be concluded before 31 December and were resumed in January:

- (i) Faeroe Islands: after the suspension of reciprocal fishing rights from 1 January 1980, an interim system will be applied from 11 January until the establishment, at the latest by 15 March, of a system applying for the whole of 1980.³
- (ii) Consultations with Sweden resulted on 23 January in arrangements for 1980 governing reciprocal fishing rights in the Baltic Sea and the management of common stocks in the Kattegat as well as fishing by Swedish vessels in the North Sea.
- (iii) Tripartite consultations with Norway and Sweden on fishing in the Skagerrak were

¹ Bull. EC 1-1978, points 2.1.53 and 2.3.33.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.87, and Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.121.

³ Agreement on fishing rights for 1980 was in fact reached on 4 February.

³ OJ L 22 of 29.1.1980.

also successfully concluded on 23 January. The Agreement provides for TACs for the principal stocks in the Skagerrak and the allocation of these between the three parties. It also accepts the principle of introducing a joint enforcement scheme. Consultations on this latter point and on the harmonization of technical measures will be continued during the year.

Markets and structures

Organization of markets

2.1.60 On the basis of the new guide prices fixed by the Council for the 1980 fishing year the Commission has adopted Regulations concerning withdrawal prices and reference prices, and detailed rules for their implementation during 1980; these Regulations came into force on 1 January.

In general the changes in the withdrawal and reference prices for fresh or chilled products reflect the changes in guide prices. It was, however, in some cases necessary to alter the relationships between intervention prices for different presentations or categories of a given species. Furthermore, the regional intervention price and the regions where these prices apply were fixed on the basis of the market trend in order to maintain access to the market for producers in those regions on acceptable conditions.

The reference prices for frozen products had been unchanged for three years and have now been increased to take account of the trend recorded during that period.

As a result of changes in the proportion of the various sizes of landings of redfish and

anchovies, the Commission adjusted the trading standards for these two products.

Since the market situation for frozen hake had improved, the Commission repealed the measure suspending imports of this product. The suspension on imports of frozen squid in Italy has been extended until the situation on the Italian markets improves.

The Commission fixed export refunds, at the same level as in the preceding period, for salted and dried saithe, frozen whole and filleted mackerel and mackerel salted or in brine with effect from 29 January.

Structures policy

2.1.61. As regards State aid in the fisheries sector the Commission has decided not to raise objection to:

- (i) the extension in 1980 of an aid granted in the Federal Republic of Germany since 1978 consisting of certain immediate measures to adjust fishing capacity (reorientating fishing towards new species, opening up new fishing grounds, temporary or definitive withdrawal of vessels);
- (ii) the extension until 30 June 1980 of an aid for fuel granted in Sicily;
- (iii) the extension in 1980 of an aid for certain investments in the processing of fish for human consumption granted in Denmark since 1976;
- (iv) the principle of the granting in Denmark of investment aid to promote the processing and marketing of whiting for human consumption, subject to examination of the implementing provisions which have not yet been decided upon.

Transport

Inland transport

Approximation of structures

Social conditions

2.1.62. On 21 January the Commission delivered a favourable Opinion¹ on a draft Regulation put forward by the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg laying down the penalties applying to breaches of the Council Regulation of 25 March 1969² on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport.

2.1.63. On that same date the Commission issued a favourable Opinion³ on a draft Order, submitted by the French Government in pursuance of the Council Directive of 16 December 1976³ on the minimum level of training for some road transport drivers, which recognizes the level of training for road transport drivers.

Air transport

2.1.64. Following the Council Decision of 20 December⁴ setting up a consultation procedure in the air transport sector, the Commission proceeded to consider the matter of interregional air services. Together with a panel of national experts, it is looking into what should be included in a Community arrangement designed to improve services of this kind. The first meeting was held in Brussels on 24 January.

2.1.65. At its 30 and 31 January session the Economic and Social Committee gave Opinions⁵ on two Commission proposals relating to (a) the weights of road vehicles used for the carriage of goods⁶ and (b) own-account carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁷

Energy

Specific problems

Conservation and efficient use of energy

2.1.66. On 31 January the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion⁸ on the Commission Communication⁹ to the Council of 15 June last year setting out new energy-saving measures and incorporating a draft Council Resolution.

2.1.67. On 17 January the Commission transmitted two proposals¹⁰ for Directives on

¹ OJ L 36 of 13.2.1980.

² The consolidated text is given in OJ C 73 of 17.3.1979.

³ OJ L 357 of 29.12.1976.

⁴ OJ L 18 of 24.1.1980; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.135.

⁵ Points 2.3.34 and 2.3.35.

⁶ OJ C 16 of 18.1.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.138.

⁷ OJ C 41 of 14.2.1979; Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.77.

⁸ Point 2.3.36.

⁹ OJ C 208 of 18.8.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.111.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.8.

the fuel consumption and engine power of motor vehicles.

Coal

Production aids for coking coal

2.1.68. On 17 January the Commission, acting under the Decision of 25 July 1973 concerning coal and coke for the iron and steel industry,¹ authorized production aids for 1979 for Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

Under Article 1(a) of the Decision, Member States may grant aid to their coal undertakings for the production of coking coal used in the manufacture of blast-furnace coke. They determine a rate for each coalfield every year in the light of the average costs of production on the coalfield, the price of coking coal in the principal sales area and the long-term supply conditions. Under the 1973 Decision the rate of production aid is subject to authorization by the Commission, this being given only if the above criteria have been duly taken into account.

Technical research

2.1.69. On 31 January the Commission approved three memoranda concerning 36 research projects on mining techniques, coal preparation and upgrading, which will be sent to the ECSC Consultative Committee for consultation and to the Council for assent. The total cost of these projects is approximately 29 million EUA, and the aid which the Commission intends to grant in 1980 under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty will be in the region of 16 million EUA.

Research and development, science and education

Science, research and development

Scientific and Technical Research Committee

2.1.70. At its meeting on 28 and 29 January, the first to be attended by Greek observers, the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) considered the following items:

(i) *public R & D financing in the Community countries over the period 1970-79*: a report drafted in conjunction with Member States' experts showing an increase in R & D expenditure since 1978 following a four-year period of stagnation was approved and will be published shortly;

(ii) *environmental research*: the Commission has started on the preparation of the multiannual programme to take over from the current programme on 1 January 1981: in conformity with the wish expressed by the Council,² all the indirect-action projects (environment and climatology) and the various concerted-action projects (e.g. sewage sludge and atmospheric pollutants) are being grouped together;

(iii) *data processing R & D*: CREST considered the implementation of the four-year (1979-83) programme³ on the development of data processing and examined the scientific and technical matters raised in the Commission Communication to the Council of

¹ OJ L 259 of 15.9.1973.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.153 (item 5).

³ OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

November 1979¹ on new information technologies ('telematics').

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2.1.71. At its plenary session on 30 and 31 January the Economic and Social Committee adopted a study carried out by its staff on research and development in the Community.²

Joint Research Centre

International Conference at the Petten Establishment

2.1.72. An international conference on the behaviour of high-temperature alloys in aggressive environments was held at the Joint Research Centre's Petten Establishment; it was attended by 210 participants from all the Community countries, Austria, Norway, Sweden, North America, the Middle East and the People's Republic of China.

The discussion of 34 papers revealed that in all the technologies concerned there was a trend towards the use of higher temperatures, resulting in longer service life and greater reliability. It emerged from the discussions that wider opportunities were afforded by the development of alloys or coatings resistant to attack by sulphurization or carburization.

Multannual programmes

Biomolecular engineering: Commission proposal

2.1.73. On 22 January the Commission presented to the Council a proposal for a five-year (1981-85) indirect-action prog-

ramme in the field of biomolecular engineering.³ The main justification for the programme is the need to take full advantage of modern biological knowledge and to encourage Community developments in certain applied fields in which other countries—notably the United States and Japan—have gained a considerable lead.

For the Community programme, the Commission therefore proposes two broad research topics centred on the definition and solution of technical and scientific problems which at the present time are hampering agriculture and industry in the utilization of the concepts and methods of biomolecular engineering. The first topic relates to the development of the second generation of complex enzyme reactors for the synthesis of elaborated new products of importance for European industries. The second topic is concerned with improving the productivity of micro-organisms and cultivated plants by genetic engineering techniques to meet the needs of industry and agriculture. Special attention will be given to solving important practical problems which prevent the expression of foreign genes into the host cells, or which, as regards vegetable cells, hinder their use in stem lines suitable for large-scale propagation or their regeneration in mature organisms.

The programme proposed for the period 1981-85 requires a maximum of 26 million EUA to cover the financing of about 50% of the research chargeable to the Community budget. The research would be performed by public and private sector laboratories. A specialized ACPM would assist the Commission in the management of the programme.

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¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.21.

² Point 2.3.37.

³ OJ C 28 of 5.2.1980.

2.1.74. On 18 January Parliament delivered an opinion¹ on the proposal² for a multiannual (1980-84) programme on biology and health protection (radiation protection), which the Commission transmitted to the Council on 2 April last year.

first programme (1975-79) with a view to defining new projects to be undertaken in the current programme.

Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs)

Education

Transition from education to working life

2.1.75. The ACPM responsible for the indirect-action project on the decommissioning of nuclear power plants³ met on 10 January to examine research proposals received by the Commission on two special topics of the programme, and delivered a favourable opinion on the selection suggested by the Commission following the call for tenders drawn up at an earlier meeting of the Committee.⁴

2.1.78. A Resolution⁶ of the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council was adopted on 15 January, under which the programme of pilot projects undertaken at Community level pursuant to the Resolution of 13 December 1976⁷ concerning the transition of young people to working life is extended until 31 December 1981, and the corresponding evaluation studies until 31 December 1982.

2.1.76. The ACPM in charge of the indirect-action programme on forecasting and assessment in the field of science and technology (FAST), meeting of 25 January, endorsed the programme of work to be carried out over the next few years by the team responsible for the execution of the FAST project. The programme is to hinge on three priority subjects—work and employment, the information society and the 'bio' society. The research will be constantly reoriented with reference to a more general framework—that of Europe and its changing environment.

2.1.77. The ACPMs responsible for the production and use of hydrogen, geothermal energy and systems analysis held meetings in January. The first two Committees delivered a favourable opinion on the research proposals which the Commission proposes to adopt on the basis of replies to the call for tenders⁵ published in September. The third is to make an evaluation of the results of the

¹ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

² OJ C 102 of 24.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.125.

³ OJ L 83 of 3.4.1979.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.83.

⁵ OJ C 243 of 28.9.1979.

⁶ OJ C 23 of 30.1.1980.

⁷ OJ C 308 of 30.12.1976.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Commercial policy

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Portugal

2.2.1. The Supplementary Protocol to the free trade Agreement between the EEC and Portugal, signed in Brussels on 19 December 1979,¹ entered into force on 1 January 1980.²

2.2.2. At its meeting of 14 and 15 January the Council agreed that implementation of the Financial Protocol between the EEC and Portugal should be speeded up. This will shorten by two years the period originally set for making the funds provided under this Protocol available to Portugal.

This means that the total amount of financial aid—200 million EUA—will be committed over a period of three years instead of five years.

2.2.3. In the accession negotiations, work on secondary legislation proceeded with the examination of agriculture (structure, statistics and FADN) and right of establishment.

Commercial policy

Implementation of the results of the multilateral trade negotiations

2.2.4. As one of the measures designed to implement at Community level the various agreements reached in the course of the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations (1973-79), the Council adopted a Deci-

sion on 15 January laying down provisions on the introduction and implementation of technical regulations and standards.³ The new Decision follows on the Council's approval in December 1979, on behalf of the Community, of the multilateral agreements concluded within the framework of the MTNs, and relates in particular to the agreement on technical barriers to trade.

On 20 December 1979 the Council had already amended the common rules on protection against dumped or subsidized imports from countries not members of the EEC, to take account of the new anti-dumping code adopted as part of the MTNs.⁴

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.5. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries⁵ the Commission took the following measures to relax import restrictions:

Italy-Czechoslovakia: exceptional opening of an import quota for bearings;⁶

Italy-USSR: exceptional opening of an import quota for unwrought aluminium, not alloyed.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.4.

² OJ L 348 of 31.12.1979.

³ OJ L 14 of 19.1.1980.

⁴ OJ L 339 of 31.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.10.

⁵ OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

⁶ OJ C 21 of 26.1.1980.

⁷ OJ C 23 of 30.1.1980.

Trade protection

Anti-dumping procedures

2.2.6. On 29 January the Council imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty on lithium hydroxide originating in the United States and the Soviet Union.¹ However, the duty does not apply to one of the US companies covered by the complaint, since it voluntarily undertook to raise its export prices to a level considered satisfactory.

2.2.7. In January the Commission also amended its November 1979 Regulation imposing an anti-dumping duty on certain acrylic fibres originating in the United States, and decided to terminate the procedure initiated in respect of such fibres originating in Spain.² The Commission also terminated anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedures concerning various iron and steel products from a number of countries.³

2.2.8. After receiving satisfactory assurances, the Commission terminated anti-dumping procedures concerning certain tyre imports from Korea and Taiwan.⁴

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Iron and steel

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.9. As part of the anti-crisis measures for 1980,⁵ the Commission opened negotiations, based on the Council's discussions of 18 December 1979, to extend the arrangements on ECSC iron and steel products for 1980;

by the end of January arrangements had already been concluded with two countries.

The proposals put by the Commission to the countries involved allowed a certain degree of relaxation in the rules in force; for example, the arrangements would no longer apply to temporary imports where there was no change in ownership (whereas formerly it was required that these be re-exported to the country of origin. Sixteen tariff headings relating to special steels will be withdrawn from the arrangements and covered only by the consultation clause; there will no longer be compulsory consultations in respect of products of first-stage processing.

The first two 1980 arrangements have been concluded with Finland (on 28 January) and Australia (30 January).

Autonomous measures

2.2.10. The transitional import quota arrangements for ECSC iron and steel products from State-trading countries adopted on 20 December by the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council,⁶ came into force on 1 January.

2.2.11. Other instruments taking effect on 1 January included:

(i) the Commission Recommendation of 21 December 1979⁷ extending until 29 February the Community monitoring of imports of cer-

¹ OJ L 23 of 30.1.1980.

² Point 2.2.15.

³ Point 2.2.12.

⁴ OJ C 15 of 19.1.1980.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

⁶ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.23.

⁷ OJ L 326 of 22.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.22.

tain ECSC iron and steel products introduced in September 1979;

(ii) a further Commission Recommendation of 21 December 1979 introducing new anti-dumping/anti-subsidy rules for ECSC products, parallel to the amended rules adopted by the Council on 20 December 1979¹ concerning protection against dumped or subsidized imports.

2.2.12. Again in the iron and steel sector, in the light of certain arrangements struck with exporting countries or new developments in the situation, the Commission terminated anti-dumping procedures concerning the following iron and steel products: wire rod originating in Czechoslovakia;² iron or steel coils for rerolling originating in the USSR;² certain sheets and plates of iron or steel originating in Japan and Czechoslovakia;² iron or steel coils for rerolling originating in Australia, Japan and Czechoslovakia;² galvanized steel sheets and plates originating in Poland and Spain;² haematite pig-iron originating in Canada, the German Democratic Republic and the USSR;³ and angles, shapes and sections of iron or steel originating in Japan.³

2.2.13. As regards the external aspect of the anti-crisis measures, new basic prices for certain iron and steel products came into force on 15 January.⁴

Textiles

Agreements and arrangements with non-member countries

Implementing measures

2.2.14. On 7, 15, 18 and 24 January, following consultations with five supplier coun-

tries in the course of which new quantitative export restraints were agreed, the Commission formally adopted the Regulations required to put the new limits into effect. They concern various textile products from Pakistan,⁵ Malaysia,⁶ India,⁶ the Philippines⁷ and Brazil.⁸ Talks have also started with Uruguay, Hungary and Indonesia.

