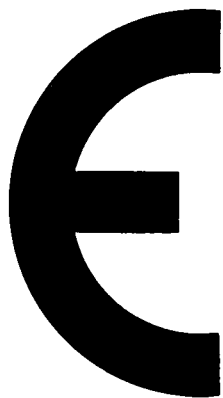


Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN
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Commission



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Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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Commission of the European Communities
Secretariat-General
Brussels

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Jean Rey

Jean Rey, who was a Member of the Commission of the European Economic Community throughout its existence from 1958 to 1967, and the first President of the merged Commission of the three Communities from 1967 to 1970, died at Liège on 19 May 1983 at the age of 80.

In a message published upon the announcement of Jean Rey's death Mr Gaston Thorn, the current President of the Commission, said:

'President Jean Rey was steadfastly loyal to his ideas, to his city, to his region, to his country, to the European Community, where in his capacity of Member of the Commission of the European Economic Community, he was actively involved in the Kennedy Round negotiations. In 1967 he became an outstanding President of the merged Commission. Then, after being President of the European Movement, it was his pride and joy to win a seat in the first direct elections to the European Parliament in 1979.

Both in his efforts devoted to external negotiation and to the internal construction of the Community, Jean Rey had the great merit of balancing the need for due reflection with effective action...'

Born at Liège on 15 July 1902, Jean Rey studied law at the University of Liège and was called to the bar at the Appeal Court there in 1926.

His political career started when he was elected Communal Councillor of Liège on 2 June 1935—a position he retained until January 1958. From 1921 to 1926 he was secretary to the 'Groupe Universitaire pour la Société des nations'. In 1939 he was elected deputy for Liège and was re-elected to the Chamber of Representatives in 1946, 1949, 1950 and 1954, relinquishing his seat when he was appointed to the Commission of the European Economic Community in 1958.

In 1949 he joined the Belgian Government as Minister of Reconstruction. As Minister of Economic Affairs from 1954 to 1958 he took part in drawing up the Benelux Treaty, sat on the Special Council of Ministers of the European Coal and Steel Community, serving as President for three terms, and represented the Belgian Government at the negotiations which eventually led to the Treaties of Rome.

He was a Member of the Commission of the European Economic Community without interruption from 1958 to July 1967. When the Treaty merging the executives of the three Communities entered into force in July 1967, he succeeded Walter Hallstein and was President of the Commission until June 1970.

From 1972 to 1976 he was President of the European Movement. He was elected member of the European Parliament in June 1979 and held his seat until 1980. He was honoured by the Commission at a special meeting on the occasion of his 80th birthday in July 1982.

Jean Rey never faltered in the pursuit of an ideal which he himself expressed only recently in the following words:

'It will be the honour of our generation to have had faith enough to embark upon this great European endeavour: it will be the task of the future generations to achieve it'.

Louise Weiss

On 26 May Louise Weiss, author and Member of the European Parliament, died in Paris at the age of 90. Mrs Weiss, who was the doyenne of the European Parliament, had been an active women's rights campaigner during the inter-war period.

Mrs Weiss was born at Arras on 25 January 1893. In 1914 she passed the *agrégation* in literature, and the following year she started out in journalism as a leader writer. She soon realized that the lesson to be learnt from World War I was that a new and free Europe must be built in which the League of Nations would play a leading role. In January 1918 she founded *l'Europe nouvelle*, a weekly which she ran until 1934 and which counted Jouvenel, Briand and Duhamel among its contributors.

Between 1919 and 1921 she travelled throughout central Europe on a 'crusade for the League of Nations as the guardian of world peace'.

In 1934 she founded La Femme nouvelle, an association which campaigned for equal political rights for women. In 1939 she became secretary-general of the French Committee for Refugees. In 1945, together with Gaston Bouthoul, she set up the Institut de polémologie; during the 25 years which followed she travelled extensively to report on situations where modern and traditional concepts of power come face to face.

In 1979 she ran for office for the first time in her life. She was elected to the European Parliament and gave voice to her conviction that the Community must have a defence policy because 'Right without power is the ruin of freedom'.

In 1968 she published the first of six volumes entitled *Mémoires d'une Européenne*, which cover the main political events of the three quarters of a century during which she waged a ceaseless struggle for a united Europe.



PART ONE
SPECIAL FEATURES

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

ECU = European currency unit

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

DKR = Dansk krone

DM = Deutsche Mark

DR = Greek drachma

FF = Franc français

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

IRL = Irish pound / punt

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

LIT = Lira italiana

UKL = Pound sterling

USD = United States dollar

1. The future financing of the Community

1.1.1. In its green paper on the future financing of the Community,¹ which it presented last February, the Commission explained why it believes that an extension and diversification of the Communities' system of own resources is necessary, and set out the considerations which should guide the choice of new sources of revenue.

On 5 May the Commission followed this up by sending to the Council and Parliament a proposal for a Decision² to supersede the Council Decision of 21 April 1970 on own resources,³ the basis of the present system.

1.1.2. In the communication to which the proposal is attached the Commission again draws attention to the fact that Community resources are on the point of running out, the situation being made worse by the substantial rise in agricultural expenditure over the past few months. New own resources are needed if present policies are to be kept in place and if new policies, including those required for enlargement, are to be pushed ahead. The expenditure proposals in the preliminary draft budget for 1984⁴ would take up 95.6% of the resources available.

The Commission proceeds from the assumption that the existing range of own resources (customs duties, agricultural levies, sugar and isoglucose levies and VAT) must remain intact. It believes that customs duties on ECSC products should no longer constitute national revenue but be entered in the Community budget as own resources. It considers it right that a certain percentage of the receipts from customs duties and agricultural levies should continue to be reimbursed to the Member States to cover the cost of the services their administrations perform on the Community's behalf in collecting them. But a fixed level of reimbursement seems no longer justified, and the Commission proposes that the figure (which must in no circumstances exceed 10%) should be determined by the budgetary authority.

1.1.3. The Commission's main proposal is to remove the 1% ceiling imposed by the 1970 own resources Decision on the resources accruing from VAT. The Commission sug-

gests raising the ceiling to 1.4% in the first instance by means of the Decision which is to supersede the 1970 Decision. The new Decision would have to be adopted by the Council, acting unanimously after consulting Parliament, and then ratified by the parliaments of the Member States. Any further increases in the ceiling—0.4 percentage point at a time—would require special authorization by the two arms of the budgetary authority (the Council acting unanimously and Parliament by a majority of its members and three fifths of the votes cast).

1.1.4. The Commission's second proposal is designed to secure a better balance in the Community budget by means of a temporary diversification of the VAT system that will make revenue match more closely the present pattern of expenditure (in which agriculture accounts for a preponderant share).

As long as agricultural spending—defined by the Commission as EAGGF guarantee expenditure less expenditure on food aid and ACP sugar—exceeds 33% of total spending, the difference between agricultural spending and 33% of total expenditure would be financed by applying variable rates to part of the VAT revenues assigned to the Community.

The variable VAT rates would be determined by reference to three indicators: (i) the share of each Member State in the Community's final agricultural production of products subject to common market organizations; (ii) the index of each country's share in the Community's net operating surplus; and (iii) per capita gross domestic product. The first indicator is intended to ensure more homogeneity between resources and expenditure in the present situation. The other two reflect the relative vitality and profitability of Member States' economies.

For each of these indicators the Community possesses full statistics compiled on reliable, harmonized bases over several years.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

² OJ C 145, 3.6.1983; COM(83)270 final.

³ OJ L 94, 28.4.1970.

⁴ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.7 and 2.3.1 to 2.3.9.

1.1.5. In parallel with the proposals for developing Community energy policies, the Commission is also suggesting that revenue might be raised in the form of a Community tax on non-industrial energy consumption. These proposals will follow later.

1.1.6. Presenting the communication on the future financing of the Community to Parliament on 18 May, Mr Thorn emphasized that the proposals offered a basis for a balanced agreement and the last chance of a truly Community solution, the only one which could avoid formalizing the concept of the fair return in the budget or falling back on a multitude of non-budgetary solutions.

Mr Thorn pointed out that lifting the ceiling on own resources did not mean relinquishing control of budgetary expenditure. Besides the normal controls vested in the budgetary authority, the Commission's proposals stipulated that each fractional increase in own resources (0.4 percentage point of VAT) must be decided by the Council and Parliament together. This would make the Council and

Parliament jointly responsible not only for expenditure but also for the rate of Community taxation.

The President of the Commission closed his address with a solemn appeal for Parliament's support in spurring the Council to act, for it could no longer postpone a decision. If the national strains and selfseeking interests which had stalled the London European Council¹ were to come to the fore once again, the Community would be plunged into a fearful crisis, and this time there would be no reprieve: falling world agricultural prices were the prelude to the imminent exhaustion of own resources if the present ceiling was kept on.

The Stuttgart meeting was crucial. Europe would either begin to flourish again or enter a period of crisis that would threaten its future—and the campaign for the European elections was only a few months away.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1981, point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

2. Preliminary draft budget for 1984: political presentation

1.2.1. On 11 May the Commission adopted the preliminary draft general budget of the Communities for 1984. The political introduction to this document, which is analysed elsewhere,¹ is reproduced below.

1.2.2. In presenting its preliminary draft budget for 1984 the Commission is aware of the public expenditure constraints facing all the Community's Member States. The proposals made for expenditure at the Community level are not intended to increase the overall burdens on the Community's economies. Rather the Commission seeks, through the strengthening of Community programmes, to achieve a more cost-effective use of resources than through purely national projects. Community expenditure should not, in the Commission's view,

be regarded simply as an addition to national expenditure: on the contrary it is a means of ensuring that the Community's financial resources are, taken overall, used in a coordinated and economical manner to meet the serious challenges which the Community faces today.

The Commission seeks in this budget to maintain the impetus of the implementation of the objectives of its mandate report,² and to enhance and broaden this impetus along the lines set out in the Commission President's programme address to Parliament of 8 February which will help achieve a

¹ Points 2.3.1 to 2.3.9.

² Supplement 1/81 — Bull. EC.

better balance of Community policies. Concrete budgetary proposals are made in respect of the new Community initiatives foreshadowed in that speech.

1.2.3. In order to achieve these aims the Commission is obliged to propose a VAT rate which will involve the virtual exhaustion of all the Community's currently available own resources, leaving only a very small margin of security. 1984 seems likely to be the last year for which it will be possible for the Commission to propose a valid and credible Community budget within the confines of the existing resources ceiling. It is against this background that the Commission has stressed to the other institutions of the Community the urgency of the early adoption of the proposals on the future financing of the Community which it presented on 5 May.¹

For 1984, however, it will be necessary to fit into the constraints of the existing own resources system, whose revenues are increasing at an overall rate of only 6.1%:

- (a) agricultural guarantee expenditure, which is increasing faster than budgetary revenue;
- (b) unavoidable expenditure, which makes up a considerable part of the budget: expenditure on the administrative machinery of the Community's institutions, unconditional repayments to Member States (a flat 10% of traditional own resources collected), and payments for commitments entered into before 31 December 1983;
- (c) expenditure linked with the development of Community policies discussed in Mr Thorn's programme address to Parliament on 8 February,² including those which are to serve to resolve the current problems of budgetary imbalance;
- (d) the need for a certain minimum reserve to provide the Community with a safety margin.

1.2.4. On the basis of the existing regulations the Commission has estimated the cost of the EAGGF Guarantee Section for 1984 at 16 500 million ECU, an increase of 17.4% over the figure in the 1983 budget. The current rate of growth of agricultural expenditure is a source of particular preoccupation and the Commission will monitor developments in this sector closely following the presentation of this preliminary draft budget. The Commission maintains its policy aim that EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure should, on the basis of the guidelines contained in its mandate report, increase at a rate less than that of the increase of potential own resources expressed over a number of years. Without a special effort on the part of the Community to impose effective constraints on agricultural production, particularly in respect of products in structural surplus, this aim seems unlikely to be achieved.

The agricultural prices decision for 1983/84, and in particular the measures concerned with producer participation which the Council has at the Commission's insistence adopted, represents a positive step towards rectifying the situation. Further initiatives are currently under consideration by the Commission. The Commission will, independently of actual expenditure developments, present to the Council such new proposals as it may judge necessary in the light of the current and prospective market situation, in the expectation that the latter will take the appropriate decisions in good time.

1.2.5. The Commission's preliminary draft budget for 1984 marks the first step in fulfilling the commitment given by President Thorn in his programme address to seek to double the size of the Community's structural funds within five years. The appropriations proposed for the Social and Regional Funds are consistent with this aim. In particular, the Commission shares the conviction of Parliament and the Council that the fight against unemployment should be the principal priority. Member States' own measures to combat unemployment must be backed by Community-level action if the Community is to fulfil its role as one of the driving forces in economic and social life. If the Community's measures are to have any real impact on this front, there must be a very substantial increase in spending from the European Social Fund in order to make better use of the advantages offered by the European dimension, common discipline and Community solidarity.

Within the Social Fund the Commission has allocated a special priority to measures which will help the young to find jobs. Youth unemployment is not only an economic waste, it is above all a social problem. Society must offer the young the prospect of some kind of occupation which will integrate them in the working world and offer them the dignity of an earned income.

As part of the fight against unemployment, the Community must contribute towards combating industrial decline; here a revival in productive investments is what must be achieved if Europe is to break out of the economic crisis and rebuild a competitive and modern economy. All measures which can directly aid this revival by strengthening the Community's industrial base must be maintained and developed: modernization of means of production, promotion of innovation, research and development, and energy independence. The Commission's proposals for the development of advanced data-processing and telecommunications technology are designed to contribute to this objective.

¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

² Bull. EC 2-1982, point 1.1.1 *et seq.*; Programme of the Commission for 1983-84 (Publications Office).

1.2.6. In the energy and research fields in particular, the Commission is proposing a large volume of new operations to reinforce the Community's energy independence and enhance the competitive position of its industries. It has proposed an outline programme of research and development activities for 1984-87 covering all national and Community schemes. These activities are focused sharply on the development of technologies and the improvement of the competitiveness of industries in a endeavour to prevent the decline of sectors at risk, to promote the development of growth sectors and to encourage innovation.

In the energy field proper, in addition to the development of existing operations, the preliminary draft 1984 budget provides for new Community action on coal and energy investments. The need for this action is accentuated by the fact that the uncertainties of the world oil market and the insufficient progress made in finding ways of coping with a crisis call for extra efforts to develop a common energy strategy backed by appropriate resources.

Special mention should be made of transport policy, which will be given a decisive stimulus in 1984 through the introduction of an infrastructures

policy involving financial contributions for major projects of Community interest.

1.2.7. The Commission has taken account of the declarations made by the Council and the Parliament at the time of the adoption of supplementary and amending budget No 1/1983 insisting on the need for a Community solution to the budgetary problems which had been the origin of that budget.

The Commission has presented its proposals for such a solution in the context both of the diversification of the Community's financial system and the development of Community policies in non-agricultural areas, new initiatives for which are contained in this present budget. As regards the interim period the Commission believes that supplementary measures are no longer an appropriate way of dealing with this problem. The budget items proposed in respect of youth unemployment, coal investment and transport infrastructure, for which the Commission has already recommended appropriations, together with the heading relating to special energy measures, for which the Commission has proposed a token entry, provide the appropriate framework for a solution.

3. First framework programme on Community scientific and technical activities 1984-87

1.3.1. Following its communication of December 1982¹ and the Council's policy debate on it last February,² the Commission sent to the Council on 20 May a proposal for a Decision on the first framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities for 1984-87.³ The programme sets out the seven priority goals of the Community research strategy and their shares of the total appropriations. The Commission estimates that a minimum of 3 700 million ECU over the period 1984-87 will be required to attain the proposed objectives. The programme also suggests that from 1987, 4% of the total

Community budget should be set aside for Community research (the present figure is 2.6%).

This and subsequent framework programmes will cover a four-year period. However, the Commission considers that a review of the first programme should take place in the second quarter of 1985, linked to an examination of forecasts for 1988 and 1989.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.173.

² Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.134.

³ COM(83)260 final.

Since the very concept of the framework programme marks a major departure from earlier approaches, the methods of designing and reviewing it should be evaluated and progressively improved.

Seven major goals

1.3.2. Among the main objectives of the scientific and technical strategy that the Community should follow over the period 1984-87, the Commission has selected seven major goals:

- (i) promoting agricultural competitiveness, including fisheries;
- (ii) promoting industrial competitiveness; this involves removing and reducing impediments, improving and developing new techniques and products for conventional industries and promoting and developing new technologies (information technology and biotechnology);
- (iii) improving the management of raw materials (especially recycling and substitution);
- (iv) improving the management of energy resources and reducing energy dependence;
- (v) reinforcing development aid;
- (vi) improving living and working conditions; and
- (vii) improving the efficacy of the Community's scientific and technical potential.

Participation of the Member States in the common strategy

1.3.3. The Commission proposes that, when the framework programme is formally adopted, the Council and Parliament should recognize the possibility both of including, among the activities to be undertaken in order to achieve common objectives, activities not involving participation of all Member States, and of taking part in national or international activities wherever these correspond to objectives of common interest as adopted in the framework programme.

This dual facility could usefully be operated in the context of a general framework programme covering a four-year period, although it was difficult to consider in the case of sectoral action programmes. A framework programme covering the whole gamut of Community scientific and technical activities makes it possible to reconcile the common interest and national or regional interests which are expressed in differing priorities, themselves a reflection of the differences there are between the policies followed by each Member State, either at national or at international level.

1.3.4. This new approach, which directly corresponds to the Commission's desire to make it possible, within the Community, for the most relevant choices to be made between national, international or Community levels of activity, would consequently be expressed:

- (i) in the form of a group of Community projects, both programmed and non-programmed (stimulation activities), to be set by the framework programme and combining activities in which all 10 Member States participate and activities where the level of participation varies;
- (ii) in the form of participation by the Community—as a small-scale participant—in major national and/or international programmes which could range from basic research to mainly industrial research.

Implementing the framework programme

Programming research activities

1.3.5. The framework programme is not just a scientific and technical programming guide, but also a financial guide adopted by the Community institutions to indicate to those who are responsible for programming what the relative volume of expenditure should be.


Consequently, each action programme put forward by the Commission will set out in

detail, over and above the scientific and technical content of the suggested activities and the human and financial resources considered necessary:

- (i) the goals and objectives in the framework programme to which the sectoral programme proposal corresponds; and
- (ii) the percentage of the proposed expenditure going to the different programme objectives.

Budgetary procedure

1.3.6. Each year, in the course of the budgetary process, a report on the implementation of the framework programme will be prepared for the attention of the Council and Parliament. The report will thus enable the political authorities to assess the progressive implementation of the strategy adopted and if necessary to reorient, speed up or review some of the work to be done.



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN MAY 1983**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Western Economic Summit

2.1.1. The Western Economic Summit at Williamsburg was a major event of the month. Following their discussions, the seven Heads of State or Government and the representatives of the Community issued a declaration on economic recovery with a text setting out the aims of the future consultations between Ministers of Finance on strengthening economic cooperation for growth and stability.¹

Council

2.1.2. On 16 May the Council meeting of Ministers of Economic Affairs and Finance agreed to the granting of a Community loan to France.² It also took note of the Commission's communications on financial integration in the Community,³ on tax and financial measures in favour of investment⁴ and on the promotion of the international role of the ECU.⁵

European Monetary System

Community loan to France

2.1.3. Following a request from the French Government, the Council, on a proposal from the Commission and having consulted the Monetary Committee, decided on 16 May to grant a Community loan of 4 000 million ECU to France. This Decision activates the Community loan mechanism designed to support the balances of payments of Member States, governed by Regulation (EEC) No 682/81 of 16 March 1981.⁶

The loan was granted on the basis of the economic and monetary policy programme adopted by the French which is designed to reduce the rate of inflation, restore a sustainable balance-of-payments position and ensure a better convergence of economic performances within the Community, which will help to strengthen the cohesion and stability of the European Monetary System.

The loan will be made available to France as soon as the borrowing operations are completed.

International role of the ECU

2.1.4. On 17 May the Commission presented to the Council a communication on promoting of the international role of the ECU.⁷ This communication was prompted by the fact that the private use of the ECU, which commenced only two years ago, has taken off rapidly: it is a method of invoicing which is becoming more and more widespread, particularly among multinational companies; its role as a means of payment is also increasing and in some Member States it is an increasingly important investment instrument; finally, the volume of ECU-denominated issues makes it the third most used currency, after the US dollar and the German mark, for the floating of bonds on international markets.

2.1.5. The Commission considers that steps should be taken to ensure that the private use of the ECU develops in an orderly fashion, this being necessary if Europe's monetary identity is to be reinforced both internally and externally:

- (i) increased use of the ECU would constitute an important element in a renewed movement towards financial integration within the Community; clearly the ECU, the symbol of a currency area in the making, cannot continue to be subject within the Community to the same restrictions that some Member States impose on other currencies;
- (ii) the development of the ECU market should make it possible gradually to spread over all Community currencies the effects of

¹ Points 3.4.2 and 3.4.3.

² Point 2.1.3; OJ L 153, 11.6.1983.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.9.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

⁵ Point 2.1.4.

⁶ OJ L 73, 19.3.1981; Bull. EC 3-1981, point 2.1.2.

⁷ COM(83)274 final.

capital flows which at present take place only between the US dollar and those European currencies which are alternative investments to the dollar. The enlargement of the ECU market would also ensure a better balance between the source of funds, at present very limited geographically, and their use.

2.1.6. In its communication the Commission proposes three main lines of action to promote the private use of the ECU:

- (i) the necessary steps should be taken in all Member States to accord the ECU currency status;
- (ii) dealings in ECU-denominated securities should be liberalized; and
- (iii) measures should be taken to protect the ECU designation.

2.1.7. The Commission intends, once all Member States have granted the ECU currency status, to put forward a document that would constitute the standard guide to use of the ECU. This guide would spell out the status of the ECU and would specify the conditions to be met by users; it would bring together the various documents concerning the definition of the ECU, would make it clear that the ECU had been recognized by the Member States and would secure protection for the ECU symbol.

Adjustment of ECU central rates

2.1.8. When the currencies were realigned on 21 March¹ the notional central rate of the pound sterling was adjusted on the basis of a market rate which subsequent trends showed to be far too low.

As an exceptional measure, the ministers and governors of the central banks of the Member States decided on 17 May, following a joint procedure involving the Commission and after consulting the Monetary Committee, to allocate to the pound sterling a notional central rate in ECU based on the market rates obtaining on Friday 13 May. The bilateral central rates and the upper and lower intervention limits between currencies participating in the EMS exchange-rate mechanism

remain unchanged. The new ECU central rates which came into force on 18 May are as follows:

(in units of national currency per ECU)

BFR	44.9008
LFR	44.9008
DM	2.24184
HFL	2.52595
DKR	8.14104
FF	6.87456
LIT	1 403.49
IRL	0.725690
UKL	0.587087 (notional central rate)

Extension of interest subsidies granted under EMS

2.1.9. On 11 May the Commission adopted for transmission to the Council a proposal for a Regulation extending for two years the system of interest subsidies on certain loans² established by the Council on 3 August 1979,³ in accordance with the decision of the European Council of 4 and 5 December 1978.⁴

The European Council had emphasized that Community measures were needed to underpin the efforts made by the less prosperous Member States (Ireland and Italy) effectively and fully participating in the EMS. The Community's contribution was to take the form of Community loans (EIB, NCI) amounting to 1 000 million EUA a year for five years, from 1979 to 1983. However, the differences between member countries' levels of development are still significant, and further efforts are therefore needed to help Ireland and Italy.

Community borrowing

New Community Instrument

2.1.10. On 19 May Parliament delivered a favourable opinion⁵ on the outcome of the

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.3.

² OJ C 163, 22.6.1983; COM(83)275.

³ OJ L 200, 8.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1978, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12 and 2.1.1.

⁵ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

conciliation meeting concerning the New Community Instrument (NCI III)¹ and on the first tranche of borrowing by the Commission under NCI III for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community.²

Monetary Committee

2.1.11. The Monetary Committee held its 290th meeting in Brussels on 4 May, with Mr Camdessus in the chair. Following discussion of recent economic and monetary events, it took an initial look at the Commission's communication on financial integration.³

Internal market and industrial affairs

Council

2.1.12. On 26 May the Council resumed its proceedings⁴ aimed at strengthening the internal market.

2.1.13. The Council continued examining the question of access to Community certification⁵ for products from non-member countries. The discussion was essentially concerned with decision-making procedures which would enable exceptional measures to be taken under the arrangements for 'third-country certification'.

2.1.14. The Council signified its general approval of the stated objective of the proposal for a Regulation on a single document,⁶ namely the simplification of intra-Community trade formalities.

2.1.15. It continued its discussion of the proposals concerning deferred payment of the value-added tax on imports⁷ and measures to facilitate the completion of formalities and inspections in respect of the transport of goods between Member States.⁸

2.1.16. The Council gave its agreement in principle to a Directive aimed at protecting public health against asbestos and products containing asbestos which, when used, may release fibres and dust which are harmful to human health.⁹

To this end the Directive provides, in the first stage, for the prohibition, albeit coupled with exceptions, of the marketing and use of one such fibre, namely crocidolite (blue asbestos), and lays down special provisions on the labelling of all products containing asbestos. Work on the use of other asbestos fibres is to continue without delay.

2.1.17. Finally, the Council exchanged views on Commission proposals concerning the intra-Community movement of goods for temporary use,¹⁰ medicinal products,¹¹ textile names¹² and liability for defective products.¹³

Free movement of persons and freedom to provide services

Removal of restrictions

2.1.18. On 19 May Parliament adopted a resolution concerning the property of Community citizens in Greece.¹⁴

Free movement of goods

Simplification of formalities in respect of intra-Community trade

2.1.19. On 20 May Parliament delivered a favourable opinion¹⁵ on a proposal for a

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.8.

² OJ C 66, 11.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.3.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.9.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 2.1.8 to 2.1.12.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.9.

⁶ OJ C 203, 6.8.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.10; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.10.

⁷ OJ C 201, 5.8.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.57; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.42.

⁸ OJ C 127, 18.5.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.87; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.144.

⁹ OJ C 78, 28.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.8; OJ C 273, 16.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.3.

¹⁰ OJ C 247, 8.9.1981; Bull. EC 7/8-1981, point 2.1.29; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.23.

¹¹ OJ C 355, 31.12.1980; Bull. EC 11-1980, point 2.1.10; OJ C 44, 18.2.1982.

¹² OJ C 63, 13.3.1980; Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.34.

¹³ OJ C 241, 14.10.1976; Supplement 11/76 — Bull. EC; OJ C 271, 26.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.16.

¹⁴ Point 2.4.14; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

¹⁵ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

Regulation laying down certain measures for the standardization and simplification of statistics of trade between Member States.¹

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

Council directives

2.1.20. On 26 May the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission,² amended³ its Directive of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles and their trailers.⁴

2.1.21. On 16 May, on another Commission proposal,⁵ the Council adapted⁶ to technical progress its Directive of 7 November 1977 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, printing inks, adhesives and similar products.⁷ The new instrument updates the 1977 Directive to take account of the amendments made to the more recent Directives of 18 September 1979 on dangerous substances⁸ and of 22 July 1980 on solvents.⁹

2.1.22. On the same date, in response to a further Commission proposal,¹⁰ the Council amended⁶ for the fourth time its Directive of 27 July 1976 relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations.⁴ The amendment prohibits the use of two chemical substances for the treatment (fireproofing) of textiles and clothing as well as the marketing of other dangerous substances used in novelties (e.g. the constituents of sneezing powder and stink bombs).

Commission proposals

2.1.23. On 16 May the Commission sent the Council a proposal¹¹ for a Directive adapting to technical progress the Council Directives of 4 November 1976 relating respectively to radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment and to the suppression

of radio interference with regard to fluorescent lighting luminaires fitted with starters.¹²

2.1.24. On 26 May the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors and their protection.¹³ This proposal specifies the types of power take-off to be employed and the design and mounting requirements relating to them and their protection, with a view to minimizing the risk of accidents.

Mention should also be made of the Directive adopted by the Commission on 28 March,¹⁴ adapting to technical progress the Directive of 25 July 1978 relating to the driver's seat.¹⁵

Euronorms

2.1.25. At its last meeting, held in Brussels on 3 and 4 May, the Iron and Steel Nomenclature Coordination Committee approved four Euronorms relating to chemical analyses for the determination of carbon, manganese and sulphur content, one Euronorm relating to the surface treatment of hot-rolled sheet and wide flats and an information circular on approved reference materials for the determination of the chemical composition of iron and steel products.

¹ OJ C 21, 26.1.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.6.

² OJ C 279, 29.10.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.7.

³ OJ L 151, 9.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

⁵ OJ C 156, 25.6.1981; Bull. EC 6-1981, point 2.1.12.

⁶ OJ L 147, 6.6.1983.

⁷ OJ L 303, 28.11.1977.

⁸ OJ L 259, 15.10.1979; Bull. 9-1979, point 2.1.13.

⁹ OJ L 229, 30.8.1980; Bull. EC 7/8-1980, point 2.1.13.

¹⁰ OJ C 288, 10.11.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, point 2.1.12.

¹¹ COM(83)250 final.

¹² OJ L 336, 4.12.1976.

¹³ COM(83)269 final.

¹⁴ OJ L 109, 26.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.16.

¹⁵ OJ L 255, 18.9.1978.

Business law

Companies

Seventh Directive: consolidated accounts

2.1.26. On 16 May the Council adopted the proposal for a Directive on consolidated accounts after four years of discussion.¹ This Directive represents the second important step in the creation of Community accountancy law following the adoption in 1978 of the Fourth Directive — on the harmonization of the individual accounts of limited liability companies, of which there are about 2 million in the Community.²

The Fourth Directive lays down rules for the disclosure of a company's assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss, whether or not it belongs to a group. The Seventh Directive deals with the publication of group accounts.