2.2.15. On 11 January⁹ the Commission amended its Regulation of 30 November 1979⁷ imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on certain acrylic fibres originating in the United States; the aim of the amendment is to exempt from the duty two US firms which were found not to have been exporting at dumping prices.

The Commission also terminated¹¹ an anti-dumping procedure concerning similar fibres originating in Spain, after receiving undertakings from the main Spanish producer that prices would be raised.

Other contacts

2.2.16. A Commission delegation took part in a meeting on the trade in textiles between the European Economic Community and the five ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Malaysia,

¹ OJ L 339 of 31.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.10.

² OJ C 5 of 8.1.1980.

³ OJ C 15 of 19.1.1980.

⁴ OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 1.1.6.

⁵ OJ L 6 of 20.1.1980.

⁶ OJ L 17 of 23.1.1980.

⁷ OJ L 13 of 18.1.1980; OJ L 17 of 23.1.1980.

⁸ OJ L 22 of 29.1.1980.

⁹ OJ L 10 of 15.1.1980.

¹⁰ OJ L 308 of 4.12.1979.

¹¹ OJ C 2 of 4.1.1980.

the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand) which took place in Chiangmai, Thailand, from 17 to 19 January. Talks centred on the implementation over the last two years of the bilateral textile agreements concluded under the MFA. The ASEAN countries put forward proposals to improve implementation of the agreements, particularly with regard to the fixing of new limits.

Jute and coir

New agreement with India

2.2.17. A new agreement with India on trade and commercial cooperation in jute products was initialled on 30 January, the previous four-year agreement having expired on 31 December 1979. The Council authorized the opening of negotiations for the new agreement in November 1979,¹ and pending their completion extended the old agreement until 31 March, these provisional arrangements applying likewise to Bangladesh and Thailand.²

The newly completed negotiations with India were aimed at:

- (i) encouraging higher consumption of jute products (against competition from synthetic substitutes), in view of the importance of the jute industry to India (particularly West Bengal);
- (ii) maintaining the orderly development of trade, with the long-term aim of liberalizing imports from India completely, while creating the conditions for the survival of a viable, competitive Community jute industry adapted to the new state of the market.

The Agreement will run for four years, until the end of 1983: pending completion of the procedures for its entry into force, it will be

applied *de facto* from 1 March 1980. The agreement provides for the continuation of various quantitative limits on certain specific categories of jute products, allowing for annual growth rates, and for the immediate elimination of all restrictions for one other category, namely carpet backing. It also provides for the complete suspension of customs duties under the system of generalized tariff preferences, and for the removal of all quantitative restrictions on jute products from India from 1 January 1984. The agreement also includes a commercial cooperation section.

Development

North-South relations

The Community and 'global negotiations' within the United Nations system

2.2.18. To help prepare the position to be taken by the Community in the North-South 'global negotiations'—the principle of holding these negotiations having been approved by the United Nations General Assembly³ last December—the Commission transmitted a Communication⁴ to the Council on 25 January suggesting the aims the Community should set itself and proposing by way of example a few themes for discussion.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.13.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, 2.2.29.

³ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.43.

⁴ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

Generalized preferences

Discussions between the Commission and European business

2.2.19. A briefing session for business and trade circles in the Community about the Community's generalized system of preferences (GSP) was held by Commission staff in Brussels on 23 and 24 January. It was attended by about 120 representatives of industrial trade, agricultural and public sector federations and associations. Participants were briefed on the Community's GSP and the results of application of the system since it was brought into operation in 1971.

There was an informal exchange of views on the form the GSP might take after 1980 when the original GATT waiver expires. Although these were not formal consultations, the participants considered what changes it might be appropriate to make to the GSP.

Commodities and world agreements

Cocoa

2.2.20. The Executive Committee of the International Cocoa Organization, meeting in London on 14 January, decided to recommend that the International Cocoa Council arrange intergovernmental consultations at its March session. The United Nations Negotiating Conference on cocoa had decided on 30 November 1979 to adjourn its work and to ask the International Council to arrange intensive intergovernmental consultations before reconvening the Conference.¹

Tin

2.2.21. The Community was represented at the International Tin Council session held in London from 14 to 18 January under the Fifth International Tin Agreement. Twenty-eight countries were represented, including all EEC Member States. The statistical position was reviewed and a close balance between production and consumption of tin was noted.

There was an exchange of views within the Tin Council's *ad hoc* Working Party on stockpile disposals and on technical and other factors involved in the disposal programme announced by the United States. It was agreed that further consultations between the USA and the Tin Council would be necessary. The latter adopted a working paper for use at the Conference to be held in Geneva from 14 April to 16 May to negotiate the Sixth International Agreement; the text will be officially communicated to the countries signatory to the Agreement through UNCTAD channels.

Trade, industrial and technical cooperation

Industrial development

2.2.22. The Third General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization began on 21 January.²

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.17.

² Point 2.2.30.

Food aid, emergency aid and exceptional aid

Aid to Afghan refugees

2.2.23. Following the events in Afghanistan,¹ the Commission and the Council took action as summarized below:

(i) temporary suspension by the Commission, followed by cancellation by the Council, which met on 15 January,² of the 1979 food aid programme for Afghanistan (involving 3 000 tonnes of cereals and 300 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder);

(ii) a decision to grant exceptional emergency aid to Afghan refugees, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), combined with any bilateral aid which the Member States may allocate for this purpose.² The Council called on the Commission to make proposals regarding Community emergency aid for the 500 000 or so Afghan refugees in Pakistan following an appeal for international aid, directed particularly at the Community; Parliament also urged this upon the Commission in a Resolution adopted on 18 January.³

In a Communication sent to the Council on 25 January, the Commission proposed that the Community contribution to the UNHCR aid programme should be as follows:

(i) financial aid to the tune of USD 14 million (10 million EUA), with the Commission deciding to make an initial payment of 300 000 EUA immediately;

(ii) food aid comprising 12 000 tonnes of cereals, 300 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder and 1 000 tonnes of sugar, worth 2 637 800 EUA. These quantities are in addition to those decided upon last November, which are now being delivered.

In addition to this Community aid (worth USD 17.7 million in all) there is also that supplied by the Member States, which should bring the Nine's total contribution to over USD 20 million. The Afghan refugees' aid requirements have been estimated by UNHCR at nearly USD 72 million, of which USD 55 million is to be provided by UNHCR.

Food aid

Emergency aid

2.2.24. The Commission approved the supply of emergency food aid to the World Food Programme for Guinea-Bissau (3 500 tonnes of cereals worth 458 000 EUA), and to UNHCR for Uganda (200 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder), Pakistan (100 tonnes of butteroil, 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder) and Somalia (150 tonnes of butteroil, 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder), worth 1 140 200 EUA in all.

2.2.25. The Commission also approved emergency food aid for Somalia (250 tonnes of butteroil and 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder, worth 640 000 EUA), and in a Communication transmitted to the Council on 16 January it proposed the supply of 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder as food aid to Ghana.

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

² Points 1.1.5 and 1.1.9.

³ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

Exceptional aid**Emergency aid**

2.2.26. On 7 January the Commission decided to grant aid of 100 000 EUA to the United Nations Disaster Relief Office in order to help the people of the Azores following the earthquake which hit a number of islands in the archipelago on 1 January; this aid has been used to purchase 605 tents for refugees. The Commission was also able to make an immediate payment of 300 000 EUA¹ to assist Afghan refugees in Pakistan because the money was intended for purchasing tents locally.

2.2.27. The Commission also made two other exceptional aid allocations, with 3 million EUA being granted to UNHCR on 18 January for the first stage of the repatriation of Zimbabwe refugees in Zambia and Botswana, and 300 000 EUA being made available on 30 January to meet the urgent needs of the inhabitants of Mauritius hit by Hurricanes Claudette and Hyacinth. Parliament had adopted a Resolution on the situation of the Mauritian disaster victims on 18 January.²

International organizations and conferences**United Nations****General Assembly****End of the 34th session**

2.2.28. The 34th session of the UN General Assembly, which opened in New York on 18

September 1979,³ ended on 7 January after three-and-a-half months of discussions on the most pressing issues of current and future concern.

North-South relations in the broadest sense of the term dominated much of the session, with discussions on the new international economic order, the international development strategy, the work of UNCTAD and UNIDO, transfer of resources, and the global negotiations on international economic cooperation within the UN system.⁴ Resolutions were also passed on the GATT multilateral trade negotiations, inflation and the international monetary system.

The Community made a number of statements of position, notably on the occasion of the now traditional address to the General Assembly⁵ by the President of the Council and chairman of political cooperation meetings, but also in statements by the representative of the Community, *inter alia* on the global negotiations⁶ and the international development strategy.

2.2.29. The Committee of the Whole set up by the General Assembly in December 1977 met on 14 to 16 January to organize its work for the year ahead.

The representative of the Community spoke of the Community's firm intention to contribute to the preparation of the work and of its positive attitude to the coming global negotiations. He said that the negotiations would

¹ Point 2.2.23.

² OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

³ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.27.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.43.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 3.4.1.

⁶ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.2.39.

⁷ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.36.

provide an opportunity for dialogue and for improving international cooperation on the basis of the mutual interests of all the countries. He said that the subjects for negotiation should be chosen with particular care and be concentrated on a limited number of important problems; those selected should be both sufficiently important in themselves and likely to reflect in a balanced fashion the interests of the different parties involved.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

2.2.30. The Third General Conference of UNIDO opened in New Delhi on 21 January, with representatives of some 120 countries and international organizations taking part.

Addressing the Conference on 22 January, Mr Davignon alluded to the Community's industrial experience and emphasized what the Community can and therefore ought to do and what it cannot do. He spoke of the need for a stable and predictable investment climate to encourage industrialization in the developing countries. He warned against the danger of unrealistic demands or ambitions, which could jeopardize the work of UNIDO. Pointing to the Community's commercial policy, Mr Davignon underlined the fact that, despite economic crisis, and although its external tariff was on average among the lowest in the industrialized world, the Community had continued to reduce the average level of its customs duties, while applying non-tariff measures beneficial to developing countries' exports. The Community remained the largest and most important market for their exports.

FAO

2.2.31. Representatives from the Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN held talks in Rome on 10 and 11 January. There was an exchange of views on issues of mutual interest, including FAO and Community policies and activities in the field of agricultural and rural development, mainly in the developing countries.

World Intellectual Property Organization

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property

2.2.32. On 29 January the Council adopted a Decision on the position to be taken by the Member States on the revision of the Paris Convention on the Protection of Industrial Property.

The Decision provides that the Member States will act jointly in WIPO at the diplomatic conference convened in Geneva from 4 February to 4 March to carry out this revision on all questions of particular interest to the common market, and thus approves the proposals presented to the Council by the Commission on 31 December 1979.¹

The Commission had placed particular emphasis on the importance of a revision in the context of trade between the Community and non-member developing or industrialized countries, and the adverse effect on the common market if Member States were to take different stands at the diplomatic conference—hence the need for action at Community level.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.36.

The Council agreed with this Commission analysis, then, and—unusually— based its Decision on a clause in the EEC Treaty (Article 116) which states that ‘From the end of the transitional period onwards, Member States shall, in respect of all matters of particular interest to the common market, proceed within the framework of international organizations of economic character only by common action’.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Understanding on Export Credits for Ships

2.2.33. On 30 January the OECD Council adopted a Resolution officially confirming the entry into force of the new Understanding on Export Credits for Ships. This means that for the first time the Community will officially be party to an OECD export credit understanding: the Commission took part in the negotiation of the text last October, and the Council approved its conclusion on behalf of the Community on 10 December.¹

Council of Europe

Parliamentary Assembly

2.2.34. The Council of Europe’s Parliamentary Assembly concluded its 31st session in Strasbourg from 28 January to 1 February 1980.

The Assembly debated the Afghanistan crisis and its consequences and adopted a Recommendation to the Committee of Ministers calling for the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign troops from

Afghanistan.² It also adopted a Resolution calling on the USSR to restore liberty and full rights to Andrei Sakharov without delay.

A further Resolution was adopted calling on national Olympic committees to take the events in Afghanistan and Sakharov’s arrest into consideration before reaching any decision on participation in the Olympic games.

In preparation for the debate scheduled for April on the Middle East situation, the Assembly again heard representatives from countries in the region.³ Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syria’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Marwan Kasim, Jordan’s Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, who gave an account of their views and put forward proposals for a comprehensive settlement plan.

The Assembly also adopted a text on the agricultural aspects of enlargement of the Communities.

Industrialized countries

EFTA countries

Sweden

2.2.35. The Swedish Minister of Commerce, Mr Burenstam Linder, paid a visit to the Commission on 29 January to discuss bilateral and multilateral trade problems. He had talks with Mr Ortoli, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Brunner and Mr Davignon.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.19.

² Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

³ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.2.53.

Norway

2.2.36. The Norwegian Finance Minister, Mr Ulf Sand, visited the Commission on 31 January. He met Mr Ortoli and Mr Haferkamp for discussions on economic and monetary questions of mutual interest. Both sides agreed on the usefulness of direct contacts in the present economic situation.

*United States**Mr Jenkins' visit*

2.2.37. Mr Jenkins paid an official visit to the United States from 21 to 24 January. He had meetings with President Carter, Vice-President Mondale, the Secretary of State, Mr Vance, the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Miller, the United States Trade Representative, Mr Askew, and a number of other members of the Government. Mr Jenkins also met members of Congress.

The talks held during the visit covered the world political situation following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, energy problems, the economic situation and EEC/US trade problems.

Visit to Brussels by the United States Deputy Secretary of Commerce

2.2.38. The United States Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Mr Hodges, accompanied by the Assistant Secretary designate for International Economic Policy, Mr Katz, and the acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Mr Greenwald, visited the Commission on 25 January. The purpose of Mr Hodges' visit was to explain his department's new role following the reorganization

of the Government's international trade functions, which became operative on 2 January.

Mr Hodges met Mr Haferkamp and Mr Davignon, with whom he surveyed the main trade problems arising between the United States and the Community.

Discussions with the US Administration on the environment

2.2.39. The Commission and the United States held a meeting in Washington from 8 to 11 January under the arrangements for cooperation on the environment set up by an exchange of letters in 1974.¹

The main topic discussed was the implementation of the Toxic Substances Control Act, which prompted the Directive of 18 September 1979² amending for the sixth time the Directive of 27 June 1967³ on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

On a more general note the two delegations considered various points such as the problem of acid rains, the environmental impact assessment procedure for public and private works and the storage of radioactive waste.

While in Washington the Commission representatives also had talks with the US authorities responsible for consumer protection.

This was the first time that this area had been discussed in depth, and the two delegations were able to illustrate their respective action programmes and to outline recent develop-

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2231.

² OJ L 259 of 15.10.1979.

³ OJ 196 of 16.8.1967.

ments. Specific points dealt with were consumer credit, product liability and work on consumer protection within OECD.

Japan

2.2.40. In its endeavours to promote a better understanding of the Japanese market, the Community has launched its 1980 programme of eighteen-month scholarships in Japan for young European executives. The programme includes twelve months of intensive study of the Japanese language and six months in a Japanese firm; various activities (seminars, round-table conferences, etc.) are envisaged.

Australia

2.2.41. On 30 January there was an exchange of letters between the Commission and Australia concerning Australian exports of steel to the Community for 1980.¹

Mediterranean countries

Cyprus

2.2.42. On 29 January the Commission and a Cypriot Delegation held exploratory talks concerning the transition to the second stage of the EEC-Cyprus Association Agreement.

Yugoslavia

2.2.43. On 15 January the Council reached a unanimous political position in favour of

the rapid conclusion of an enlarged agreement with Yugoslavia.