2.1.27. The Seventh Directive specifies firstly the circumstances in which consolidated accounts must be drawn up, namely where the parent company:

- (i) holds a majority of voting rights in the subsidiary;
- (ii) is entitled to appoint or remove a majority of the members of the subsidiary's administrative, management or supervisory body;
- (iii) has a contractual right to exercise a dominant influence over the subsidiary; or
- (iv) is a shareholder in or member of the subsidiary and controls it pursuant to an agreement with other shareholders or members.

The general approach of the Directive is to require consolidation in the above cases, where there is *de jure* power of control. However, the Member States are given the option of requiring consolidation also in respect of subsidiaries which are simply under *de facto* control. The principle of consolidation is that of the 'world balance sheet', that is to say the balance sheet includes all subsidiaries regardless of where their registered offices are situated. It will be possible to exclude groups of limited size from the obligation to consolidate.

2.1.28. The Directive then lays down the techniques of consolidation, which consist essentially of:

- (i) presenting the group's accounts as those of a single company;
- (ii) eliminating intra-group transactions.

The consolidated accounts must be presented using layouts already introduced by the Fourth Directive; notes on the accounts will give information in addition to that included under such layouts. The consolidated accounts will have to be audited by an auditor independent of the parent company.

2.1.29. The Directive fills a legislative vacuum in most Member States, and generous time limits have been allowed for its implementation:

- (i) it is to be transposed into national law by 1988; and
- (ii) it is to be applied to companies by 1990.

The Directive's operation is to be reviewed in 1995.

2.1.30. In view of the difficulties that may arise for small and medium-sized firms, the Directive provides for possible exemptions linked to size criteria, which, during the final stage of the Directive's implementation, will be as follows:

balance sheet total: 4 million EUA,
turnover: 8 million EUA,
number of employees: 250.

Holding companies may be released from the obligation to consolidate under certain conditions aimed at ensuring that they do not interfere in the management of their subsidiaries. Nevertheless, the obligation to draw up individual accounts remains, and where they do not consolidate their subsidiaries they will have to identify them in their annual accounts. This provision will ensure greater transparency of such holding companies.

¹ OJ C 121, 2.6.1976; Supplement 9/76 — Bull. EC; OJ C 14, 17.1.1979.

² OJ L 222, 14.8.1978.

Industry

Steel

Extension of production quota system

2.1.31. On 17 May the Commission approved—for transmission to the Council for assent and to the ECSC Consultative Committee for its opinion—a formal proposal for the extension from 1 July 1983 until the end of 1985 of the production quota system which has been in force since October 1980.¹

The Commission notes that the measures introduced and consistently implemented since 1980 in response to the manifest crisis in the steel industry have resulted in greater market stability and a price recovery. Since there has been no significant change in the fundamental problems affecting the industry—substantial overcapacities, reduced domestic demand compared with 1982, disequilibrium on the world market—the Commission has no option but to find that the state of manifest crisis still exists.

The measures taken between mid-1983 and end-1985 must be in line with the existing system, which has operated satisfactorily. Nevertheless, the very length of this period, which reveals how closely the quota system and the restructuring policy are connected, necessitates a number of changes:

(i) in the first place, reversing-mill plate, wide flats and heavy sections must be brought into the mandatory quota system because these product categories, which have so far been subject to voluntary restraint agreements, are now also affected by the crisis; in addition, the enlarged system must encourage firms to bring their reference production into line with their restructured production apparatus.

(ii) Secondly, the amendment of reference production figures is becoming increasingly necessary as the periods taken into account for their establishment lengthen. It is not a question of lowering the total reference production of a company which has cut excess capacity in order to employ its production apparatus more efficiently, but of encouraging the transfer of reference

production between and within individual companies in the context of this overall figure.

(iii) Thirdly, there is also a need to protect unassisted small and medium-sized businesses against the exceptional difficulties which they may encounter when the market situation justifies extremely high abatement rates. These firms are unable to respond with the same sort of flexibility as integrated producers.

(iv) Finally, the Commission also intends to ensure a high degree of transparency in the production quota system. Together with the compulsory limitation of production, therefore, it will continue to employ the following measures as part of its crisis programme:

(a) the definition of price rules for wholesalers and distributors of iron and steel products and the publication of guide prices;

(b) monitoring of producer and dealer delivery statistics;

(c) implementation of the arrangements with the 14 major non-member countries which export steel to the Community;²

(d) implementation of the arrangement concerning Community exports to the USA.³

*

2.1.32. On 25 May the Commission approved a communication to steel companies setting indicative abatement rates for quotas for the third quarter of 1983. Although the definitive third-quarter quotas cannot yet be laid down because Decision No 1696/82/ECSC⁴ expires on 30 June and the Council has not yet taken the new decision extending the production quota system, the Commission wishes to announce indicative rates based on the steel supply and demand estimates which it established when preparing the forward programme for the third quarter. If the quota system is extended beyond 30 June, the Commission will publish definitive abatement rates in respect of the third quarter.

¹ Fourteenth General Report, points 144 and 145.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.215.

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

⁴ OJ L 191, 1.7.1982.

Indicative abatement rates, third quarter 1983

Category of products	Production (%)	Deliveries in the common market (%)
Ia (hot-rolled wide strip)	- 45	- 47
Ib (thin sheet)	- 36	- 37
Ic (galvanized sheet)	- 19	- 23
Id (other coated sheet)	+ 34	+ 30
II (reversing-mill plate and wide flats)	- 48	- 54
III (heavy sections)	- 35	- 51
IV (wire rod)	- 44	- 44
V (reinforcing bars)	- 43	- 50
VI (merchant bars)	- 39	- 47

2.1.33. Parliament adopted a resolution on combating the crisis in the European steel industry on 19 May.¹

*Electronics and information technology***Esprit programme**

2.1.34. On 25 May the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting the first European strategic programme for research and development in information technology (Esprit).² This first programme represents a strategic attempt to make up lost ground in advanced information technology in order to check the process of decline in the European industry and its dependence on outside sources.

This five-year programme, which is due to commence in 1984, was finalized after lengthy consultations with the industry, universities and governments in the Member States. It provides for action in five priority areas — advanced microelectronics, advanced information processing, software technology, office systems and computer integrated manufacturing. The overall cost of the programme is put at 1 500 million ECU, of which the Community and the industry would each provide half.

Implementation of the pilot projects covered by the programme will commence shortly.³ The purpose of the pilot phase of the

programme is to test the capacity of the Commission and the committees set up under the programme to evaluate projects and to examine the most suitable arrangements for cooperation.

2.1.35. On 18 May, pursuant to a request from Parliament,⁴ the Commission approved an interim report on 'Realities and tendencies in European television: perspectives and options'.

This report is concerned with the prospects opened up within Europe by the new techniques (satellites, fibre-optics cables and video equipment), which will result in a vast increase in the number of programmes available and will very soon render national frontiers irrelevant. Because of these technical developments, particularly the advent of powerful satellites whose signals it will be possible to receive from 1985-86 with small individual aerials, television, which has so far been an essentially national phenomenon, will acquire a continental dimension.

The report refers to the initiatives now being taken by many member organizations of the European Broadcasting Union with a view to

¹ Point 2.4.14; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² COM(83)258 final.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.25.

⁴ OJ C 87, 5.4.1982; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.4.9.

the development of a joint, multilingual television service. The Commission hopes that the Community will provide political and material support together with a framework of reference for these efforts, the aim of which is to establish such a service in time for the introduction of direct broadcasting by satellite in 1986.

Other industries

Forestry-based industries

2.1.36. The Commission approved a communication¹ to the Council on a Community action programme regarding forestry and forestry-based industries, covering all the activities involved in the production, utilization and transport of wood and the various stages of its processing into a finished product. The document contains a broad range of proposals in respect of the entire sector, which are designed to supplement the measures that have already been or are to be taken under forestry and research policy, with which they have been properly coordinated.

For advisory purposes in connection with the implementation of its proposed policy, the Commission decided to set up a committee consisting of representatives of the various organizations and trades involved in the wood economy.²

Industrial innovation and the information market

Industrial innovation

2.1.37. On 17 May, to take account of the views expressed by Parliament,³ the Commission amended⁴ its proposal for a Decision on a plan for the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer (1983-85). The title was changed to 'proposal for a Council Decision promoting a European infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer', the provision whereby the Council would set up an Advisory Committee was abandoned in favour of a Commission

consultation procedure, and a list of priority actions was added.

2.1.38. On 26 May the Council examined this proposal and agreed the line to be taken by the Permanent Representatives Committee in preparation for further discussion at a forthcoming meeting.

Three-year plan of action

2.1.39. On 6 May the Commission called for proposals, under the third three-year plan of action in the field of information and documentation,⁵ for the promotion of high-quality information services in the fields of biomedicine and health care, including biotechnology.⁶

Proposals, which may be submitted by any natural or legal person, body or institution established in the territory of a Member State, must reach the Commission by 1 September. They will be treated as confidential in order to protect the industrial property rights and commercial interests of the proposers.

Selected projects can qualify for a subsidy covering up to 25% of the development costs involved in the project during a maximum of two years preceding commercialization, subject to a ceiling of 200 000 ECU.

Exploitation of research results

2.1.40. At the Flanders Technology exhibition held in Ghent from 3 to 7 May, the Commission presented the scientific and technical activities currently being supported by the Community and some recent achievements.

At a press conference he held on 3 May Mr Karl-Heinz Narjes announced a 'promising development' that could help solve the problem of acid rain. It is a process invented at the Ispra Joint Research Centre Establishment, which—according to prelimi-

¹ COM(83)222.

² OJ L 137, 26.5.1983.

³ OJ C 96, 11.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.21.

⁴ OJ C 155, 14.6.1983; COM(83)277 final.

⁵ OJ L 220, 6.8.1981; Bull. EC 7/8-1981, point 2.1.24.

⁶ OJ C 121, 6.5.1983.

nary studies—could prove advantageous for eliminating sulphur dioxide, a pollutant produced by coal or oil combustion, in particular in thermal power stations.

Mr Narjes went on to review the inventions resulting from research financed by the Community:

(i) since the beginning of Community research in 1952, the total number of inventions made, whether patentable or not, can be estimated at approximately 2 500, of which some 2 000 belong to the Community and the remainder to its contractual partners; about a hundred inventions are made each year, some 20 of which belong to the Community and the remainder to its contractual partners;

(ii) over a hundred inventions are currently being developed or have already been commercialized;

(iii) among the inventions that belong to the Community, 28 licensing contracts are currently in force and 10 inventions are being actively commercialized; royalties, which are as yet modest, amount to some 25 000 ECU a year, doubling approximately every three years.

Stressing the need to tailor research to the needs of users, Mr Narjes stated that these inventions related in particular to new equipment for monitoring production or industrial research; metallurgy and semiconductor production; and solar energy and energy storage. At the Hanover Fair in April, the German licensee for the last of these was awarded a prize for the work it had carried out based on this invention.

Customs union

Simplification of customs formalities

Simplification of formalities in intra-Community trade

2.1.41. On 26 May the Council examined the proposal for a Regulation on the single document¹ and endorsed the principle of simplification which it is intended to further.

2.1.42. On 20 May Parliament endorsed² the proposal for a Council Regulation introducing a specimen declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade.³ It also expressed its support for a simplification of transport statistics and called for the abolition of the guarantee required under the internal Community transit arrangements.

Customs procedures with economic impact

Inward processing

2.1.43. On 3 May the Council adopted⁴ the proposal made by the Commission in February⁵ that it should amend the Directive of 26 May 1975 on detailed rules concerning equivalent compensation and prior exportation under inward processing arrangements.⁶

Standard exchange arrangements for goods exported for repair

2.1.44. On 26 May the Commission sent a proposal to the Council for a Regulation on standard exchange arrangements,⁷ the purpose of which is to incorporate the contents of the Council Directive of 27 November 1978⁸ into a regulation.

Common Customs Tariff

Nomenclature

2.1.45. On 4, 24 and 27 May the Commission adopted five Regulations for the purpose of ensuring uniform application of the Common Customs Tariff nomenclature, classifying non-alcoholic beers in subheading 22.02 A,⁹ plastic dolls containing chewing

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.26; OJ C 203, 6.8.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.10; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.26.

² OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

³ OJ C 71, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.20.

⁴ OJ L 127, 17.5.1983.

⁵ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.32.

⁶ OJ L 156, 18.6.1975.

⁷ OJ C 153, 11.6.1983; COM(83)273 final.

⁸ OJ L 349, 13.12.1978.

⁹ OJ L 118, 5.5.1983.

gum in subheadings 17.04 B and 97.02 A,¹ preparations composed of powdered milk and malt extract in subheading 19.02 B II,² barley grains in subheading 21.02 C II² and noodle preparations in subheading 21.07 B I a).²

Economic tariff matters

Tariff quotas

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

(i) new potatoes falling within CCT subheading 07.01 A II b), originating in Cyprus (1983);³

(ii) certain eels falling within CCT subheading ex 03.01 A II (1 July 1983 to 30 June 1984);⁴

(iii) processing work in respect of certain textile products under Community outward processing traffic (1984);⁴

(iv) certain wines having a registered designation of origin falling within CCT subheading ex 22.05 C, originating in Morocco (1983/84);⁵

(v) yarn of poly (p-phenyleneterephthalamide), for use in the manufacture of tyres, or of products used in the manufacture of tyres, falling within CCT subheading ex 51.01 A (1983);⁵

(vi) sweet clear-fleshed cherries, marinated in alcohol and intended for the manufacture of chocolate products, falling within CCT subheading ex 20.06 B I e) 2 bb) (1983).⁵

Suspensions

2.1.47. In May the Council adopted a number of Regulations temporarily suspending autonomous CCT duties on the following products:

(i) certain niobium alloy products falling within CCT subheadings ex 81.04 H I and H II (1983);⁴

(ii) certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft (1983);⁶

(iii) certain industrial products (1983-84);⁷

(iv) certain agricultural products (1983-84).⁴

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Permissible forms of cooperation

2.1.48. On 24 May the Commission decided⁸ to renew until 31 December 1995 the exemption granted on 24 September 1971, under Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty, in respect of the rules for exhibiting at International Exhibitions of Textile Machinery (ITMA) adopted by the European Committee of Textile Machinery Manufacturers (Cematex). The members of Cematex are the national associations of textile machinery manufacturers in Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Cematex is responsible for organizing an ITMA every four years.

The rules in force hitherto required exhibitors at ITMA to undertake not to display, either directly or indirectly through the intermediary of any representative, at any national or international event in Western Europe in the year of the ITMA and in the preceding year. Moreover, applications for admission to ITMA could be refused without any reason being given and without any possibility of appeal.

¹ OJ L 137, 26.5.1983.

² OJ L 141, 1.6.1983.

³ OJ L 131, 20.5.1983.

⁴ OJ L 128, 18.5.1983.

⁵ OJ L 129, 19.5.1983.

⁶ OJ L 130, 19.5.1983.

⁷ OJ L 144, 2.6.1983.

⁸ OJ L 140, 31.5.1983.

To take account of the wish expressed in interested circles that the rules might be applied more objectively and less stringently, the Commission, before renewing the exemption, asked Cematex to make a number of changes, notably:

- (i) to introduce a procedure for appeal either to an arbitration committee or to a court in the event of an exhibitor being debarred from an ITMA or any particular event;
- (ii) to extend opportunities for displaying textile machinery at other exhibitions for the purpose of demonstrating equipment not admitted to an ITMA, to events having scientific or educational aims or held in the public interest;
- (iii) to permit unrestricted display of machinery by the manufacturer or his representatives on their respective premises and unrestricted participation in exhibitions with advertising material, excluding models.

By means of this Decision the Commission reaffirmed its concern to reconcile the need to rationalize fairs and exhibitions with the need to keep the attendant restrictions to the absolute minimum.

Distribution

2.1.49. Following Commission intervention the German association of wood importers (Verein Deutscher Holzeinfuhrhäuser — VDH) made clear in a circular to its members that contracts between foreign suppliers and their German agents should no longer include a clause restricting import transactions to certain purchasers.

Inquiries started by the Commission towards the end of 1980 revealed that Germany's imports of Finnish plywood in recent years had been channelled exclusively through VDH members. VDH agents dealt only with VDH dealers and importers, and the latter could obtain supplies only through VDH agents.

However, the Commission also found that since then the inflexible Finnish marketing arrangements in Germany had been eased. A number of Finnish manufacturers have set up their own agents, who are not members of

VDH. They now also supply purchasers who are not VDH members (dealers and importers), which has definitely encouraged competition. Clauses restricting competition do not appear in German companies' agency contracts or in VDH's rules.

The Commission therefore terminated its inquiries, taking the view that the circular was likely to bring about an improvement in the conditions of competition in trade in Finnish plywood.

The Commission had previously taken action in connection with plywood imports from certain member countries on 18 September 1980, when it adopted a Decision under Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty against 20 Dutch importers.¹ This case concerned agreements under the rules of the Dutch plywood importing companies (IMA-Statuut) requiring IMA importers to purchase plywood only through IMA agents and the latter to supply plywood only to IMA importers.

State aids

General aids

Belgium

2.1.50. On 25 May the Commission decided to raise no objection to the implementation of a draft Royal Decree concerning measures to encourage efficient energy utilization.

This scheme of assistance comprises various measures for promoting investments directed at more rational use of energy: loans to firms not qualifying for the tax deduction under Article 42ter of the Income Tax Code, grants to non-trading bodies, grants for demonstration projects and the development of new products and processes, grants towards expenditure on studies, and aid for the marketing of new energy-saving materials, processes and products.

Given the scheme's objectives and the Commission's generally sympathetic view of aid to promote more efficient use of energy,

¹ OJ L 318, 26.11.1980.

the Commission felt that these measures qualified for exemption from the rules on incompatibility of aid with the common market.

However, the authorization was restricted to one year and the Commission requested the Belgian Government to submit a report on the scheme in nine months so that it can review its operation.

State monopolies of a commercial character

Italy: manufactured tobacco and match monopolies

2.1.51. Act No 198 of 13 May 1983, published in *Gazzetta ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana* No 183 (p. 4027), completes the measures taken by the Italian authorities to put into effect the undertakings they had given to adjust the tobacco and match monopolies.¹ It amends the law in the following respects:

- (i) taxation arrangements for imported manufactured tobaccos;
- (ii) entry to the retail trade;
- (iii) the abolition of *rivendite di Stato* (State-controlled tobacconists);
- (iv) price fixing for imported matches;
- (v) importing and wholesaling arrangements for matches.

Financial institutions and taxation

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Turnover taxes

2.1.52. On 18 May Parliament delivered a favourable opinion² on the proposal for a Directive on the common arrangements for the refund to taxable persons not established in Community territory of the value-added tax which they have paid on purchases of

goods or services in a Member State.³ Parliament considers that the Member States should be required to notify the Commission of the non-Community countries in respect of which they apply the provision entitling them not to make refunds where reciprocity arrangements are not observed.

Employment, education and social policy

Employment

Standing Committee on Employment

2.1.53. The Standing Committee on Employment held its 25th meeting on 20 May with Mr Norbert Blüm, Minister of Employment of the Federal Republic of Germany, in the chair. The discussions were devoted to an examination of the Commission's communication on the promotion of employment for young people⁴ and its memorandum on the reduction and reorganization of working time.⁵

Promotion of employment for young people

2.1.54. The participants reviewed the Commission communication on the promotion of employment for young people and commented on its high quality. Despite the variety of general positions adopted, a near consensus emerged concerning the need for comprehensive measures designed to create jobs through economic recovery combined with specific measures in accordance with certain policy lines adopted by the Commission:

- (i) reduction and reorganization of working time;
- (ii) aid for the creation of permanent jobs in the private sector;

¹ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.50; Sixteenth General Report, point 239.

² OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

³ OJ C 223, 27.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.54.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.11.11 *et seq.*

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.55.

- (iii) encouragement of initiatives by young people; and
- (iv) emphasis on the role of employment agencies.

The role and nature of direct job creation in the public sector, and in cooperatives and the like, was the most controversial issue.

Reduction and reorganization of working time

2.1.55. While views differed regarding the effects on employment of various means of reducing and reorganizing working time, the parties recognized that together with appropriate economic growth and improved education and training, more flexible working hours could make an important contribution to a policy to combat unemployment and humanize working life.

The representatives of governments, workers and the Commission agreed that shorter and more flexible working hours could lead to a more balanced sharing of work between the employed and those unemployed but able and willing to work, and that resources devoted to expenditure on unemployment benefit could be utilized in an economically and socially more effective manner.

For the workers' representatives, a substantial reduction in weekly working time would be the most effective way of making more jobs available, whereas representatives of employers' organizations reiterated their objection to any general measures in this area. They considered that such measures would reduce the operational flexibility of industry and would be impracticable in small and medium-sized firms.

The government representatives were divided as to whether they should continue to encourage a reduction in weekly working time as a significant means of combating unemployment. It was pointed out that in some countries the two sides of industry alone were competent to take action in this area. They admitted, however, that all the Member States were confronted with the problem of the reduction and reorganization of working time and that the Community too

had a role to play in this area following the Council resolution of 18 December 1979.¹

2.1.56. Several government representatives expressed interest in the guidelines contained in the Commission memorandum and in the proposals the Commission intended to put to the Council. The Commission was asked to continue its work on the basis of its memorandum and in the Committee's conclusions, and present specific proposals accordingly.

Financial instruments

European Social Fund

2.1.57. On 10 May the Commission approved the first batch of applications for assistance from the ESF for 1983. These applications, which had been examined by the Social Fund Committee,² involved the following amounts:

- (i) 130.890 million ECU under Article 4 for operations to assist workers leaving agriculture, textile and clothing workers, migrant workers, women and young workers affected by employment difficulties:

million ECU

Operation	Amount
Agriculture	1.956
Textiles	14.122
Young people:	
— training	81.967
— employment	10.468
Migrants	10.476
Women	11.901

- (ii) 418.715 million ECU under Article 5 for operations involving the retraining of unemployed or underemployed workers in less-developed regions of the Community, training of workers to meet the changing

¹ OJ C 2, 4.1.1980.

² Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.47.

needs of technology and industrial progress, retraining for workers employed in groups of firms subject to restructuring and for operations involving the rehabilitation of handicapped persons.

<i>Million ECU</i>	
Operation	Amount
Regions	316.393
Groups of undertakings	10.048
Technical progress	29.631
Handicapped persons	62.643

(iii) Another 1 845 118.54 ECU was granted for pilot schemes.

The breakdown by Member State is as follows:

	ECU	% of total	Number of beneficiaries
Belgium	5 210 136	0.94	8 577
Denmark	11 928 622	2.16	5 071
Germany	21 866 323	3.97	115 747
Greece	42 642 022	7.73	56 319
France	62 605 135	11.35	53 530
Ireland	160 076 805	29.03	136 457
Italy	180 431 683	32.72	75 250
Luxembourg	—	—	—
Netherlands	11 173 238	2.03	13 624
United Kingdom	55 516 659	10.07	55 279
Total	551 450 926	100.00	519 854

2.1.58. On 30 May the Commission approved a second batch of applications for ESF assistance for 1983 from the United Kingdom, on which the Social Fund Committee had delivered a favourable opinion. Appropriations of 32.359 million ECU were committed under Article 4 for operations for young workers — 28 906 750.75 ECU for training aids and 3 453 085.28 ECU for employment aids.

*

2.1.59. On 17 May Parliament adopted a favourable opinion¹ on the Commission

proposal concerning the review of the role and the tasks of the European Social Fund.²

Measures for ECSC workers

Housing

2.1.60. Under the eighth and ninth housing schemes (first and second instalments) for workers in the ECSC industries, the Commission approved building projects for a total amount of 221 551 ECU; the construction of 51 dwellings in Ireland and the United Kingdom will be financed.

Education and vocational training

Cooperation in education

2.1.61. The Commission was represented at the 13th meeting of the Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education in Dublin from 10 to 12 May. Three resolutions were adopted at this meeting, concerning:

- (i) the compulsory secondary school: adolescents and the curriculum;
- (ii) European cooperation in education;
- (iii) the education of migrant children.

2.1.62. From 3 to 7 May an international history congress took place in Rome, devoted to the topic 'Europe: foundation, formation and reality'. Its purpose was to encourage the introduction of a European dimension into the teaching of history, overcoming national prejudices, and to facilitate a Community-level meeting of history teachers in secondary and higher education.

The Commission supported this effort, convinced of the value of a meeting to examine the common roots of European civilization and the need to teach history not so much as a mosaic of cultures and a chronological sequence of national events but rather in terms of an overall view of a common destiny.

¹ Point 2.4.10; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

2.1.63. On 16 May the Commission took part in a meeting of the Administrative Board of the European Institute of Education and Social Policy in Paris.

Vocational training

2.1.64. On 17 May Parliament delivered a favourable opinion¹ on two draft Council resolutions, concerning vocational training and new information technologies² and vocational training policies in the 1980s³ respectively. It shared the Commission's view that given the similarity of the problems encountered in the Member States, a concerted policy was needed. Parliament considered that vocational training policy should form an integral part of an overall strategy to combat unemployment and stressed the need to call on the Social and Regional Funds to finance training activities.

Surveys of labour costs

2.1.65. On 6 May the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation relating to the organization of surveys of labour costs in industry, wholesale and retail distribution, banking and insurance.⁴ Like previous surveys organized by the Community, which have been effected at three-year intervals since 1966, the surveys to be carried out in 1985 and 1988, relating to the reference years 1984 and 1987, will provide comparable statistics for the Member States; they will cover the cost of wages and salaries, including bonuses and allowances and all incidental expenditure (social security, vocational training, taxes and subsidies), the number of employees and the number of hours worked annually by employees in all branches of industry (including energy, water, construction and public works) and in commerce, banking and insurance.

So that the surveys should not constitute too heavy a burden on firms and on the Community's budget, the intention is not to call for exhaustive returns from all firms but for a representative sample. About 113 000

firms will be covered. The contribution from the Community budget is estimated at about 1.4 million ECU per survey. Individual items of information supplied for the purposes of the survey will be used for statistical purposes only and cannot be communicated to third parties.

Social security, living and working conditions

Social security for migrant workers

2.1.66. On 16 May Parliament endorsed¹ a proposal for an amendment⁵ to Regulations Nos 1408/71 and 574/72⁶ on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community. Parliament welcomed this proposal, whereby Member States would take account of industrial accidents and occupational diseases which had occurred previously, or subsequently, under the legislation of another Member State, when assessing the degree of incapacity of an entitled person and calculating the amount of benefit due.

Equal treatment for men and women

2.1.67. On 27 May the Committee of Inquiry into the Situation of Women in Europe adopted its final report on the problems encountered by self-employed women, particularly in agriculture, trade and the crafts, and called on the Commission to propose a Directive on this. A discussion with a view to promoting initiatives from Parliament was held on the subject of women staff in the European institutions.

2.1.68. In accordance with action 13 of the new Community action programme on the

¹ Point 2.4.9; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² OJ C 162, 29.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.41.

³ OJ C 306, 23.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.31.

⁴ COM(83)237 final.

⁵ OJ C 27, 2.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.42.

⁶ OJ L 149, 5.7.1971; OJ L 74, 27.3.1972.

promotion of equal opportunities for women in 1982-85,¹ a group of experts was convened to advise on the establishment of a monitoring system using qualitative and quantitative indicators to evaluate progress as regards equal treatment in employment and conditions of employment and towards achieving desegregation; this group met for the first time on 31 May.

Social integration of handicapped persons

2.1.69. In May, in cooperation with the Catholic University of Louvain, the Commission organized a workshop for representatives from the 16 local authorities participating in the Community network of development actions at local level to promote the social and economic integration of disabled people, pursuant to the Council resolution of 21 December 1981.²

Paul Finet Foundation

2.1.70. At its 56th meeting the Executive Committee of the Paul Finet Foundation examined 362 applications and awarded 279 scholarships totalling some BFR 4 million. These scholarships are awarded, subject to certain conditions, to the children of workers employed in an ECSC industry who have lost their lives since 30 June 1965 as a result of an industrial accident or an occupational illness.

Health and safety

Health and safety (ECSC)

2.1.71. The Mines Safety and Health Commission held its first meeting of the year on 3 and 4 May. It approved its 20th annual report (on its activities in 1982) and a number of preparatory documents, including an information report on noise underground in the Community's extractive industries. Other documents related to the use of water trough barriers, locomotive transport and auxiliary ventilation in gassy mines.

The Safety and Health Commission also drew the necessary conclusions from the recent international symposium on health and safety in the oil and gas industries, held in Luxembourg on 19 and 20 April,³ with a view to including them in the programme of the Working Party on Oil and Gas.

2.1.72. Acting as a technical committee, the Restricted Committee of the Safety and Health Commission approved a number of amendments to the European Standards laid down by the Council Directive of 15 February 1982 on electrical equipment for use in mines.⁴

2.1.73. On 30 and 31 May the Commission held a seminar for mining engineers, technicians and colliery managers on dust suppression measures in mines. A delegation from the United States coal mines was present and was able to report on the methods in use on longwall faces, which have recently increased in number in the USA.

2.1.74. On 10 May the Commission decided⁵ to grant financial aid of 245 720 ECU under Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty to two research projects under the fourth ergonomics programme.⁶

Health and safety (Euratom)

2.1.75. The Commission sent the Greek Government an opinion on three proposals for decisions aimed at adapting present Greek law on radiation protection. It notes that the proposals are, on the whole, such as will enable the objectives set by the Council Directive of 15 June 1980⁶ to be met, and makes a number of comments on specific points.

¹ OJ C 22, 29.1.1982; Supplement 1/82 — Bull. EC.

² OJ C 347, 31.12.1981; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.64.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.76.

⁴ OJ L 59, 2.3.1982.

⁵ Point 2.1.165.

⁶ OJ L 246, 17.9.1980.

Regional policy

Coordination and programmes

Assessment of the regional impact of other Community policies

2.1.76. On 20 May Parliament adopted resolutions on the peripheral maritime regions and islands of the Community and on a Community plan to enhance the employment potential of the less-favoured regions.¹

Regional development studies

2.1.77. On 4 May the Commission approved the first part of its 1983 studies programme, which includes 10 new regional policy studies. One is a specific proposal for a study on the Community's role in tackling urban decline. This study, which is to be carried out on a Community-wide basis, will examine the phenomenon of urban decline and establish the potential role of the Community's structural instruments, in particular the ERDF, in attacking the problem. Some of the studies approved had been requested by the Member States and are to be cofinanced by the Commission.

Regional Policy Committee

2.1.78. The Regional Policy Committee met on 26 and 27 May with Mr Bernard Attali in the chair. The Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the United Kingdom's regional development programme (1982-86) and exchanged views on the Commission's proposal for a Regulation to implement the integrated Mediterranean programmes.² It also examined part of the preliminary draft of the second periodic report on the social and economic situation of the regions of the Community.

Financial instruments

European Regional Development Fund

Review of the ERDF Regulation

2.1.79. At its meeting on 25 May the Council continued its discussion on the

concentration of quota section resources and increased funding for the non-quota section. As no progress was made in the discussions, the President of the Council decided to refer the matter as it stood to the Permanent Representatives Committee.

ERDF aid: second allocation

2.1.80. The ERDF Committee met on 4 May and delivered its opinion on the draft Decision concerning the second allocation of grants for 1983 from the quota section of the Fund.

Integrated operations

2.1.81. On 20 May Parliament adopted a resolution on integrated development operations in Community regional policy.¹

Aid for disaster victims

2.1.82. On 19 and 20 May Parliament adopted resolutions¹ on:

- (i) Community intervention in the Naples metropolitan area and in the areas of Campania and Basilicata affected by the earthquake of 23 November 1980;
- (ii) the consequences of the recent floods in the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Luxembourg;
- (iii) the consequences of the recent violent storms and serious flooding in France;
- (iv) the persisting drought in certain regions of southern Italy.

Environment and consumers

Environment

Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)

2.1.83. On 25 May, in response to the opinion given by Parliament in April,³ the

¹ Point 2.4.14; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.13.

³ OJ C 128, 16.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.81.

Commission amended¹ its original proposal for a Regulation on action by the Community relating to the environment² by specifying the procedure by which the Commission is to decide which projects to develop clean technologies are to be granted financial support.

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Freshwater and marine pollution

Protection of the Rhine

2.1.84. As a further step towards implementing the Convention for the protection of the Rhine against Pollution, the Commission took part in a meeting on water supply, hygiene and sewage treatment held in Koblenz on 24 and 25 May. The main item on the agenda was the proposed supplement to Annex IV to the Protocol to the Convention concerning limit values for cadmium; this was finally adopted. The delegates also approved a proposal for a recommendation concerning measures to eliminate discharges of polychlorinated biphenyls into the Rhine, together with a report on such substances and their use.

Noise

Community involvement in the work of ICAO

2.1.85. On 26 May the Commission decided to inform the Council of its letter to the Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) asking for the Community to be included on the list of organizations which can be invited to attend ICAO meetings.³ ICAO, of which some 150 States, including the Member States of the Community, are members, drafts noise-certification standards for the various types of aircraft planned or already in existence. To be binding, ICAO recommendations or standards have to be incorporated into national law. Since 1976 the Commission has endeavoured to ensure that ICAO standards are applied uniformly throughout the Community. At its meeting in May the ICAO

Committee on Aircraft Noise discussed a number of subjects covered by Community directives and proposals for directives and by the action programmes on the environment.

Chemicals

Chlorofluorocarbons

2.1.86. As a follow-up to the Council Decision of 16 November 1982,⁴ the Commission adopted a communication to the Council⁵ which takes stock of the implementation of the Community's policy on chlorofluorocarbons in the environment and covers the state of scientific knowledge, the key economic data and the action programme on refrigeration, foamed plastics and solvents.

Acid rain

2.1.87. In May scientists at the Joint Research Centre in Ispra discovered a process which might help solve the acid rain problem, with which the Community institutions have been concerning themselves for several months.⁶ Researchers have succeeded in converting the sulphur dioxide produced during the combustion of coal or oil into a usable by-product which would be less expensive to dispose of.

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

Land

European Charter on Regional Development

2.1.88. The Commission took part in the sixth European Conference of Ministers for Regional Development, which was held in Torremolinos, Spain, on 19 and 20 May. The Ministers adopted a European Charter on

¹ OJ C 158, 16.6.1983; COM(83)307 final.

² OJ C 30, 4.2.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.96.

³ COM(83)290 final/2.

⁴ OJ L 329, 25.11.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.83; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.70.

⁵ COM(83)284 final.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.75; Bull. EC 3-1983, points 2.1.83 and 2.1.84.

Regional Development which stresses the need to step up European and transfrontier cooperation in this field. They also adopted a resolution concerning planning policies in maritime regions, which calls for policies which reconcile environmental protection objectives with economic development.

International cooperation

2.1.89. From 3 to 5 May the Commission was represented in Paris at a meeting of the OECD Environment Committee, which laid down its work programme for 1984. Action on chemicals and natural and water resources and on the relationships between energy and the environment are among the activities planned. The Committee also decided to hold an International Conference on Environment and Economy in June 1984 to discuss such topics as the relationships between the environment and the economy and the future direction of environment policies.

2.1.90. The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme held its 11th meeting, in Nairobi, from 11 to 24 May. The Commission represented the Community at the meeting, where it was decided, among other things:

- (i) to set up a special commission, made up of senior experts of world repute, to propose strategies for protecting the environment in the decades to come,
- (ii) to continue the work on drafting an International Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, and
- (iii) to lay down guidelines concerning the transport and management of toxic and dangerous wastes.

Agriculture

Agricultural prices for 1983/84: agreement reached in Council

2.1.91. After protracted negotiations the Council, having received the opinions of Parliament¹ and the Economic and Social Committee,² approved an overall compromise

on the agricultural prices for 1983/84 and the related measures.³ The compromise was based on the envisaged change in the value of the ECU which would enable the value of the pound on 13 May to be taken into account.⁴ Although no party obtained full satisfaction, the ministers of Agriculture thus showed the importance they attach to agreement in this area and their determination to strengthen Community cohesion, with a few weeks to go before the European Council in Stuttgart.

There are three main aspects to the decision eventually adopted: in the first place, for the first time for a number of years the Council endorsed virtually unchanged the Commission's original proposals on the common prices. It made only minimal adjustments, concerning neither the general level of prices nor those of the main products.

Secondly, the Council accepted unchanged the proposals concerning the guarantee thresholds for milk, cereals and colza, and therefore a reduction in the prices of these products where thresholds are exceeded.

Thirdly, thanks to concessions from all the parties, the Council made initial progress towards dismantling the monetary compensatory amounts.⁵

2.1.92. The impact of the Council's decisions is fair and reasonable — for farmers, for consumers and for the Community budget.

For farmers, the average increase in prices is about 4% in ECU and about 7% on average in national currency. For certain countries (Greece, France, Ireland, Italy), the devaluation of the 'green' rates will mean larger increases. For the high-inflation countries, a set of structural measures was approved; for Italy, these consist in aids to stockfarmers, aids for earthquake regions, and transfers of intervention stocks from other Member

¹ OJ C 96, 11.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.4.9.

² OJ C 81, 24.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.4.29; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.4.26.

³ OJ L 132, 21.5.1983.

⁴ Point 2.1.8.

⁵ Point 2.1.95.

States; in Greece information services are to be developed and agricultural irrigation schemes promoted; for Ireland, there will be aids to beef production. Above-average increases were approved for a number of Mediterranean products.

For consumers, the incidence of the price increases on food prices in the shops will not exceed 2.8% in the long term. The butter consumption subsidy was also raised.

The impact of the package deal on the Community budget will be low: net additional expenditure chargeable to the budget has been estimated at about 435 million ECU in 1983 and about 745 million ECU in 1984.

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, expressed his satisfaction with the final results of the negotiations: 'the Ministers', he said, had shown 'a spirit of conciliation and compromise. [The agreement] takes into account the realities of agricultural markets, as well as their budgetary effects, whilst safeguarding the economic position of the Community's agricultural sector. The agreement is important for a successful conclusion to the European Council at Stuttgart.'

The common prices

2.1.93. The decisions adopted by the Council on 17 May are largely those put forward by the Commission. In particular, many of the increases in common prices expressed in ECU were the same as those proposed.

Related measures

2.1.94. With the price decisions, the Council adopted related measures concerning mainly:

- (i) the fixing of a guarantee threshold for cereals of 120.56 million tonnes for 1983/84;
- (ii) the improvement in the minimum quality for bread-making wheat;
- (iii) the provision of 2 to 3 million tonnes of cereals for animal feed;
- (iv) the alteration of the beginning of the 1984/85 wine year from 16 December to 1 September;
- (v) increases in fruit and vegetables prices: basic prices for tomatoes, apples and pears by

3.5%, basic price for most other products by 6.5%;

(vi) the guarantee threshold for milk, fixed for 1983 at 100.5% of that for 1982;

(vii) the co-responsibility levy for milk maintained at 2% as for 1982/83;

(viii) maintenance of the 120 million ECU aid for small dairy farmers; and

(ix) maintenance of stock disposal schemes and aids to encourage the consumption of butter.

Agri-monetary measures¹

2.1.95. A major item on the agendas of the Council meetings held in April was the problem of achieving sufficient dismantlement of the MCAs, in the light of the guidelines in the gentleman's agreement of 1979.² On the basis of Commission compromise proposals and as a result of the revaluation of the ECU with effect from 23 May, decisions were finally taken.

These reduced the positive MCAs of Germany (from +13.0 to +9.8) and the Netherlands (from +8.4 to +5.8) and the negative MCAs of France (from -5.1 to -4.4). The MCAs of Ireland, Italy and Greece were eliminated altogether. Thanks to the deferment to the beginning of the 1984/85 marketing year of part of the revaluation of the representative rates of the mark and the guilder for milk and cereals, Germany and the Netherlands were able to accept a sharper revaluation of their rates, while avoiding any reduction in the support prices when expressed in their own currencies.

For the Member States whose currencies have been devalued, these decisions entailed a larger increase in agricultural prices when expressed in national currencies than the increase in common prices expressed in ECU.

In the countries for which the 'green' rates have been revalued (Germany, the Netherlands), the increase in agricultural

¹ There will be a special chapter in Part Three (Documentation) of a forthcoming Bulletin on the MCAs.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, points 2.1.95 and 2.1.96.

Table 1 — Prices adopted for the various products

	Type of price or amount	Common price		Period of application	Greece ¹	
		Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)		Amount fixed 1982/83 (ECU/t)	Amount fixed 1983/84 (ECU/t)
Common wheat	Target price	261.43	4.3	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
	Reference price for bread wheat — average quality ²	215.29	3.0		CP	CP
Durum wheat	Target price	355.42	4.8	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	312.08	4.6		CP	CP
	Aid	99.81	7.5		66.14 ³	77.36 ³
Barley	Target price	238.17	4.3	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Rye	Target price	238.17	4.3	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Maize	Target price	238.17	4.3	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP
	Common single intervention price	184.58	3.0		CP	CP
Rice	Target price — husked rice	523.16	5.3	1.9.1983-31.8.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price — paddy rice	306.53	5.5		CP	CP
Sugar	Basic price for sugarbeet	40.89	4.0	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price for white sugar	534.70	4.0		CP	CP
Olive oil	Producer target price	3 194.2	5.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price	2 299.2	5.5		CP	CP
	Production aid	702.6	5.5		256.50	405.20

Oilseeds	Target price						
	— colza and rape seed	482.20	4.0	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	CP	CP	
	— sunflower seed	577.10	6.0	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP	
	Basic intervention price						
	— colza and rape seed	438.0	4.0	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	CP	CP	
	— sunflower seed	527.1	6.0	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP	
	Guide (norm) price						
	— soya seed	561.7	6.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP	
	— flax seed	545.9	6.0	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP	
	— castor seed	663.9	0.0	1.10.1983-30.9.1984	CP	CP	
Minimum price soya seed	494.3	6.5	1.11.1983-30.9.1984	CP	CP		
Minimum price castor seed	632.0	0.0	1.10.1983-30.9.1984	CP	CP		
Dried fodder	Fixed-rate aid	8.49	6.0	1.4.1983-31.3.1984	CP	CP	
	Guide price	178.94	6.0		162.70	CP	
	Aid for dried potatoes	15.78	6.0	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	5.73	9.08	
Peas and field beans	Activating price	517.6	8.7				
	Guide price	334.4	6.5	1.7.1983-30.6.1984	CP	CP	
	Minimum price	291.9	6.5				
Flax and hemp	Fixed-rate aid (per ha)						
	— fibre flax	355.12	6.6	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	83.76	118.37	
	— hemp	322.52	6.0		76.07	107.51	
Cotton	Target price	927.50	8.0	1.8.1983-31.7.1984	CP	CP	
	Minimum price	881.20	8.0		CP	CP	
Table wine	Guide price	3.45	5.5		CP	CP	
	Type RI				CP	CP	
	RII	(per degree/hl or per hl, according to type)	3.45	5.5	16.12.1983-31.8.1984	CP	CP
	RIII		53.84	5.5		CP	CP
	AI		3.20	6.0		CP	CP
	AII		71.74	5.5		CP	CP
	AIII		81.93	5.5		CP	CP
Raw tobacco	Guide price		4-7.5	1983 harvest	CP	CP	
	Intervention price						
Fruit and vegetables	Basic price		4	1983/84	4	4	

Table 1 (continued)

	Type of price or amount	Common price		Period of application	Greece ¹	
		Amount (ECU/t)	Increase (%)		Amount fixed 1982/83 (ECU/t)	Amount fixed 1983/84 (ECU/t)
Milk	Target price for milk	274.3	2.3	23.5.1983-31.3.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price					
	— for butter	3 578.6	2.3			
	— for skimmed-milk powder	1 496.4	2.3			
	— for cheese					
• Grana padano 30-60 days	3 612.7	2.3				
• Grana padano 6 months	4 395.2	2.3				
• Parmigiano-Reggiano 6 months	4 802.3	2.3				
Beef and veal	Guide price for adult bovines (live weight)	2 070.90	5.5	23.5.1983-2.4.1984	CP	CP
	Intervention price for adult bovines (live weight)	1 863.80	5.5			
Sheepmeat	Basic price (slaughter weight)	4 323.60	5.5	3.5.1983-2.4.1984	CP	CP
Pigmeat	Basic price (slaughter weight)	2 053.87	5.5	1.11.1983-31.10.1984	CP	CP
Silkworms	Aid per box of silkworm eggs	106	6.0	1.4.1983-31.3.1984	73.02	84.01

Account has been taken of the activation of the guarantee thresholds in the appropriate cases.

¹ Prices in Greece are given only where they differ from common prices. CP = common price.

² The price is reduced by 10.40 ECU per tonne for 1982/83 and by 11.62 ECU per tonne for 1983/84 where intervention measures are applied in respect of the minimum bread-making quality.

³ For those regions of Greece which received no national aid before Greece joined, the Community aid is 23.21 ECU per ha for 1982/83 and will be 48.74 ECU per ha for 1983/84.

⁴ Products in Annex II to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 of 18 May 1972 (% increase and period of application):

	1982/83	CP 1983/84	Greece 1983/84	
Cauliflowers	12	6.5	CP	23.5.1983 to 30.4.1984
Tomatoes	9	3.5	11.3	11.6.1983 to 30.11.1983
Peaches	12	6.5	13.3	1.6.1983 to 30.9.1983
Lemons	12	6.5	CP	1.6.1983 to 31.5.1984
Pears	12	3.5	CP	1.7.1983 to 30.4.1984
Table grapes	12	6.5	CP	1.8.1983 to 31.10.1983
Apples	11	3.5	CP	1.8.1983 to 30.6.1984
Mandarins	11	5.5	10.0	16.11.1983 to 28.2.1984
Sweet oranges	12	6.5	15.0	1.12.1983 to 31.5.1984
Apricots	—	6.5	CP	1.6.1983 to 31.7.1983
Aubergines	—	6.5	CP	1.7.1983 to 31.10.1983

For Greece, lower prices are to be fixed for tomatoes, peaches, mandarins and oranges (price alignment and increase included). The common prices are applicable to cauliflowers, lemons, table grapes, apples, apricots and aubergines and are proposed for pears by price alignment.

support prices expressed in national currency is lower than the increase in common prices expressed in ECU.

The impact of the decisions on prices

2.1.96. As the price increases are expressed in ECU, the percentages when expressed in national currencies vary fairly widely from one country to another. The increases in common prices expressed in ECU, weighted in terms of the pattern of national agricultural production, is 4.2% for the Community, but when expressed in national currencies the percentage is as much as 5.5%, and even 6.9% if the agri-monetary adjustments made between the price review for 1982/83 and that for 1983/84 are taken into account.

Acquis communautaire

2.1.97. In accordance with its brief from the European Council in March,¹ and on the basis of a report from the Special Committee on Agriculture drawn up in the light of the compromise suggestions put forward by the Presidency, the Council continued, on 25 and 26 May, its discussion of changes in the *acquis communautaire* for 'Mediterranean agricultural products as regards both the fruit and vegetables sector and the olive-oil sector.'²

At the end of this discussion, in order to expedite its work the Council agreed to instruct a working party of Directors-General with responsibility for markets to examine the main outstanding problems in these two areas and to submit a brief and specific report to it for its meeting on 13 and 14 June, when the Council would if possible reach conclusions for submission to the European Council.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.98. As a result of the currency realignment of 21 March³ the positive MCAs applied in the Federal Republic of Germany rose from 8.4% to 13.0% and those applied in the Netherlands from 5.4% to 8.4%. In its

April compromise⁴ the Commission proposed that these MCAs be reduced by 2.8% and 2.3% respectively. At the outcome of the agricultural price negotiations, reductions which differed according to product were applied to these two Member States' MCAs in order to prevent a drop in guaranteed prices in national currency.

Meanwhile, the devaluations in other Member States had increased their negative MCAs. Several of these countries asked for their negative MCAs to be dismantled. In order to do this, the Council, in the framework of the price decisions for 1983/84 and on a proposal from the Commission, adjusted the representative rates for the German mark, the Dutch guilder, the Belgo-Luxembourg franc, the French franc, the Italian lira and the Irish pound.⁵

2.1.99. By agreement between the Member States' Finance Ministers,⁶ the national central rate for the pound sterling was revalued with effect from 17 May. The revaluation means that all the other Member States' central rates are devalued by 1.19% in relation to the ECU, causing positive monetary compensatory amounts to fall and negative monetary compensatory amounts to rise correspondingly. The net effect of these two decisions on monetary compensatory amounts is shown in Table 2.

2.1.100. Following these changes in the central and representative rates the Commission amended Regulation (EEC) No 1054/78 and altered the monetary compensatory amounts applicable in the Member States concerned.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.5.5.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.91.

³ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.98.

⁵ OJ L 132, 21.5.1983.

⁶ Point 2.1.8.

⁷ OJ L 135, 23.5.1983.

Table 2 — *Movement of monetary compensatory amounts*

	Sector	Applied monetary gap				Representative rate (green rate)	
		Old	Effect of revaluation	Dismantling in connection with the 1983/84 price decisions	New	Old	New
Belgium/ Luxembourg	milk/beef ¹	0	- 1.2	0	0	44.3662	44.3662
	pigmeat ¹	+ 1.0	- 1.2	- 1.0	0	44.9704	44.3662
	other ¹	- 1.7	- 1.2	+ 1.7	0	42.9772	44.3662
Denmark	all ¹	+ 1.3	- 1.2	0	+ 1.0	8.23400	8.23400
Germany	milk ¹	+ 13.0	- 1.1	- 2.2	+ 10.8	2.57524	2.54273
	cereals ²	+ 13.0	- 1.1	- 2.7	+ 10.3	2.57524	2.52875
	other ²	+ 13.0	- 1.1	- 3.2	+ 9.8	2.57524	2.51457
Greece ³	all ¹	- 6.1	+ 1.3	- 7.0	0	71.5619	77.2479
France	milk ¹	- 5.1	+ 1.3	- 1.7	- 3.4	6.37174	6.55400
	pigmeat ¹	- 5.1	+ 1.3	- 2.9	- 2.2	6.37174	6.62985
	other ²	- 8.1	+ 1.3	- 3.7	- 4.4	6.19564	6.49211
Ireland	all ¹	- 2.3	+ 1.3	- 2.3	0	0.691011	0.716950
Italy ³	all ¹	- 2.5	+ 1.2	- 2.5	0	1 289.00	1 341.00
The Netherlands	milk ¹	+ 8.4	- 1.1	- 1.8	+ 6.6	2.75563	2.73327
	cereals ²	+ 8.4	- 1.1	- 2.2	+ 6.2	2.75563	2.72149
	other ²	+ 8.4	- 1.1	- 2.6	+ 5.8	2.75563	2.70981
United Kingdom ³	all ²	+ 5.0	- 1.2	0	+ 3.5	0.618655	0.618655

¹ Applicable on 23 May 1983.

² Applicable at start of marketing year.

³ Variable monetary compensatory amounts.

Market organizations

Prices and specific measures

Cereals

2.1.101. On 26 May the Council authorized the transfer of 550 000 tonnes of common wheat of bread-making quality held by the German and French intervention agencies to Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom because of the shortage of feed-grain in those countries.¹ This measure will also make storage capacity available for cereals from the 1983/84 harvest.

2.1.102. On 26 May, in order to take account of Greece's special structural situation, the Commission extended until 31

December the derogations in respect of Greece as regards the minimum quantity of cereals which may be offered for intervention (10 tonnes).² The minimum quantity provided for in the 1977 Regulations³ is fixed at 80 tonnes in the other Member States.

Fresh fruit and vegetables

2.1.103. Pending the decision on agricultural prices, the Council fixed, at the end of April, the basic and buying-in prices for cauliflowers for the period 1 to 22 May.⁴

¹ OJ L 138, 27.5.1983.

² OJ L 175, 13.7.1981.

³ OJ L 174, 14.7.1977; OJ L 181, 21.7.1977.

⁴ OJ L 116, 30.4.1983.

2.1.104. On 27 May the Commission adopted a Regulation raising the reference prices for cherries (by 9.2%), plums (7.7%), peaches (4.7%), table grapes (2.1%), lemons and aubergines (8.1%) for the 1983 marketing year.¹

2.1.105. On the same day it also fixed the Community offer prices for those products applicable in respect of Greece.¹

Wine

2.1.106. On 25 May the Council authorized an exceptional aid measure² for the private storage of quality wines produced in specified regions.³

2.1.107. On 6 May the Commission made some changes and additions to the provisions on the description and presentation of wines and grape musts.⁴ These amendments were made in the light of experience and relate mainly to indication of the alcoholic strength by volume in the case of wines and indication of the density in the case of musts. In addition, they are intended, while ensuring that consumers receive accurate information, to give traders greater freedom of choice as regards the inclusion of certain optional information on the label. They also add to various lists annexed to the original Regulation,⁵ particularly the lists of imported wines described by means of a geographical name or the name of a vine variety.

2.1.108. On 11 May the Commission authorized the additional acidification of wines from the 1982 harvest produced in the south of France.⁶ This operation was made necessary by the exceptional weather conditions.

Milk and milk products

2.1.109. Following the fixing of prices for the 1983/84 milk year,⁷ the Commission increased with effect from 1 June the aids for the disposal of skimmed milk, skimmed-milk powder and butter⁸ and the size of the Community contribution to the financing of the sale of milk and milk products to schoolchildren at reduced prices.⁸ The Commission also fixed private storage aids for Emmental and Gruyère and certain Italian

cheeses for the new milk year, so as to preserve market balance by means of seasonal storage.⁸

2.1.110. It also adopted the export refunds on milk and milk products with effect from 15 July, by reference to the increase in intervention prices,⁹ as well as the import levies.¹⁰

2.1.111. On 31 May the Commission adopted a Regulation on the collection of the co-responsibility levy during the 1983/84 milk year.¹¹ It also extended by three months the deadline for the grant of aids to small milk producers.¹¹

Beef/veal

2.1.112. Following the Council's adoption of the agricultural prices and related measures,⁷ on 20 May the Commission laid down the implementing measures for the beef/veal sector (slaughter premiums for adult cattle, calf premiums, buying-in prices for carcasses and half-carcasses, intervention measures, import duties).¹⁰

Sheepmeat

2.1.113. Following the Council's adoption of the agricultural price Regulations for 1983/84,⁷ the Commission decided on 20 May the implementing measures for sheepmeat (prices of fresh and chilled carcasses, non-recovery of the variable slaughter premium)¹⁰ and on 31 May fixed the amount of the variable slaughter premium on sheep in Great Britain and the amounts to be levied on products leaving that region.¹¹

¹ OJ L 139, 28.5.1983.

² OJ L 140, 31.5.1983.

³ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.107.

⁴ OJ L 134, 21.5.1983.

⁵ OJ L 106, 16.4.1981.

⁶ OJ L 142, 12.5.1983.

⁷ OJ L 132, 21.5.1983.

⁸ OJ L 146, 4.6.1983.

⁹ OJ L 142, 1.6.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 153, 21.5.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 141, 1.6.1983.

Olive oil

2.1.114. On 18 May the Commission adopted a Regulation with a view to the sale for export of 3 000 tonnes of extra virgin olive oil, 4 500 tonnes of fine virgin olive oil and 6 500 tonnes of olive residue oil.¹ Sales, which take account of current export possibilities, are planned to take place until the end of July.

2.1.115. On 26 May the Commission adopted the second programme of measures to promote the consumption of olive oil in the Community. Four types of measure are planned, costing a total of 4 million ECU: scientific research, information campaigns, promotion and public relations, market research and opinion polls.

Sugar

2.1.116. On 5 May the Commission adopted a Regulation laying down detailed rules for the buying-in by intervention agencies of sugar manufactured from beet and cane harvested in the Community.² The purpose of this measure is to supplement the Commission Regulation of 1977³ on intervention buying by laying down the preconditions for the approval of warehouses for the storage of raw sugar taken into intervention; the yield on which to base provisional payment of the buying-in price; the procedure to be followed in the event of disputes regarding the results of sample analyses to determine the actual yield of the raw sugar bought in.

2.1.117. On 25 May the Commission adopted a Regulation fixing for 1983/84 the amount of the levy in connection with the offsetting of storage costs for sugar.⁴

The levy is fixed at 4.25 ECU/100 kg for Community sugar. The amount is calculated on the assumption that storage costs will be reimbursed at the rate of 0.57 ECU per 100 kg of white sugar per month. The system does not apply to ACP preferential sugar for the marketing years 1982/83 to 1984/85.

Peas and field beans

2.1.118. On 16 May the Council amended⁵ the Regulation laying down special measures for peas and field beans⁶ as regards the procedure for determining the amount of aid for those products.

Tobacco

2.1.119. On 18 May the Commission amended¹ the transitional provisions applicable in Greece as regards the grant of premiums for leaf tobacco.⁷

Seeds

2.1.120. The Commission amended for the third time⁸ the Regulation fixing countervailing charges on seeds.⁹

Beekeeping

2.1.121. In recent years a bee disease caused by the mite *Varroa jacobsoni* has affected several Member States and now threatens the whole of Europe. With a view to organizing research into this disease at Community level, on 26 May the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation¹⁰ to provide funds for the implementation of a research programme under the 1981 Regulation establishing a system of aid for beekeeping.¹¹

Structures

Adjustments to legislation

2.1.122. Parliament delivered opinions in May on proposals to amend the Regulations on a common measure to improve public amenities in certain rural areas and on the programme for the acceleration and guidance of collective irrigation works in the Mezzogiorno and the Directive on the programme to accelerate the restructuring and conversion of vineyards in certain Mediterranean regions in France.¹²

¹ OJ L 129, 19.5.1983.

² OJ L 119, 6.5.1983.

³ OJ L 246, 27.9.1977.

⁴ OJ L 137, 26.5.1983.

⁵ OJ L 131, 20.5.1983.

⁶ OJ L 162, 12.6.1982.

⁷ OJ L 191, 27.8.1970.

⁸ OJ L 114, 29.4.1983.

⁹ OJ L 186, 30.6.1982.

¹⁰ OJ C 153, 11.6.1983; COM(83)293 final.

¹¹ OJ L 122, 6.5.1981; OJ L 299, 20.10.1981.

¹² OJ C 161, 20.6.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 2.1.103 and 2.1.104.

Agricultural legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.123. In view of the progress of classical swine fever in the Federal Republic of Germany, the Commission temporarily suspended the swine-fever-free status of Koblenz,¹ Rheinland-Pfalz¹ and Kassel.²

By a Decision adopted on 19 May the Commission restricted trade in live pigs from certain parts of the Federal Republic of Germany and parts of the Netherlands.¹

2.1.124. Because of the persistence of foot-and-mouth disease in Spain, imports of fresh beef/veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat were prohibited by a Commission Decision of 6 May.³

2.1.125. Lastly, the Commission decided on 3 May that the Community would make a financial contribution to the eradication of contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia in France.⁴

Competition

2.1.126. Under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided to make no comment concerning the introduction of the following draft measures, notified by:

Federal Republic of Germany

Structural measures. These modify existing aids involving: rural development; encouragement for the use of pastures, including mountain pastures; loans for investments in agriculture; encouragement for machinery cooperatives; aids to farmers to keep their farms viable.

The Netherlands

Grant of aid for a project of applied research concerning the preservation of potatoes for processing.

2.1.127. The Commission decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the following aids, notified by:

Italy

Sicily: Regional Act No 86 of 5 August 1982 laying down emergency measures for agriculture.