Developing countries

ACP States and the OCT

ACP-EEC Convention

Industrial cooperation

2.2.44. A meeting was held in Brussels on 18 January between representatives of the Commission, UNIDO and Senegal to coordinate the preparation of the Fourth Investors' Forum, which will take place in Dakar from 1 to 5 December 1980 as part of the International Fair.

2.2.45. The Commission was represented at the seminar on the promotion of industrial projects arranged in Brussels on 24 and 25 January by the Centre for Industrial Development.

European Development Fund

New financing decisions

2.2.46. The Commission has decided to finance projects at a total cost of 91 034 798.14 EUA (of which 1 145 145.94 EUA under the third EDF), the sectoral breakdown being as follows:

¹ Point 2.2.9.

| | <i>EUA</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Rural development | 42 513 000 |
| Economic infrastructure | 27 300 000 |
| Education and training | 2 937 000 |
| Health | 400 000 |
| Trade promotion | 1 303 000 |
| Exceptional aid | 8 690 653 |
| Other | 7 891 145.14 |
| | 91 034 798.14 |

Other African countries

Southern Rhodesia

Trade arrangements

2.2.47. Following a Commission proposal transmitted to it on 9 January,¹ on which Parliament had given its opinion on 18 January,² the Council adopted a Regulation on 21 January on trade arrangements between Southern Rhodesia and the European Economic Community.³

Being of the opinion that Southern Rhodesia's return to legality would contribute towards political and economic stability in southern Africa, the Council decided to establish trade arrangements on an autonomous and provisional basis, like those applied in trade with the OCT, which is at present governed by the Council Decision of 29 June 1976⁴ and by the Council Regulation of 30 March 1976.⁵

These arrangements are based primarily upon the principle of duty-free access to the Community market; products subject to market regulations are in any case covered by arrangements more favourable than those applicable to non-member countries.

On the same day, the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, took a decision to open tariff preferences for ECSC products originating in Southern Rhodesia.³

Asia

South Asia

Bangladesh

2.2.48. The fourth meeting of the EEC-Bangladesh Joint Commission was held in Brussels on 30 and 31 January.⁶

In its review of trade promotion measures, the Joint Commission took note in particular of the new provisions enabling the Community to participate in financing promotional measures for Bangladesh on markets other than those of the Community. As regards the operation of the trade centres in Copenhagen and Rotterdam, it hoped that their structures would be standardized so as to achieve maximum commercial efficiency.

After some regret had been expressed at the delays in launching cooperation between business firms, the Community delegation made the point that, in a market economy, decision in this field were for the firms themselves to take, with the various administrative depart-

¹ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

² Point 2.3.17; OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

³ OJ L 16 of 22.1.1980.

⁴ OJ L 176 of 1.7.1976.

⁵ OJ L 85 of 31.3.1976.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.68.

3. Institutional and political matters

Political cooperation

ments merely acting as a catalyst at best. Moreover, experience had shown the importance of establishing precisely which sectors could interest investors and the objectives of cooperation, and it was agreed to send a qualified expert to carry out an on-the-spot inquiry.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.49. On 14 January the President of the Council and the President of the Commission received His Excellency Mr Geoffrey Gabotsewe Garebamono, who presented to them his letters of credence in his capacity as Head of the Mission of the Republic of Botswana to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC); he replaces Mrs E.B. Mathé, who has been appointed to other duties.

Political cooperation

2.2.50. The events in Afghanistan were the subject of a statement by the Foreign Ministers of the Nine, who held a political cooperation meeting on 15 January,¹ and of a Resolution adopted by Parliament on 16 January.²

Institutional developments and European policy

Functioning of the Community institutions

Relations between Parliament and the Council

2.3.1. In January the political issues arising in the relations between the elected European Parliament and the Council were again the subject of statement and controversy. Mrs Veil, the President of Parliament, explained how the House sees its own role, and on 16 January the President of the Council spoke at a sitting of the House in Strasbourg on the question of relations between the Council and Parliament.

Statement by Mrs Veil

2.3.2. Addressing the National Press Club in Washington on 28 January, Mrs Veil described the role which Parliament intended to play.

'By vesting themselves with a Parliament elected by direct universal suffrage, nine States of Europe have demonstrated their resolve that the Community is to be not only a channel for economic cooperation but also a political reality, with the ability to contribute, through the European institutional set-up, to strengthening democracy in Europe'. Mrs Veil went on to say how the new Parliament, now that it has been directly elected by the citizens, differed from its predecessor not only because it had more members but also because they were more representative. She

¹ Point 1.1.4.

² Point 2.3.12; OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.

added that in a basically unchanged institutional setting it had become a new political force.

Mrs Veil reminded her audience that direct elections did not in themselves extend Parliament's powers as defined by the Treaties. Nevertheless, 'the new elected Parliament has been quick to demonstrate that it intends to be a political force in tackling the major problems facing the European Community. Witness the autumn debates on the draft budget for 1980'.

Referring to Parliament's rejection of the draft budget, Mrs Veil said that 'this episode showed that the new Parliament is determined to make itself heard by all the means available to it under the Treaties ... The voice of its members has spoken, since their election, and will be heard louder and louder, as the democratic counterpoint to the political cooperation developed by the governments'.

Statement by the President of the Council

2.3.3. Addressing Parliament on 16 January as he presented the programme of the Italian Presidency for the first half of 1980, Mr Ruffini, Italy's new Foreign Minister and President of the Council, also spoke of relations between the Council and Parliament.

He declared that his Government regarded closer cooperation between the Council and Parliament as a priority objective, for without it there could be no frank and fruitful dialogue based on full respect for the statutory powers of each institution, and on an understanding of their mutual aims and expectations.

Mr Ruffini alluded to the Council's duty to offer an appropriate response to Parliament's

legitimate desire to exercise fully and effectively the prerogatives conferred on it by the Treaties. This question was already being considered within the Council and would be studied further as they reviewed the report by the Three Wise Men on adjustments to be made to the mechanisms and procedures of the Community institutions. This review should provide a basis for fruitful discussion at the next European Council.

Court of Justice

2.3.4. Measures to help the Court of Justice operate efficiently were reviewed by the Council on 15 January. The press release issued after the meeting states:

'In the presence of Mr Kutscher, President of the Court of Justice, and of Mr Capotorti, Advocate-General, the Council examined certain questions concerning the operation of the Court of Justice.

The President of the Court explained the Court's views on the measures necessary to guarantee the efficient operation of the Court in the face of its increasing workload, in particular the need to increase the number of Judges and Advocates-General to cope with the growing number of cases and to create an administrative tribunal to relieve the Court of cases which did not concern legal problems in the first instance.

The Council examined in particular the question of the creation of a fifth post of Advocate-General and certain related matters.'

But it was not possible to reach agreement, as one of the delegations was unable to approve what was proposed, so the Council will reconsider the various points raised at a later date.

Convergence and budgetary questions

2.3.5. The matter of convergence and budgetary questions,¹ which covers requests made by the British Government (concerning the UK contribution to the Community budget) and the Italian Government (unbalanced nature of Community policies), appeared in the statement to Parliament on the programme for the Italian Presidency and was also the subject of a new Commission Communication to the Council.

In his address to Parliament the President of the Council emphasized that measures would shortly have to be taken in connection with the 1980 budget to help solve the problem of the financial imbalance raised by the United Kingdom, with the aim of achieving greater economic convergence between the Member States and eliminating the present imbalance between common policies. Mr Ruffini recalled the passage in the conclusions of the Dublin European Council on this point, on the basis of which appropriate solutions should be adopted at the next European Council.²

2.3.6. As requested by the European Council, the Commission approved a new Communication to the Council on convergence and budgetary questions on 31 January,³ supplementing the Communication of 21 November.⁴

In its new Communication the Commission proposes a framework for the Community measures called for by the Dublin European Council. It points out that real progress must be made towards a better balance between Community policies by stabilizing expenditure linked to surpluses deriving from the

common agricultural policy, by reinforcing existing structural policies and by developing policies the need for which is not contested but on which the Council has not yet reached agreement. Meanwhile, the Commission is proposing to work with the relevant Member States on the details of specific programmes that can fit into the framework it has proposed. What the Commission is suggesting, therefore, is an approach based on Article 235 of the EEC Treaty rather than on the structural Funds.

Article 235 reads: 'If action by the Community should prove necessary to attain, in the course of the operation of the common market, one of the objectives of the Community and this Treaty has not provided the necessary powers, the Council shall, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the Assembly, take the appropriate measures'. When the Council has considered the Commission's ideas, the Commission will in good time make formal proposals for Regulations based on Article 235, covering a number of specific programmes whose first concern will be with particularly disadvantaged regions or areas with problems.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.1.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.7.

³ Point 3.4.1.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 3.4.1.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament¹

Part-session in Strasbourg from 14 to 18 January

2.3.7. Though the January sittings dealt at considerable length with the problems of unemployment, it was the political issues of the moment, particularly the repercussions of the situation in Afghanistan, which received most attention.

As is customary at the beginning of each half-year, the House also heard the statement by the incoming Council President setting out the programme for the coming six months. Several Commission proposals were considered, including one on the second five-year programme for the management and storage of radioactive waste, which generated some heated argument between members. The question of the extent of Parliament's powers was raised on several occasions, particularly when an urgent debate was requested—and rejected—and again over a motion for a resolution—referred back to committee—on the situation in Corsica.

The Community and employment (15-16 January)

2.3.8. The debate on employment was set off by a question from Mr Glinne (*Soc/B*) and other members on behalf of the Socialist Group. The speakers differed mainly in their views about the best ways of improving the employment situation: some felt that priority should be given to reducing working hours,

while others emphasized the need for productive investment. Several speakers also highlighted the crucial role of Parliament in seeking solutions and the value of the Tripartite Conferences, which some members, however, wanted to see organized on a new basis.

Putting the question for the Socialists, Mr Sarre (F) found that the remedies and fine words of liberalism were a spent force. The motion for a resolution tabled by the same Group was expounded by Mr Vetter (*Soc/D*), who argued that the answer to the employment problems had to be European. The Socialist motion came in for sharp criticism from Mr Spencer (*ED/UK*), who found it reflected a 'static and medieval conception' of society. For his Group, the thing to do was combat inflation and create new productive jobs.

Speaking for the Communist Group, Mr Frischmann (F) indicted the Community's sheer inability to stem inflation and unemployment. The evil must be attacked at its roots, namely the profits made by multinationals and capitalist companies. Production

¹ 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 34 of 11.2.1980, and the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 250. The political group and nationality 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 Defense of Independent Groups and Members; *NA* = Non-Affiliated.

The countries of origin are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

must be revitalized. We must stop firms being closed down, staunch the outflow of capital and put an end to excess profits.

A supporter of the movement against Denmark's membership of the Community, Mrs Hammerich (*Ind/DK*) remarked that unemployment was part and parcel of the concept of unlimited growth, itself inherent in the common market. Because of the Community it was impossible to apply certain national measures against unemployment.

Miss de Valera (*EPD/IRL*) stressed the need for training tailored to the new technologies. Mrs Chouraqui (*EPD/F*) called for a fresh impetus to productive investment, particularly in the new industries, for aid to small businesses and for action by the European Social Fund to create jobs in the capital equipment industries and research. Moreover, the reduction of working time could be a factor of job creation when gains in productivity allowed it. On this front action must be progressive and concerted.

The statements by members of the Liberal and Democratic Group focused on more specific aspects of employment policy. Mrs Pruvot (*F*) wanted the services sector to offer more jobs to young people, women and the handicapped. Mrs Scrivener (*F*) developed the idea of a pact for employment.

Mrs Vayssade (*Soc/F*) contended that the battle against unemployment should be stepped up by reinforcing regional policy. Community aid, at present scattered, must be coordinated. Piecemeal schemes must be replaced by programmed campaigns and the system of government subsidies must be harmonized. In her speech, Mrs Lizin (*Soc/B*) emphasized the inalienable right of women to work—in which she was supported by Mrs Hoffman (*Com/F*)—and suggested a series of short- and long-term measures to combat unem-

ployment among women, including more forceful action by the Social Fund to assist training and the alignment of social legislation on the principle of the 'most-favoured woman worker'. Mrs Roudy (*Soc/F*), Chairman of the *ad hoc* Committee on Women's Rights, also considered these problems, referring as well to unemployment among handicapped people and migrant workers.

Mr Michel (*EPP/B*) supported the programme of the European Trade Union Confederation—development at European level of genuine solidarity and integration of social and regional policies—and called for concertation and solidarity between the Community and the developing countries to overcome the crisis besetting them all.

2.3.9. After rejecting some of the motions (those of the Socialists and the European Progressive Democrats and two others tabled by members of the Communist Group), Parliament adopted the Resolution put down by the EPP Group and the one tabled jointly by the European Democrats and the Liberals. These two Resolutions see labour and management as the protagonists in negotiations on employment. Though the Socialist demand to cut the working week to 35 hours with no loss in wages was rejected, one of the Resolutions does refer to a reduction in working time (under the responsibility of the two sides of industry). Both Resolutions also lay particular emphasis on the role played by small and medium-sized firms in creating jobs; they must be encouraged by the Community. They also stress the importance in the efforts to achieve full employment of the competitive position, the investment capacity and higher productivity. The Community must conduct structural, regional and industrial policies. Development of productive jobs must be stimulated. (The Socialist resolution

had laid the heaviest emphasis on public investment). Aid to industry must be substantially increased. Lastly, Parliament stressed that the first priority was to attack inflation, the source of the employment crisis.

Situation in Afghanistan

(16 January)

2.3.10. Several motions were tabled on the situation in Afghanistan. The number of texts, and the debate, revealed the differences of opinion among members, not in regard to the condemnation of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan—which, discounting the French Communists, was unanimous—but concerning the steps the Community should take in the present circumstances.

Prior to the debate Italy's new Foreign Minister, Mr Ruffini, as President of the Council, outlined the position taken by the Ministers: the explanations offered by the Soviet Union were not good enough; the aim was to overthrow the Afghan Government, which was facing an international conflict and not an assault from outside; Soviet troops must withdraw from Afghanistan; the Community would not take the place of the United States in supplying the Soviet Union with grain. The Commission Vice-President, Mr Haferkamp, explained that the Council had decided to stop food aid to Afghanistan—which the Commission had already suspended—and had decided to grant Community aid to Afghan refugees in Pakistan, which would be combined with national aid. In more general terms Mr Ruffini declared that there was no alternative to the process of *détente*, but the process was global and indivisible.

This term 'indivisible *détente*' was to make frequent appearances in the ensuing debate.

The debate

2.3.11. Mrs van den Heuvel (*Soc/NL*) voiced the indignation of the Socialist Group at an act of aggression and expansionism. This indignation could not, on principle, be selective and would be felt whenever any such act was committed, whichever side was responsible. While not ruling out economic sanctions 'once and for all', as they might be envisaged in certain cases, Mrs van den Heuvel felt strongly that the policy of *détente* must continue and that the temptations of any 'kamikaze operations' must be resisted. The Socialists were also against the use of food aid for any but humanitarian ends; they repudiated the terminology of the cold war and urged that SALT II be ratified. In conclusion, they condemned the breakdown, at the most critical junctures, of 'political cooperation'.

For the Italian Communists Mr Berlinguer took a similar line, censuring Soviet intervention and calling for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. The fact that this intervention was the act of a Communist country did nothing to alter the principles of independence and national sovereignty. The present situation was a serious threat to world *détente*, paralysing negotiations on disarmament and heightening the military emphasis of politics. Mr Berlinguer held that every effort should be made to prevent any escalation in the antagonism between the United States and Russia, in order to forestall not only a relapse into the cold war but also the danger of a widespread conflagration: there was no alternative to *détente*; we must 'break the spiral', reopen the path to *détente*. It was an acid test for Europe's resolve, for its capacity to act independently. Europe must arrive at a common positive, compact of prudence and moderation. It must take constructive action.