Aids whose compatibility with the common market has not been established: aids to promote the industrial use of unmarketed table grapes; aids for pasture improvement; grants totalling LIT 3 000 million to Irfis for measures whose details are to be determined by the Ministry of Industry; five-year loans at 7.5% to recognized groups of citrus producers.

Incompatible aids: financing of an aid equal to 60% of the purchase price of selected flower cuttings; launching aid for a syndicate to add value to table grapes, and aids for cooperatives; aid for recognized groups of grape growers to finance the installation of telex systems, supervision of the use to which unmarketed products are put and the activities entrusted to the groups; aids for investments in processing and marketing (above maximum rate of 75% for facilities situated in mountain areas and less-favoured areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268 and investments made under national programmes adopted pursuant to Regulation No 355/77; above maximum rate of 50% for facilities located in normal areas); subsidies covering up to 50% of the financial liabilities of cooperatives, cooperative wineries, producer groups and syndicates, with 15-year loans at the reduced rate of 10% to cover the remaining 50% (various products); subsidies equal to 40% of the cost of soil sterilization; LIT 250 for the purchase of each kilogram of plastic for making tunnels; aids in excess of 35% for the purchase of sterilization equipment.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guidance Section

2.1.128. On 30 May the Commission adopted a Decision on applications for reimbursement under the Council Regulation

¹ OJ L 143, 2.6.1983.

² OJ L 151, 9.6.1983.

³ OJ L 121, 7.5.1983.

⁴ OJ L 129, 19.5.1983.

for the stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of Northern Ireland,¹ the purpose of which is to prescribe the content and form of applications for reimbursement in respect of that measure.

Fisheries

Resources

Internal aspects

National measures for the control of fishing

2.1.129. On 3 May the Commission approved the Irish Control of Fishing for Mackerel Order 1983, prohibiting Irish seafishing boats exceeding 55 feet in length from fishing for mackerel during a specified period unless licensed under the Order. This repeats the provisions of the 1982 Order, which was approved by the Commission last November.²

2.1.130. On 10 May the Commission approved a Danish draft concerning the control of fishing in Greenland waters. This amends certain provisions of an earlier measure, approved by the Commission in November 1978.³ Pending the entry into force of a Community Regulation on the keeping of logbooks by vessels fishing in Greenland waters, the draft is consistent with Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2057/82 of 29 June 1982.⁴

National measures concerning access to and demarcation of fishing zones

2.1.131. On 4 and 24 May the Commission took note of three measures introduced under Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 170/83 of 25 January 1983,⁵ stating that it might review at any time their compatibility with Community law and with the common fisheries policy.

The first establishes the limits of Denmark's fishing zone at 12 miles from base lines along the Danish coast. The second lays down the

conditions of access to the fishing zones around Greenland for vessels of other countries. The third is a declaration by the Federal Republic of Germany that fishing within the 12-mile zone along the German coast will be reserved for vessels from German ports.

National measures for the protection of local stocks

2.1.132. On 10 May the Commission approved two measures for the management of local stocks as being consistent with Article 19 of Regulation (EEC) No 171/83 of 25 January 1983.⁵

The first measure is a declaration by the United Kingdom that it intends to amend the Immature Bass Order 1981 in such a way that the minimum size of bass which may be caught in the United Kingdom fishing zone will remain at 32 cm beyond 1 May 1983.

The second is a Danish measure for the protection of houting (a salmonoid) in the six-mile zone off the North Sea coast.

National technical measures going beyond the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 171/ 83 of 25 January 1983 applicable only to fishermen of the Member State concerned

2.1.133. On 16 May the Commission approved a United Kingdom measure reintroducing, with effect from 31 May, the provisions concerning the minimum size of scallops and lobster that may be caught in Northern Ireland waters. These provisions were already contained in a 1982 Order, which was approved by the Commission for the first time on 8 March 1982¹ and was then extended until the end of the year. The

¹ OJ L 197, 20.7.1981.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.111.

³ OJ C 119, 12.5.1979.

⁴ OJ L 220, 29.7.1982.

⁵ OJ L 24, 27.1.1983.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.93.

Commission stated that it might review at any time the compatibility of the measures, which is consistent with Article 20 of Regulation (EEC) No 171/83 of 25 January 1983,¹ with Community law and with the common fisheries policy.

2.1.134. On 20 May the Commission approved a Danish instrument laying down temporary rules on the fishing and landing of cod in the Baltic Sea. The Commission stated that it might review at any time the compatibility of the instrument, which is consistent with Article 20 of Regulation (EEC) No 171/83,¹ with Community law and with the common fisheries policy. The Commission also reminded the Danish authorities that pending the final fixing of the 1983 TACs and quotas they must manage their fisheries in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 198/83 of 25 January 1983.²

Herring quotas in the North Sea

2.1.135. Once the scientific opinions were available,³ the Commission, pending the final fixing of the 1983 TACs and quotas by the Council,⁴ put forward a proposal for a Regulation making provisional quota allocations for herring stocks in the northern and central areas of the North Sea from 1 June 1983. Herring fishing had been banned since 1977 in these areas, but was permitted in the southern part. The Council adopted the proposal on 26 May.⁵

External aspects

Multilateral relations

2.1.136. The Commission attended the fourth meeting of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) in Managua from 9 to 13 May.

2.1.137. It also attended the first meeting of the WECAFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Lesser Antilles, in Castries, St Lucia, on 4 and 5 May.

Markets and structures

Market organization

2.1.138. In connection with the day-to-day management of the markets in fishery products the Commission adopted a Regulation at the end of April fixing the export refunds on fishery products.⁶

2.1.139. In order to prevent disturbance of the Community markets resulting from substantial imports of frozen hake at prices below the reference prices, the Commission adopted a Regulation on 11 May making imports of frozen hake subject to observance of the reference price.⁷

Structures

2.1.140. The Commission decided to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of an Italian bill to extend for the second half of 1981 the fuel aid granted to Italian fishermen in 1980 and the first half of 1981 and to vary the conditions on which aid may be granted: beneficiaries must attend vocational training courses.

Transport

Inland transport

Infrastructure

2.1.141. As required by the Regulation of 4 June 1970,⁸ on 27 May the Commission adopted and on 1 June sent to the Council its tenth annual report on expenditure on and utilization of transport infrastructure⁹ — the

¹ OJ L 24, 27.1.1983.

² OJ L 25, 27.1.1983.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.4.5.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

⁵ OJ L 139, 28.5.1983.

⁶ OJ L 114, 29.4.1983.

⁷ OJ L 124, 12.5.1983.

⁸ OJ L 130, 15.6.1970 (amended: OJ L 167, 5.7.1979).

⁹ COM(83)288 final.

first in the series to be compiled largely with the aid of computers. It showed that in 1980 the nine Member States spent nearly 42 000 million ECU, approximately 2.2% of their GDP, on inland transport infrastructure. As in 1979, nearly 75% of this total was spent on roads, slightly over 22% on railways and 3% on inland waterways. It also revealed a slight but steady decline in the relative share taken by transport infrastructure investment, from 5.2% of gross fixed capital formation in the Community in 1977 to 4.7% in 1980.

Approximation of structures

2.1.142. In the field of cooperation between the railways, the *ad hoc* working party of rail experts set up to discuss arrangements for a staff training and motivation programme for the railways met Commission staff on 17 May to consider the general features of the programme and possible means of funding it, based on a report prepared by the experts.

2.1.143. The Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Railway Costing set up under the Council Regulation of 19 September 1978¹ met for the first time on 20 May to define the costing method to be applied and the cost items to be taken into account.

2.1.144. On 16 May the Commission sent the Council its fourth report on the transposed annual accounts of railway undertakings,² which covers 1980.

Operation of the market

Access to the market

2.1.145. On 26 May the Commission put to the Council a proposal for a Directive on the use of hired vehicles for the carriage of goods by road.³ The aim is to allow carriers operating on their own account or for hire or reward to use hired vehicles to carry goods within or between Member States. It is not intended to change the vehicle rental system as such, nor the national rules concerning admission to the occupation of vehicle rental agent or access to the market, nor charges. It merely sets out to help carriers organize their transport operations more efficiently and make their businesses more profitable by

reducing their fixed costs; to achieve this, the use of hired vehicles is to be allowed under certain conditions.

Two other Community instruments—Council Regulation No 11 of 27 June 1960 concerning the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions⁴ and the proposal of 31 January 1979 for a Council Directive on own-account carriage of goods by road between Member States⁵—will also have to be amended to allow for the possibility of hiring vehicles for own-account carriage operations which has now been opened up by the abovementioned proposal for a Directive.

Market observation

2.1.146. As required by the Directive of 18 June 1978,⁶ on 20 May the Commission sent the Council statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road in 1979 and 1980 by vehicles registered in the Member States.⁷

Formation of rates

2.1.147. On 20 May Parliament endorsed⁸ the proposal for a Regulation on the formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁹

It felt that the compulsory bracket tariffs applied hitherto had tended to produce abnormally high rates. Parliament considered that in the long run market forces should determine rates instead and favoured introducing recommended rates in the form of reference tariffs.

Commercial independence of the railways

2.1.148. On 20 May Parliament also delivered a favourable opinion⁸ on the proposal for

¹ OJ L 258, 21.9.1978.

² COM(83)244 final.

³ OJ C 155, 14.6.1983; COM(83)266 final.

⁴ OJ 52, 16.8.1960.

⁵ OJ C 41, 14.2.1979; Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.77.

⁶ OJ L 168, 26.6.1978.

⁷ COM(83)257 final.

⁸ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

⁹ OJ C 265, 9.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.88.

a Decision on the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic.¹ Parliament welcomed the measures which the Commission had announced, or was starting to implement, in this field and called on the railways to cooperate more closely with a view to improving the network and the service provided and to agree an international tariff system to apply to all railways in the Community.

Energy

Specific problems

Solid fuels

2.1.149. On 24 May the Council formally adopted two recommendations² to the Member States concerning the encouragement of investment in the use of solid fuel (i) in industry and (ii) in public buildings and in district heating systems,³ which it had approved in April.⁴ The Member States are to notify the Commission of the measures taken in the fields covered by the recommendations so that the Commission can report to the Council.

New energy sources

2.1.150. The Commission organized a seminar in Lyon from 25 to 27 May on the use of hydrogen as an energy carrier, dealing with the production of hydrogen by thermochemical methods or electrolysis, the various aspects of hydrogen storage, transport and utilization and the study and development of special steels.

Research and development

Development of the common policy

First framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984-87

2.1.151. Following its communication of December 1982⁵ and the policy debate by the

Council in February of this year,⁶ the Commission sent the Council on 20 May a proposal for a Decision on the first framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984-87.⁷

Inaugural meeting of Codest

2.1.152. The inaugural meeting of the Committee for the European Development of Science and Technology (Codest), set up by Commission Decision of 6 January 1982,⁸ was held in Brussels on 30 May. Members were welcomed by Mr Davignon, Vice-President of the Commission, who explained the twofold nature of the Committee's task, firstly to assist the Commission in the preparation and implementation of its policy to improve the effectiveness of the Community's scientific and technical potential, and secondly to advise the Commission in defining its overall R&D strategy by highlighting new developments, needs and priority areas.

The Committee adopted its rules of procedure, then elected Dr U. Colombo chairman and Mr H. Curien and Professor I. Prigogine vice-chairmen. Professor B. Hess and Professor D. Philips were selected to be the Committee's other officers. Following an initial debate on the aims and operational arrangements for the stimulation action, two working groups will convene shortly to make specific recommendations.

Coordination of national policies

2.1.153. The Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) met in Munich on 26 and 27 May. In addition to the

¹ OJ C 23, 28.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.161; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.137; Bull. EC 12-1982, points 2.1.157 and 2.1.158.

² OJ L 140, 31.5.1983.

³ OJ L 105, 26.4.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 1.2.9.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.148.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.173.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.134.

⁷ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6; COM(83)260 final.

⁸ OJ L 350, 10.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.176.

members, the meeting was attended by chairmen of the various Community scientific and technical committees and prominent figures from the scientific and technical world in the Federal Republic of Germany.

CREST was consulted on the Commission proposal to the Council on the framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities for 1984-87.¹

It confirmed its approval of the principle of a four-year framework programme to be reviewed at least every second year and revised as necessary.² It acknowledged the relevance of the scientific and technical objectives selected by the Commission for 1984-87 and found that the priorities and the weighting of resources proposed for the main goals formed a useful basis for discussion. It urged the Council to show its political determination to implement a meaningful Community policy on science and technology and hence to increase the share of the available Community resources going to the common policy.

Cooperation with non-member countries

COST Committee of Senior Officials

2.1.154. The COST Committee of Senior Officials met at Arc-et-Senans, France, on 5 and 6 May, when it approved the draft agreement on COST Project 43 for an oceanographic and meteorological data buoy network in European waters. At the next meeting the delegations of the signatory States will give the date on which their governments plan to sign the agreement.

With regard to seismological research, the Committee asked the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe for further information on its earthquake project; in the light of the particulars supplied, the Committee will instruct its *ad hoc* group on new projects to study the project with a view to cooperation.

Proposal on the negotiation of an EEC-Japan framework agreement on scientific and technical cooperation

2.1.155. In May the Commission proposed that the Council authorize the opening of

negotiations on a framework agreement for scientific and technical cooperation with Japan. This was the outcome of a visit to Tokyo by Mr Haferkamp and Mr Davignon last February³ and is also in line with the follow-up to the Versailles Summit in June of last year.⁴

The ten-year agreement would be negotiated by the Commission on a Council brief and would be of a flexible nature so that no scientific or technical field suitable for cooperation would be ruled out in advance.

Cooperation appears feasible in the following areas: development of controlled thermo-nuclear fusion, promotion of nuclear safety, reference materials and methods, metrology, environmental protection and the development of new and renewable energy sources. It would take the form of exchanges of information (meetings, visits and exchanges of scientists, mutual consultation) and participation in joint studies and projects.

Horizontal activities

2.1.156. On 20 May Parliament delivered a favourable opinion⁵ on the proposal for a Council Decision adopting an experimental Community action to stimulate the efficacy of the European Economic Community's scientific and technical potential.⁶ Parliament defined the objectives of the experimental measures: to increase Community competitiveness in the industrial and service sectors; to attempt to coordinate research and development programmes in order to achieve a single strategy at Community level; to help to raise the level of the least developed Member States; to contribute towards realizing the scientific potential of the Community and particularly of young scientists.

¹ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

² Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.106.

³ Bull. EC 2-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.5.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1982, points 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

⁵ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

⁶ OJ C 337, 23.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.55.

Multiannual programmes

Energy

2.1.157. On 26 May the Commission sent the Council a communication on the present situation and prospects in the management of radioactive waste in the Community.¹

This followed the Council resolution of 18 February 1980 on a Community plan of action in the field of radioactive waste for 1980-92,² which provides for periodic reports on the management of radioactive waste in the Community.

This initial analysis shows that overall the current situation and prospects in the field of radioactive waste management in the Community do not jeopardize the safety of man and his environment or offer a technical obstacle to the development of nuclear power programmes in the Community. However, it is considered essential to ensure that current predictions can actually come about by continuing national and Community R&D activities and starting work on additional facilities.

The Commission invites the Member States to inform it of any project concerning the design and construction of experimental or demonstration installations and the relevant financial requirements.

Decommissioning of nuclear reactors

2.1.158. On 10 and 11 May a meeting of specialists on industrial-scale decommissioning operations was organized by the Commission with the collaboration of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, at Windscale in the United Kingdom. There were about 30 participants from five Community countries, mainly experts directly involved in the decommissioning of nuclear reactors.

The work completed, in progress and planned at each of the nine nuclear power plants and at some other reactors that have been finally shut down in Community countries was presented. Detailed projects for complete dismantling over the coming years exist for three plants, Windscale AGR (United Kingdom) and KKN Niederrachbach and

FR 2 (Germany). The various technical solutions and problems were extensively discussed.

It appeared that the experience gained with the plants already shut down will be of great value for the future decommissioning of large nuclear power plants. The participants stressed their interest in international collaboration.

New recrystallization method for plutonium compounds

2.1.159. Under the JRC fundamental research programme on actinide chemistry and physics, fairly large single crystals of plutonium compounds (mono-pnictides) have been grown by a recrystallization method. The Karlsruhe JRC Establishment is in this way able to provide its own researchers and European scientific laboratories with precious samples of actinide compounds for the most sophisticated physical measurements. This is relevant to the understanding of the chemical bond in the actinide series, useful knowledge for the nuclear (and non-nuclear) application of these elements.

Energy systems analysis

2.1.160. An international conference on the use of simulation models in energy planning organized jointly by Risø National Laboratory and the Commission took place from 9 to 11 May. About 160 scientists and economists from all over the world attended, and more than 40 papers were presented, of which the Commission and the experts involved in the Community's energy systems analysis programme contributed about a dozen.

The conference showed that energy systems models are playing an increasingly important role in energy planning carried out for and by public authorities, energy utilities, oil companies, etc. In particular, simulation models have emerged as a useful energy planning tool for the assessment of various

¹ COM(83)262 final.

² OJ C 51, 29.2.1980.

aspects of the technical and economic behaviour of existing and future energy systems — for example, forecasting of energy demand, planning of investments and determination of operating strategies.

Raw materials

2.1.161. On 20 May Parliament delivered its opinion¹ on a proposal for a Council decision concerning a research and development programme (1982-85) in the raw materials sector.² It called for intensified research on uranium extraction, in particular where deposits have already been discovered.

Support for industrial development

*Esprit programme*³

2.1.162. On 25 May the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting the first European strategic programme for research and development in information technology.⁴ This five-year programme, which is due to start in 1984, provides for action in five priority areas — advanced microelectronics, advanced information processing, software technology, office systems and computer integrated manufacturing.

Science and technology for development

2.1.163. Under the first research and development programme (1983-86)⁵ the Commission issued a call for proposals⁶ for two subprogrammes on tropical agriculture and on medicine, health and nutrition in the tropics.

Expenditure commitments of 30 million ECU are earmarked for the former, which comprises four sectors: improvement of agricultural production, general areas of research and utilization of the environment, post-harvest technology and training.

The subprogramme on medicine, health and nutrition in the tropics has expenditure commitments of 10 million ECU and comprises three sectors: medicine and health, nutrition and training.

The closing date for proposals for participation in these two subprogrammes is 13 July.

Living and working conditions

Meeting on irradiation and thyroid disease

2.1.164. Under its radiation protection programme⁷ the Commission sponsored a meeting on irradiation and thyroid disease in Brussels on 19 and 20 May. It was attended by scientists from the main European centres and some US centres.

Radioiodine is the main radioisotope released in nuclear accidents or after nuclear explosions; it is also widely used in medical diagnosis. It is therefore of considerable importance that recent investigations show a definite increase in the appearance of benign and malignant tumours in the thyroids of people exposed to irradiation 10 to 20 years ago. This may perhaps be linked to a reported but still controversial progressive increase in the incidence of thyroid tumours in the general population. To obtain reliable data on this problem, it was essential that the population surveyed should be large, which implies international cooperation. Such a survey will require prior elaboration of an internationally accepted protocol with clear definitions and operative criteria. At the Brussels meeting it was decided to initiate a first collaborative study on the effects at various ages of low and high doses of X-rays on the development of thyroid abnormalities, including cancer. The analysis of background papers provided by the experts allowed the group to agree on a common investigation protocol with accepted definitions, criteria and operational procedures. The introduction of data in a computer-compatible form was agreed upon. After a first study of the

¹ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² OJ C 341, 29.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.187.

³ Point 2.1.34.

⁴ COM(83)258 final.

⁵ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.139.

⁶ OJ C 130, 17.5.1983.

⁷ OJ L 78, 25.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.111.

feasibility of the investigation, i.e. the availability of a sufficient number of patients, the survey will be initiated in 1983.

*Research projects
under the fourth ergonomics programme*

2.1.165. Under Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided on 10 May to grant financial aid of 245 720 ECU to two research projects under the fourth ergonomics programme:¹

(i) comparison of the validity of the main thermal stress indices at workplaces in steelworks, glassworks and industrial laun-

dries: the planned duration is three years and the Community aid available is 225 720 ECU (total cost: 418 000 ECU);

(ii) definitions and taxonomics of accidents: the planned duration is one year and the Community aid available is 20 000 ECU (total cost: 20 000 ECU).

The total cost of the two projects is 438 000 ECU.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1980, point 2.1.33.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Acquis communautaire

2.2.1. On 25 and 26 May the Council continued¹ its examination of the adaptation of existing rules on Mediterranean produce (particularly fruit and vegetables and olive oil)² with a view to the forthcoming enlargement of the Community.

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.2. The 13th ministerial meeting of the negotiations for Portugal's accession to the Communities took place in Brussels on 25 May. The Community presented statements on fisheries and patents, and Portugal presented a statement on the environment and consumer protection. A preparatory meeting at deputy level had taken place the previous month, at which both sides presented state-

ments on approximation of laws, and the Community set out its position on the environment and consumer protection.

Pre-accession aid

2.2.3. Under the agreement which came into force on 1 January 1981 according to Portugal pre-accession aid of 275 million ECU,³ the Commission and the Portuguese Government on 27 May signed financing agreements for a pilot cattle-farming project (Community contribution 165 486 ECU) and a project for the development of 11 industrial estates (Community contribution 4.32 million ECU).

The projects are in line with two of the aims set out in the agreement on pre-accession aid: the structural improvement of Portuguese agriculture and a better balance in the country's development.

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 2.2.1 and 1.5.5.

² Point 2.1.97.

³ Fifteenth General Report, point 624.

Spain

Accession negotiations

2.2.4. The 26th deputy-level meeting of the negotiations for Spain's accession to the European Community was held in Brussels on 17 May.

The Community presented statements on the customs union and free movement of goods (industrial sector — monopolies), external relations and Community secondary legislation.

Financial cooperation with Spain

2.2.5. On 25 May the Commission adopted a communication to the Council on the extension of financial cooperation between the Community and Spain, following a request by the Spanish Government in January for further EIB lending to Spain once the 200 million ECU allocated to the country since 1 July 1981 has run out. Spain was asking for about 250 million ECU in loans annually from 1 July 1983 until accession.

In its communication the Commission is proposing that the Council agree to Spain's request as regards the principle of extended cooperation and the arrangements for its renewal, but suggests an annual figure of 120 million ECU.

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Commercial policy instruments

2.2.6. At its 26 May meeting on the internal market the Council examined the key questions regarding the proposal for a Regulation on the strengthening of the common commercial policy, with particular regard to protection against unfair commercial practices.¹ (This proposal had already been discussed at the general affairs meeting on 24 and 25 May.)

The Council's discussions focused on the desirability of creating a new Community instrument in this area and on the decision-making machinery to be adopted.

In conclusion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to press ahead with its examination of the proposal in the light of that day's debate and called upon the Commission and the delegation to give consideration to compromise solutions which might help to bring positions closer together.

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.7. Under the Council Regulation of 4 December 1980 on import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries,² the Commission decided on the following measures:

Italy — Hungary: opening of quotas for unwrought aluminium alloy containing less than 97.5% aluminium;³

Federal Republic of Germany — Poland: opening of quotas for textile products (categories 7 and 8) imported under outward processing arrangements;⁴

Federal Republic of Germany — Czechoslovakia: aluminium sulphate;⁵

Italy — Albania: modification of quotas for textile products falling within categories 1, 4, 7, 8 and 76.⁶

Trade protection

Anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures

2.2.8. The Council extended⁷ the provisional anti-dumping duties imposed by the Commission on a chemical fertilizer⁸ and on

¹ OJ C 83, 26.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9.

² OJ L 353, 29.12.1980.

³ OJ C 132, 19.5.1983.

⁴ OJ C 140, 28.5.1983.

⁵ OJ C 145, 3.6.1983.

⁶ OJ C 122, 7.5.1983.

⁷ OJ L 140, 31.5.1983; OJ L 136, 25.5.1983.

⁸ OJ L 33, 4.2.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.2.11.

4,4-isopropylidenediphenol,¹ originating in the United States of America.

2.2.9. The Commission imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain iron or steel sheeting originating in Brazil,² on which a provisional anti-dumping duty had been imposed in February.³

2.2.10. The Commission published a notice that it was initiating an anti-subsidy proceeding concerning imports of tube and pipe fittings of malleable cast iron originating in Spain.⁴

2.2.11. It also published a notice⁵ of its intention to review the acceptance of price undertakings⁶ concerning imports of saccharin and its salts from China, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America.

2.2.12. The Commission decided,⁷ on the other hand, to accept undertakings offered in connection with the anti-dumping proceeding⁸ concerning imports of polyethylene originating in the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and Poland and to terminate that proceeding.

Export credits

2.2.13. On 16 May the Council decided to extend until 30 June 1983 the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits. Negotiations for the renewal of the Arrangement are currently in progress.⁹

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Textile products

2.2.14. A Commission delegation visited China from 2 to 8 May for exploratory talks on the arrangements which will apply to trade in textile products between the Community and China after 1983. A preliminary examination was made of the possible components of the future arrangements; the visit also provided an opportunity for both sides to examine all the problems arising from textile trade and to review the application of the existing bilateral agreement.¹⁰

Relations with industrialized countries

Western Economic Summit

2.2.15. At the end of the Western Economic Summit which took place in Williamsburg from 28 to 30 May the seven national leaders and the representatives of the Community issued a statement dealing with security and the deployment of US missile systems in Europe and a declaration on economic recovery, with an annex setting out the scope of future consultations between finance ministers, aimed at strengthening economic cooperation for growth and stability.¹¹

The declaration contains a commitment to halt protectionism and actively pursue current work programmes in GATT and OECD; the participants also pledge to give special attention 'to the flow of resources, in particular official development assistance, to poorer countries', and to promote 'convergence of economic performance in our economies and greater stability of exchange rates'. Efforts will be made to 'define the conditions for improving the international monetary system and to consider the part which might, in due course, be played in this process by a high-level international monetary conference'.

2.2.16. The groundwork for the Williamsburg Summit had been laid in meetings between the personal representatives of the leaders (the 'Sherpas'),¹² including one in May at La Celle-Saint-Cloud in France, at the 21 and 22 March European Council in

¹ OJ L 23, 26.1.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.7.

² OJ L 131, 20.5.1983.

³ OJ L 45, 17.2.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.2.12.

⁴ OJ C 142, 31.5.1983.

⁵ OJ C 119, 4.5.1983.

⁶ OJ L 331, 9.12.1980.

⁷ OJ L 138, 27.5.1983.

⁸ OJ C 230, 3.9.1982.

⁹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.15.

¹⁰ Sixteenth General Report, point 641.

¹¹ Points 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

¹² Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.19.

Brussels,¹ and at the Council meetings on economic and financial affairs on 18 April and foreign affairs on 24 and 25 May, the latter putting the finishing touches to the Community position on the basis of the conclusions of the 18 April meeting and a communication from the Commission. The Summit was also the main item on the agenda of the quadripartite meeting held in Brussels in April.²

EFTA countries

EEC-Iceland Joint Committee

2.2.17. The EEC-Iceland Joint Committee held its 21st meeting in Brussels on 30 May. Both sides acknowledged that the relations between them were on the whole excellent.

However, Iceland urged the Community to keep down customs duties on a number of fishery products not covered by the Agreement, while the Commission expressed regret that despite repeated efforts it had not proved possible to conclude a fisheries agreement between Iceland and the Community.

EEC-Switzerland and ECSC-Switzerland Joint Committees

2.2.18. The Joint Committee set up under the EEC-Switzerland Free Trade Agreement held its 21st meeting in Brussels on 30 May. On the agenda were the world economic situation and outlook, international economic relations, the development of trade, the operation of the Agreement and a number of specific trade questions.

The meeting was immediately followed by the 20th meeting of the ECSC-Switzerland Joint Committee, devoted to an exchange of views on steel market trends.

United States

Bilateral talks on agriculture

2.2.19. A third round³ of high-level technical talks on agriculture took place in Brussels on 3 May. Community and US officials analysed recent developments including the 1983/84 farm price review and the 'payments in kind' system (an inducement for US

farmers to leave land unsown), and went on to discuss wheat, flour, dairy products, chicken and corn gluten feed. Although a certain amount of common ground was discovered, no conclusions were reached.

The two sides did, however, approve a plan for the exchange of statistics. Bilateral talks were to resume in Washington on 22 June, when it was hoped that agreement might be reached and a joint statement issued.

Japan

2.2.20. On 4 May, confirming the interest expressed by both Japan and the Community at the ministerial talks in February,⁴ the Commission proposed to the Council that negotiations be opened with Japan for a framework agreement on the whole spectrum of scientific and technical cooperation.⁵

Areas ripe for cooperation include the development of controlled thermonuclear fusion, nuclear safety, reference materials and methods, metrology, environmental protection and new and renewable sources of energy.

Australia

2.2.21. On 6 May the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Bill Hayden, and the Minister for Primary Industry, Mr John Kerin, visited the Commission, where they were received by Mr Gaston Thorn and had talks with Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, Mr Etienne Davignon, Mr Poul Dalsager and Mr Edgard Pisani, on trade and economic relations in general between Australia and the Community.

Australia expressed understanding of the Community's desire to become a party to the new International Sugar Agreement. It

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.5.4.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.17.

³ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.14; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.2.23.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.5 and 2.2.24.

⁵ COM(83)235 final.

continued to feel concern about certain aspects of the common agricultural policy, though aware of the constraints involved. The Commission again expressed concern about Australia's protective measures in certain industries. Both sides agreed on the need for better coordination on development aid and food strategy, to prevent duplication of effort in the Pacific region, and in the field of North-South relations (especially in Unctad). At the end of the talks the need to improve and extend dialogue between Australia and the Community was underlined; this should give a boost to their relations. The next event on the bilateral calendar is a high-level meeting to be held in Canberra in October.

Relations with other countries and regions

Mediterranean countries

Mediterranean policy

2.2.22. Following the visits paid by Mr Natali to a number of Mediterranean countries, and in line with the Council's decision on 25 January 1983 that exploratory talks should be stepped up with a view to examining the difficulties which might be encountered by Mediterranean countries as a result of enlargement, an initial meeting was held between a Commission delegation and an Egyptian delegation on 24 and 25 May. The talks centred on the Egyptian authorities' concerns with respect to enlargement, but also on the Egyptian Government's approach to the future development of relations between the Community and Egypt. Similar talks will be held with delegations from other Mediterranean countries between now and the autumn.

These issues were also the subject of discussions held by Mr Natali with the Yugoslav authorities on the occasion of his visit to Yugoslavia.¹

Yugoslavia

First meeting of the Cooperation Council

2.2.23. The EEC-Yugoslavia Cooperation Council, which was set up by the Cooperation Agreement which entered into force in April,² held its first meeting, at ministerial level, on 24 May in Brussels, when it adopted its rules of procedure, plus a decision on the subject of cooperation. The decision sets a number of objectives in the form of general guidelines for EEC-Yugoslav cooperation and provides for a programme of specific operations in the industrial, agricultural, and scientific and technical fields. The Cooperation Committee was asked to report at the next Cooperation Council meeting on the implementation of this decision and to make proposals for new initiatives.

An exchange of views was also held on the application of the commercial and financial provisions of the Agreement.

Mr Natali's visit

2.2.24. Mr Natali visited Yugoslavia from 16 to 19 May to begin the process of exploratory talks on the consequences of enlargement for the Community's Mediterranean policy. He also took part in the European day organized to mark the 50th anniversary of the Novi Sad Agricultural Fair, at which the Community itself was represented for the first time.

Cyprus

2.2.25. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Spyros Kyprianou, visited the Commission on 20 May and had talks with Mr Thorn, Mr Haferkamp and Mr Natali. The discussions covered all aspects of relations between Cyprus and the Community. In particular, it was agreed that the current negotiations on trade arrangements for 1983 should be concluded rapidly.³

¹ Point 2.2.24.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.27; OJ L 41, 14.2.1983.

³ Point 2.2.26; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.2.29.

The Commission also said that as soon as these negotiations were concluded it would start work on obtaining negotiating directives from the Council for the transition to the second stage of the Association Agreement,¹ whose ultimate aim is the establishment of a customs union between the EEC and Cyprus.

2.2.26. The protocol laying down the trade arrangements to be applied between Cyprus and the Community during 1983 was initialled on 27 May.

Tunisia

2.2.27. Mr Mohamed M'Zali, Prime Minister of Tunisia, paid an official visit to the Commission. He was accompanied by Mr Abdelaziz Lasram, Minister of National Economy, Mr Lassaad Ben Osman, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Ahmed Ben Afra, State Secretary for International Cooperation in the Foreign Ministry.

At a meeting with Mr Thorn, Mr M'Zali appealed to the Community to take greater responsibility for seeking a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict.

The Tunisian delegation also held a meeting with the Members of the Commission, during which Mr M'Zali stressed that relations between Tunisia and the Community had reached a turning point because of enlargement and that some serious thinking should be done jointly. Following this line of thought, he drew attention to the Maghreb unification movement and said that Europe would have to take this factor into account when devising a responsible Mediterranean policy compatible with the new requirements in the region, namely solidarity, complementarity, economic and social security and stability.

For its part, the Commission stressed the importance it attached to the privileged relationship the Community has with Tunisia. In its communication of 24 June 1982² the Commission had stated how essential it was to maintain what had been achieved under the Agreements and that the Community was to undertake to step up existing cooper-

ation and consolidate exports from Mediterranean countries, notably Tunisia, to the Community market following the accession of Portugal and Spain.

Mr Pisani suggested that a study be carried out on the development of intra-Mediterranean and intra-Maghreb trade over the next 20 years on the basis of a number of scenarios (for instance, whether or not Maghreb unification was achieved). Mr M'Zali expressed interest in such a study.

The meeting was followed by a joint press conference given by Mr M'Zali and Mr Pisani. The Ambassador of Morocco and a representative of the Algerian Embassy were also present.

Asian countries

India

2.2.28. The second meeting³ of the EEC-India Joint Commission established under the Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement signed in 1981⁴ took place in Brussels at ministerial level on 30 and 31 May. The Community delegation was led by Mr Haferkamp and the Indian delegation by Mr Vishwanath Patran Singh, the Minister of Commerce, who was also received by Mr Davignon, Mr Andriessen and Mr Pisani.

The Joint Commission agreed to continue efforts to reduce India's trade deficit with the Community and adopted a programme to promote India's trade. It was also agreed to intensify the industrial cooperation programme launched last year.⁵

Priorities for cooperation in the field of science and technology were also agreed upon, with particular emphasis on energy questions.

The Joint Commission reviewed Community programmes for food aid and financial and technical assistance in favour of India.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1980, point 2.2.54.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

³ Bull. EC 1-1982, point 2.2.36.

⁴ OJ L 328, 16.11.1981; Fifteenth General Report, point 782.

⁵ Sixteenth General Report, point 700.

State-trading countries

Poland

2.2.29. In a communication sent to the Council and Parliament on 10 May¹ the Commission proposed granting emergency humanitarian aid of 14 million ECU—from June to December inclusive—to the poorest sections of the Polish population, who are being hit by the continuing supply difficulties in Poland.

The aid would be in the form of foodstuffs and medicines. As in similar earlier operations, it would be delivered via non-governmental organizations in the Community and distributed direct to the people concerned without the intervention of the Polish authorities.

There have already been four previous operations, which were decided in 1981 and 1982, for a total of 27 million ECU. With the amounts committed so far, the non-governmental organizations have already been able to send nearly 1 000 lorries to Poland with a total of more than 18 000 tonnes of foodstuffs, medical supplies, soap and other toiletries.

2.2.30. Aid to Poland was also the subject of a resolution passed by Parliament on 19 May urging that the costs of transporting aid donated by private individuals to the Polish people should be covered by the Community budget.

Development

Coordination of aid

2.2.31. As part of the Commission's efforts to step up coordination between the Community's development cooperation projects and programmes and bilateral aid from Member States,³ a meeting was held in Rome on 5 May between the Italian department responsible for development cooperation and Commission staff. Both sides look forward to cooperating more closely in identifying opportunities for complementary projects, thereby providing additional impetus for each other's efforts.

2.2.32. With a similar aim in mind, meetings took place in Oslo on 16 May between Commission staff and the Norwegian development aid authorities. It was agreed on this occasion to examine the possibilities for joint action in developing regions and countries of interest for both sides.

One of these regions was southern Africa, where development activities are organized under the aegis of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference. Both authorities would like more regular discussions and meetings, to include other Scandinavian aid donors where appropriate.

Food aid, emergency aid and exceptional aid

Food aid

Emergency aid

2.2.33. The Commission authorized the allocation to people repatriated to Ghana from Nigeria of emergency food aid in the form of 30 tonnes of dried fish (valued at 48 000 ECU), 45 tonnes of vegetable oil (35 000 ECU) and 1 700 tonnes of cereals (212 500 ECU) to be distributed by non-governmental organizations.

2.2.34. On 16 May the Commission authorized the allocation of 80 tonnes of dried fish (128 000 ECU), 150 tonnes of vegetable oil (105 900 ECU) and 30 tonnes of sugar (6 900 ECU) to drought victims in Mauritania, to be distributed by the League of Red Cross Societies.

Exceptional aid

2.2.35. Following the floods that have struck north-eastern Peru, the Commission decided on 6 May, under Article 950 of the budget, to allocate a second instalment of emergency aid⁴ to the value of 320 000

¹ COM(83)252 final

² Point 2.4.16; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

³ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.34.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.2.59.

ECU, to be channelled through Deutsche Welthungerhilfe and the League of Red Cross Societies.

Generalized preferences

Operation of the GSP in the Community

2.2.36. A seminar on the Community scheme of generalized preferences was run by the Commission in Lima, Peru, on 3 and 4 May for representatives of the Andean Pact member countries.¹ It was attended by some 80 participants, mostly businessmen—manufacturers and exporters, as well as from the related services sector—but also officials from government departments concerned with trade policy, export promotion and GSP administration.

Following a general introduction to the principles of the GSP, the programme concentrated on explaining the details of the EEC rules and regulations currently applicable since the extension of the scheme for a further 10 years;² particular attention was drawn to the considerably improved possibilities opened to middle-income and poorer countries. The programme also included a session explaining what kind of activities the Commission was prepared to support under its trade promotion programme.

2.2.37. Before this seminar, two members of the Commission team had visited La Paz, Bolivia, to take part in a workshop on the GSP arranged on 28 April by the Bolivian-German Chamber of Commerce, where they met some 50 exporters, businessmen and officials to discuss the day-to-day operation of the scheme, with the aim of encouraging greater use of the considerable opportunities offered by the Community.

Commodities and world agreements

Sugar

2.2.38. The United Nations Conference for the negotiation of a new International Sugar Agreement³ held its first session in Geneva from 1 to 20 May. A second round will take place in the autumn; meanwhile, bilateral

meetings will continue and a consultative group made up of 12 exporting countries (including the Community) and 6 importing countries will meet in London from 4 to 8 July to try and decide in particular what kind of regulatory machinery should be chosen.

From the Community's point of view, this first session was satisfactory, since the ideas which it had put forward dominated the talks and were the subject of numerous bilateral discussions at the same time as the Conference. Many countries, and not the least important, now seem fairly well disposed to follow the Community approach,⁴ and so there is a measure of optimism regarding the success of the second round of the Conference and the setting up of an international agreement to which the Community could accede.

Jute

2.2.39. The Preparatory Committee of the International Jute Council, meeting in Geneva from 24 to 27 May, reached a substantial measure of agreement on a number of matters which will be before the Council itself when it is first convened after the entry into force of the Jute Agreement.⁵ These include drafts for the Council's rules of procedure, a provisional agenda for the first Council meeting, a staffing plan, an administrative budget for the first year of the International Jute Organization, amounting to approximately USD 800 000, and financial rules.

Among the main outstanding questions are the working languages of the future Organization, the rank of its Executive Director, and the financial rules to govern operation of the administrative budget and the special account for project financing. The latter

¹ Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

² OJ L 354, 12.12.1980; Fourteenth General Report, point 579.

³ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.36; Bull. EC 3-1983, points 2.2.61 and 2.2.62.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.36.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.17; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.2.64.

raises questions of general interest since the Jute Agreement is the first international commodity agreement of its kind, focused almost entirely on projects in the areas of research and development, market promotion, and so on.

2.2.40. The Agreement is open for signature between 3 January and 30 June 1983.¹ The Community and its Member States have already completed all the necessary internal formalities for signature and notification of provisional application of the Agreement.

Natural rubber

2.2.41. The Community and its Member States took part in the sixth regular session of the International Natural Rubber Council and in the work of its various committees, which took place in Kuala Lumpur from 3 to 13 May. The Council dealt mainly with an examination of the buffer stock operations, the appointment of a new director for the buffer stock and a revision of the minimum and maximum indicative prices.

2.2.42. An examination of the rubber market situation has established that the sustained rise in prices since February has pushed the daily price indicator into the upper section of the neutral zone of the price range, where the buffer stock director is no longer authorized to intervene on the market. Since November 1981 an almost continuous operation of the buffer stock has been needed to improve the balance between supply and demand and halt the fall in market prices. The buffer stock has consequently accumulated 270 000 tonnes of natural rubber, financed by the members of the Agreement, whose financial contributions now amount to approximately USD 320 million.

Thirty months after the entry into force of the Agreement, an examination of the indicative price levels, or the outside limits of the price range, showed that conditions were not yet ripe for a rise in those prices.

2.2.43. As the current buffer stock director was due to leave on 15 June, the Council was called upon to give its opinion on the only candidate, an American, who had been

nominated to replace him. The producer countries unanimously insisted on the need to have a wider range of candidates to choose from, so the Council postponed the appointment of a new director and extended the present director's term of office until 15 September.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.44. Following a favourable opinion delivered by the Committee on Aid to Non-associated Developing Countries at its meeting on 27 April, the Commission took the following financing decisions on 19 May (under Article 930 of the budget — 1982 appropriation):

(i) Centro internacional de agricultura tropical (CIAT) (all non-associated developing countries) — cofinancing under the CGIAR² (research support): 1 600 000 ECU (total cost: 9 270 000 ECU);

(ii) Centro internacional de la papa (all non-associated developing countries) — cofinancing under the CGIAR: 900 000 ECU (total cost: 1 750 000 ECU);

(iii) International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) (all non-associated developing countries) — autonomous project: 1 700 000 ECU (total cost: 8 174 000 ECU);

(iv) International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (Icrisat) (all non-associated developing countries): 1 300 000 ECU (total cost: 1 700 000 ECU);

(v) Mozambique: Seed potato production — autonomous project — total cost of project: 8 180 000 ECU — EEC contribution: 7 100 000 ECU;

(vi) Angola: Integrated development of fisheries and fish processing in the province of Namibe (formerly Moçâmedes) — autonomous project — total cost of project: 8 010 000 ECU — EEC contribution: 6 500 000 ECU;

¹ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.17.

² Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.

(vii) India: Supply of fertilizers (autonomous project) — total cost of project: 45 million ECU — EEC contribution: 45 million ECU;

(viii) Non-associated developing countries and organizations eligible for EEC financial and technical assistance: Services of external experts (autonomous project) — total cost of the project: 4 million ECU — EEC contribution: advance of 1 million ECU on 4 million ECU.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.45. From 1 January to 31 May 205 admissible projects totalling 26 987 725 ECU were submitted to the Commission by 94 NGOs.

During the same period a grant totalling 5 436 965 ECU was committed for 41 projects.

In addition, 406 820 ECU was spent on cofinancing seven campaigns to inform the European public about development issues.

ACP States and OCTs

ACP-EEC Convention

Negotiations for a new convention

2.2.46. On 17 May the Commission presented to the Council a recommendation for a decision on the directives for negotiations with the States party to or in the process of acceding to the second Lomé Convention and other States that might wish to accede. This recommendation follows on the communication from the Commission in March on guidelines for the forthcoming ACP-EEC negotiations.¹

ACP-EEC meetings

2.2.47. Several important ACP-EEC meetings took place in Brussels during May: the Article 108 Committee on 18 May, a special meeting of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers devoted to fundamental problems of the

Stabex system under the current Convention on 19 May and a regular ACP-EEC Council of Ministers meeting on 19 and 20 May.

Article 108 Committee

2.2.48. The Article 108 Committee set up under the second Lomé Convention met at ministerial level and adopted a resolution setting out future guidelines and adjustments relating to the way in which EDF resources are used, covering both implementing procedures and methods and also guidelines for individual sectors. The major points raised were:

- (i) a desire for true regional cooperation (reference to the Lagos Plan and equivalent plans in the Caribbean and the Pacific);
- (ii) procedural bottlenecks;
- (iii) greater responsibility for the ACP in the execution and operation of projects;
- (iv) the importance of support for the maintenance of projects;² balance to be struck between maintenance and new investments;
- (v) importance of training, particularly in liaison with projects;
- (vi) energy, rural development, technical assistance;
- (vii) more original trade promotion methods.

Special meeting on Stabex of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers

2.2.49. At the special Stabex meeting on 19 May the ACP States' main interest was that they would receive additional financial contributions from the EEC to make up for the amounts not paid in 1980 and 1981.

However, the Community had clearly pointed out during the Libreville meeting of the Council of Ministers³ that the additional contribution it had decided on at that time would be by way of an exception and that it

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.8.

² Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.2.17.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.2.51 to 2.2.54.

did not intend adding to its commitments under the Convention. All that the Community was able to do, to the disappointment of the ACP States, was not to give a definitive response to their request for additional transfers and to state that it was premature to adopt a position on the prospects for the financial balance of Stabex for the whole Lomé II period.

Mr Edgard Pisani informed the Council of Ministers of the Commission's estimates for 1982; the total amount of transfer requests to be taken into consideration would be between 90 and 130 million ECU, which is within a range approaching equilibrium.

2.2.50. Beyond the immediate financial aspects, the basic questions relating to the operation of Stabex and its effects on the economies of the ACP States were the subject of a very interesting discussion, which threw light on the positions being taken up in relation to the forthcoming negotiations. The discussions also referred to the links between Stabex and world market problems. Differences of opinion were revealed between the Commission and the ACP regarding the utilization of transfers, in connection with the development or stabilization effects being sought after.

ACP-EEC Council of Ministers

2.2.51. The ACP-EEC Council of Ministers held a regular meeting on 19 and 20 May, with a full agenda containing items of different degrees of importance. The Council of Ministers took hardly any decisions of weight and tended not to go deeply into questions, even where substantive discussions were possible and could have cleared the ground for the negotiations.

The following points were dealt with:

- (i) import arrangements for certain products: the problem of yams has been settled; as regards bran and wheat residues, doubts remain on the ACP side regarding the effectiveness of the recent amendments to the rules in this field; the Commission still has to adopt a position regarding strawberries;
- (ii) available agricultural products: in answer to the ACP request for favourable

conditions (preferential prices, export credits, payment in currencies of their choice) for certain surplus agricultural products, the Community said that the CAP instruments did not allow this, but that it was continuing to give the matter some thought;

(iii) sugar: the Commission still has to adopt a position regarding the allocation of a quota to the Ivory Coast; the Council noted the draft joint statement concluding the review laid down in the Sugar Protocol (the procedure will be completed in the very near future);

(iv) Stabex: the Community said that it was unlikely that any new products could be added during the life of Lomé II, particularly in view of the financial difficulties affecting the system;

(v) application of Sysmin and achievements and basic problems in the development of mining: Mr Edgard Pisani made a statement and announced the forthcoming submission of proposals for mining strategies;

(vi) agricultural cooperation: it was decided to set up the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation—to be located at Wageningen, the Netherlands, with a branch office in Brussels—and to appoint its director (an ACP national);

(vii) southern Africa: numerous ACP participants spoke on this point; the Community refused, for formal reasons, to participate in a joint resolution, in spite of its sympathy for the concern expressed by the ACP States;

(viii) situation of ACP students in EEC Member States: no change in the Community's position, which is that it is not responsible for the matter and asks the ACP States to deal with the question on a bilateral basis;

(ix) Unctad VI: information on the Community's general guidelines;

(x) cultural cooperation: this was the first time the topic had been dealt with officially, under item C (namely just discussion, without any preparatory positions or conclusions);

(xi) negotiations for the conclusion of a new convention: these are due to begin around 20 September;

(xii) next meeting of the EEC-ACP Council of Ministers under Lomé II: to take place in Fiji in April/May 1984.

European Development Fund

2.2.52. In May the Commission took decisions involving the allocation of fifth EDF resources totalling 36 230 516 ECU to finance projects and programmes and emergency aid operations within its purview in the following sectors:

	ECU
Road infrastructure	8 665 000
Mining (research)	3 640 000
Small and medium-sized enterprises	5 000 000
Agriculture	11 689 516
Stockfarming	1 300 000
Training	2 055 000
Education	1 181 000
Emergency aid	2 700 000
	36 230 516

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Preparations for Unctad VI

2.2.53. On 24 and 25 May the Council examined the remaining outstanding issues in connection with the Community's guidelines for Unctad VI, which will open in Belgrade on 6 June,¹ and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the guidelines.

2.2.54. The preparations for Unctad VI were also the subject of a resolution passed by Parliament on 20 May.²

World Food Council

2.2.55. The Community took part from 10 to 13 May in the preparations in Rome for

the ninth meeting of the World Food Council, which is to be held at ministerial level in New York from 27 to 30 June.

The various aspects of world food security were discussed at this meeting, in particular:

(i) the food trends, strategies and priorities in the developing regions (Asia, Africa and Latin America);

(ii) the importance of increasing the developing countries' trade in agricultural products;

(iii) the need to build up reserves belonging to the developing countries and the improvement of multilateral cooperation.

These various issues will be discussed in depth at the ministerial meeting.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Council

2.2.56. Meeting on 26 May, the GATT Council approved the terms of reference of the panel set up to examine the United States complaint concerning the tariff preferences applied by the Community to citrus fruit imports. It also discussed the aspects of the follow-up to last November's ministerial meeting³ concerning trade in counterfeit goods, trade in high-technology products and the question of exchange-rate fluctuations and their effect on trade. Lastly, the Community raised questions concerning the United States Government's proposal to replace the DISC legislation.

Committee on Government Procurement

2.2.57. At its meeting on 25 and 26 May the Committee on Government Procurement concluded its review of statistics relating to the first year of operation of the Government Procurement Code (1981) and continued to prepare for the negotiations—provided for under Article IX.6 of the Code—

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.33.

² OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

³ Bull. EC 11-1982, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3 and 3.4.1.

which will formally open in November, with a view to broadening and improving the Code.

The Committee agreed to give the go-ahead to Israel's request to accede to the Code, making it the first country to do so since its entry into force.

Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures

2.2.58. The GATT Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures held a further meeting¹ on 18 and 19 May.

It continued the discussions on the report of the panel set up to examine the claim by the United States regarding Community subsidies on wheat flour exports but failed to reach any conclusion.

The Committee also examined the Community's request for conciliation in respect of subsidized sales of wheat flour on the Egyptian market by the United States; however, this procedure did not produce any results, so the Committee, in accordance with the dispute-settlement provisions, set up a panel to examine the Community complaint.

Lastly, the Committee, in pursuance of the ministerial decision, agreed to invite interested parties which had not yet acceded to the Code to join with it in examining any obstacles which might impede their accession.

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

2.2.59. At a meeting of the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade held on 17 and 18 March the Community participated in a discussion of improved procedures for the exchange of information between signatories on proposed new technical standards. Three recommendations were adopted relating *inter alia* to the time when a proposed regulation should be notified to GATT and the normal time limit for comments on notifications, which becomes 60 days.

2.2.60. The regular meeting of the Committee was preceded by the second meeting of officials from national and Community inquiry points.

Working Party on Structural Adjustment

2.2.61. The meeting of 27 May was devoted to an examination of the experience of structural adjustment of individual Contracting Parties. On this occasion it was the turn of the Community and its Member States to present their contributions.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Council

2.2.62. The annual meeting of the OECD Council at ministerial level was held in Paris on 9 and 10 May.² The Commission was represented by Mr Ortoli and Mr Haferkamp.

The broad background to the discussions was the economic recovery which now seems to be under way, albeit with varying intensity. The Council, recognizing the close link between trade, indebtedness and adjustment, felt that continued recovery should enable debt problems to be resolved in a trade-expansionary way and that debtor countries should be assured of adequate finance at the same time as being expected to implement determined internal adjustment policies. Ministers agreed that the economic recovery should provide favourable conditions for a relaxation and progressive dismantling of trade restrictions.

In the context of that recovery, Ministers also expected that economic and social progress would gain momentum in the developing countries (increased exports and higher commodity prices), though aid would continue to be essential.

Following an examination of the development of East-West economic relations, Ministers agreed that trade and credit flows should be guided by market forces and that governments should exercise financial prudence. OECD would continue to review East-West economic relations.

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.58.

² Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.2.38.

With regard to macroeconomic policies, Ministers agreed that their countries should aim for sustainable non-inflationary growth and higher employment. They noted that significant results had already been achieved in a large number of OECD countries and that the countries in question now had greater scope for increasing production.

Mr Ortoli, speaking on behalf of the Community, stressed the need for greater exchange-rate stability and emphasized the positive role of the European Monetary System in this connection. He also referred to the Community's efforts to complete its internal market and thereby ensure that its economies operated more harmoniously.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.63. In an exchange of notes on 19 and 22 April the Government of the Republic of

San Marino established a Mission to the European Communities, appointing Mr Raffaele Giardi, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, as chargé d'affaires *ad interim* pending the accreditation of an ambassador. This brings the number of diplomatic missions to 123.

The President of the Council and the President of the Commission received Their Excellencies Mr Mohamed Hassan Ali (Sultanate of Oman), Mr Ho Joong Choi (Republic of Korea), Mr Manzoor Ahmed Choudhury (People's Republic of Bangladesh) and Mr Samir El-Khoury (Lebanese Republic), who presented their letters of credence as Heads of Mission of their respective countries to the European Communities with effect from 25 May.

The new ambassadors succeed Mr Ahmed Macki (Oman), Mr Kun Park (Korea), Mr Faruq A. Choudhury (Bangladesh) and Mr Joseph Donato (Lebanon).

3. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Preliminary draft budget for 1984

2.3.1. On 11 May the Commission adopted the preliminary draft of the general budget of the European Communities for 1984. In this budget, the Commission hopes to maintain the momentum launched with the implementation of the objectives set out in its May mandate report and strengthen and extend this process so as to achieve a better balance between Community policies. The Commission has sought to reconcile these aims with the budgetary constraints on the Member States, while also having due re-

gard to the ceiling on Community own resources from VAT. It regards the 1984 budget as the last 'credible' budget which it will be possible to present within the existing limits on these resources.

2.3.2. Appropriations for commitments total 28 620 million ECU and those for payments total 25 528 million ECU. Total own resources are estimated at 26 200 million ECU, which leaves a margin of about 665 million ECU.

The increase over the 1983 budget, as amended by supplementary and amending budget No 1/83,¹ is 17.7% for commitments and 11.5% for payments.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1983, points 2.3.1 to 2.3.6 and 2.4.8.

The rate of increase for non-compulsory expenditure is 34.22% for commitments and 13.81% for payments. The maximum rate of increase in non-compulsory expenditure¹ calculated by the Commission in accordance with the Treaty is 11.6%.

2.3.3. The Commission is alarmed by the present rate of growth in agricultural expenditure reflected in these expenditure estimates. It stands by its policy objective that, over a number of years, expenditure under the EAGGF Guarantee Section should grow more slowly than potential own resources, and considers its price proposals for 1983/84, particularly those involving participation by producers, a decisive advance towards this goal.

Expenditure

2.3.4. The Commission's preliminary draft budget for 1984 is the first concrete implementation of Mr Thorn's pledge, in his address to Parliament last February,² to double the value of the Community's structural funds in real terms over the next five years. Like Parliament and the Council, the Commission is convinced that the fight against unemployment is still the first priority for joint action. The Community's support for the struggle against industrial decline by stimulating productive investment is essential if Europe is to emerge from the economic crisis. The Commission considers that the following lines of action must be pursued and extended — modernization of the means of production, efforts in the field of innovation, research and development, independence of energy supplies and transport infrastructure.

EAGGF Guarantee Section

2.3.5. The Commission's estimate of the cost of supporting agricultural markets, on the basis of the existing rules, is 16 500 million ECU, an increase of 17.4% over this year's figure. The Commission is aware of the need to keep spending on agriculture under control and is currently studying new proposals to this end. They will be tabled shortly, whatever the trend of actual expenditure.

Structural funds

2.3.6. The structural funds have a particularly important role to play in the fight against unemployment, especially among young people, and so substantial increases are planned for the Social and Regional Funds.

Appropriations for the Social Fund stand at 2 400 million ECU for commitments and 1 550 million ECU for payments, up by 41.5% and 14.8% respectively on 1983. They include 1 900 million ECU in commitments and 920 million ECU in payments (increases of 127.5% and 43.5%) for measures to assist young people to find jobs.

Appropriations for the Regional Fund total 2 500 million ECU for commitments and 1 500 million ECU for payments, up by 24.4% and 19.1% respectively on this year.

Other policies

2.3.7. The Commission is proposing substantial appropriations for a number of new measures in energy and research designed to reinforce the Community's independence in energy supplies and the competitiveness of its industries. It is presenting proposals for the development of advanced technology in data processing and telecommunications and is also proposing new initiatives in its policies on coal and on energy investment. The Commission also intends to make a decisive advance in transport policy, chiefly by launching an infrastructure policy.

The Commission's budgetary proposals in the various sectors are as follows:

- (i) estimated expenditure on energy is 773 million ECU for commitments and 386 million ECU for payments, increases of 528% and 278.4% respectively;
- (ii) proposed R & D appropriations total 1 056 million ECU in commitments (an increase of 142.3%) and 595 million ECU in payments (an increase of 43.1%);

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.3.1.

² Programme of the Commission for 1983-84.