The spokesman for the French Communists, Mr Ansart, saw a completely different picture. Throughout the world, the United States and its allies were stepping in, with arms if necessary, to prevent nations from determining their own futures. Two years ago, like many nations which were trying to free themselves from obscurantism and colonialism, Afghanistan had revolted against a feudal power. Today, we must support the Afghan people so that it could continue its march towards progress with undiminished sovereignty. After condemning the treat of using food as a weapon, he attacked the 'slanting of information' into a violent anti-Communist campaign and denied the House the right to sit in judgment on world affairs.

For the European People's Party, Mr Blumenfeld (D) called for tougher action from the Community. The invasion of Afghanistan was no accident: it was part and parcel of the Soviet strategy to gain access to warm-water ports, endanger Europe's supply lines and doom Europe to political impotence and dependence. The Community must therefore fight back with the weapons at its command, for it was the Soviet Union and not Europe that was seeking cooperation. Mr Colombo (EPP/I) in turn stressed the extreme seriousness of the crisis, which came after other conflicts which had been mistaken for local skirmishes. *Détente* was still our prime objective, but today it depended on the Soviet Union whether the process went any further. One of the causes of Soviet intervention was a weak Europe which had failed to adopt a common stance. In conclusion, Mr Colombo called for closer links with Yugoslavia and, like Mr Blumenfeld, for solidarity with the United States.

Mr Fergusson (ED/UK) was blunt. The Community had been tricked. We had supplied the Soviet bloc with food and technology,

which had been used to develop military potential. The Community must stop economic aid to Russia, put an immediate embargo on all sales to the USSR and the Eastern bloc of products enjoying Community support. Lady Elles (ED/UK) added that we could not speak of *détente* in Europe unless we used our freedom to protect the freedom of others.

For the Liberal Group, Mr Rey (B) endorsed the words of the Council President, Mr Ruffini, to the effect that there was no alternative to *détente*, adding that *détente* was nevertheless not to be reduced to a unilateral effort at resignation to an act of violence. His feeling was that in the House members tended to exaggerate the things that divided them when what mattered most was what brought them together. Like Mr Berkhouwer (Lib/NL), Mr Rey hoped to see an effort to arrive at a resolution which had the broadest possible backing. Mr Berkhouwer condemned what he felt to be a kind of blackmail practised by those who raised the spectre of a return to the cold war whenever one censured an act of aggression. The Soviet Union did not have the same conception of *détente* as the Europeans: for them it was a process which involved only the two superpowers.

What surprised Mr Druon (EPD/F) was that people were surprised. The consternation which had descended upon us, a bit late in the day, only showed that the democracies were incapable of foreseeing the foreseeable. As early as April 1978 the Soviet Union had decided to include Afghanistan in its sphere of influence and thus secure access to the warm-water ports. The southern tip of Afghanistan was no more than 500 km from the Strait of Hormuz. Mr Druon then said that the House could do no more than condemn the Soviet Union; it was for the States to decide what action to take. Mrs Weiss

(EPD/F) endorsed the EPP Group's proposal not to take part in the Moscow Olympics.

With the European Democrats, the representatives of the left and extreme left, who belong to neither the Socialist nor the Communist Group, were among the most scathing in their condemnation of the Soviet Union. Mrs Macciochi (*Ind/I*) felt that the Afghanistan affair was digging the grave for *détente* and that if the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan did not stop the Madrid Conference could not take place. This aggression, which bespoke the existence of a new form of imperialism which could not be called socialism, was premeditated: the Soviet Union had taken care to fill its silos with American wheat. She found the reaction of certain Groups to be naive and ambiguous. Mr Capanna (*Ind/I*) remarked that revolution could not be exported with bayonets. Europe must be a rallying point against all the imperialist greed of the superpowers.

The resolution

2.3.12. After a difficult vote Parliament adopted a text which compromised between the motions of the EPP Group and the European Democrats. The Liberal Group had meanwhile withdrawn its proposal in favour of that text; the EPD Group also withdrew its motion but refused to take part in the final vote. The motions tabled by the Socialists and the Italian Communists were rejected.

The compromise text adopted by Parliament reaffirmed that *détente* was indivisible; it urged the Community to apply economic sanctions against the Soviet Union; the International Olympic Committee was asked to reconsider holding the Games in Moscow if the occupation of Afghanistan continued.

Programme of the Italian Presidency (16 January)

2.3.13. Mr Ruffini, the new Italian Foreign Minister and, in that capacity, President of the Council for the next six months, presented the programme for Italy's term in the Council chair.

In his statement Mr Ruffini did more than confirm that existing policies would continue; he stressed the need to set new objectives for the Community. First, on institutional questions, he set himself the priority task of improving cooperation between the Council and Parliament, a matter which was already under study in the Council. His intention was to draft a new budget as soon as possible, which would take due account of the political pointers provided by the House. Speaking for himself, he added that he set the greatest store by Parliament's initiative in regard to the matter of convergence and, in particular, the remedies to be applied to the financial imbalance affecting the United Kingdom's contribution.

The matter of convergence was receiving Mr Ruffini's attention. The thing to do was eliminate the distortions of the common policies, which were at present acting as factors of divergence. Under this head, and taking account of the pointers offered by Parliament, they must examine at the earliest opportunity the Commission's proposals for better control of agricultural expenditure in areas where surpluses existed and for fairer safeguards for agriculture in the southern regions.

Turning to the social sphere, the President called for common and bold solutions, notably in regard to reorganization of working time. The Community needed an active employment policy, which presupposed a

more effective use of its funds for social purposes. In this connection the role of the Economic and Social Committee should be enhanced.

On the subject of transport, Mr Ruffini said that he was strongly in favour of aid for infrastructures of Community interest.

The Italian Foreign Minister also discussed a great many other questions concerning energy, fisheries and enlargement. Turning to political cooperation, he pointed out that it did not amount to a common foreign policy but that such a policy was 'still our ultimate goal'; Parliament must be effectively associated with the procedures.

Contrary to the usual practice, this statement was not followed by a real debate. This was held over for the February sittings.

Management and storage of radioactive waste

2.3.14. The rapporteur of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, Mrs Weber (*Soc/D*), approved the second five-year programme (1980-84) for the management and storage of radioactive waste, which the Commission proposed to the Council in March 1979.¹ She nevertheless made a number of reservations. Believing that storage and safety should take priority over reprocessing, she urged the Commission to rebalance the programme and study the public reaction to storage and reprocessing operations.

Mrs Weber's report was not, however, unanimously endorsed. Though some members supported it (notably Mrs Dekker (*NA/NL*), Mrs von Alemann (*Lib/D*) and Mrs Ewing (*EPD/UK*)), others protested against 'nuclear psychosis' (Mr Ippolito (*Com/I*)) or felt the

report lacked scientific foundation (Mr Sherlock (*ED/UK*)). The Committee on Energy and Research had also reached different conclusions: its Chairman, Mrs Walz (*EPP/D*), in fact tabled, on behalf of her Group, a number of amendments to the motion which aimed to reinstate the Commission's original text. Some Italian members of the Communist Group also tabled amendments in the same vein.

Holding that these changes were harmful to the environment, public health and the consumer, Mr Arndt (*Soc/D*) called for a check on whether a quorum was present, in a bid to stop a vote being taken. Since the House did not have a quorum, the vote was deferred to the next part-session.

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2.3.15. As part of its routine business Parliament adopted a series of resolutions or opinions concerning:

- (i) the proposal for a Directive on cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption² (the Commission was asked to amend certain points);
- (ii) the proposal for a Regulation establishing the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products;³
- (iii) the proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of procedures for the exportation of goods;⁴

¹ OJ C 80 of 27.3.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.93.

² OJ C 121 of 15.5.1979; Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.8.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.11.

⁴ OJ C 201 of 10.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.28.

(iv) the proposal for a Regulation laying down conditions designed to render and keep the territory of the Community free from classical swine fever;¹

(v) the campaign against African swine fever;

(vi) the proposal for a Directive on tuberculosis and brucellosis;²

(vii) the proposal for a Decision adopting a five-year research and training programme in the field of biology-health protection (radiation protection).³

2.3.16. The House also passed three resolutions concerning Community action to be taken against natural disasters:

(i) floods in Wales;

(ii) weather conditions in the Mezzogiorno;

(iii) hurricane in Mauritius.

In a resolution passed on 18 January the Commission was asked to release financial aid from the Disaster Fund and additional food aid in order to relieve the hardship of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Table 2 — Council meetings in January

| Meeting | Place and date | Subject | President | Commission | Main items dealt with |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| 620th | Brussels 15.1.1980 | Foreign affairs | Mr Ruffini, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs | Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President; Mr Cheysson and Mr Tugendhat, Members | <i>Court of Justice.</i> Review of certain questions concerning the operation of the Court, notably increasing the number of Advocates-General. ¹ <i>Relations with Yugoslavia.</i> Unanimous political position in favour of the rapid conclusion of an enlarged agreement. |

¹ Point 2.3.4.

2.3.17. Also on 18 January Parliament issued its opinion on the Commission proposal⁴ of 9 January for a Council Regulation on the trade arrangements between Southern Rhodesia and the Community. The House believed that this measure would help in restoring stability in southern Africa.

Council

2.3.18. The Council held three meetings in January. The following table lists the number, date and place of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items dealt with. The footnotes refer to the points in the Bulletin where a more detailed account is given of decisions taken, agreements reached, positions adopted and questions discussed.

¹ OJ C 187 of 25.7.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.75.

² OJ C 268 of 23.10.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.104.

³ OJ C 102 of 24.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.125.

⁴ Point 2.2.47.

Table 2 (continued)

| Meeting | Place and date | Subject | President | Commission | Main items dealt with |
|---------|----------------|---------|-----------|------------|---|
| | | | | | <p><i>North-South Dialogue.</i> Initial exchange of views on preparation of a Community position on the global negotiations.¹</p> <p><i>ASEAN.</i> Acceptance of ASEAN countries' invitation to sign the cooperation agreement and hold a ministerial meeting in March.</p> <p><i>Afghanistan.</i> Formal approval of the statement issued by the Nine, meeting in political cooperation;² discussion on action concerning food aid for Afghanistan, the proposed emergency aid for refugees, possible measures following restrictions on deliveries of agricultural products by the United States to the USSR, further possible trade measures, notably as regards export credits.²</p> <p><i>Latin America.</i> Appeal by the Council President for closer relations, particularly reactivation of the EEC-Latin American dialogue, negotiations with the Andean Group, and further development of bilateral agreements with certain countries as they come up for renewal.</p> <p><i>Southern Rhodesia.</i> Agreement on the admission of Rhodesia to the arrangements applied to the overseas countries and territories.³</p> |

¹ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

² Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

³ Point 2.2.47.

Table 2 (continued)

| Meeting | Place and date | Subject | President | Commission | Main items dealt with |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 621st | Brussels 21 and 22.1.1980 | Agriculture | Mr Marcora, Italian Minister of Agriculture and Forestry | Mr Gundelach, Vice-President | <p><i>Changes to the common agricultural policy.</i> In-depth discussion on the December communication on improving the balance of markets and streamlining expenditure.¹</p> <p><i>Structural policy.</i> Examination of certain specific questions relating to mountain and hill-farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas and to farm modernization.²</p> |
| 622nd | Brussels 29.1.1980 | Fisheries | Mr Evangelisti, Italian Minister for Shipping | Mr Grundelach, Vice-President | <p><i>International aspects.</i> Consensus on total allowable catches for 1980;³ agreement in principle on the introduction of a common system for recording and transmitting information on catches in connection with the TACs.⁴</p> <p><i>External aspects.</i> Discussion of various questions concerning the Community's external relations in fisheries; decision on the signing of agreements with Norway, Spain and Guinea-Bissau.⁵</p> |

¹ Point 2.1.37.

² Point 2.1.44.

³ Point 2.1.53.

⁴ Point 2.1.54.

⁵ Point 2.1.58.

Commission

Activities

2.3.19. The Commission met four times in January; it considered a wide range of problems and adopted a number of decisions, communications and proposals. Among the main items on its agenda were preparation of new budget proposals for 1980, finalizing the 1980 programme and the President's address to Parliament, the 1980/81 farm price proposals, energy problems, especially after the Caracas meeting and, on the international scene, the situation in Afghanistan.

Decisions taken; communications and proposals adopted

2.3.20. The main decisions or measures taken in January concerned events in Afghanistan (exports of farm products to the Soviet Union, suspension of the 1979 food aid programme for Afghanistan and initial emergency aid for Afghan refugees in Pakistan). A number of emergency measures to assist Member States of the Community (for regions hit by natural disasters) and non-member countries were also adopted. And the Commission brought a new action in the Court of Justice against France in the sheep-meat affair.

The Commission also adopted a number of proposals and communications to the Council or Parliament, the most important of which concern convergence and budgetary questions, global North-South negotiations within the United Nations system, second instalment of loans under the NCI (Ortoli facility), removal of technical barriers to trade, major table wine distilling operations to prevent prices collapsing, employment and new micro-electronic technologies, and provisional trade arrangements between the Community and Southern Rhodesia.

Discussions, policy debates and work in hand

2.3.21. Many of the matters discussed by the Commission at its weekly meetings in January were on the agenda for Parliament's February sittings—the Commission's programme for 1980, accompanied by the memorandum listing the main action on proposals it is planning between now and the end of its term of office; 1980/81 farm price proposals; the substance of its new budget proposals for 1980; proceedings in and relations with Parliament.

The Commission also gave considerable time and thought to the situation of the energy market in general and the oil market in particular, following the OPEC meeting in Caracas (and possible Community moves on the energy front); problems involved in using the non-quota section of the European Regional Development Fund; negotiations with Yugoslavia; scope for cooperation with the Gulf countries and other Arab countries with which the Community has not yet concluded agreements.

Emergency aid to Member States

2.3.22. In January the Commission decided to release funds to help the victims of natural disasters in three Member States.

On 16 January it decided to grant emergency aid to 400 000 EUA (roughly UKL 264 000) to the United Kingdom to compensate the victims of the floods in Wales and South-West England at the end of last year. This aid is to be paid as soon as possible to the account of each of the regions affected, the bulk of the funds being for Wales. Because of the way the system of provisional twelfths operates, the aid will be paid in two instalments.

2.3.23. On 23 January the Commission decided to grant emergency aid of 800 000 EUA (roughly LIT 925 million) to Italy to help repair the damage caused by the storms and floods which ravaged Messina province early this year. Though other provinces were also affected, the Commission concentrated its aid on Messina, which was by far the hardest hit. Because of its geographical situation, it sustained damage by the sea and many small farms were under water. Under the present budgetary constraints the aid will have to be disbursed in four monthly instalments and will be paid to the local authorities, thus offering more immediate help to the victims.

2.3.24. Lastly, on 30 January the Commission decided to release a first instalment of 300 000 EUA (roughly FF 1 750 000) for victims of Hurricane Hyacinth, which ravaged the island of Reunion. The funds will be paid to the local authorities as immediate aid. A team consisting of representatives of the French Government (Reunion being a French overseas department) and two Commission representatives immediately flew out to

Reunion to assess the extent of the damage and the reconstruction work that must now begin. As soon as the team returns, the Commission will make proposals for very substantial Community aid and on ways of combining the other financial instruments that can be used for structural purposes. All these measures will dovetail with the programmes adopted by the appropriate French authorities.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.25. In January the Commission arranged an information meeting for employers' organizations on the Community's generalized preferences scheme.

As part of the preliminary consultations with the trade unions, experts of the European Trade Union Confederation considered standardization and research on toxic products, the economic and social situation in 1980, the free movement of workers, employment of women, and employment and safety measures in the hotel and catering trade.