Table 3 — *Community expenditure by sector*
Appropriations for commitments

	1983 budget ¹		1984 preliminary draft budget		Change (2/1)	
	1	%	2	%	3	%
I. Section III B — Commission (operating appropriations)						
<i>A. Support for agricultural markets</i>						
• EAGGF Guarantee (Ch. 10 to 29)						
Total A	14 050 000 000	57.76	16 500 000 000	57.65	+ 2 450 000 000	+ 17.44
<i>B. Agricultural structures</i>						
• EAGGF Guidance (Ch. 30 to 33)						
	759 400 000	3.12	733 500 000	2.56	— 25 900 000	— 3.41
• Specific measures (Ch. 33)						
	55 129 950	0.23	56 258 000	0.20	+ 1 128 050	+ 2.05
Total B	814 529 950	3.35	789 758 000	2.76	— 24 771 950	— 3.04
<i>C. Fisheries (Ch.40 to 46)</i>						
Total C	91 792 000	0.38	171 494 000	0.60	+ 79 702 000	+ 86.83
<i>D. Regional</i>						
• Regional Fund (Ch. 50 and 51)						
	2 010 000 000	8.26	2 500 000 000	8.74	+ 490 000 000	+ 24.38
• EMS (Ch. 52)						
	200 000 000	0.82	200 000 000	0.70	—	—
• Supplementary measures (UK) (Ch. 53)						
	692 000 000	2.84	—	—	— 692 000 000	—
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 54 and 55)						
	26 800 000	0.11	45 850 000	0,16	+ 19 050 000	+ 71.08
Total D	2 928 800 000	12.04	2 745 850 000	9.59	— 182 950 000	— 6.25
<i>E. Social</i>						
• Social Fund (Ch. 60, 61 and 62)						
	1 696 500 000	6.97	2 400 000 000	8.39	+ 703 500 000	+ 41.47
• Miscellaneous Ch. 64, 65, 68 and 69)						
	95 605 000	0.39	171 772 000	0.60	+ 76 167 000	+ 79.67
• Education and culture (Ch. 63 and 67)						
	16 341 000	0.07	19 022 000	0.07	+ 2 681 000	+ 16.41
• Environment and consumers (Ch. 66)						
	12 690 000	0.05	21 064 000	0.07	+ 8 374 000	+ 65.99
Total E	1 821 136 000	7.49	2 611 858 000	9.13	+ 790 722 000	+ 43.42

F. Research, energy, industry and transport

• Energy (Ch. 70 and 71)	723 835 000	2.98	772 585 000	2.70	+ 48 750 000	+ 6.73
• Research and investment (Ch. 72 and 73)	436 053 000	1.79	1 056 582 000	3.69	+ 620 529 000	+ 142.31
• Information and innovation (Ch. 75)	12 510 000	0.05	38 760 000	0.14	+ 26 250 000	+ 209.83
• Industry and internal market (Ch. 77)	39 406 000	0.16	69 223 000	0.24	+ 29 817 000	+ 75.67
• Transport (Ch. 78)	16 450 000	0.07	106 950 000	0.37	+ 90 500 000	+ 550.15

Total F	1 228 254 000	5.05	2 044 100 000	7.14	+ 815 846 000	+ 66.42
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G. Refunds and reserves

• Refunds to the Member States (Ch. 80)	1 014 622 000	4.17	1 074 468 000	3.75	+ 59 846 000	+ 5.90
• Other refunds (Ch. 82 and 86)	108 681 757	0.45	69 105 794	0.24	- 39 575 963	- 36.41
• Financial mechanism (Chap. 81)	token entry	—	token entry	—	—	—
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 79, 83, 84 and 85)	token entry	—	token entry	—	—	—
• Reserves (Ch. 101 and 102)	5 000 000	0.02	5 000 000	0.02	—	—

Total G	1 128 303 757	4.64	1 148 573 794	4.01	+ 20 270 037	+ 1.80
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H. Development cooperation and non-member countries

• EDF (Ch. 90 and 91)	token entry	—	token entry	—	—	—
• Food aid (Ch. 92)	557 950 000	2.29	569 000 000	1.99	+ 11 050 000	+ 1.98
• Cooperation with non-associated developing countries (Ch. 93)	248 935 000	1.01	323 532 000	1.13	+ 74 597 000	+ 29.97
• Specific and exceptional measures (Ch. 94 and 95)	92 045 000	0.39	167 470 000	0.59	+ 75 425 000	+ 81.94
• Cooperation with Mediterranean countries (Ch. 96)	160 512 000	0.66	192 000 000	0.67	+ 31 488 000	+ 19.62
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 97, 98 and 99)	50 125 900	0.21	59 060 000	0.21	+ 8 934 100	+ 17.82

Total H	1 109 567 900	4.56	1 311 062 000	4.58	+ 201 494 100	+ 18.16
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Total Section III B	23 172 383 607	95.26	27 322 695 794	95.46	+ 4 150 312 187	+ 17.91
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II. Section III A — Commission

(staff and administrative appropriations)

748 404 800	3.08	860 097 570	3.01	+ 111 692 770	+ 14.92
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Commission total

23 920 788 407	98.34	28 182 793 364	98.47	+ 4 262 004 957	+ 17.82
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III. Sections I, II, IV and V — Other institutions

404 814 778	1.66	437 052 024	1.53	+ 32 237 246	+ 7.96
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Grand total

24 325 603 185	100.00	28 619 845 388	100.00	+ 4 294 242 203	+ 17.65
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¹ Including supplementary and amending budget No 1/83.

Table 4 — *Community expenditure by sector*
Appropriations for payments

	1983 budget ¹		1984 preliminary draft budget		Change (2/1)	
	1	%	2	%	3	%
I. Section III B — Commission (operating appropriations)						
<i>A. Support for agricultural markets</i>						
• EAGGF Guarantee (Ch. 10 to 29)						
Total A	14 050 000 000	61.36	16 500 000 000	64.63	+ 2 450 000 000	+ 17.44
<i>B. Agricultural structures</i>						
• EAGGF Guidance (Ch. 30 to 33)						
	597 120 000	2.61	647 810 000	2.54	+ 50 690 000	+ 8.49
• Specific measures (Ch. 38)						
	54 062 950	0.24	49 812 370	0.19	- 4 250 580	- 7.86
Total B	651 182 950	2.84	697 622 370	2.73	+ 46 439 420	+ 7.13
<i>C. Fisheries (Ch. 40 to 46)</i>						
Total C	84 392 000	0.37	116 994 000	0.46	+ 32 602 000	+ 38.63
<i>D. Regional</i>						
• Regional Fund (Ch. 50 and 51)						
	1 259 000 000	5.50	1 500 000 000	5.88	+ 241 000 000	+ 19.14
• EMS (Ch. 52)						
	200 000 000	0.87	200 000 000	0.78	—	—
• Supplementary measures (UK) (Ch. 53)						
	692 000 000	3.02	—	—	- 692 000 000	—
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 54 and 55)						
	26 800 000	0.12	42 450 000	0.17	+ 15 650 000	+ 58.40
Total D	2 177 800 000	9.51	1 742 450 000	6.83	- 435 350 000	- 19.99
<i>E. Social</i>						
• Social Fund (Ch. 60, 61 and 62)						
	1 350 000 000	5.90	1 550 000 000	6.07	+ 200 000 000	+ 14.81
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 64, 65, 68 and 69)						
	95 325 000	0.42	171 086 000	0.67	+ 75 761 000	+ 79.48
• Education and culture (Ch. 63 and 67)						
	16 341 000	0.07	19 022 000	0.07	+ 2 681 000	+ 16.41
• Environment and consumers (Ch. 66)						
	13 590 000	0.06	15 914 000	0.06	+ 2 324 000	+ 17.10
Total E	1 475 256 000	6.44	1 756 022 000	6.88	+ 280 766 000	+ 19.03

F. Research, energy, industry and transport							
• Energy (Ch. 70 and 71)	711 658 000	3.11	385 900 000	1.51	-	325 758 000	- 45.77
• Research and investment (Ch. 72 and 73)	415 631 000	1.82	594 695 000	2.33	+	179 064 000	+ 43.08
• Information and innovation (Ch. 75)	11 360 000	0.05	34 175 000	0.13	+	22 815 000	+ 200.84
• Industry and internal market (Ch. 77)	45 156 000	0.20	66 953 000	0.26	+	21 797 000	+ 48.27
• Transport (Ch. 78)	14 450 000	0.06	33 950 000	0.13	+	19 500 000	+ 134.95
Total F	1 198 255 000	5.23	1 115 673 000	4.37	-	82 582 000	- 6.89
G. Refunds and reserves							
• Refunds to the Member States (Ch. 80)	1 014 622 000	4.43	1 074 468 000	4.21	+	59 846 000	+ 5.90
• Other refunds (Ch. 82 and 86)	108 681 757	0.47	69 105 794	0.27	-	39 575 963	- 36.41
• Financial mechanism (Ch. 81)	token entry	—	token entry	—		—	—
• Divers (Ch. 79, 83, 84 and 85)	—	—	—	—		—	—
• Reserves (Ch. 101 and 102)	5 000 000	0.02	5 000 000	0.02		—	—
Total G	1 128 303 757	4.93	1 148 573 794	4.50	+	20 270 037	+ 1.80
H. Development cooperation and non-member countries							
• EDF (Ch. 90 and 91)	token entry	—	token entry	—		—	—
• Food aid (Ch. 92)	557 950 000	2.44	569 000 000	2.23	+	11 050 000	+ 1.98
• Cooperation with non-associated developing countries (Ch. 93)	143 935 000	0.62	196 132 000	0.77	+	52 197 000	+ 36.26
• Specific and exceptional measures (Ch. 94 and 95)	89 045 000	0.39	164 170 000	0.64	+	75 125 000	+ 84.37
• Cooperation with Mediterranean countries (Ch. 96)	136 457 000	0.60	165 573 000	0.65	+	29 116 000	+ 21.34
• Miscellaneous (Ch. 97, 98 and 99)	50 125 900	0.22	59 060 000	0.23	+	8 934 100	+ 17.82
Total H	977 512 900	4.27	1 153 935 000	4.52	+	176 422 100	+ 18.05
Total Section III B	21 742 702 607	94.96	24 231 270 164	94.92	+	2 488 567 557	+ 11.45
II. Section III A — Commission (staff and administrative appropriations)							
	748 404 800	3.27	860 097 570	3.37	+	111 692 770	+ 14.92
Commission total	22 491 107 407	98.23	25 091 367 734	98.29	+	2 600 260 327	+ 11.56
III. Sections I, II, IV and V — Other institutions							
	404 814 778	1.77	437 052 024	1.71	+	32 237 246	+ 7.96
Grand total	22 895 922 185	100.00	25 528 419 758	100.00	-	2 632 497 573	+ 11.59

¹ Including supplementary and amending budget No 1/83.

Table 5 — *Own resources and other revenue*

Revenue	1983 budget	1984 preliminary draft budget	Change (%)
Agricultural levies	1 558 500 000	2 000 000 000	+ 28.33
Sugar and isoglucose levies	1 013 220 000	996 680 000	- 1.63
Customs duties	7 574 500 000	7 748 000 000	+ 2.29
VAT	11 052 451 611	14 453 911 658	} + 28.74
Financial contributions	175 139 189	—	
Available surpluses	1 337 370 000	token entry	—
Miscellaneous revenue	184 741 385	329 828 100	+ 78.54
Total	22 895 922 185	25 528 419 758	+ 11.50

¹ Including supplementary and amending budget No 1/83.

(iii) proposed appropriations for transport are 107 million ECU for commitments and 34 million ECU for payments, increases of 550.2% and 135% respectively;

(iv) proposed appropriations for development aid total 1311 million ECU in commitments and 1154 million ECU in payments, representing an increase of about 18% over this year.

Budgetary problems

2.3.8. The Commission's proposals for Community solutions to the problems underlying supplementary and amending budget No 1/83 concern both the way the Commission is financed¹ and the development of non-agricultural common policies. Hence the Commission is putting forward new proposals to this end in its preliminary draft budget.

The Commission considers that the supplementary measures in favour of the United Kingdom no longer provide an adequate response to this problem; until a permanent solution can be found, it is recommending a special increase in Community policies of benefit to that country. The budget headings that could be used for this purpose include youth employment, investment in the coal industry, transport infrastructure (for all of

which the Commission has already recommended appropriations) and special energy measures.

Resources

2.3.9. Forecasts of available own resources for 1984 suggest an increase of about 6.51% over this year's figure. Assuming that expenditure rises by 11.50% and given that available surpluses from 1981 and 1982 will be exploited, the amount to be covered by VAT own resources will rise by 28.74%. In view of the expected size of the VAT base, the VAT rate required will rise from 0.79% to 0.96%, leaving a net margin of about 665 million ECU.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 show revenue and expenditure in the preliminary draft budget for 1984.

Three-year financial forecasts 1984-85-86

2.3.10. As required by the Council Decision of 21 April 1970 concerning financial forecasts covering several years,² the Com-

¹ Points 1.2.1 *et seq.* and 2.3.18.

² OJ L 94, 28.4.1970.

mission accompanied its preliminary draft budget with a financial forecast for the three subsequent years.

The main features and principle conclusions of the forecasts for 1984-86 may be summarized as follows.

Economic outlook

2.3.11. The growth in Community GDP is estimated at about 2.5% per year in volume terms and 9.5 to 10% in value terms, with the general level of price increases averaging about 7% a year. A relatively high level of unemployment is likely to continue.

General outline

2.3.12. The trend of expenditure and revenue for 1985 and 1986 reflects the Commission's intentions as set out in the general policy introduction to the preliminary draft budget for 1984 and the explanatory memorandum to the draft decision on own resources of 5 May 1983.¹

Like Parliament and the Council, the Commission is convinced that the fight against unemployment is still the main priority for joint action. The main targets for 1985 and 1986 will have to be:

(a) continued and more determined efforts to achieve the objectives of the report on the mandate of 30 May 1980.

If the budgetary authority accepts the Commission's proposals, the increase in EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure can be kept to more or less the same rate as own resources.

The promotion of employment and investment, efforts to achieve convergence and the wish to redress budgetary imbalances will mean a considerable increase in expenditure on research, innovation and structural improvement, an increase which, as Mr Thorn stated in his programme address to Parliament on 8 February, will amount to a doubling in real terms over five years;

(b) the inclusion of the EDF in the budget (1985);

(c) from 1985, the accession of Spain and Portugal;

(d) increases — and diversification — in own resources.

Conclusions

2.3.13. In terms of appropriations for commitments, expenditure will rise from 28 620 million ECU in 1984 to about 35 700 million ECU in 1985 and 42 500 million ECU in 1986.

The corresponding appropriations for payments will rise from 25 529 million ECU in 1984 to about 30 200 million ECU in 1985 and 34 000 million ECU in 1986.

2.3.14. If resources remain subject to existing limits (1% of VAT), they will therefore prove inadequate. The shortfall will be 1 900 million ECU in 1985 and 3 260 million ECU in 1986 (corresponding to VAT rates of 1.12% in 1985 and 1.18% in 1986). It could be even greater if the grip on expenditure is slackened or the situation on agricultural markets is unfavourable.

The aim of the draft decision on the future financing of the Community, transmitted to the Council on 5 May, is to provide the extra resources required while at the same time helping to achieve a better balanced budget.¹

Revenue and expenditure account for 1982

2.3.15. On 26 May the Commission adopted the revenue and expenditure account, the balance sheet and the analysis of financial management for 1982; these have now been sent to the budgetary authority in accordance with the Financial Regulation.²

The year's operations gave rise to a surplus of 825.24 million ECU, which will be entered as revenue for 1983. The revenue and expenditure shown in the accounts are given in Tables 9 and 10.

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

² OJ L 356, 31.12.1977.

Table 6 — Rates of increase for revenue and expenditure and consequent available margin, 1984-86, on the basis of the central assumption (for the EAGGF Guarantee Section)

	1984	1985	1986
Percentage increase			
• In expenditure			
— appropriations for commitments	+ 17.7	+ 24.8 ¹	+ 18.9
— appropriations for payments	+ 11.5	+ 18.2	+ 12.7
• In revenue ²	+ 7.0	+ 8.0	+ 8.7
Available margin within the 1% of VAT limit (million ECU — heavily rounded)	+ 670	- 1 900	- 3 260

¹ Figure greatly increased by inclusion of the EDF in the budget and enlargement.² Excluding the surplus of 1 337 million ECU for 1983.Table 7 — Three-year financial forecasts 1984-85-86
Appropriations for commitments

Sectors	Appropriations for commitments			
	1983	1984	1985	1986
<i>million ECU</i>				
Expenditure				
1. EAGGF Guarantee Section (Titles 1 and 2 B)	14 050.0	16 500.0	17 800	19 300
2. Fisheries and marine policy (Chapters 40 to 46 B)	91.8	171.5	180	194
3. Structural expenditure				
• EAGGF Guidance Section (Chapters 30 to 33 B)	759.4	733.5	866	925
• Social Fund (Chapters 60 to 62 B)	1 696.5	2 400.0	3 000	3 600
• Regional Fund (Chapters 50 and 51 B)	2 010.0	2 500.0	3 070	3 780
• Interest subsidies (Chapter 52 B)	200.0	200.0	200	200
• Supplementary measures for the United Kingdom (Chapter 53 B)	692.0	—	—	—
• Mediterranean programmes (Chapter 55 B)	8.0	10.0	675	810
4. Research (Chapters 72 and 73 B)	436.1	1 056.6	1 100	1 270
5. Energy, industry and transport (Chapters 70, 71, 75, 77 and 78 B)	792.2	987.5	1 370	1 820
6. Development cooperation (Chapters 92 to 99 B)	1 109.6	1 311.1	2 450	3 350
7. Miscellaneous (Chapters 38, 54 and 63 to 69 B)	198.3	303.8	336	346
8. Administrative expenditure				
• Commission (Part A)	748.6	860.1	930	1 000
• Other institutions	404.8	437.1	470	510
9. Refunds to Member States	1 128.3	1 148.6	1 260	1 360
10. Enlargement	—	—	2 000	4 000
Grand total (rounded)	24 325.6	28 619.8	35 707 35 700	42 465 42 460

Table 8 — *Three-year financial estimates 1984-85-86*
Expenditure and resources

million ECU

Sectors	Appropriations for payments			
	1983	1984	1985	1986
A. Expenditure				
1. EAGGF Guarantee Section (Titles 1 and 2 B)	14 050.0	16 500.0	17 800	19 300
2. Fisheries and marine policy (Chapters 40 to 46 B)	84.4	117.0	157	146
3. Structural expenditure				
● EAGGF Guidance Section (Chapters 30 to 33 B)	612.6	647.8	833	890
● Social Fund (Chapters 60 to 62 B)	1 350.0	1 550.0	2 050	2 500
● Regional Fund (Chapters 50 and 51 B)	1 259.0	1 500.0	2 260	2 600
● Interest subsidies (Chapter 52 B)	200.0	200.0	200	200
● Supplementary measures for the United Kingdom (Chapter 53 B)	692.0	—	—	—
● Mediterranean programmes (Chapter 55 B)	8.0	10.0	400	650
4. Research (Chapters 72 and 73 B)	415.6	594.7	900	1 000
5. Energy, industry, transport (Chapters 70, 71, 75, 77 and 78 B)	782.6	521.0	880	1 160
6. Development cooperation (Chapters 92 to 99 B)	977.5	1 153.9	1 600	2 000
7. Miscellaneous (Chapters 38, 54 and 63 to 69 B)	182.5	288.3	305	318
8. Administrative expenditure				
● Commission (Part A)	748.6	860.1	930	1 000
● Other institutions	404.8	437.0	470	510
9. Refunds to Member States	1 128.3	1 148.6	1 201	1 250
10. Enlargement	—	—	200	500
11. Grand total (rounded)	22 895.9	25 528.4	30 186	34 024
B. Resources				
1. Miscellaneous revenue	1 522.0 ¹	329.8	360	390
2. Customs duties	7 575.0	7 748.0	8 100	8 700
3. Agricultural and sugar levies	2 572.0	2 996.7	3 480	3 770
4. Amount of expenditure (A.11) to be covered by VAT	11 226.9 ²	14 453.9	18 246	21 164
5. Grand total (B.1+B.2+B.3+B.4 = A.11)	22 895.9	25 528.4	30 186	34 024
6. 1% of VAT base	14 139.0 ³	15 122	16 350	17 900
7. Resources with 1% VAT limit	25 808.0	26 196.5	28 290	30 760
8. Difference B/7—A/11	2 912.1	668.1	- 1 896	- 3 264
9. Vat rate to cover grand total (%) (A.9 = B.4 ÷ B.6)	0.794	0.956	1.12	1.18

¹ Including 1982 surplus of 1 337 million ECU; true miscellaneous revenue: 185 million ECU.

² Including 175 million ECU as Greece's financial contribution.

³ Including 220 million ECU for Greece.

Table 9 — Use of appropriations for 1982

million ECU

	Total appropriations ¹		% used		Approps for payments carried over from 1981 to 1982	% used	Appropriations lapsing or available at 31.12.1982			
	For commitments	For payments	Commitments	Payments			Approps for commitments		Approps for payments	
							Lapsing	Available	Lapsing	Available
Commission										
<i>Operating appropriations</i>										
• Agriculture	14 129.0	13 969.4	92.5	91.6	469.2	59.5	887.4	167.2	937.8	430.4 ²
EAGGF Guarantee Section	(13 124.3)	(13 124.3)	(93.4)	(93.4)	(162.4)	(69.1)	(864.3)	(—)	(914.5)	(2.6)
EAGGF Guidance Section	(878.9)	(749.2)	(83.5)	(63.8)	(295.6)	(54.1)	(3.2)	(142.1)	(15.5)	(391.2)
Fisheries	(108.4)	(79.1)	(63.5)	(64.1)	(4.1)	(100.0)	(16.9)	(25.1)	(5.9)	(30.4)
• Social	1 683.2	1 119.9	95.9	81.0	156.4	94.4	0.6	67.7	2.6	218.4 ³
• Regional	2 158.1	1 303.6	95.3	85.3	77.5	100.0	17.6	84.6	17.6	174.4
• Energy	138.7	49.3	61.9	36.1	32.3	86.0	1.2	51.6	4.6	31.4
• Research and investment	510.3	371.5	87.2	85.7	61.6	83.0	5.5	59.8	5.6	58.1
• Industrial policy	76.9	40.4	32.1	22.8	13.0	96.4	0.2	51.9	0.7	31.0
• Transport	11.5	1.5	13.0	27.2	0.7	98.3	—	10.0	—	1.1
• Environment and consumer protection	13.3	10.8	94.8	21.7	3.0	96.8	0.1	0.6	0.2	8.3
• Development cooperation	1 153.4	945.3	78.0	63.3	258.5	72.7	59.3	194.5	72.4	345.3
Food aid	(503.6)	(503.6)	(99.8)	(85.5)	(110.7)	(99.2)	(0.9)	(—)	(1.8)	(72.3) ⁴
Non-associated developing countries	(289.7)	(177.6)	(50.4)	(34.0)	(14.7)	(98.3)	(0.1)	(143.6)	(0.4)	(117.1)
Specific and exceptional measures	(105.8)	(105.5)	(98.2)	(51.6)	(1.3)	(97.8)	(0.5)	(1.4)	(0.5)	(50.6)
Cooperation with Mediterranean countries	(209.5)	(113.8)	(49.0)	(8.8)	(131.6)	(47.5)	(57.4)	(49.5)	(69.1)	(103.8)
Miscellaneous	(44.8)	(44.8)	(99.2)	(95.9)	(0.2)	(5.0)	(0.4)	(—)	(0.6)	(1.5)
Subtotal	19 874.4	17 811.6	91.6	88.5	1 072.2	73.4	971.9	687.9	1 041.5	1 298.4

<i>Administrative appropriations</i>										
• Staff and administration	745.6	745.6	95.7	87.8	40.6	83.4	32.3	—	39.1	58.9
• Repayment of own resources collection costs	962.4	962.4	94.3	86.9	73.2	100.0	54.8	—	54.8	71.5
• Financial compensation to UK and Greece	161.4	161.4	99.5	72.0	23.8	100.0	0.7	—	0.8	44.5
• Supplementary measures in favour of UK	1 654.2	1 654.2	100.0	100.0	165.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
<i>Provisional appropriations</i>	403.7	284.6	—	—	—	—	403.7	—	284.6	—
Contingency reserve	(4.3)	(4.3)	—	—	—	—	(4.3)	—	(4.3)	—
Commission total	23 801.7	21 619.8	91.0	88.0	1 374.8	78.8	1 463.5	687.9	1 420.7	1 473.2
Non-diff. appropriations	17 960.4	17 960.4	93.1	90.9	929.9	78.9	1 241.5	—	1 311.1	511.0
Differentiated appropriations	5 841.3	3 659.4	84.4	73.3	444.9	78.6	222.0	687.9	109.6	962.2
Other institutions	374.5	374.5	93.5	80.8	29.2	66.3	24.2	—	34.0	47.8
Grand total	24 176.2	21 994.3	91.0	87.8	1 404.0	78.5	1 487.7	687.9	1 454.7	1 521.0

¹ Initial budget as amended by transfers of appropriations, plus commitment appropriations remaining from previous financial years and adjustments of commitments from previous years still to be settled.

² Including 120.1 million ECU of EAGGF Guidance Section appropriations for years prior to 1977.

³ Including 6.7 million ECU from 1976 for aid to the Friuli disaster area.

⁴ Including 47.0 million ECU paid as advances up to 31 December 1982.

Table 10 — 1982 revenue situation at 31 December 1982

ECU			
Heading	Revenue estimated in the budget	Actual revenue	Revenue as a % of estimates
Own resources			
— Agricultural levies	1 899 100 000	1 522 023 552	80.14
— Sugar and isoglucose levies	786 000 000	705 788 294	89.79
— Customs duties	6 939 000 000	6 815 316 508	98.22
— VAT resources	11 998 304 940	12 000 451 832	100.02
Total	21 622 404 940	21 043 580 186	97.32
Financial contributions	197 523 640	196 978 594	99.72
Surplus available			
— Surplus available from the previous financial year	token entry	—	—
— Balance of 1981 VAT own resources	token entry	(-) 141 933 635	—
— Corrections to balance of 1979 and 1980 own resources	—	65 596 641	—
Miscellaneous revenue	164 512 960	263 194 870	159.98
Total	21 984 441 540	21 427 416 656	97.47

Discharge for 1981

2.3.16. On 18 May Parliament gave the Commission a discharge for its implementation of the 1981 budget. Its decision was accompanied by a resolution containing its comments.¹ Parliament also gave a discharge for operations concerning the fourth and fifth EDFs in 1981.

2.3.17. On the same day Parliament adopted a decision concerning its own accounts for 1981.

Own resources

2.3.18. On 5 May, following the publication in February of a green paper on the future financing of the Community,² the Commission sent the Council and Parliament a communication on the extension and diversification of Community own resources,³ together with a draft decision.⁴

2.3.19. In its resolution of 18 May on the future development of the Community and

its financing,⁵ Parliament reminded the European Council, which will meet in Stuttgart in June, of its main political requests for the resolution of budgetary problems.

2.3.20. In the light of Parliament's opinion given last December,⁶ the Commission amended⁷ on 20 May its initial proposal⁸ to amend Regulation No 2891/77 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources. The main Commission proposal was that the Community's assets should be credited to accounts with financial institutions

¹ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² Bull. EC 1-1983, point 1.2.1 *et seq.*; COM(83)10 final.

³ Point 1.2.1 *et seq.*; COM(83)270 final.

⁴ OJ C 145, 3.6.1983.

⁵ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

⁶ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.3.5.

⁷ OJ C 146, 4.6.1983.

⁸ OJ C 231, 4.9.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.3.5.

instead of national treasuries. Other amendments dealt with what was to be done if no budget was adopted, adjustments consequent on a revision of the VAT resources base and interest on late payments.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans paid out

2.3.21. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made the following loans in May amounting to 116.05 million ECU:

Industrial loans

2.3.22. Industrial loans under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty totalled 115.75 million ECU and went to the following projects:

France

Electricité de France, Paris: construction of two coal-fired power stations.

Charbonnages de France, Paris: construction of a 600 MW coal-fired generating station at Carling.

Germany

Ruhrkohle AG, Essen: maintenance of output capacity in high-productivity pits.

Subsidized housing¹

2.3.23. Loans for the building of subsidized housing amounted to 80 000 ECU, all of which was for steelworkers.

Conversion loans

2.3.24. A conversion loan of 270 000 ECU was made to a credit institution in Germany for lending to small and medium-sized businesses.

Euratom

Loans raised

2.3.25. In May the Commission launched the third public Euratom issue on the French bond market. It was for FF 425 million, the equivalent of 62.3 million ECU. It was placed at par for a term of 10 years with an annual interest rate of 15%.

2.3.26. In May the Commission made a private placing of the equivalent in German marks of 35.2 million ECU, on behalf of Euratom.

EEC-NCI

Loans raised

2.3.27. The Commission made a public bond issue of HFL 200 million, the equivalent of 78.3 million ECU, with a term of 10 years. It was issued at 99% with an interest rate of 8.75%.

¹ Only payments made during the month are reported in this section. Decisions to grant loans were reported in the 'Employment, education and social policy' section at the time of the decision.

4. Institutional and political matters

European political cooperation

2.4.1. On 6 May the Ten issued the following statement on persons missing in Argentina:

'The Ten have noted with great sympathy the recent evolution within Argentina towards a return to constitutional rule.

They believe that in this context the question of human rights and the clarification of the fate of the missing people is of central importance.

The document issued by the military junta on 28 April cannot be accepted as a sufficient or final answer to the numerous representations to the Argentine Government made by the Ten asking for clarification of the fate of missing people. The Ten therefore continue to urge the Argentine Government to give satisfactory clarification.'

2.4.2. The Foreign Ministers held an informal meeting at Schloss Gymnich on 14 and 15 May. The political cooperation questions discussed were the CSCE, Afghanistan, Argentina and talks with China.

2.4.3. The Foreign Ministers also discussed political cooperation issues, including the situation in the Middle East and South Africa, after the 24 May Council meeting, when they expressed concern at escalation of violence in South Africa and Mozambique. They deplored the use of force as a means of achieving political ends and condemned any violation of a neighbouring country's sovereign and territorial rights in breach of international law.

2.4.4. In May Parliament adopted resolutions on Lebanon, the situation in the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war, diplomatic relations between Greece and Israel, the political situation in Uruguay, human rights throughout the world, repression in Poland, the reprisals in Chile following the demonstration in Santiago on 11 May, the Argentine junta's statement on 'disappearances' since the army last took power, and human rights in the Soviet Union.¹

European policy and relations between the institutions

European policy

Greenland

2.4.5. Following speeches by the Danish Foreign Minister and the Greenland Prime Minister, the Council, at its meeting of 24 and 25 May, stated that it was ready to begin negotiations on a new status for Greenland, without prejudice to the opinion of Parliament. Delegations also agreed that balanced solutions had to be found to three basic problems—fisheries, trade and financial aid.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine this question as a matter of priority and report to the June meeting.

Greek memorandum

2.4.6. At its 24 and 25 May meeting the Council agreed to speed up work on the Commission communication on the response to the Greek memorandum² so that the European Council could, as requested by the Greek Foreign Minister, Mr Ioannis Charalambopoulos, adopt general guidelines in Stuttgart in June.

Uniform electoral procedure

2.4.7. After receiving Parliament's favourable opinion³ the Council made a statement at its 24 and 25 May meeting on the next election of members of the European Parliament.

'1. After consulting the European Parliament, the Council has fixed the period 14 to 17 June 1984 as the dates for the next election of members of the European Parliament.

¹ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.13.

³ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

2. The Council welcomes the fact that next year the peoples of the States brought together in the Community will, for the second time, freely elect their representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage.

3. As in the first elections held in 1979, nationals of the Member States of the Community will vote in accordance with democratic procedures adopted nationally. However, the task, defined in the Treaties establishing the European Communities, of laying down a uniform electoral procedure applicable in all the Member States, remains essential. To this end the European Parliament has submitted a draft in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties. The Council will pursue its work on introducing a uniform electoral procedure for the elections which will take place in 1989.

4. The Council invites the citizens of the Member States of the Community to mark their interest in the task of European unification by participating actively in the elections. It notes that national legislations allow the vast majority of their nationals who live in the Community, though not in their countries of origin, to take part in the next elections. The Member States will cooperate to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote.

5. Within the framework of the construction of Europe the Council appeals to the Member States to make every effort, as far as possible, to fulfil the objective that all nationals of Member States should have the right to vote in the election of members of the European Parliament, either in their country of origin or in their country of residence.'

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament¹

Strasbourg: 16 to 20 May

2.4.8. The May part-session opened with what was virtually an extension of the special April sittings in Brussels devoted to social issues, particularly those raised by unemployment; the House considered ways and means of training young people for working life and the planned reform of the Social Fund.

The main feature of the subsequent proceedings was an in-depth appraisal of two issues held by the House to be fundamental, namely the matter of the budget and financing and the respect of human rights in the world. Following on logically from the second of these items, the debates under urgent procedure focused on relations with a number of countries where the human rights issue is crucial.

Present during the debates on the situation in the Middle East were Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition in Israel, and a delegation led by the President of the Lebanese Parliament.

New information technologies and training young people for working life

2.4.9. The rapporteur for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, Mrs Tove Nielsen (*Lib/DK*), set the scene by stating that the introduction and development of microelectronics would create more jobs than were lost and would help to improve the quality of life, provided action was taken in training and retraining, notably to ensure that young people under 18 received appropriate instruction and job experience.

Mr Achillefs Gerokostopoulos (*EPP/GR*) for his part, found it hard to believe that this

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 161, 20.6.1983, and the report of the proceedings is contained in OJ Annex 1-297. The political groups of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: *Soc* = Socialists; *EPP* = European People's Party — Christian Democratic Group; *ED* = European Democratic Group; *Com* = Communists and Allies; *Lib* = Liberals and Democrats; *EPD* = European Progressive Democrats; *Ind* = Group for the Technical Coordination and Defence of Independent Groups and Members; *NA* = Non-affiliated. The countries of origin are indicated as follows: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, GR = Greece, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

would be an effective answer to the problems of unemployment. In this he had the support of Mrs Mechthild von Alemann (*Lib/D*), who observed that education was usually out of touch with working life in the sense that young people were all too often being taught things of the past. Deploring the fact that the invasion of the new technologies had already caused a split in society, Mrs Paule Dupont (*Soc/F*) believed they could be a blessing or a curse depending on whether or not they were controlled by the consumers and the workers. Rebutting any negative view of the new technologies, Mr Nicolas Estgen (*EPP/L*) warned against any solution inspired by egalitarianism in education and instead urged the trade unions to encourage young people to take a positive attitude towards the information technologies. For Mr Derek Prag (*ED/UK*), what mattered most was to keep Europe competitive with the United States and Japan, which were both out in front in almost all fields of advanced technology.

In response to the concern expressed by the speakers, Mr Ivor Richard, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for employment, education and social affairs, stressed that vocational training for young people—on which the Commission had laid so much emphasis in its latest proposals—was an investment for the future even when it did not seem to lead to short-term benefits. In an avowedly 'brutally realistic' view he said there were no miracle solutions and, sharing the fears of certain speakers over the emergence of a dual society, concluded that 'any strategy for training and employment has to be rooted in local needs and local capacities'.

The Nielsen report was eventually adopted with a few amendments, notably one by Mr Guy Fernandez (*Com/F*) which emphasized the need for the widest possible access to vocational training for young people and the long-term unemployed.

Reform of the Social Fund

2.4.10. The report by Mr Giovanni Barbagli (*EPP/I*) echoed the Commission's concern for simplification and greater effective-

ness by proposing two criteria for selecting applications for training: the per capita gross domestic product of the regions concerned should be no more than 50% of the Community average and young people should account for at least 25% of the total unemployed. Another objective set by the report was to ensure that within a period of five years as many women as men had benefited from the subsidized projects. One means particularly recommended by the rapporteur was to grant premiums for recruiting young people between 18 and 25, women, handicapped people and those who had been unemployed for over six months.

Finding that Parliament and the Commission were largely of one mind, Mr Ivor Richard stressed the importance of this reform of the Fund, since it was 'the one financial instrument in the Community which has the most direct relevance to the burning problem of unemployment'.

Mr Louis Baillot (*Com/F*) contended that far from helping to combat unemployment the Commission's proposals merely accentuated the assistance, protection of national quotas and financial transfer aspects of the present Fund. Moreover, aid for recruitment was actually a direct aid to companies offering no assurance of real vocational training for job seekers. Mrs Johanna Maij-Weggen (*EPP/NL*) complained that only 33% of the Fund went to women.

Calling for a vigorous attack on unemployment among the young—but with no strict age limits—Mr Konstantinos Nikolaou (*Soc/GR*) wanted to see a reserve set aside for the less-favoured regions and urged that the Community contribution be raised from 55% to 60% for the six top priority regions. Mr Johan van Minnen (*Soc/NL*) evinced a certain disappointment—with a hint of resignation—over the budgetary resources available and believed that on those terms the reform of the Social Fund would do little if anything to solve the problem of unemployment. Agreeing that the resources of the Social Fund should be doubled, Mr Raphaël Chanterie (*EPP/B*) levelled his criticisms at the Member States for failing to keep people informed of projects aided by the Fund.

The Barbagli report was finally adopted by 183 votes to 7 with 2 abstentions. A number of amendments had been added, notably those by Mrs Raymonde Dury (*Soc/B*), which emphasized support for local initiatives and cooperative movements and quantified the Fund in budgetary terms (allocating it at least 10% of the total Community budget), and by Mrs Tove Nielsen (*Lib/DK*) and Mr Corentin Calvez (*Lib/F*) barring the Fund from any artificial rescue of non-viable companies, and urging it to facilitate a renewal of technology and management organization.

Financing the Community

2.4.11. The President of the Commission, Mr Gaston Thorn, presented the Commission's proposals on the future financing of the Community as being the only ones which could avoid formalizing the concept of the fair return in the budget or falling back on a multitude of non-budgetary solutions. Moreover, the proposal to remove the ceiling on own resources was tied to the requirement that the budget authority—the Council and Parliament—authorize each increase of 0.4 percentage point, the Council acting unanimously and Parliament by a majority of its members and three fifths of the votes cast. So, for the first time, Parliament would also have some say on the revenue side. Stressing how essential it was that the European Council, at its forthcoming meeting in Stuttgart, give the Community the resources for its policies, he announced that the Commission would be presenting key proposals at Stuttgart for telecommunications and biotechnology. Mr Tugendhat then rose to give more details of the Commission proposals and, in particular, to explain that the transitional diversification, i.e. modulation, of Community VAT, as proposed, was intended to reflect, on the revenue side, the present predominance of agriculture on the expenditure side.

For Mr Rudi Arndt (*Soc/D*), removing the ceiling on resources had to be linked to halting the production of structural agricultural surpluses, otherwise surplus revenue would simply pay for surplus production. Mr Ove

Fich (*Soc/DK*) and Mr Neil Balfour (*ED/UK*) both took the same line, contending that more action should be taken on expenditure, Mr Balfour welcoming the fact that for the first time the principle of Member States' capacity to pay had been taken into account.

This point was taken up by Mr Paolo Barbi (*EPP/I*), who, though recognizing that the agricultural indicator was to some extent a return to national financing, believed that the criteria of gross domestic product and European performance did reflect the principle of progressive taxation. The reaction of Mrs Carla Barbarella (*Com/I*) was also somewhat divided: the Commission had at last produced proposals but there was a danger that they might let in the principle of 'fair return'. Mr Louis Baillot (*Com/F*) maintained that the proposals simply sanctioned the fair return and penalized countries where agriculture played a major role in the economy in favour of rich, industrialized countries like the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom, even though, he added; the British were enjoying derogations from Community preference which were costing the Community budget FF 20 000 million a year.

Mrs Christiane Scrivener (*Lib/F*), however, welcomed a proposal which she felt attempted to deal with all the problems, while Mr Christian de la Malène (*EPD/F*) thought that it was not the budget that was unbalanced but the Community. He was also afraid that the agricultural indicator might jeopardize the principle of financial solidarity and introduce a kind of co-responsibility of the States. For Mr Henri Saby (*Soc/F*), what mattered most was to define the policies for which new resources were being sought, without jeopardizing economic and financial solidarity. Mr Tugendhat said he was much encouraged by what he had heard and pointed out that in its proposal the Commission had laid the emphasis on revenue; but it would be making proposals concerning expenditure for 1984.

With some slight amendments Parliament adopted the Arndt resolution on the future development of the Community and its financing. It approved the proposal to pierce

the 1% ceiling—ruling out any resort to the principle of fair return—but criticized the fact that, to remedy certain budgetary imbalances affecting Member States, the Commission was proposing that revenue be adjusted rather than action be taken on expenditure.

Human rights in the world

2.4.12. The rapporteur, Mr Gérard Israël (*EPD/F*), held that the Community had a moral duty to define a genuine human rights policy, in other words a broad consensus and a series of practical measures. Mr Israël proposed three basic rights which must be assured everywhere and in all circumstances throughout the world: the right to life, the right of human individuals to respect for their physical and moral integrity and the right to be judged by an independent court and to a fair trial. The Community could try to ensure that these rights were respected by embodying appropriate stipulations in its external relations, by insisting in the Lomé Convention that these rights must be respected and by allowing no economic advantages to States which violate them and by making sure that food aid reached only those populations which stand in need of it.

The Council President, Mr Alois Mertes, declared that the concept of sovereignty could no longer—since the Nuremberg judgment—restrict or block international surveillance and judgment of violations of human rights. All the international acts framed since 1945—the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Helsinki Final Act, the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms—reaffirmed the primacy of the right to self-determination of all peoples over national legislation. Since Helsinki, went on Mr Mertes, it was no longer possible to argue about interference in the internal affairs of a State when the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms was at stake.

Despite their political differences, said both Mrs Ien van den Heuvel (*Soc/NL*) and Mrs

Marlene Lenz (*EPP/D*), though in different words, the Ten could adopt common positions on cases of violation of human rights and bring pressure to bear on the offending countries. Mr James Moorhouse (*ED/UK*) felt that though publicity could have a positive effect, there must be no hesitation in using the economic weapon. Mr Sergio Segre (*Com/I*) criticized the Israël report as being no more than a generic and vague catalogue, and ill-timed too, when the document of the non-aligned countries was serving as the basis for the negotiations at the Madrid CSCE meeting. Mrs Simone Veil (*Lib/F*) found the method used in the report to be dangerous in that it was no more than a catalogue, incomplete and oversimplified, and did not lay down the basic principles. In an endeavour to prevent any encroachment on the internal affairs of the African States, Mr Pierre-Bernard Cousté (*EPD/F*) stressed that human rights and economic and social development were closely linked. Condemnation but understanding was also the concern of Mrs Marie-Jacqueline Desouches (*Soc/F*), who regarded underdevelopment as being at the root of many violations of human rights. Mr Jean Penders (*EPP/NL*) conceded that understanding and a flexible attitude towards practices involving fundamental freedoms were acceptable, but declared there could be no question of compromise on the right to respect of physical integrity, which was truly inalienable.

Complaining that the report was too selective, Mr Jacques Denis (*Com/F*) concentrated his fire on South Africa and declared that human rights were also being violated in the Community, particularly in Northern Ireland and the Federal Republic of Germany.

For Mr Gérard Fuchs (*Soc/F*), too, the South African regime was the ultimate evil.

A number of members gave explanations of their vote: Mrs Yvonne Théobald-Paoli (*Soc/F*) announced that she would vote for the report, which marked Parliament's concern for this vital issue; likewise, Mr Spyridon Plaskovitis (*Soc/GR*) said the report should be adopted despite its shortcomings; Mr Alfred Lomas (*Soc/UK*) and Mr Alexan-

dros Alvanos (*Com/GR*) said they would be voting against the report, Mr Lomas because the United States was not mentioned and the parallel between Nicaragua and Paraguay was insulting, Mr Alvanos because the Italians, the Germans and the British had no right to talk about human rights since they did not respect them.

The Israël report was finally adopted by 185 votes to 10 with 9 abstentions, the House emphasizing its condemnation in respect of certain countries, mitigating it in respect of others and urging the Community and the Member States to take appropriate action.

2.4.13. The House gave opinions on a number of Commission proposals, including:

(i) a Decision implementing the Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans under the New Community Instrument (NCI III) for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community, and on the results of the conciliation initiated with the Council on this proposal;¹

(ii) a Regulation laying down certain measures for the standardization and simplification of statistics on trade between Member States² and a Regulation introducing a specimen declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade;³

(iii) a Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to arrangements for the refund of VAT to taxable persons not established in Community territory;⁴

(iv) a Regulation amending the Regulations of 14 June 1971 and 21 March 1972 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to their families, and on the procedures for implementing them;⁵

(v) a Decision on the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic and on the commercial policy of the railways;⁶

(vi) a Regulation on the formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States;⁷

(vii) a Decision adopting an experimental Community action to stimulate the efficacy of the European Economic Community's scientific and technical potential;⁸

(viii) a Decision amending the Decision adopting a research and development programme (1982-85) in the raw materials sector.⁹

2.4.14. The House also passed resolutions on:

(i) preparations for the Williamsburg Summit: Parliament called on the European countries taking part unequivocally to defend a common position on the economic, trade and monetary problems under discussion. The Commission was urged to take fresh initiatives to establish a more stable international monetary system and to secure an agreement at world level on interest-rate policy;

(ii) combating the crisis in the European steel industry: having regard, in particular, to its resolution of 18 November 1982,¹⁰ the House regretted that the Commission reviewed the general objectives for steel only once every five years and urged the Commission to ensure better adherence to quotas once these had been fixed, in the light of the state of the market and actual production capacity. Mindful of the economic and social dimensions of the steel sector, but no less aware of the international implications of its changing position—and notably in relations with the United States—Parliament urged the Commission to take any necessary economic and social measures in favour of the steel industry without compromising the competitiveness of the steel processing firms;

(iii) the property of Community citizens in Greece: concerned over the retrospective na-

¹ Point 2.1.10.

² Point 2.1.19.

³ Point 2.1.42.

⁴ Point 2.1.52.

⁵ Point 2.1.66.

⁶ Point 2.1.148.

⁷ Point 2.1.147.

⁸ Point 2.1.156.

⁹ Point 2.1.161.

¹⁰ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

ture of the judgment of the Supreme Court of Greece declaring that non-Greek nationals and foreign companies may not own property in certain areas of the country and astonished at the injustice of the resulting confiscatory measures, the House deplored this discrimination between Greek and other Community citizens. It requested the governments of Member States whose citizens were affected to consider whether it would assist the Greek Government to clarify the position if they were to initiate complaints to the European Court of Human Rights;

(iv) a Community plan to enhance the employment potential of the less-favoured regions: following the special report of the Court of Auditors on job creation or maintenance in the granting of aid to regional investments,¹ the House recommended that various measures be taken in favour of indigenous industry and, above all, small and medium-sized businesses, the agriculture and agri-foodstuffs industries and craft trades, all of which played a decisive role in job creation;

(v) integrated development operations in Community regional policy: in expressing its support for the coordination within Member States of Community appropriations for regional policy, Parliament emphasized that such operations did not constitute a new financial instrument but raised hopes that the effectiveness of Community regional policy operations would be enhanced;

(vi) peripheral maritime regions and islands of the European Community: the House called on the Commission to draw up a non-quota programme for these regions to offset the handicaps inherent in peripherality such as higher costs, low incomes, poor housing and lack of medical, educational and cultural facilities as well as inadequate transport and communications, all of which greatly contribute to rising unemployment and declining population;

(vii) Community intervention in the Naples metropolitan area and in the inland areas of Campania and Basilicata devastated by the earthquake of 23 November 1980: the Commission was urged to step up Community

aid to these areas and include them in integrated development operations;

(viii) the effects of the recent floods in the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Luxembourg: the Commission was requested to introduce preventive measures to avoid similar disasters in future;

(ix) the consequences of the violent storms and serious floods which have recently occurred in France: the House called on the Commission to grant immediate aid to the regions affected;

(x) the persistent drought in certain regions of southern Italy: the Commission was criticized for not doing anything and was urged to take emergency measures;

(xi) the Sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), Belgrade, 6 June to 1 July: stressing the special interest that the Community had in maintaining good relations with the developing countries, Parliament considered that Unctad VI, 'one of a series of past and future international conferences', must work to improve relations between industrialized and developing countries in a framework of interdependence;

(xii) Stuttgart European Council, 6 and 7 June: the House urged the European Council to show a genuine political resolve to deal with all of the closely related issues before the meeting. The Heads of State or Government were also asked to define clearly the priority they intended to give to the strengthening of the internal market, the establishment of an industrial policy, the development of the European Monetary System, the launching of a European employment pact and the conclusion of the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal.

2.4.15. Under its budgetary responsibilities Parliament adopted on 18 May² a number

¹ OJ C 345, 31.12.1982.

² Point 2.3.16; OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.

of decisions and resolutions closing the procedure for giving discharges to the Community institutions and organs for 1981.

2.4.16. In the fields of political cooperation and human rights Parliament passed resolutions on:

(i) diplomatic relations between Greece and Israel: Greece being the only Member State which does not have full diplomatic relations with Israel, the House hoped to see the Greek Government establish normal relations with that country;

(ii) human rights in the Soviet Union: calling on the Soviet Government to honour its human rights obligations under the Helsinki Final Act, Parliament invited the governments of the 10 Member States to make clear to the Soviet Government by every available means the dangerous effect of Soviet internal policies on European Community public opinion, with the consequent damage to any chance of real East-West *détente*;

(iii) repression in Poland: concerned at the brutal repression of workers' demonstrations and peaceful movements, Parliament asked the Polish Government to recognize officially the free trade union Solidarnosc and urged the Council to lodge a vigorous protest with the Polish authorities in an endeavour to put an end to the present situation in Poland;

(iv) aid to Poland: the House urged the Commission and the Council to act on its resolution of 16 September 1982¹ on support for all forms of private aid to Poland and asked the Commission to ensure that the costs of transport were borne by the Community budget;

(v) situation in the Middle East: the House called on the Council to use all its influence to find a solution to the crisis in the Middle East so that children and young people were no longer the victims of political conflicts in that part of the world;

(vi) Lebanon: convinced that the establishment of full sovereignty over the entire country by the Lebanese Government was the primary prerequisite for a return to peace, Parliament urged the Commission to

continue to supply emergency aid to Lebanon for as long as it was needed;

(vii) the Iran-Iraq war and the resulting oil pollution of the Gulf: appealing to the warring parties to agree on a ceasefire so that everything be done to halt this environmental catastrophe, the House called on the Commission to offer the Gulf States assistance in combating and containing the oil pollution;

(viii) the reprisals in Chile following the demonstration of 11 May in Santiago: the House condemned the repressive policies of the Chilean Government and called on the Council to take immediately all possible steps to put an end to these arbitrary arrests and violations of human rights;

(ix) the statement by the Argentine military junta concerning the fate of the persons who have disappeared since the last *coup d'état*: condemning the murders of these persons and the cynicism of the Argentine authorities, Parliament demanded a full explanation of the fate of all individuals reported missing in Argentina and called on the Foreign Ministers of the Community to do all they could to obtain this information;

(x) the political situation in Uruguay: recalling its resolution of 18 November 1982 on the situation in Uruguay,² the House called for a delegation of its members to visit that country as soon as possible to meet government authorities and political groups.

Council

2.4.17. The Council held six meetings in May. The table below lists the number, place and date of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items of business. A more detailed account of specific items can be found in the sections of the Bulletin referred to in the footnotes.

¹ OJ C 267, 11.10.1982.

² OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

Table 11 — Council meetings in May 1983

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
842nd Brussels 16 and 17 May	Agriculture	Mr Kiechle	Mr Thorn, Mr Dalsager	<i>Agricultural prices for 1983/84 and related measures.</i> ¹ Package agreed.
843rd Brussels 16 May	Economic and financial affairs	Mr Stoltenberg	Mr Ortolo, Mr Narjes	<i>Community loan for France.</i> ² Agreed. <i>Company law: 7th Directive (consolidated accounts).</i> ³ Approved. <i>Commission statement.</i> ² Mr Ortoli presented Commission communications on financial integration in Community, tax and financial incentives for investment and promotion of international role of ECU. <i>Preparations made for ACP-EEC Council meeting.</i> ⁴
844th Brussels 19 and 20 May	General affairs	Mr Genscher	Mr Thorn, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Natali, Mr Tugendhat, Mr Giolitti, Mr Burke, Mr Pisazni, Mr Narjes	<i>Forthcoming election of European Parliament.</i> ⁵ Council statement issued. <i>Preparations for European Council. Greek Memorandum.</i> ⁵ Statement made by Greek Foreign Minister. <i>Yugoslavia.</i> ⁶ Preparations made for first meetings of Cooperation Council. <i>Portuguese accession.</i> ⁷ Preparations made for 13th ministerial-level meeting. <i>Preparations for Williamsburg Economic Summit.</i> <i>Preparations for Unctad VI.</i> ⁸ <i>Strengthening common commercial policy.</i> ⁹ Discussed. <i>Review of ERDF.</i> ¹⁰ Certain fundamental issues discussed. <i>Greenland.</i> ⁵ Discussed in detail.
845th Brussels 24 and 25 May				
846th Brussels 25 and 26 May	Agriculture	Mr Kiechle	Mr Dalsager, Mr Contogeorgis	<i>Acquis communautaire.</i> ¹ Discussion resumed (fruit and vegetables and olive oil).
847th Brussels 26 May	Internal Market	Mr Lambsdorff	Mr Haferkamp, Mr Tugendhat, Mr Narjes	<i>Community certification.</i> ³ Discussion resumed. <i>Strengthening common commercial policy.</i> ⁹ Key questions discussed. <i>Simplification of formalities for trade within the Community.</i> ³ Discussion resumed. <i>Pharmaceuticals.</i>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
				<p><i>Asbestos.</i>³ Agreement in principle reached on Directive on protection of public health as regards asbestos and products containing it.</p> <p><i>Transnational development of supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer.</i> Pointers established.</p> <p><i>Textile names.</i>³</p> <p><i>Defective products.</i>³ Views exchanged.</p>

- ¹ Agriculture.
² Economic and monetary policy.
³ Internal market and industrial affairs.
⁴ Development.
⁵ European policy and relations between the institutions.
⁶ Mediterranean countries.
⁷ Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries.
⁸ International organizations and conferences.
⁹ Commercial policy.
¹⁰ Regional policy.

Commission

Activities

2.4.18. The Commission, represented by Mr Thorn (and by Mr Ortoli for the Finance Ministers' sessions), took part in the Williamsburg Summit.

2.4.19. Much of its discussions in May were taken up by the problems of financing the Community.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.20. As announced in its green paper on the future financing of the Community, the Commission sent the Council its proposal on new own resources.¹ It also finalized the political introduction to the 1984 preliminary draft budget.

2.4.21. In the monetary sector, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Regulation extending for two years the interest subsidies granted under the EMS and a communication on the promotion of the international role of the ECU. It also sent a proposal to the Council that a small tranche of 100 million ECU from NCI III should be

set aside to help finance small and medium-sized innovative businesses and to encourage the creation of specialized financial intermediaries.

2.4.22. The Commission adopted a communication to the Council introducing a new steel production quota system under Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty. It also adopted on first reading the abatement rates for steel production during the third quarter subject to the Council's assenting, in mid-June, to the Commission's decision to extend the quota system.

2.4.23. The Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision on the framework programme of Community scientific and technical activities for 1984-87.

The Commission approved a number of proposals for multiannual research programmes in the nuclear sector: decommissioning of nuclear power stations, reactor safety and radiation protection.

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

2.4.24. Finally, it adopted an interim report entitled 'Realities and tendencies in European television: perspectives and options', which was prepared at Parliament's request.

*Discussions, policy debates
and work in hand*

2.4.25. The Commission spent a considerable amount of time preparing for the European Council in Stuttgart (17 to 19 June), with particular emphasis on the financing of the Community.

It played its part in the Council's review of agricultural prices for 1983/84. The Commission expressed its satisfaction at the final result of the negotiations, which was important to the potential success of the Stuttgart European Council.

The Commission suggested to the Council that the Community should begin negotiations with Japan on a framework agreement for scientific and technical cooperation. The agreement would be negotiated by the Commission on the basis of directives issued by the Council.

**Relations with workers'
and employers' organizations**

2.4.26. Mr Thorn and Mr Richard received a delegation from the European Youth Forum. The discussion centred primarily on the new Commission communication on employment for young people,¹ its place in the broader strategy of a general revival of the economy and employment and the immediate measures to be taken in the Member States and at Community level.

2.4.27. Mr Thorn also received the President and the General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation for talks on the Stuttgart European Council and the Williamsburg Summit.

2.4.28. Representatives of the European Committee of Trade Unions in Entertainment and Arts were briefed on progress with the Community action programme for culture. They were concerned in particular with

questions of employment and protection of authors' *droit de suite*, which had become necessary because of the widespread use of cassettes.

During preliminary consultations ETUC experts considered industrial democracy, new information technologies and the environment, especially toxic waste.

Court of Justice²

*Analysis of judgments
delivered between 1 January
and 31 March 1983*

General

2.4.29. On 10 February the Court gave judgment in *Luxembourg v Parliament*,³ which concerned the European Parliament's places of work. On 7 July 1981, following efforts to force the Member States to agree on a single seat for the institutions, Parliament adopted a resolution concerning its seat,⁴ referring to the difficulties resulting from the dispersal of its places of work. While Parliament did not question the right of the Member States to determine the seat of the Community institutions, it decided to hold its part-sessions in Strasbourg, to organize the meetings of its committees and political groups as a general rule in Brussels, and to review the consequence of this situation for the operation of its Secretariat and technical departments, 'particularly with a view to avoiding the need for a substantial number of staff of Parliament to travel constantly'.

On 7 August 1981 the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg brought an action seeking annul-

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

² For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the *Official Journal* and the *European Court Reports*, and the publications of its Information Office (e.g. the annual synopsis of the work of the Court or the information quarterly).

³ Case 230/81.

⁴ OJ C 234, 14.9.1981.

ment of this resolution, arguing mainly that it trespassed on the powers of the Member States. The action was based primarily on Article 38 of the ECSC Treaty, and in the alternative on Article 173 of the EEC Treaty and Article 146 of the Euratom Treaty.

Parliament contested the admissibility of the action, and argued that its resolution kept strictly within the scope of the decision of the governments of the Member States as regards the provisional places of work.

In its judgment the Court held that the action was indeed admissible under Article 38 of the ECSC Treaty. On the substance, it ruled that Parliament had not in adopting the contested resolution usurped a responsibility reserved to the Member States. The Court referred to the rule imposing on Member States and the Community institutions mutual duties of sincere cooperation which obliged them to have regard to the power of Parliament to determine its internal organization. And the incontestable powers of the Member States in the matter of the seat of the institutions did not affect Parliament's right 'to discuss any question concerning the Communities'.

The holding of plenary sittings in Strasbourg, the Court noted, was not expressly mentioned in the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States taken on 8 April 1965, which confined itself to stating that 'Luxembourg, Brussels and Strasbourg shall remain the provisional places of work of the institutions of the Community'.

In accordance with the decisions taken by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs in 1952 and 1958, all plenary sessions had been held in Strasbourg until 1967. It was true that from 1967 the practice arose of holding some of these sittings in Luxembourg, but this practice had been decided upon by Parliament of its own motion and had never been approved either expressly or by implication by the Member States.

The Luxembourg Government was therefore 'wrong in alleging that the practice had created a custom in its favour'.

In view of the differences which emerged at the meetings of the Heads of State or Government in Maastricht in March 1981 and the conference which took place in June 1981, the declaration to maintain the *status quo* following those meetings could be understood only 'as an expression of the intention not to change the previous legal position'.

The Court therefore held that Parliament had not exceeded its powers.

As regards the holding of meetings of committees and political groups in Brussels, the Court found simply that this practice had developed in the exercise of Parliament's independent powers and had never been questioned by any Member State.

The Court was stricter on the location of Parliament's Secretariat. Article 4 of the Decision of 8 April 1965 required the Secretariat to remain in Luxembourg, it said; exceptions could be allowed only in order 'to maintain in the various places of work... the infrastructure essential for ensuring that it may fulfil in all those places the tasks which are entrusted to it by the Treaties'. Any transfers of staff exceeding these limits would constitute a breach of Article 4.

Customs union and free movement of goods

2.4.30. As well as interpreting the Common Customs Tariff,¹ the Court ruled on the validity of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 749/78 on the determination of the origin of certain textile products: it held that the Regulation was in part invalid, because it provided criteria considerably stricter for the definition of origin of yarn than for that of the origin of tissues and fabrics.²

2.4.31. The Court ruled for the first time on an action brought directly against a Commission decision adopted under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1798/75; the decision refused to recognize the scientific character of a computer and consequently found that it could not be imported free of CCT duty.

¹ Case 130/82 *Farr*; Case 175/82 *Hans Dinter*.

² Case 162/82 *Cousin and others*.