Court of Justice¹

2.3.26. New cases

| Case | Subject | Type of action |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Free movement of persons 22/80 — Boussac Saint-Frères SA v Brigitte Gerstenmeier ¹ | The Schöneberg Amtsgericht (local court) asked whether the amendment of 1 July 1977 to the German Code of Civil Procedure as regards claims in foreign currency was a discriminatory measure | Reference for preliminary ruling |

¹ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and in 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 | Type of action |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Free movement of goods | | |
| 27/80 — Officier van Justitie, Assen v A. Fietje, Emmen ¹ | Is the obligation to use the word 'liqueur' a measure having an equivalent effect? | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| 32/80 — Officier van Justitie, Roermond v J.A.W.M.J. Kortmann, Geysteren ² | Are the compulsory registration of pharmaceutical products imported into the Netherlands and the payment of a fee compatible with the Treaty? | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| Social security for migrant workers | | |
| 1/80 — Fonds national de retraite des ouvriers mineurs, Brussels v Y. Salmon, Liège ³ | Reference by the Liège Tribunal de première instance (court of first instance) for an interpretation of Article 51 of the EEC Treaty and Articles 27 and 28 of EEC Council Regulation No 3 | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| 4/80 — R. d'Amico, Marchienne-au-Pont v Office national pour travailleurs salariés, Brussels | Calculation of retirement pension; compatibility of Belgian Royal Decree of 24 October 1967 with Articles 48-51 of the EEC Treaty and Articles 12, 46 and 50 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 (rules concerning overlapping) | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| Competition | | |
| 31/80 — L'Oréal NV, Brussels & L'Oréal SA, Paris v De Nieuwe AMCK Pvba, Hoboken ⁴ | Are exclusive dealing agreements relating to cosmetics eligible for exemption under Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty? | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| Agricultural policy | | |
| 3/80 — Milchfutter GmbH & Co. KG, Diepholz v Hauptzollamt Gronau ⁵ | Reference by the Münster Finanzgericht (Finance Court) for a ruling on the validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 2547/74 and 539/75 (monetary compensatory amounts) with regard to compound feedingstuffs | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| 26/80 — Schneider-Import GmbH & Co. KG, Bingen v Hauptzollamt Mainz ¹ | References for rulings concerning the equalization duty levied by Germany on imports of spirits from other Member States | Reference for preliminary ruling |

¹ OJ C 35 of 12.2.1980.² OJ C 45 of 22.2.1980.³ OJ C 31 of 8.2.1980.⁴ OJ C 43 of 20.2.1980.⁵ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

| Case | Subject | Type of action |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 35/80 — Denkvit Nederland BV and Others v Produktschap voor Zuivel, Rijswijk ¹ | Validity of Regulation (EEC) No 1049/78 (aid for skimmed-milk powder for use as feed) | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| 36/80 — Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association and Others v Government of Ireland and Others ¹ | Advisability of a reference to the Court under Article 177 of the Treaty and compatibility of a tax on certain agricultural products with Community law | Reference for preliminary ruling |
| Infringements | | |
| 24/80 — Commission v French Republic ² | Non-compliance with the Judgment of the Court of 25 September 1979 in Case 232/78 (Mutton and lamb) (Article 171 of the Treaty) | |
| 38/80 — Commission v Grand Duchy of Luxembourg | Non-application of Directive 76/767/EEC (pressure vessels) | |
| 39/80 — Commission v French Republic | Non-application of Directives 76/889/EEC and 76/890/EEC (electrical appliances) | |
| 40/80 — Commission v French Republic | Non-application of Directives 76/116/EEC (fertilizers) and 77/535/EEC (sampling of fertilizers) | |

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 5/80 to 21/80,³ 23/80,⁴ 25/80,⁵ 28/80,⁶ 29/80,⁶ 34/80⁵ and 37/80¹

v Council and Commission: 33/80

v Court of Justice: 2/80⁷

v Parliament: 30/80

¹ OJ C 48 of 27.2.1980.

² OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

³ OJ C 30 of 7.2.1980.

⁴ OJ C 36 of 13.2.1980.

⁵ OJ C 45 of 22.2.1980.

⁶ OJ C 43 of 20.2.1980.

⁷ OJ C 28 of 5.2.1980.

2.3.27. Judgments

| Date and case | Held |
|--|--|
| Social security for migrant workers | |
| 10.1.1979, 69/79 — W. Jordens-Vosters, Overpelt v Bestuur van de Bedrijfsvereniging voor de Leder- en Lederwerkende Industrie ¹ | The words 'sickness and maternity benefits' include invalidity benefits |
| Competition | |
| 17.1.1980, 792/79R — Camera Care Ltd v Commission ² | It is for the Commission to decide by virtue of Article 3 of Regulation No 17 whether there are grounds for adopting interim measures. Applicant's other claims dismissed |
| Agriculture | |
| 22.1.1980, 30/79 — Land Berlin v Wigei, Wild-Geflügel-Eier-Import GmbH & Co. KG, Munich ³ | The levying of charges in respect of the inspection of imports of fresh poultrymeat is authorized; the amount must be in proportion to the objective of the operation |
| 17.1.1980, 95 and 96/79 — Procureur du Roi v C. Kefer ⁴ | Council Regulations No 121/67/EEC and (EEC) No 805/68 do not prohibit the unilateral fixing by a Member State of a commercial margin for the retail of pigmeat or of beef and veal |
| 17.1.1980, 809/79 — Fratelli Pardini SpA v Commission ⁵ | Application for adoption of interim measures dismissed; costs reserved |
| Commercial policy | |
| 23.1.1980, 35/79 — SpA Grosoli, Cadoneghe and others v Ministero del Commercio estero and others ⁴ | Community law does not preclude a system of administering the national share of the Community tariff quota for frozen beef and veal |
| Infringements | |
| 10.1.1980, 267/78 — Commission v Italian Republic ⁵ | Application dismissed; applicant ordered to pay costs |

¹ OJ C 30 of 7.2.1980.² OJ C 37 of 14.2.1980.³ OJ C 36 of 13.2.1980.⁴ OJ C 35 of 12.2.1980.⁵ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

| Date and case | Held |
|--|--|
| 8.1.1980, 21/79 — Commission v Italian Republic ¹ | Italy has failed to fulfil its obligations under the first paragraph of Article 95 of the EEC Treaty; parties ordered to pay own costs |
| Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters | |
| 17.1.1980, 56/79 — S. Zelger, Munich v S. Salinitri, Mascali ² | The court of the place of performance of a contract has jurisdiction where that place has been specified in a clause which is valid according to the national law applicable to the contract |
| Disputes between the Community and its staff | |
| 10.1.1980, 116/78 rev. ³ | Application for revision dismissed |

Orders for removal from the register

- 16.1.1980; 135/78 — Eurosteel Products Ltd, London v Commission³
 16.1.1980; 208/78 — Entreprise J. Lefebvre v Commission³
 30.1.1980; 132/79 — Commission v Federal Republic of Germany
 30.1.1980; 151/79 — Commission v Italian Republic
 31.1.1980; 732/79 — A. Reinarz v Commission
 30.1.1980; 735/79 — Saatzucht Steinach, Straubing v GUS, Gesellschaft für Erwerb und Verwertung Landwirtschaftlicher Pflanzensorten mbH, Cologne.

¹ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.² OJ C 31 of 8.2.1980.³ OJ C 39 of 16.2.1980.**Economic and Social Committee***175th plenary session*

2.3.28. The Economic and Social Committee held its 175th plenary session in Brussels on 30 and 31 January with Mr Vanni, Committee Chairman, in the chair. Mr Pandolfi, Italian Treasury Minister, in his capacity as President of the Council, attended some of the discussions.

Opinions*Internal market*

2.3.29. The Committee approved the Commission proposal¹ of 30 July 1979 for a Council Directive concerning colouring matters which may be used in foodstuffs intended for human consumption.

¹ OJ C 201 of 10.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.12.

The Committee's opinion on the Commission proposal¹ of 28 September 1979 for a Council Directive relating to the colouring matters which may be added to medicinal products draws attention to the need to reconsider the use of colouring matters in medicines in view of the effects they can have on certain patients.

Taxation

2.3.30. The Committee unanimously approved the Commission proposal² of 30 November 1979 for a Directive relating to the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel, though it regretted that there was no provision for any significant increase in allowances.

The fight against poverty

2.3.31. The Committee unreservedly approved the proposal³ of 27 November 1979 for a Decision concerning an interim programme to combat poverty. It wishes to undertake an in-depth examination of the Commission's second report⁴ on pilot schemes and studies in this field.

Consumer protection

2.3.32. In an opinion delivered on 30 January on the Commission proposal⁵ to the Council of 27 February 1979 concerning the approximation of consumer-credit law, the Committee acknowledges that the availability of credit has enabled consumers in the Community to raise their standard of living. It agrees with the Commission that the consumer should be fully protected and that fair competition between credit institutions

should be maintained. The Committee draws particular attention to the following points:

- (i) all canvassing should be banned except where the consumer has the benefit of a cooling-off period;
- (ii) the creditor should no longer be able to repossess the goods where the consumer has paid one quarter of the credit price;
- (iii) where the agreement is not carried out the consumer should be able to sue the supplier—and, if necessary, the creditor where there has been knowing cooperation between the supplier and the creditor. After all, as far as the consumer is concerned, the acquisition of the relevant goods or services and the associated credit agreement constitute one and the same transaction.

The Committee also calls for abolition of all discrimination on the grounds of sex, race, nationality or marital status so as to make credit available to all, and suggests that consumers in serious social difficulties should be permitted to suspend repayment.

Lastly, the Committee agreed with the Commission's proposal that use of promissory notes and bills of exchange should be banned. With both these instruments the debtor is obliged to pay the creditor whether or not the creditor carries out the agreement.

2.3.33. The Committee unanimously approved the Commission proposal⁶ of 26 October 1979 for a Council Directive relating

¹ OJ C 262 of 17.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.15.

² OJ C 318 of 19.12.1979; Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.38.

³ OJ C 307 of 7.12.1979; Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.49.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.53.

⁵ OJ C 80 of 27.3.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.51.

⁶ OJ C 283 of 13.11.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.80.

to certain methods for the quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures. The Directive would not only help to keep the consumer better informed but also foster free movement for the relevant products.

Transport

2.3.34. The Committee recorded no objection in principle to the Commission proposal¹ of 30 December 1978 on the weights and certain other characteristics (not including dimensions) of road vehicles used for the carriage of goods. It considers that the proposal represents a significant and promising initial attempt to harmonize technical standards for commercial vehicles. However, it considers that even stricter measures are needed, with a maximum vehicle weight of 40 tonnes (no axle to exceed 11 tonnes).

2.3.35. By a narrow majority the Committee endorsed the Commission proposal² of 1 February 1979 on the own-account carriage of goods by road between Member States.

Energy saving

2.3.36. The opinion adopted on 31 January on the Commission Communication³ to the Council and attached draft Resolution on new lines of Community action in the field of energy saving states that the issue has to be analysed against the general background of Community economic and social policy. It regrets that Community solidarity has been undermined by the deepening energy crisis.

Studies

Research and development

2.3.37. The Committee approved a study, drawn up on its own initiative, on the organi-

zation and management of Community R & D. Since the piecemeal organization of projects could jeopardize the development of a coherent policy, it calls for budgetary and project planning at Community level, measures to avoid further proliferation of advisory bodies and to improve their operation, and measures to ensure the speedy application of research results.

Reform of Rules of Procedure

2.3.38. On 31 January the Economic and Social Committee took a number of steps to improve its internal procedures and efficiency. There are two main reforms: opinions are to be expressed in fuller and clearer terms, and individual members are now allowed to appoint an assistant to stand in for them at study group meetings which they are unable to attend.

European Investment Bank

2.3.39. Using funds borrowed on the capital market, the European Investment Bank granted loans totalling 17.5 million u.a. in January. The loans went to help finance investments in France, the United Kingdom and Zambia (an ACP country).

¹ OJ C 16 of 18.1.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.138.

² OJ C 41 of 14.2.1979; Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.77.

³ OJ C 208 of 18.8.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.111.



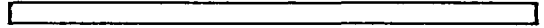
France

2.3.40. The EIB lent the equivalent of FF 30 million (5.1 million u.a.)¹ to help finance construction of a new road between Nantes and Cholet in western France.

The loan (15 years at 11.15%) was to the Caisse d'aide à l'équipement des collectivités locales (CAECL), a public agency which is one of the main sources of finance for local authorities and public undertakings in France. CAECL, which will bear the exchange risk for the full duration of the loan, is to make the funds available to the Pays de la Loire Regional Institution, which is taking equal shares with the Government in financing the road, costed at FF 271 million.

The EIB loan will be used in particular for building the 40 kilometre Tournebride-La Séguinière section, a two-lane expressway, seven metres wide. The plans provide for eventual upgrading to a two-lane dual carriageway, depending on the growth in traffic. The Nantes-Cholet road link is one of the regional projects given priority rating by the French Government. It will be an important link in the French arterial system and should help to attract new industry to western France, where a number of traditional industries—shipbuilding, textiles, footwear—have been hard hit by the recession over the last few years.

The loan brings total EIB financing for French road and motorway extensions to FF 920 million; previous important projects include the Paris-Brussels motorway and those linking Paris with Metz and Saarbrücken, Beaune with Mulhouse, Esterel with the Riviera, the Basque Coast motorway and the Fréjus transalpine tunnel linking France and Italy.



United Kingdom

2.3.41. The EIB made a loan equivalent to UKL 6.23 million (9.6 million u.a.) for continued development of the oil port at Sullom Voe in Shetland, to handle supplies from the Brent, Ninian and other North Sea oilfields. The loan was to the Shetland Islands Council for 10 years at 11.55%. It will go towards construction of a fourth crude oil jetty for tankers of up to 300 000 dwt, a cargo jetty, a tug harbour and a range of associated facilities.

The EIB lent UKL 11.07 million for the same project last year and UKL 16.9 million in 1975, for an earlier phase of development. Apart from helping to reduce the Community's dependence upon oil imports, the Sullom Voe oil port benefits regional development: a total of around 650 jobs should be created by these activities in an area where employment opportunities, especially for the young, are restricted.

Zambia

2.3.42. Under the first Lomé Convention the EIB agreed to lend up to 2.8 million u.a. towards modernizing a cement works near Lusaka, in southern Zambia.

The funds are being advanced in the form of a conditional loan² for a maximum of

¹ The composition and value of the Bank's unit of account are the same as those of the European Unit of Account (EUA); the conversion rates used by the EIB for statistical purposes during the current quarter are those obtaining on 31 December 1979, when 1 u.a. = DM 2.49, UKL 0.65, FF 5.79, LIT 1 157, HFL 2.74, BFR 40.32, LFR 40.32, DKR 7.72, IRL 0.67, USD 1.44.

² With this type of financing the repayment terms and the period for which the loan is granted are linked to fulfilment of conditions specified at the time of contract signature.

20 years at a rate of 2% from risk capital provided for in the Convention and managed by the Bank as agent for the European Community. The loan is to the Industrial Development Corporation Limited (INDECO), the body which manages state shareholdings in the industrial sector. The majority shareholder in the company which owns the cement works, the Chilanga Cement Co. (set up in 1949) is the Zambian Government, through INDECO.

Chilanga Cement Co. has two works: one on the Copperbelt produces cement by the dry process; the other, being financed by this loan, operates a three-line wet process plant with a capacity of 320 000 tonnes a year. This plant must be modernized in order to safeguard 800 jobs and to avoid imports detrimental to Zambia's balance of payments. The total capital cost of the project is estimated at 5.6 million u.a., and it is to be carried out with the technical backing of the Cement Co. of Ireland as part of a cooperation agreement between the two countries. In 1978 the EIB provided a conditional loan of 80 000 u.a. from risk capital for the feasibility study covering the modernization. The Danish Government is also helping to finance the project by means of a loan to the Government of Zambia.

Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

2.3.43. Following Parliament's rejection¹ of the draft budget of the Communities for

1980, the Commission set in motion, pursuant to Article 204 of the EEC Treaty and Article 8 of the Financial Regulation, the system of provisional twelfths, in order to meet the essential needs of Community policies and the working of Community institutions.

2.3.44. At the January part-session² the Commission informed Parliament that it would decide on a number of new budgetary proposals at its meeting on 13 February and would make a statement in the House the next day. The Commission takes the view, as does Parliament, that it is for the Commission to take the political initiative in an effort to find new bases for agreement.

Financial activities

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.45. During January the Commission concluded a private placing of USD 40 million underwritten by an international syndicate of banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of 11.50% per annum, payable annually. The term is eight years. The loan was offered to the public at 99³/₄% of par.

Application for official listing of the bonds on the Singapore Stock Exchange has been made.

¹ Bull EC 12-1979, point 2.3.95.

² OJ C 34 of 11.2.1980.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. Units of account

Units of account

European unit of account

ECU and European unit of account

3.1.1. Following the entry into force of the European Monetary System on 13 March 1979,¹ the ECU/EUA is now used in all areas of Community activity without exception, the decision to apply the ECU provisionally in the common agricultural policy having been extended until 31 March 1980. The Community has thus returned to using a single unit of account after a period of several years during which units of account of very different kinds had existed at the same time.

Gradual introduction of the EUA

3.1.2. Since it was devised in 1975, the EUA has been phased into use in the various areas of Community activity:

1975 ACP-EEC Lomé Convention (Council Decision of 21 April 1975);² balance sheet of the European Investment Bank (Decisions of the Board of Governors dated 18 March 1975 and 10 November 1977);

1976 ECSC operational budget (Commission Decision of 18 December 1975);³

1978 General budget of the Communities (Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977);⁴

1979 1 January — establishment of the EMS (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978) (ECU);⁵ customs matters (Council Regulation of 23 November 1978);⁶ European Monetary Cooperation Fund (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978);⁷ 9 April — provisional introduction, for three months, into the common agricultural policy (ECU) (Council Regulation of 29 March 1979 extended by Council Regulation of 25 June 1979).⁷

The EUA may also be used in the fields of banking and commerce, and various banks offer arrangements for deposits denominated in EUA. By way of example, Table 1 shows the rates obtaining in Brussels last month for large deposits.

- ¹ Bull. EC 2-1979, preliminary chapter.
² OJ L 104 of 24.4.1975.
³ OJ L 327 of 19.12.1975.
⁴ OJ L 356 of 31.12.1977.
⁵ OJ L 379 of 30.12.1978.
⁶ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.
⁷ OJ L 84 of 4.4.1979; OJ L 161 of 29.6.1979.

Table 1 — Annual interest rates on bank deposits denominated in EUA

| | 3 January | 17 January | 31 January |
|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 month | 12 ¹ / ₄ | 12 ¹ / ₄ | 12 ⁵ / ₈ |
| 2 months | 12 ³ / ₈ | 12 ³ / ₈ | 12 ⁵ / ₈ |
| 3 months | 12 ¹ / ₂ | 12 ³ / ₈ | 12 ⁵ / ₈ |
| 6 months | 12 ³ / ₈ | 12 ³ / ₈ | 12 ¹ / ₂ |

Rates obtaining in Brussels.

Definition

3.1.3. The ECU is identical with the EUA, though, unlike the EUA, it provides for a revision clause enabling changes to be made to its composition. It is a 'basket' unit made up of specific amounts of Member States' currencies, determined mainly by reference to the size of each Member State's economy.

The ECU, like the EUA, is made up of the following amounts: BFR 3.66, LFR 0.14, HFL 0.286, DKR 0.217, DM 0.828, LIT 109, FF 1.15, UKL 0.0885, IRL 0.00759.

Calculation and publication

3.1.4. The equivalent of the ECU/EUA in any currency is equal to the sum of the equivalents of the amounts making up the unit.

It is calculated each day¹ on the basis of representative rates for each Community currency against the dollar, which is used simply as a common reference for expressing exchange rates. The exchange rates are established on each exchange market at 2.30 p.m. by the relevant central bank; on the basis of these rates, the Commission establishes an ECU/EUA equivalent in the Community currencies and in the other major currencies.

These equivalents are published each day in the Official Journal of the European Communities ('C' edition) and may also be obtained from the Commission by telex (automatic answering service); they are also reported by the main European press agencies and are published in many newspapers (see Table 2 below).

¹ See notice on the calculation of the equivalents of the ECU/EUA published by the Commission: OJ C 69 of 13.3.1979.

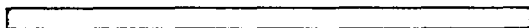
Table 2 — Values in national currencies of one ECU/EUA

| National currency | 3 January ¹ | 17 January ² | 31 January ³ |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc | 40.3504 | 40.4248 | 40.4945 |
| German mark | 2.47812 | 2.48884 | 2.49375 |
| Dutch guilder | 2.74330 | 2.74357 | 2.75325 |
| Pound sterling | 0.647513 | 0.637608 | 0.631858 |
| Danish krone | 7.74169 | 7.77610 | 7.79710 |
| French franc | 5.81934 | 5.83063 | 5.83797 |
| Italian lira | 1 161.54 | 1 161.44 | 1 158.06 |
| Irish pound | 0.672694 | 0.672833 | 0.574676 |
| United States dollar | 1.45302 | 1.44323 | 1.43369 |
| Swiss franc | 2.28269 | 2.29545 | 2.33046 |
| Spanish peseta | 95.9574 | 95.3251 | 95.0820 |
| Swedish krona | 5.99080 | 5.97496 | 5.97230 |
| Norwegian krone | 7.11471 | 7.08119 | 6.99925 |
| Canadian dollar | 1.69880 | 1.67645 | 1.66394 |
| Portuguese escudo | 71.8809 | 71.8294 | 72.1144 |
| Austrian schilling | 17.8358 | 17.8671 | 17.9067 |
| Finnish mark | 5.34057 | 5.32767 | 5.31109 |
| Japanese yen | 344.656 | 344.455 | 343.081 |

¹ OJ C 2 of 4.1.1980.

² OJ C 14 of 18.1.1980.

³ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.



Each month, the Commission also calculates, for its own purposes, the equivalent of the EUA in about 100 currencies.

Use of ECU/EUA rates

3.1.5. The ECU-related central rates are not at present used for any purpose other than their reference role in determining the divergence indicator within the EMS and in calculating the monetary compensatory amounts under the common agricultural policy.

In contrast to earlier units of account, which were linked to parities or central rates, the ECU/EUA is established on the basis of daily exchange rates, and it is on the basis of these daily equivalents that all the transactions of the sectors using this unit of account are carried out, including settlements between central banks within the EMCF. Common agricultural policy activities, however, are based on the central rates, and the activities of some sectors, which apply the EUA simply as a point of reference for administrative purposes, use a rate which is generally valid for one year.

'Green' rates

3.1.6. Agricultural prices will in future be fixed in ECU if the provisional decision to use this unit of account is made definitive; however, the ECU equivalent in national currencies ('green rates') will, like the earlier representative rates, continue to be fixed by the Council (Table 3).

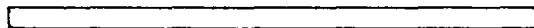


Table 3 — *Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU, used in connection with the common agricultural policy*

| National currency | Amount in national currency for 1 ECU |
|------------------------------------|--|
| | January |
| Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc | 40.8193 ¹ 40.5951 ² |
| Danish krone | 7.72336 |
| German mark | 2.81432 ¹ 2.78341 ² |
| French franc | 5.56725 ² 5.76891 ³ |
| Irish pound | 0.659274 |
| Italian lira | 1 117.00 ² 1 060.73 ⁴ |
| Dutch guilder | 2.81459 ¹ 2.79914 ² |
| Pound sterling | 0.618655 ² 0.587724 ⁵ |

¹ For milk products and seeds.

² For other products.

³ For pigmeat.

⁴ For sugar and isoglucose, cereals, eggs and poultrymeat, ovalbumin and lactalbumin, pigmeat and wine.

⁵ For cereals, eggs and poultrymeat, ovalbumin and lactalbumin, and wine.

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 12-1979

Point 2.1.17.

Proposal for a Council Regulation on Community aid for industrial restructuring and conversion operations in the man-made fibres sector.
OJ C20 of 25.1.1980.

3. Infringement procedures

Initiation of proceedings for failure to apply Directives

3.3.1. In January the Commission sent letters constituting formal notice to Member States failing to apply Directives in the following 17 cases:

Directives 77/91¹ on coordination of safeguards which, for the protection of the interests of members and others, are required by Member States of companies within the meaning of the second paragraph of Article 58 of the EEC Treaty, with a view to making such safeguards equivalent (Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom);

Directive 76/768² on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products (United Kingdom);

Directive 77/249³ to facilitate the effective exercise by lawyers of freedom to provide services (Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands);

Directive 73/183⁴ on the abolition of restrictions on freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services in respect of self-employed activities of banks and other financial institutions (Netherlands);

Directive 79/608⁵ fixing standard rates of yield for certain inward processing operations (France, Luxembourg, Netherlands).

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. The Commission also issued three reasoned opinions in January in respect of:

failure to apply Directives 76/308 and 77/794⁶ on mutual assistance for the recovery of EAGGF claims (two cases involving Ireland);

discrimination based on nationality as regards the purchase of agricultural land (Ireland).

¹ OJ L 26 of 31.1.1977.

² OJ L 262 of 27.9.1976.

³ OJ L 78 of 26.3.1977.

⁴ OJ L 194 of 16.7.1973 (corrigendum in OJ L 320 of 2.11.1973).

⁵ OJ L 170 of 9.7.1979.

⁶ OJ L 73 of 19.3.1976; OJ L 333 of 24.12.1977.

4. Convergence and budgetary questions

Infringement procedures

Proceeding in the Court of Justice

3.3.3. A case was brought against France under Article 171 of the EEC Treaty for failure to comply with the judgment given by the Court in Case 232/78¹ concerning obstacles to the importation of sheepmeat from the United Kingdom.

The Court also gave judgment in two cases concerning Italy—it dismissed the action in Case 267/78 (failure to notify the Commission of the results of verifications relating to agricultural levies),² but in Case 21/79 (discriminatory tax provisions concerning recycled petroleum products)³ it held that Italy had failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty.

Further Commission Communication to the Council

3.4.1. In response to the request¹ made by the European Council at its Dublin meeting on 29 and 30 November 1979, the Commission adopted at the end of January a further Communication on convergence and budgetary questions. This document, which was transmitted officially to the Council on 1 February, supplements the Communication presented by the Commission on 21 November for the European Council meeting. As in November,² the full text of the new Communication is given below.

'I — Introduction

1. At its meeting on 29 and 30 November the European Council reached certain conclusions on convergence and budgetary questions. Those examined in this Communication are:

“The Council reaffirmed the conclusions reached at their meetings in Brussels and Paris that achievement of the convergence of economic performance requires measures for which the Member States concerned are primarily responsible, that Community policies can and must play a supporting role within the framework of increased solidarity and that steps must be taken to strengthen the economic potential of the less prosperous countries of the Community.

To these ends the European Council expressed its determination to promote the adoption of measures to improve the working of Community policies, to reinforce those policies most likely to favour the harmonious growth of the economies of the Member States and to reduce the disparities between these economies. They further declared the need, particularly with a view to the enlargement of the Community and necessary provisions for Mediterranean agriculture, to strengthen Community action in the structural field.

The European Council has carried out a thorough examination of the problem of the British con-

¹ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.3.43.

² Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.3.42.

³ Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.3.34.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.7.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 3.4.1.

tribution to the Community budget. It was agreed that the Commission's proposals concerning the adaptation of the financial mechanism could constitute a useful basis for a solution which would respect Community achievement and solidarity. This solution should not result in raising the 1% VAT ceiling. In addition, the Commission is requested to pursue the examination of proposals for developing supplementary Community measures within the United Kingdom which will contribute to greater economic convergence; and which will also lead to a greater participation by the United Kingdom in Community expenditure. The Commission is asked to make proposals which will enable the Council of Ministers to pursue the search for appropriate solutions to be reached at the next meeting of the European Council."

2. The above conclusions of the Dublin European Council were consistent with the proposals which the Commission put to the Council on 21 November.¹

II — Structural questions

3. In its Communication to the Council of 21 November the Commission had already drawn attention to the need to strengthen structural and general investment policies within the Community. It has submitted a variety of proposals to the Council covering such key areas as energy, transport and industrial development. The Commission now urges the Council to reach rapid agreement on the proposals which it made on 30 November designed to help balance the agricultural markets and stabilize expenditure.² The price proposals for the market year 1980/81 should be examined by the Council with the same objective in mind.

4. There are a number of other actions of particular relevance to the issues already raised by certain Member States. The Commission believes that the Council should give rapid consideration to them.

5. First, the Council should pursue the new policy of rural regional investment programmes which was inaugurated by the adoption of the Mediterranean package in 1978 and 1979. In this

respect, the Commission put to the Council in March 1979 a further series of structural proposals building on the principles developed in the Mediterranean package.³ The adoption of these proposals would virtually complete the regulations necessary for the implementation of the new five-year programme in the agricultural structural field based on the expenditure of 3 600 million ECU over the period 1980-84.

6. Second, the Council needs to consider how it can give effect to the declared willingness of the European Council to continue to strengthen the economic potential of the less prosperous countries. One method would be to take further steps designed to direct a greater volume of Community resources to those Member States. In this context the Commission has recently proposed that as regards the second tranche of the New Community Instrument a wider interpretation of "infrastructure" should apply to priority regions or to zones affected by economic difficulties, and that this should cover in particular some carefully selected housing projects.⁴ The Commission believes that in considering this proposal the Council could also consider increasing the volume of resources currently available to certain Member States participating in the European Monetary System for use as interest rebates. A specific Regulation to give additional resources for regional development in these countries (on the lines of the programmes discussed in more detail in Section IV B) and to improve the working of Community policies could be considered as a first move to give more help to the less prosperous members of the Community.

7. Actions of this kind on the part of the Council would be in line with the Commission proposal to the European Council that the rate of increase in structural and general investment policies should in future be significantly greater than the rate of increase in the size of the Community budget overall. The conclusions of the European Council, which are also consistent with the Resolution of

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 3.4.1.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

³ OJ C 124 of 17.5.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.15.

⁴ Point 2.1.1.

the European Parliament on the draft 1980 budget, lead the Commission to reaffirm this proposition. If during the budgetary process this principle is not respected, the Commission undertakes to draw the attention of the institutions to the situation without delay. The Commission will bear these aspects fully in mind in bringing forward its budgetary proposal for 1980 and will seek to go further in subsequent years.

III — The financial mechanism

8. As regards the United Kingdom's share of financing the Community budget, the Commission in its proposals of 21 November invited the Council to consider certain adaptations to the existing financial mechanism. In particular the Commission recommended the removal of the balance-of-payments limitation and suggested that the European Council in Dublin should define the conditions under which two further restrictions on the operation of the mechanism could be lifted, i.e. the tranche system of repayment and the ceiling of 3% of the budget. The European Council agreed that these proposals "could constitute a useful basis for a solution". Since under the present Regulation the operation of the financial mechanism is due to be reviewed in 1981, the Commission proposes in the light of the European Council's conclusions that an adapted mechanism should be a part of the solution to the problems of the United Kingdom over the Community budget, on the basis that its period of operation should cover the same period as that of such supplementary measures for expenditure as may be agreed.

IV — Supplementary Community measures for the United Kingdom

9. In its proposals of 21 November, the Commission also stated that any measures on the expenditure side of the budget relating to the United Kingdom should be "special, temporary and *ad hoc*". The Commission reaffirms the views and indications set out in Part III of its November Communication. It points out that the scope of the measures proposed, and therefore the speed of the solution, will depend very largely on the volume of resources which the European Council agrees

should be devoted to them. As regards the basis of supplementary measures, different approaches are possible.

(A) Use of existing Community instruments

10. One possibility would be to enlarge certain Community funds by attributing extra resources to the United Kingdom over a defined period.

11. The two instruments which come to mind are the Social Fund and the Regional Development Fund. As regards the Social Fund, expenditure on projects in the Member States under the Fund Regulations is not governed by quota arrangements and the actual shares in expenditure have been very variable. This has in the past arisen partly as a result of the internal economic policies followed by Member States. The Commission hopes that the United Kingdom will be able to draw the maximum benefit from the Fund in future years; it also draws attention to the possibilities open to the steel sector within the framework of the European Coal and Steel Community.

12. In the case of the Regional Fund, a distinction must be drawn between the "quota" and "non-quota" sections. Any changes in the shares laid down in the basic Fund Regulation would require formal modification by the Council on a Commission proposal. Quota shares could be changed either within the existing Regional Fund, or by an increase in the total resources available to it. Whilst an addition of resources to the Regional Fund would enable the absolute amounts to other Member States to be maintained, it would of course give rise to a reduction in their percentage shares. As in the case of the Social Fund, even relatively modest increases in the Regional Fund, if devoted wholly to the United Kingdom, would give rise to a disproportionate percentage share. This could remove much of the balance within the Fund achieved only after long and arduous negotiations with the Member States.

13. The non-quota section of the Regional Fund was set up by the Council at 5% of the full Fund. An increase in the resources available to the non-quota section would also require a formal modification to the regulation concerned. Whilst some

increase in the total size of the non-quota section could certainly be envisaged, it is clear that it would only be possible to make very limited adjustments within the existing endowment.

14. For these reasons, the Commission believes that to increase expenditure on an *ad hoc* basis from either the Regional or Social Fund within a single Member State would have a seriously distorting effect on policies of major importance to the Community as a whole.

(B) *A Council Regulation based on Article 235*

15. In the light of these considerations, the Commission believes that a Council Regulation governing expenditure within the United Kingdom and based on Article 235 of the Treaty is a preferable option. However, the Commission stresses that to avoid wasteful use of Community resources any system of additional expenditure on this basis would need to be placed within a coherent framework and in line with existing and new Community policies. It would be necessary to ensure that the solution adopted made a positive contribution, not only to the immediate problem of budgetary imbalance, but also to the promotion of economic convergence in the longer term.

Here the Commission recalls the emphasis given by the European Council at Dublin to the need for complementarity between the role of the Member States themselves in adopting policies designed to bring about convergence of economic performance, and the role of the Community in supporting such policies.¹

16. Thus an approach based on Article 235, rather than one within the existing structural Funds, needs to be placed firmly within the framework of Community structural policies. Additional expenditure should be clearly identified as being consistent with the policy directions already adopted by the Community in respect of the structural Funds, and therefore with two basic principles.

17. First, there needs to be an approach to expenditures based on specific programmes. The concept of indicative programmes within which

specific projects expenditures are undertaken has played an important role in the quota section of the Regional Fund, leading to the adoption of programmes for each Member State in May 1979. It has been taken further in the non-quota section of the Regional Fund and was also established in the Regulation for the interest subsidy scheme in respect of the European Monetary System. It would therefore be appropriate that, in a solution based on Article 235, Community expenditure be clearly established as a contribution to clearly defined programmes.

18. Second, there should be a component related to specific regions or problem areas. The Community has developed such an approach in all of its major structural expenditure. This is evident in the case of the Regional Fund, but is of major importance also in the Social Fund where half the expenditures are based on a specifically regionalized approach. Within the structural part of the common agricultural policy, the development of a strong basis has been the main new policy element of recent proposals and decisions in this field.

These developments should be seen in the light of the Community's overriding interest in promoting the convergence of its economies, and it would therefore be consistent with this interest that additional expenditures should be territorially defined.

19. The Commission therefore suggests an approach based upon a number of specific programmes in which the Community could participate, and from which it could as a whole draw benefit. These should in the first instance be directed to specially disadvantaged regions or problem areas. Programmes for regions of Community-wide interest such as Northern Ireland, or for those suffering from special industrial problems or from remoteness, could provide an appropriate framework for a scheme of expenditures based on Article 235. These programmes could in certain cases cover expenditure on such sectors as those mentioned in the Commission's Communication of 21 November 1979 (exploitation of coal resources, measures to promote trans-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.7.

port infrastructure), as well as those designed to link the United Kingdom more closely to the rest of the Community and to facilitate intra-Community trade. The Commission believes that these programmes could be further broadened to cover certain problems such as urban decay which, while constituting a major factor of regional disadvantage, occur in parts of the United Kingdom. This additional contribution should help United Kingdom in the efforts it is already making in some of these fields.

20. Within this approach the basic Regulation could:

- (i) specify the amount and duration of assistance;
- (ii) define the regions or problem areas to be assisted;
- (iii) set out the procedure for agreement to the programmes between the Commission and the Member State concerned;
- (iv) define the rate of Community participation and the kinds of infrastructure and other investment eligible for assistance within the regions or problem areas;
- (v) contain provision for a review before the expiry of the assistance (see paragraph 21).

21. The Commission believes that it will be necessary to agree on a review procedure well before the expiry of the measures for supplementary expenditure within the United Kingdom. The purpose of this review would be to examine the effectiveness of the actions taken in respect of the United Kingdom as regards both the financial mechanism and the special measures, in the framework of progress towards a better balance between Community policies and of expenditure within the Community budget.

V — Conclusion

22. In this paper the Commission has suggested a framework for the Community measures requested by the European Council in the fields of convergence and the budget. The Council will now wish to consider these ideas. Real progress will anyway

need to be made towards a better balance within Community policies in terms of stabilizing expenditure on surpluses under the agricultural policy, strengthening the existing structural policies, and establishing policies whose need is not questioned but on which the Council have not yet succeeded in reaching agreement.

In the meantime the Commission proposes to work out with the Member States concerned the details of possible programmes which might fit into the framework of the kind suggested. Formal proposals for Regulations under Article 235 will come forward as and when appropriate.'

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Publications of the European Communities
Publications des Communautés européennes
Pubblicazioni delle Comunità europee
Publikaties van de Europese Gemeenschappen

Fortegnelse - Liste - List - Liste - Elenco - Lijst

1-1980

Henvisning - Hinweis - Note - Avertissement - Avvertenza - Voorbericht

Denne oversigt omfatter såvel officielle som ikke-officielle publikationer (monografier, serier, tidskrifter, oplysningspjecer), der er udkommet i den omhandlede periode og offentliggjort af Europa-Parlamentet, Rådet, Kommissionen, Domstolen, Det økonomiske og sociale Udvalg, Den europæiske Investeringsbank og De europæiske Fællesskabers Revisionsret. Disse publikationer kan fås ved henvendelse til de nedenfor nævnte adresser.

Anmodningerne skal indeholde nøjagtig angivelse af referencenumre forud for titlerne.

Dieses Verzeichnis enthält die im Berichtszeitraum erschienenen amtlichen und nichtamtlichen Veröffentlichungen (Monographien, Reihen, Zeitschriften und Informationsdienste) des Europäischen Parlaments, des Rates, der Kommission, des Gerichtshofes, des Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschusses, der Europäischen Investitionsbank und des Rechnungshofes der Europäischen Gemeinschaften. Diese Veröffentlichungen sind bei den nachstehend aufgeführten Stellen erhältlich.

Bei Anfragen sind die den Titeln vorangestellten Referenzen vollständig anzugeben.

This list includes both official and unofficial publications (such as monographs, series, periodicals, newsletters) which were published in the given period by the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Economic and Social Committee, the European Investment Bank and the Court of Auditors of the European Communities. These publications can be obtained from the addresses mentioned hereinafter.

It is imperative that orders give the complete reference which precedes each title.

Cette liste comprend les publications, officielles ou non (monographies, séries, périodiques, notes d'information), parues durant la période de référence et publiées par le Parlement européen, le Conseil, la Commission, la Cour de justice, le Comité économique et social, la Banque européenne d'investissement et la Cour des comptes des Communautés européennes. Ces publications peuvent être obtenues aux adresses énumérées ci-après.

Les demandes doivent mentionner de façon complète les références précédant les titres.

Il presente elenco comprende le pubblicazioni, ufficiali o meno (monografie, serie, periodici, note d'informazione), edite nel periodo di riferimento dal Parlamento europeo, dal Consiglio, dalla Commissione, dalla Corte di giustizia, dal Comitato economico e sociale, dalla Banca europea per gli investimenti e dalla Corte dei conti delle Comunità europee. Tali pubblicazioni possono essere ottenute presso gli indirizzi qui di seguito elencati.

Le richieste dovranno comportare i riferimenti completi che precedono i titoli.

Deze lijst omvat de al dan niet officiële publikaties (monografieën, series, tijdschriften, nieuwsmededelingen) welke in de loop van het vermelde tijdvak verschenen zijn en door het Europese Parlement, de Raad, de Commissie, het Hof van Justitie, het Economisch en Sociaal Comité, de Europese Investeringsbank en de Rekenkamer van de Europese Gemeenschappen werden uitgegeven. Deze publikaties zijn bij de hierna vermelde adressen verkrijgbaar.

De aan de titels voorafgaande gegevens dienen bij aanvraag volledig te worden opgegeven.

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De publikationer, der ikke er mærket med pris, og hvis udsendelse betegnes som »begrænset«, er i princippet forbeholdt medlemsstaternes myndigheder, Fællesskabernes tjenestegrene og i givet fald de berørte myndigheder.

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Veröffentlichungen ohne Preisangabe, die den Vermerk „beschränkt verfügbar“ enthalten, sind grundsätzlich nur für die Verwaltungen der Mitgliedstaaten, die Dienststellen der Gemeinschaften und gegebenenfalls für die betreffenden Verwaltungen bestimmt.

Für eine allgemeine Dokumentation über die Europäischen Gemeinschaften wird auf die unter nachstehender Ziffer 18 aufgeführten periodischen Veröffentlichungen verwiesen.

General remark:

Publications not bearing a sales price whose circulation is given as 'limited' are generally only for the attention of administrations of the Member States, Community departments and, where relevant, the authorities concerned.

For general documentation on the European Communities please refer to the periodicals hereinafter mentioned under item 18.

Remarque générale:

Les publications ne comportant pas de prix de vente et dont la diffusion est indiquée comme étant «restreinte» sont en principe réservées aux administrations des États membres, aux services communautaires et, le cas échéant, aux administrations concernées.

Pour une information plus générale sur les Communautés européennes, prière de se référer aux périodiques mentionnés au point 18 ci-après.

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Per informazioni d'indole generale sulle Comunità europee vogliate consultare l'elenco dei periodici al punto 18.

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Publikaties waarop geen verkoopprijs staat vermeld en die voorzien zijn van de vermelding „beperkte verspreiding“, zijn in beginsel alleen bestemd voor de overheidsdiensten van de Lid-Staten, de communautaire diensten, en, in voorkomend geval, de betrokken instanties.

Voor informatie van algemene aard betreffende de Europese Gemeenschappen gelieve men het hierna vermelde punt 18 van de lijst van tijdschriften te raadplegen.

Anvendte forkortelser – Abkürzungen – Conventional symbols Signes conventionnels – Segni convenzionali – Gebruikte afkortingen

DA
Dansk

DE
Deutsch

EN
English

FR
Français

IT
Italiano

NL
Nederlands

ES
Espagnol

(DA,DE,EN,FR,IT,NL)
Et bind for hvert sprog
Ein Band je Sprache
One volume for each language
Un volume par langue
Un volume per lingua
Een deel per taal

(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)
Et enkelt bind med den samme tekst
på to eller flere sprog
Ein einziger Band mit dem gleichen
Text in zwei oder mehreren Sprachen
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même texte en deux ou plusieurs
langues
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in due o più lingue
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tekst in twee of meer talen

Mult.
Et enkelt bind med forskellige tek-
ster på flere sprog
Ein einziger Band mit verschiedenen
Texten in mehreren Sprachen
A single volume with different texts
in several languages
Un seul volume comportant des tex-
tes différents en plusieurs langues
Un solo volume con testi diversi in
più lingue
Een afzonderlijk deel met verschil-
lende teksten in meerdere talen

BFR
Belgische frank/franc belge

DKR
Dansk krone

DM
Deutsche Mark

FF
Franc français

LIT
Lira italiana

HFL
Nederlandse gulden

UKL
Pound Sterling

USD
US dollar

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Side
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Indhold – Inhalt – Contents

Sommaire – Sommario – Inhoud

Tidsskrifter / Zeitschriften / Periodicals / Périodiques / Periodici / Tijdschriften

Enkeltudgivelser / Einzelveröffentlichungen / Non-periodicals / Isolés / Non periodici / Eenmalig

| | | | |
|-----------|--|----|----|
| 1 | Generelt / Allgemeines / General / Généralités / Generalità / Algemeen..... | 7 | 16 |
| 2 | Politiske og institutionelle aspekter / Politische und institutionelle Aspekte / Political and institutional aspects / Aspects politiques et institutionnels / Aspetti politici e istituzionali / Politieke en institutionele aspecten..... | 7 | 17 |
| 3 | Fællesskabsret / Gemeinschaftsrecht / Community law / Droit communautaire / Diritto comunitario / Communautair recht..... | 7 | 17 |
| 4 | Forbindelser med tredjelande – Udenrigshandel / Auswärtige Beziehungen – Außenhandel / External relations – Foreign trade / Relations extérieures – Commerce extérieur / Relazioni esterne – Commercio estero / Buitenlandse betrekkingen – Buitenlandse handel..... | 7 | 18 |
| 5 | Konkurrence og det interne marked / Wettbewerb und Binnenmarkt / Competition and internal market / Concurrence et marché intérieur / Concorrenza e mercato interno / Concurrentie en binnenlandse markt..... | 8 | 18 |
| 6 | Økonomiske, monetære og finansielle spørgsmål / Wirtschaft, Währung und Finanzen / Economic, monetary and financial affairs / Économie, monnaie et finances / Economia, moneta e finanza / Economie, geldwezen en financiën..... | 8 | 18 |
| 7 | Sociale spørgsmål / Soziale Angelegenheiten / Social affairs / Affaires sociales / Affari sociali / Sociale zaken..... | 19 | 20 |
| 8 | Industri / Industrie / Industry / Industrie / Industria / Industrie..... | 10 | 18 |
| 9 | Energi / Energie / Energy / Énergie / Energia / Energie..... | 10 | 18 |
| 10 | Transport / Verkehr / Transport / Transports / Trasporti / Vervoer..... | 11 | 19 |
| 11 | Landbrugspolitik / Landwirtschaft / Agriculture / Politique agricole / Agricoltura / Landbouw..... | 11 | 19 |
| 12 | Regionalpolitik / Regionalpolitik / Regional policy / Politique régionale / Politica regionale / Regionale politiek..... | 12 | 22 |
| 13 | Udvikling og samarbejde / Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit / Development and cooperation / Développement et coopération / Sviluppo e cooperazione / Ontwikkeling en samenwerking..... | 12 | 22 |
| 14 | Videnskab og teknologi / Wissenschaft und Technologie / Science and technology / Science et technologie / Scienza e tecnologia / Wetenschap en technologie..... | 13 | 22 |
| 15 | Miljø og livskvalitet / Umwelt und Lebensqualität / Environment and quality of life / Environnement et qualité de la vie / Ambiente e qualità della vita / Milieu en kwaliteit van het leven..... | 13 | 23 |
| 16 | Undervisning / Bildungswesen / Education / Éducation / Educazione / Opvoeding..... | 13 | 23 |
| 17 | Statistik / Statistiken / Statistics / Statistiques / Statistiche / Statistiek..... | 13 | 23 |
| 18 | Almene informationspublikationer / Allgemeine Informationsschriften / Popular publications / Publications de large vulgarisation / Pubblicazioni ad ampia divulgazione / Publikaties voor breed publiek..... | 15 | 28 |
| 19 | Diverse / Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous / Divers / Vari / Diversen..... | 15 | 30 |

Enkeltudgivelser – Einzelveröffentlichungen Non-periodicals – Isolés – Non periodici – Eenmalig

1
 COMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
 COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

3-28-79-697-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0786-6
Europa oggi. Guida alla Comunità europea. 1979.
 11 p., numer. ill. (IT)

FR 145 DKR 25,70 DM 9 FF 21
 T 4 000 HFL 10 UKL 2.30 USD 4.80

2

2
 offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung /
 o publications / Pas de parution /
 nessuna pubblicazione / Niets verschenen

3

3
 COMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
 COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

B-AK-79-002-EN-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliography on Energy. Vol. 1, cancels and replaces
 part 1 of the previous edition of 1.2.1977.
 Documentation bulletin B 2/1. September 1979.
 1980. 44 p.

B-AK-79-002-FR-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliographie sur l'énergie. Vol. 1, annule et remplace
 la partie I de la précédente édition du 1.2.1977. Bulletin
 de renseignement documentaire B 2/1.
 septembre 1979.
 1980. 50 p. (EN.FR)

FR 45 DKR 7,90 DM 2,85 FF 6,50
 IT 1200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0.75 USD 1.45

B-AK-79-003-EN-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliography on 'Transport'. Position as at 15.4.1979.
 Documentation bulletin No B/3. April 1979.
 1980. 141 p. (EN.FR).

FR 45 DKR 7,90 DM 2,85 FF 6,50
 IT 1200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0.75 USD 1.45

B-AK-79-004-EN-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliography on 'Women's work'. Position as at
 1.9.1979. Documentation bulletin No B/4. 1979.
 1980. 39 p.

CB-AK-79-004-FR-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliographie sur le «Travail féminin». Mise à jour au
 1.9.1979.
 1980. 41 p. (EN.FR).

BFR 45 DKR 7,90 DM 2,85 FF 6,50
 LIT 1200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0.75 USD 1.45

4

RÅDET - RAT - COUNCIL - CONSEIL - CONSIGLIO - RAAD

Oversøiske lande og territorier.
Franske oversøiske departementer.
Samling af retsakter.
 1980. Bind 3, pag. diff.
 (Udgivelse på løsblade) begrænset oplag

Überseeische Länder und Gebiete.
Französische überseeische Departements.
Sammlung von Rechtsakten.
 1980. Band 3, pag. diff.
 (Loseblattsammlung) beschränkt verfügbar

Overseas countries and territories.
French overseas departments.
Collected Acts.
 1980. Vol. 3, pag. diff.
 (Loose-leaf edition) limited distribution

Pays et territoires d'outre-mer.
Départements français d'outre-mer.
Recueil d'actes.
 1980. Vol. 3, pag. diff.
 (Édition à feuilles mobiles) diffusion restreinte

Paesi e territori d'oltremare.
Dipartimenti francesi d'oltremare.
Raccolta di atti.
 1980. Vol. 3, pag. diff.
 (Edizione a fogli mobili) diffusione limitata

Landen en gebieden overzee.
Fransé overzeese departementen.
Verzameling van besluiten.
 1980. Deel 3, pag. diff.
 (Losbladig systeem) (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)
beperkte verspreiding

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

CA-AS-78-001-2F-C ISBN 92-825-1144-8
Der Außenhandel der Volksrepublik China 1974-1978. März 1979.

Il commercio estero della repubblica popolare cinese 1974-1978. Marzo 1979.
1980. 202 p. (DE/IT) (EN/FR)

BFR 200 DKR 35,20 DM 12,70 FF 29
LIT 5 700 HFL 13,80 UKL 3,40 USD 7

CB-29-79-255-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1473-0
Corps diplomatique accrédité auprès des Communautés européennes. Novembre 1979.
1980. 183 p. (FR)

BFR 260 DKR 46 DM 16 FF 38
LIT 7 400 HFL 18 UKL 4 USD 9

CC-NA-79-D05-DA-C
Europa - Den tredje verden - Landbrugsudvikling. Europa information: Udvikling. Juli 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-D05-DE-C
Die Europäische Gemeinschaft - Dritte Welt - Ländliche Entwicklung. Juli 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-D05-EN-C
Europe - Third World - Rural development. Europe information: Development. July 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-D05-FR-C
Europe - Tiers monde - Développement rural. Europe information: Développement. Juillet 1979. Gratuit

CC-NA-79-D05-IT-C
Europa - Terzo mondo - Sviluppo rurale. Europa informazione: Sviluppo. Luglio 1979. Gratuito

CC-NA-79-D05-NL-C
Europa - Derde Wereld - Ontwikkeling van het platteland. Europa informatie: Ontwikkeling. Juli 1979.
1980. 38 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratis

CC-NA-79-R20-DA-C
Det europæiske Fællesskab og Jugoslavien. Europa information: Forbindelser med tredjelande 20/79. Juli 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-R20-DE-C
Jugoslawien und die Europäische Gemeinschaft. Europa information: Auswärtige Beziehungen 20/79. Juli 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-R20-EN-C
Yugoslavia and the European Community. Europe information: External Relations 20/79. July 1979. Gratis

CC-NA-79-R20-FR-C
La Yougoslavie et la Communauté européenne. Europe information: Relations extérieures 20/79. Juillet 1979. Gratuit

CC-NA-79-R20-IT-C
La Jugoslavia e la Comunità europea. Europa informazione: Relazioni esterne 20/79. Luglio 1979. Gratuito

CC-NA-79-R20-NL-C
Joegoslavië en de Europese Gemeenschap. Europa informatie: Buitenlandse betrekkingen 20/79. Juli 1979
1980. 7 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratis

5

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

CB-NU-79-034-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1395-
Étude sur les prix et les marges dans la distribution de produits électroménagers et électroacoustiques en France. Série évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence n° 34. Août 1979.
1980. 209 p. (FR).

BFR 275 DKR 49,50 DM 17,20 FF 40
LIT 7 700 HFL 18,90 UKL 4,20 USD 9,50

CB-NU-79-037-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1456-
Étude sur l'évolution de la concentration dans l'industrie des plastiques en France. Série évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence n° 37. Mai 1979.
1980. 136 p. (FR).

BFR 180 DKR 32,40 DM 11,25 FF 26,20
LIT 5 000 HFL 12,40 UKL 2,80 USD 6,50

CB-NU-79-038-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1457-
Étude sur l'évolution de la concentration dans le secteur des équipements automobiles en France. Série évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence n° 38. Août 1979.
1980. 222 p. (FR).

BFR 275 DKR 50 DM 17,20 FF 40
LIT 7 700 HFL 20 UKL 4,20 USD 9,50

6

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

CB-28-79-560-EN-C ISBN 92-825-1229-
Investment laws of ACP countries. Situation as at 1 March 1979. Vol. II.
1980. 525 p. (EN).

BFR 485 DKR 86,70 DM 30 FF 70
LIT 13 400 HFL 33 UKL 7,50 USD 16

CA-76-78-002-3E-C ISBN 92-825-1331-
Nationalregnskaber ENS 1970-1977. Detaljerede tabeller. Juli 1979.

Volkswirtschaftliche Gesamtrechnungen ESVG 1970-1977. Aufgegliederte Tabellen. Juli 1979.
Conti nazionali SEC 1970-1977. Tavole analitiche. Luglio 1979.
1979. Vol. 2, 172 p.

DA-76-78-002-3D-C ISBN 92-825-1332-7
National accounts ESA 1970-1977. Detailed tables.
 July 1979.
Comptes nationaux SEC 1970-1977. Tableaux dé-
 aillés. Juillet 1979.
Nationale rekeningen ESER 1970-1977. Gedetail-
 eerde tabellen. Juli 1979.
 1979. Vol. 2, 172 p. (DA/DE/IT) (EN/FR/NL)

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 lume/Prezzo di un volume/Prijis per deel

BFR 850 DKR 152,60 DM 53 FF 122,40
 LIT 23 600 HFL 58 UKL 13,40 USD 22,50

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BFR 1 500 DKR 269 DM 93,30 FF 216
 LIT 41 700 HFL 102,50 UKL 23,60 USD 49

7

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 COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

DA-28-79-843-6A-C ISBN 92-825-1360-2
Beskæftigelse og arbejdsløshed 1972-1978.
 Juli 1979.
Beschäftigung und Arbeitslosigkeit 1972-1978.
 Juli 1979.
Employment and unemployment 1972-1978.
 July 1979.
Emploi et chômage 1972-1978. Juillet 1979.
Occupazione e disoccupazione 1972-1978.
 Luglio 1979.
Werkgelegenheid en werkloosheid 1972-1978.
 Juli 1979.
 1980. 243 p. (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

BFR 500 DKR 90 DM 31,25 FF 72,80
 LIT 14 000 HFL 34,30 UKL 7,60 IRL 8,30
 USD 17

CB-AK-79-004-EN-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliography on 'Women's work'. Position as at
 1.9.1979. Documentation bulletin No B/4. 1979.
 1980. 39 p.

CB-AK-79-004-FR-C ISSN 0378-4428
Bibliographie sur le «Travail féminin». Mise à jour au
 1.9.1979. Bulletin de renseignements documentaires n°
 B/4. 1979.
 1980. 41 p. (EN.FR).

BFR 45 DKR 7,90 DM 2,85 FF 6,50
 LIT 1 200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0,75 USD 1,45

*) CB-NF-79-006-DA-C ISBN 92-825-1556-7
Lønmodtagernes andel i kapitaldannelsen. Kommis-
 sionens memorandum af 27. august 1979. EF-Bulletin,
 Supplement 6/79.
 1980. 83 s.

*) CB-NF-79-006-DE-C ISBN 92-825-1557-5
**Beteiligung der Arbeitnehmer an der Vermögensbil-
 dung.** Memorandum der Kommission vom 27. August
 1979. Beilage 6/79 — Bull. EG.
 1980. 85 p.

*) CB-NF-79-006-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1559-1
**Participation des salariés à la formation des patrimo-
 nes.** Mémoire de la Commission du 27 août
 1979.
 Bulletin des CE, suppl. 6/79.
 1980. 86 p.

*) CB-NF-79-006-IT-C ISBN 92-825-1560-5
**La partecipazione dei lavoratori dipendenti alla forma-
 zione dei patrimoni.** Memorandum della Commis-
 sione del 27 agosto 1979. Bollettino delle CE, Suppl.
 6/79.
 1980. 84 p.

*) CB-NF-79-006-NL-C ISBN 92-825-1561-3
**Deelneming van de werknemers in de vermogensvor-
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CA-72-78-002-6A-C ISBN 92-825-1190-1
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| BFR 400 | DKR 70 | DM 26 | FF 56 |
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| LIT 78 800 | HFL 205 | UKL 50 | USD 92 |

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CB-28-79-520-IT-C ISBN 92-825-1511-1
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CA-28-79-843-6A-C

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LIT 14 000 HFL 34,30 UKL 7.60 IRL 8.30

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ISBN 92-825-1190-1

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CA-AS-78-001-2F-C ISBN 92-825-1144-8
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Landbrugsstatistiske studier - 20. 1978.

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 LIT 8200 HFL 21 UKL 5 USD 9.50

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19

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CB-29-79-255-FR-C

ISBN 92-825-1473-0

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BFR 260 DKR 46 DM 16 FF 38
 LIT 7400 HFL 18 UKL 4 USD 9

JY-28-79-544-6A-C

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7

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8

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9

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10

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11

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Statistiques agricoles: Production végétale
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Landbouwstatistieken: Plantaardige produktie

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Salgspriser for animalske produkter
Verkaufspreise tierischer Produkte
Selling prices of animal products
Prix de vente de produits animaux
Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti animali
Verkoopprijzen van dierlijke produkten

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Verkaufspreise pflanzlicher Produkte
Selling prices of vegetable products
Prix de vente de produits végétaux
Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti vegetali
Verkoopprijzen van plantaardige produkten

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Prix d'achat des moyens de production
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Aankooprijzen van de produktiemiddelen

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Mercati agricoli - Serie Prezzi: Prodotti animali
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A

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Agricultural Markets - Series Prices: Vegetable Products
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B

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 EC-Index of agricultural prices
 Indice CE des prix agricoles
 Indice CE dei prezzi agricoli
 EG-Index der landbouwprijzen

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 Rapid information – Crop production
 Note rapide – Production végétale
 Nota rapida – Produzione vegetale
 Spoedbericht – Plantaardige produktie

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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Landbrugspriser
 Schnellbericht – Agrarpreise
 Rapid information – Agricultural prices
 Note rapide – Prix agricoles
 Nota rapida – Prezzi agricoli
 Spoedbericht – Landbouwprijzen

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(uregelmæssig / unregelmäßig / irregular / irrégulier / irregolare / onregelmatig)

Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

12

Intet offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung / No publications /
Pas de parution / Nessuna pubblicazione / Niets verschenen

13

EC Trade with the: ACP States –
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Les échanges de la CE avec: Les États ACP –
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14

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Gratis

15

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16

Ekspresinformation – Undervisning og uddannelse
 Schnellbericht – Bildung und Ausbildung
 Rapid Information – Education and training
 Note rapide – Éducation et formation
 Nota rapida – Istruzione e formazione
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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

17

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Eurostatistik – Data til konjunkturanalyse | ISSN 0379-1408 |
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Salgspriser for animalske produkter
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Prix de vente de produits végétaux
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Verkoopprijzen van plantaardige producten

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Ekspresinformation – Vegetabilisk produktion
Schnellbericht – Pflanzliche Erzeugung
Rapid information – Crop production
Note rapide – Production végétale
Nota rapida – Produzione vegetale
Spøedbericht – Plantaardige produktie

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 (uregelmæssig / unregelmäßig / irregular / irrégulier / irregolare / onregelmatig)
 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Landbrugspriser
Schnellbericht – Agrarpreise
Rapid information – Agricultural Prices
Note rapide – Prix agricoles
Nota rapida – Prezzi agricoli
Spøedbericht – Landbouwprijzen

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 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

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Schnellbericht – Sozialschutz
Rapid information – Social Protection
Note rapide – Protection sociale
Nota rapida – Protezione sociale
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 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Løn og indtægter
Schnellbericht – Löhne und Einkommen
Rapid information – Wages and incomes
Note rapide – Salaires et revenus
Nota rapida – Salari e redditi
Spøedbericht – Lonen en inkomens

(EN/FR)
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 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Undervisning og uddannelse
Schnellbericht – Bildung und Ausbildung
Rapid information – Education and training
Note rapide – Éducation et formation
Nota rapida – Istruzione e formazione
Spøedbericht – Onderwijs en opleiding

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 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Beskæftigelse og arbejdsløshed
Schnellbericht – Beschäftigung und Arbeitslosigkeit
Rapid information – Employment and unemployment
Note rapide – Emploi et chômage
Nota rapida – Occupazione e disoccupazione
Spøedbericht – Werkgelegenheid en werkloosheid

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 (uregelmæssig / unregelmäßig / irregular / irrégulier / irregolare / onregelmatig)
 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

◆ 18

EUROPA-PARLAMENTET - EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN -
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Europa information
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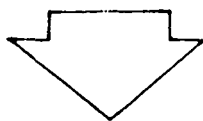
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