The Court gave a broad interpretation to the words 'scientific instruments and apparatus' used in the Regulation; it declared the decision void, and referred the matter back to the Commission for reconsideration.¹

2.4.32. The Court gave a preliminary ruling confirming its case law on charges levied on goods crossing frontiers within the Community: it held that such charges are contrary to the EEC Treaty if they constitute pecuniary charges imposed unilaterally and do not represent payment for a service actually rendered.²

2.4.33. The Court also ruled on the interpretation of Article 30 of the EEC Treaty. It had been asked to consider legislation in a Member State which forbade the marketing of any beer whose acidity level exceeded a set maximum, unless brewed by traditional processes, and also prohibited a statement of the strength of the original wort of the beer on the prepackaging or label. After considering the general purpose of the measures, the Court held that the extension of these prohibitions to beer lawfully produced and marketed in another Member State must be regarded as a measure having an effect equivalent to a quantitative restriction, except in the case of the statement of the strength of original wort where the statement is of such a kind as to mislead the purchaser.³

2.4.34. Upon an application by the Commission the Court declared that the United Kingdom had acted unlawfully by requiring a second heat treatment and repacking of imported UHT cream and milk, by prescribing a system of prior licences for imports of these products onto its territory, and by prohibiting all sales of UHT milk or cream in Northern Ireland.⁴ In another case brought under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty the Court declared that Belgium had failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 30 *et seq.* of the EEC Treaty by restricting the right of applying for authorization or approval for pesticides for non-agricultural and phytopharmaceutical products to persons established in Belgium.⁵ The Court also held that Article 34 of the EEC Treaty and Council Directive 75/439/EEC on the disposal of

waste oils do not allow a Member State to prohibit exports to an authorized disposal or regeneration undertaking in another Member State.⁶

Free movement of workers

2.4.35. In Case 77/82⁷ the Court interpreted for the first time the provisions relating to the free movement of workers in the Act of Accession of Greece. According to the Court, Article 45(1) of the Act must be construed as not permitting national provisions concerning the first grant of a work permit to a Greek national to be made more restrictive after the entry into force of the Act of Accession.

Competition

2.4.36. In its judgment in Case 7/82⁸ the Court confirmed a Commission decision finding that a German company engaged in managing performers' rights had abused its dominant position by refusing to conclude contracts with nationals of other Member States not domiciled in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Court pointed out that in Case 22/79⁹ it had ruled that the act of impeding freedom to provide services was apt to affect trade between Member States within the meaning of Article 86 of the Treaty. GVL also contested the Commission's power to take a decision which simply established that an infringement had taken place, when that infringement had already been terminated; it argued that, under Article 3 of Regulation No 17,¹⁰ decisions could only require an infringement to be terminated. The Court

¹ Case 294/81 *Control Data*.

² Case 39/82 *Donner*.

³ Case 94/82 *De Kikvorsch*.

⁴ Case 124/81 *Commission v UK*.

⁵ Case 155/82 *Commission v Belgium*.

⁶ Case 172/82 *Waste oils*.

⁷ *A. Peskeloglou v Bundesanstalt für Arbeit Nürnberg*.

⁸ *GVL v Commission*.

⁹ *Greenwich Films v SACEM* [1979] ECR 3275.

¹⁰ OJ 13, 21.2.1962.

rejected this argument, stating that the competition rules in the Treaty empowered the Commission to find infringements and that it had a legitimate interest in doing so in the case in point.

Common agricultural policy

2.4.37. In a judgment¹ arising from the rejection of the action for compensation brought by Interagra against the Commission in connection with the interruption of butter exports to the Soviet Union² the Court ruled on the interpretation of the rules relating to the issue of export certificates for milk products to the effect that the suspension of the advance fixing of refunds entailed the rejection of all applications for certificates pending, including those lodged in connection with an invitation to tender opened in an importing non-member country.

2.4.38. In its judgment of 22 March in Case 42/82³ the Court found that France had failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 30 of the EEC Treaty and the Community rules in the wine sector by delaying the release for consumption of table wines imported in bulk from Italy through procedures for checking and regularizing accompanying documents and for conducting systematic checks based on analyses and by restricting in this way, between August 1981 and March 1982, such imports of table wines.

The Court thus confirmed the view it had taken in its interim order of 4 March 1982,⁴ when it required France, pending the judgment in the main action, to observe the limitations specified regarding the practices relating to the release for consumption of wine imported from Italy.

Common commercial policy

2.4.39. In three judgments⁵ delivered on 16 March in cases referred to it by the Italian Supreme Court of Cassation, the Court ruled on whether charges on goods imported into Italy from non-member countries were compatible with Community law.

2.4.40. In Case 266/81 the Court held that the existence of a Community customs union characterized by the free movement of goods implies freedom of transit within the Community.

It follows from that freedom that a Member State may not apply to goods in its territory in transit to or from another Member State transit duties or any other charges imposed in respect of transit. However, the imposition of charges or fees which represent the cost of transportation or of other services connected with transportation cannot be regarded as incompatible with freedom of transit as thus defined; such services include not only direct or specific services linked to the movement of goods but also the more general benefits derived from the use of harbour waters or installations for whose navigability and maintenance the public authorities are responsible.

Furthermore, there is no rule which may be relied upon by individuals to contest the application to goods in transit to Austria of charges such as the loading and unloading charges levied in Italy.

2.4.41. Both in Joined Cases 267 to 269/81 and in Joined Cases 290 and 291/81 the Court held that, since the Community has been substituted for the Member States as regards the fulfilment of the commitments laid down in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade with effect from 1 July 1968 (the date on which the Common Customs Tariff came into force), the provisions of the General Agreement fall from that date within the provisions on whose interpretation the Court of Justice has jurisdiction to give a preliminary ruling under Article 177

¹ Case 109/82 *Interagra v Forma*.

² Case 217/81 *Interagra v Commission* [1982] ECR 2233; Sixteenth General Report, point 870.

³ *Commission v French Republic*.

⁴ Case 42/82 R [1982] ECR 841.

⁵ Case 266/81 *SIOT v Ministero delle Finanze*; Joined Cases 267, 268 and 269/81 *Amministrazione delle Finanze v SPI and Others*; Joined Cases 290 and 291/81 *Singer SpA and Geigy SpA v Amministrazione delle Finanze*.

of the EEC Treaty, regardless of the purpose of such interpretation. With regard to the period before that date, such interpretation is a matter exclusively for the courts of the Member States.

In addition, the Tariff protocols of 16 July 1962 and 30 June 1967 are acts of the Community institutions within the meaning of subparagraph (b) of the first paragraph of Article 177 and as such fall within the jurisdiction to give preliminary rulings conferred upon the Court of Justice.

In relation to the period before 1 July 1968, the 1962 and 1967 Tariff Protocols did not protect individuals against the imposition by a Member State of a charge on products imported from non-member countries. In relation to the period after 1 July 1968, no provision of Community law prevented the imposition on such products of a charge such as the duty for administrative services under the Italian Act of 15 June 1950, provided the charge was already in existence on that date.

Taxation

2.4.42. In Case 319/81¹ the Court ruled that, by applying to spirits a rate of tax which differs according to the designation of origin or of provenance, Italy has failed to comply, as regards products imported from the other Member States, with its obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty.

2.4.43. In Case 38/82² the Court held that Article 95 of the EEC Treaty must be interpreted as meaning that, in the case of a national tax advantage which, since it is not discriminatory, is in accordance with Community law, spirits imported from other Member States must, in order to qualify for that advantage, satisfy all the conditions of the provision by which it is established.

Brussels Convention of 27 September 1968 on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments

2.4.44. In Case 34/82³ the Court replied to the Hoge Raad of the Netherlands that obligations in regard to the payment of a sum of money which have their basis in the relationship existing between an association and its members by virtue of membership fall within 'matters relating to a contract' within the meaning of Article 5(1) of the Convention. It makes no difference in this regard whether the obligations in question arise simply from the act of becoming a member or from that act and also one or more decisions made by agencies of the association.

¹ *Commission v Italian Republic.*

² *Hauptzollamt Flensburg v Hansen.*

³ *Martin Peters Bauunternehmung GmbH v Zuid Nederlandse Aannemers Vereniging.*

2.4.45. New cases

Case	Subject	Basis
ECSC — Steel		
78/83 — SA Usinor v Commission ¹	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
81/83 — Stà Acciaierie e Ferriere Busseni v Commission ²	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
82/83 — Stà Ferriera E. Preo e Figli SpA v Commission ²	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
83/83 — Estel NV v Commission ¹	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
84/83 — Klöckner-Werke v Commission ¹	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
85/83 Hoogovens Groep v Commission	Decision concerning applications for adjustment of production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
86/83 — Ilfo SpA v Commission	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
Free movement of goods		
93/83 — Zentrag eG v HZA Bochum ³	Validity of Regulation (EEC) No 964/71 in the light of Regulation (EEC) No 802/68 and interpretation of the latter as to whether the process of boning including the cutting of meat amounts to a process determining origin for the purposes of Article 5	Article 177 of the Treaty
Customs union		
92/83 — 3M Deutschland GmbH v Oberfinanzdirektion Frankfurt am Main	Interpretation of CCT headings 58.02 and 59.03 with respect to the classification of PVC mats (Regulation (EEC) No 3300/81)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Social security		
79/83 Harz v Deutsche Tradax GmbH	Interpretation of Directive 76/207/EEC on the form to be taken by any sanction for discrimination on grounds of sex in respect of access to employment — direct applicability of the Directive	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Agriculture		
55 and 56/83 — Italy v Commission	Annulment of Commission decisions of 14 January 1983 (EAGGF Guarantee Section intervention — clearance of accounts) in so far as they exclude from the charges made to the Fund certain costs relating to aid for the distilling of table wine, a publicity campaign to promote the consumption of meat and the financing of the transport of cereals	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
77/83 — Srl CILFIT and Others v Ministero della Sanità	Is wool covered by the description 'animal products not elsewhere specified or included' (CCT heading 05.15) in the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 827/68?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
89/83 — HZA Hamburg-Jonas v Dimex Nahrungsmittel Im- und Export GmbH & Co. KG	Interpretation of Regulations (EEC) Nos 876/68 and 192/75 in respect of the proof that a product has been imported into the country of destination where it is spoiled on arrival (export refunds — dairy sector)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
<p>Transport</p> <p>90/83 — M. Paterson and Others v W. Weddel & Co. Ltd and Others</p>	<p>Interpretation of Article 14a(2)(c) of Regulation (EEC) No 543/69 (as amended by Regulations (EEC) Nos 515/72 and 2827/77) on the meaning of the words 'animal carcasses or waste not intended for human consumption'</p>	<p>Article 177 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>Convention on Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters</p> <p>80/83 — Habourdine International SA and Banque Nationale de Paris v Italcocremona SpA⁴</p>	<p>Interpretation of Articles 5(1), 17, 21 to 25, 27 and 55 of the Brussels Convention with respect to Article 633 <i>et seq.</i> of the Italian Code of Civil Procedure (injunction proceedings)</p>	
<p>Commercial policy</p> <p>87/83 — Hemijska Industrija 'Zorba-Sabac' v Council</p>	<p>Annulment of Regulation (EEC) No 486/83 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on copper sulphate originating in Yugoslavia</p>	<p>Article 173 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>Infringements</p> <p>96/83 — Commission v Federal Republic of Germany</p>	<p>Application for a ruling that the German authorities have failed to comply with the Community rules on the right to remain (Directives 64/221/EEC and 72/194/EEC and Regulation (EEC) No 1251/70)</p>	<p>Article 169 of the EEC Treaty</p>

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 88/83 and 95/83

¹ OJ C 152, 10.6.1983.
² OJ C 148, 7.6.1983.
³ OJ C 156, 15.6.1983.
⁴ OJ C 163, 22.6.1983.

2.4.46. Judgments

Date and case	Held
<p>ECSC — Steel</p> <p>11.5.1983, 244/81, 303/81, 311/81, 30/82, 136/82 — Klöckner-Werke v Commission</p>	<p>Applications dismissed (annulment of Commission decisions fixing production quotas for steel)</p>
<p>11.5.1983, 312/81 — Klöckner-Werke v Commission</p>	<p>Application dismissed (annulment of Commission decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel)</p>

Date and case	Held
<p>ECSC levies</p> <p>17.5.1983, 168/82 — ECSC v Liquidator of Ferriere S. Anna SpA</p>	<p>The Commission decision of 10 December 1981 is not valid in so far as it provides in Article 2 that the debts owed by the insolvent company in respect of ECSC levies are preferential debts ranking equally with similar debts owed to the State</p>
<p>Customs union</p> <p>19.5.1983, 192/82 — Kaffee-Contor Bremen GmbH & Co. KG v HZA Bremen-Nord</p>	<p>Jewellery boxes with hinged lids, of polystyrene, wholly covered on the outside with varnished paper, must be classified as boxes for jewellery under CCT subheading 42.02 B</p>
<p>Social security for migrant workers</p> <p>5.5.1983, 238/81 — Raad van Arbeid v Mrs Van der Bunt-Craig</p>	<p>Where a pension is acquired solely by virtue of national legislation national rules against overlapping apply, but not to the exclusion of Article 46 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71; the method of converting currency provided in Regulation (EEC) No 547/72 does not apply where benefits of the same kind are granted and paid in different Member States under the relevant national laws</p>
<p>5.5.1983, 139/82 — Paola Piscitello v Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale (INPS)</p>	<p>A social-aid benefit must be assimilated to an old-age benefit and is not excluded from the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71</p>
<p>Agriculture</p>	
<p>5.5.1983, 80/82 — Administration des Impôts v Guy Soler</p>	<p>A wine containing a percentage of lees much lower than the average percentage may be regarded as separated from its lees</p>
<p>11.5.1983, 156/82 — SA Nicolas Corman & Fils v HZA Hamburg-Jonas</p>	<p>The difference between the full monetary compensatory amount and the reduced amount paid on the exportation of butter from storage must subsequently be paid where the butter was not used for the purpose prescribed</p>
<p>18.5.1983, 256/81 — Pauls Agriculture Ltd v Commission</p>	<p>Damages must be paid in respect of a refusal to pay production refunds on maize gritz</p>
<p>Fisheries</p> <p>11.5.1983, 87/82 — Lieutenant Commander A. G. Rogers, Royal Navy v H. B. L. Darthenay</p>	<p>Article 7 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2527/80 on the conservation of fishery resources is fully applicable even in the absence of implementing rules</p>

Date and case	Held
Infringements	
17.5.1983, 132/82 — Commission v Belgium	Belgium has failed to fulfil its obligations under Articles 9 and 12 of the Treaty by levying storage charges on goods originating in a Member State or in free circulation which are imported into Belgium and presented solely for the completion of customs formalities at a special store
17.5.1983, 133/82 — Commission v Luxembourg	Luxembourg has failed to fulfil its obligations under Articles 9 and 12 of the Treaty by levying storage charges on goods originating in a Member State or in free circulation which are imported into Luxembourg and presented solely for the completion of customs formalities at a special store
4.5.1983, 137/82 — Commission v Italy	Removal from the Court Register ordered (Decision 81/973/EEC — provisions on plant health)
18.5.1983, 69/82 — Commission v France	Removal from the Court Register ordered (charge for the protection of public health and for the organization of the markets in meat)

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission:

5.5.1983, 785/79 — Judgment for the applicant in part

10.5.1983, 207/81 — Application dismissed in part, judgment for the applicant in part

v Parliament:

17.3.1983, 252/81 — Application dismissed as inadmissible

24.3.1983, 298/81 — Application dismissed as unfounded

Orders for removal from the Court Register

3.5.1983, 272/82 — Boissin and Others v Commission

4.5.1983, 6/83 — Firma Mattar-Pankert v Commission

ECSC Consultative Committee

234th meeting

2.4.47. The ECSC Consultative Committee held this special meeting on 17 May, with Mr Rudolf Nickels in the chair.

The Committee was to give its opinion on extending the measures applied under Article 58 (production quotas)¹ after 1 July and on the inclusion of additional products in Annex I to the ECSC Treaty.²

2.4.48. Renewal of the production control system under Article 58 (the first item on the agenda) was approved as to principle. The debate focused more on the practicalities; some speakers questioned the wisdom of extending these measures to cover plate and sections, while others regretted that no account had been taken of national consumption in setting the quotas.

¹ Point 2.1.31.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.20.

The Committee also felt that considering the length of the extension (two-and-a-half years) the reference quotas, set several years ago, ought to be revised to allow for changes in company structures. The Commission's answer on this point was negative because the criteria were vague and should be more clearly defined.

In more general terms, where plans for reorganization were concerned, the Commission pointed out that none of the plans submitted had won its approval because none of them assured company viability. Lastly, the Commission declared that it would take care to ensure transparency and would respect earlier voluntary agreements as far as it could. It would not allow new rights to flow from new capacity.

2.4.49. As to the expansion of Annex I to the ECSC Treaty, the Commission was proposing that strip produced by slitting cold-rolled coils, stainless cold-rolled hoop and strip less than 500 mm wide and drawn and forged bars and sections in high-speed and tool steels be included. These are very important products which compete directly with ECSC products. The debate split the Committee in two. Those against the proposal pointed out that users did not want the Treaty to include these products and considered that companies engaged in first-stage processing should not in general come under the ECSC Treaty. They also wished to preserve the balance between the ECSC and EEC Treaties, believing that small and medium-sized firms would become less competitive if the Annex was extended. But those who supported the proposal considered that allowance must be made for the fact that products were often interchangeable; some members wanted Annex I to include even more products.

The Commission representative reminded the Committee that extension of the Annex had nothing to do with the production process and that strip from slitting and cold-rolled strip accounted for roughly 30% of the market. It was therefore essential to include these products; the same applied to drawn and forged bars and sections of high-speed

steel and tool steel if order was to be restored on the market.

European Investment Bank

Operations in May

2.4.50. Loans announced by the European Investment Bank in May for investments within the Community totalled 584.1 million ECU,¹ broken down as follows: 475 million ECU in Italy, 102.8 million ECU in Greece and 6.3 million ECU in Denmark. Of the total amount, 142.4 million ECU was provided from the resources of the Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI).² Outside the Community, the Bank lent 38 million ECU for investments in small industry and tourism and small and medium-sized infrastructures under the Financial Protocol between Spain and the EEC, and 15 million ECU in an ACP country, Zimbabwe.

Community

Italy

2.4.51. A total of LIT 633 000 million was lent, including LIT 140 000 million from NCI resources. Investments in the Mezzogiorno accounted for LIT 395 000 million, including LIT 120 000 million for the reconstruction of areas hit by earthquakes in late 1980. Loans totalling LIT 220 000 million carry a 3% interest subsidy from the Community budget under the arrangements adopted when Italy joined the European Monetary System³ or under the arrangements for Community assistance for reconstruction in those areas of the south hit by earthquakes in November 1980.

2.4.52. A total of LIT 299 900 million was lent for energy investments to reduce or di-

¹ The conversion rates at 31 March 1983 used by the EIB in statistics for the second quarter were 1 ECU = DM 2.30, UKL 0.60, FF 6.52, LIT 1 326, HFL 2.54, BFR 45.32, LFR 45.32, DKR 8.11, DR 68.54, IRL 0.69, USD 0.97.

² OJ L 298, 20.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

³ OJ L 200, 3.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

versify the country's — and thus the Community's — dependence on oil imports by rationalizing consumption, developing indigenous resources and making increased use of other fuels such as coal and gas; LIT 80 000 million, in the form of two global loans (credit lines) to Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (IMI), will go towards the construction of small and medium-sized infrastructures in the centre and north (LIT 60 000 million) and in the Mezzogiorno (LIT 20 000 million). These global loans will be used for hydroelectric installations, district heating systems, natural gas networks, etc. LIT 50 000 million was lent to AGIP to develop three natural gas fields (Ada, Barbara and Porto Corsini) in the Adriatic and LIT 39 000 million for installing equipment in a refinery at Sarroch, near Cagliari, in order to achieve energy savings estimated at 67 000 tonnes oil equivalent a year. LIT 35 000 million, lent to Istituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino as a global loan, will finance small and medium-sized investments (industry, infrastructures in central and northern Italy), also to save energy; LIT 30 000 million was made available to the Banco Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) — Sezione Autonoma per il Finanziamento di Opere Pubbliche ed Impianti di Pubblica Utilità — in support of small and medium-scale projects in central and northern Italy designed to harness indigenous energy resources, diversify imports, basically by substituting coal for oil, or promote more efficient use of energy. Schemes eligible for allocations from the global loan include small-scale hydroelectric installations, development of small oil and natural gas deposits, district heating systems, natural gas networks, etc.; a global loan of LIT 15 000 million lent to Interbanca is intended more specifically for similar small and medium-scale schemes in industry.

AGIP was lent LIT 13 000 million for the development of the Santa Maria onshore natural gas deposit south of Ortona, Abruzzi, and LIT 12 000 million for the development of the Nilde offshore field off Trapani in the Sicilian Channel. Loans of LIT 13 900 million made to six cement works in the Italcementi group will be used to convert oil-fired plant to coal in mainland Mezzogiorno

and to develop a new production process requiring less energy: the savings which will be made are estimated at 200 000 tonnes of oil a year. Finally, LIT 12 000 million will go to converting an oil refinery in Naples to save more than 79 000 tonnes of oil a year.

2.4.53. A loan of LIT 150 000 million was made to Società Italiana per l'Esercizio Telefonico to extend the telecommunications network in the Mezzogiorno: LIT 100 000 million for the connection of more than 130 000 subscribers in Campania and LIT 50 000 million for the connection of 165 000 subscribers in Sicily. Total investment is estimated at more than LIT 900 000 million; in 1982 the EIB already granted LIT 150 000 million, including LIT 50 000 million from NCI resources, to begin the work in Sicily.

2.4.54. A total of LIT 63 100 million was lent to industry: LIT 25 000 million in the form of a global loan to the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro for financing small and medium-scale ventures in the industrial and service sectors in the less developed regions of central and northern Italy, which will also receive another global loan of LIT 20 000 million granted to Interbanca for the same type of investments; LIT 7 100 million to Valea Sud to increase production at an ice cream factory at Caivano, Campania, and LIT 5 000 million to extend a liquid detergent factory belonging to Sodel SpA of the Unilever group at Pozzili, Molise.

2.4.55. A total of LIT 120 000 million was granted from NCI resources to reconstruct the southern areas hit by earthquakes: LIT 100 000 million to restore 65 public buildings (schools, police, civil defence) in Campania and Basilicata and LIT 20 000 million for the repair and reconstruction of more than 220 buildings (stations, sheds, depots, etc.), 11 km of track, 7 tunnels and 53 bridges on the Naples-Potenza, Benevento-Aversa, Cassino-Naples and Potenza-Metaponto lines.

These new loans bring the total lending for reconstructing the areas hit by the November 1980 earthquakes to LIT 816 400

million, including LIT 600 000 million from NCI resources. The projects financed so far concern the repair of the road and rail networks, the electricity grid and telephone network, water supplies and drainage, the reconstruction of industrial plant, the installation of the basic equipment needed at centres for rehousing disaster victims and the repair of schools.

Greece

2.4.56. Greece received some DR 8 000 million in loans, including DR 2 700 million from NCI resources: DR 3 850 million towards the development of an open-cast lignite mine at Amynteon, north of Ptolemais, where reserves are estimated at 260 million tonnes. The new mine, which will provide jobs for 1 400 people, should produce the equivalent of 0.8 million tonnes of oil a year. A further DR 2 350 million was lent to build a power station with two 300 MW units near the mine in order to use the coal produced. This should lead to the creation of 380 jobs. A loan of DR 1 000 million was made to improve the Patras-Olympia road, which serves the Patras industrial zone and the ancient sites at Olympia. This project, estimated to cost DR 5 800 million, is also being financed by the ERDF and already received an EIB loan of DR 1 000 million in December 1982. Finally, DR 750 million was lent to build a sewage plant at Metamorphosis, to the north of Athens, to treat effluent from the Athens system which has to date been discharged untreated into the Saronic Gulf. The project pursues the aims of the Community's campaign to safeguard the environment and complies in spirit with the Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution.

Denmark

2.4.57. In Denmark DKR 50 million was granted for the extension and improvement of the district heating grid in Esbjerg, County of Ribe, by harnessing the waste heat from a power station and increasing the number of households and industrial firms supplied: the quantity of heat supplied should increase by more than 10% and oil savings would then amount to around 12 500 tonnes a year.

Outside the Community

Spain

2.4.58. The EIB granted 38 million ECU to Spain: 25 million ECU as a global loan to be onlent by the Banco de Crédito Industrial for small and medium-sized industrial and tourism projects selected in agreement with the EIB and 13 million ECU for small and medium-scale infrastructure projects carried out by local authorities, many of them concerned with water supply and sewerage schemes and local and provincial road networks in less-developed regions. This global loan will be administered by the Banco de Crédito Local de España.

Zimbabwe

2.4.59. The EIB granted 15 million ECU under the second Lomé Convention to the Zimbabwe Posts and Telecommunications Corporation to develop the country's telephone and telex networks. The project will increase the number and capacity of switching centres by some 13 000 lines and provide an additional 1 600 telex lines to meet growing requirements. It is also intended to improve international and trunk services by installing microwave links and a digital trunk exchange.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. ECU

Values in national currencies of one ECU

31 May 1983 ¹	
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (convertible)	45.6078
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (financial)	45.6349
German mark	2.28302
Dutch guilder	2.56460
Pound sterling	0.563254
Danish krone	8.17026
French franc	6.84977
Italian lira	1 355.59
Irish pound	0.722484
Greek drachma	76.0945
United States dollar	0.905994
Swiss franc	1.89579
Spanish peseta	126.794
Swedish krona	6.82214
Norwegian krone	6.47605
Canadian dollar	1.11492
Portuguese escudo	90.9618
Austrian schilling	16.0723
Finnish mark	4.96440
Japanese yen	215.989
Australian dollar	1.02744
New Zealand dollar	1.36445

¹ OJ C 143, 1.6.1983.

NB: Explanatory notes on the ECU and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU used in connection with the common agricultural policy

May 1983		
National currency	Value in national currency of one ECU	
	From 1 to 22 May	From 23 May
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	44.9704 ³	44.3662
	42.9772 ²	
	44.3662 ⁵	
Danish krone	8.23400	8.23400
German mark	2.57524 ²	2.57524 ²
	2.65660 ¹	2.65660 ¹
Greek drachma		2.54273 ⁷
		2.51457 ⁸
	66.5526 ⁴	66.5526 ⁴
French franc	71.5619 ²	71.5619 ²
		77.2479 ⁵
	6.37174 ⁶	6.37174 ¹⁰
Irish pound	6.19564 ²	6.55400 ⁷
		6.49211 ⁸
		6.62985 ⁹
Italian lira		6.19564 ²
	0.691011	0.716950
Dutch guilder	1 289.00	1 341.00
	2.75563 ²	2.81318 ¹
Pound sterling	2.81318 ¹	2.70981 ⁸
		2.73327 ⁷
		2.75563 ²
	0.618655	0.618655

¹ For seeds.

² For other products.

³ For pigmeat, olive oil, wine and fish.

⁴ For olive oil.

⁵ For beef and veal, sheepmeat, and milk and milk products.

⁶ For pigmeat, beef and veal, sheepmeat, olive oil, wine, fish, and milk and milk products.

⁷ For milk and milk products.

⁸ For beef and veal, and sheepmeat.

⁹ For pigmeat.

¹⁰ For olive oil, wine and fish.

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

3.2.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments and notices of Community institutions or organs which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relating to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers is followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 11-1982

Point 2.4.19

Opinion No 2/82 of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities on a proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 2891/77 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources

OJ C 133, 20.5.1983

Bull. EC 1-1983

Point 2.1.25

Commission Decision of 12 January 1983 on an aid scheme in favour of the textile and clothing industry in France

OJ L 137, 26.5.1983

Bull. EC 3-1983

Point 2.1.72

Proposal for a Council Regulation instituting a specific measure to promote urban renewal in Northern Ireland (Belfast)

OJ C 138, 26.5.1983

Point 2.1.106

Proposal for a Council Regulation:

I. amending Regulation (EEC) No 358/79 on sparkling wines produced in the Community and defined in item 13 of Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 337/79

II. laying down general rules for the description and presentation of sparkling and areated sparkling wines

OJ C 120, 5.5.1983

Point 2.1.141

Commission Decision of 9 March 1983 concerning aid for fuel granted by the Italian Government to Sicilian fishermen

OJ L 137, 26.5.1983

Point 2.1.159

Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a Community contribution for sales aids relating to intra-Community trade in coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry in the Community

OJ C 132, 19.5.1983

Points 2.4.25 to 2.4.32

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee during its session on 23 and 24 March 1983

OJ C 124, 9.5.1983

Bull. EC 4-1983

Point 2.1.70

Proposal for a Council Directive on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes

OJ C 134, 21.5.1983

3. Infringement procedures

Reasoned opinions

3.3.1. In May the Commission delivered seven reasoned opinions concerning two Member States, in the following cases:

- (i) Refusal to grant tax credits to branches and agencies in France of foreign insurance companies on the same terms as those applied to French companies (France);
- (ii) Imports of certain textile products originating in and coming from Greece (France);
- (iii) Measures applicable to newspaper publishers (France);
- (iv) Council Directive 76/207/EEC of 9 February 1976 on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards

access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions¹ (Netherlands);

- (v) Barriers to exports to other Member States deriving from the application of French rules on the recovery of waste oils (France);
- (vi) Exemption in France from value-added tax on the proceeds from operating certain automatic appliances (France);
- (vii) Solidarity payment to the most disadvantaged farmers, financed under the auspices of the 1981 Annual Agricultural Conference, by the Caisse nationale de crédit agricole (France).

¹ OJ L 39, 14.2.1976.

4. Western Economic Summit

Statements by the Heads of State or Government and representatives of the European Community

Williamsburg, 28 to 31 May 1983

Statement on arms control and security

3.4.1. As leaders of our seven countries, it is our first duty to defend the freedom and justice on which our democracies are based. To this end, we shall maintain sufficient military strength to deter any attack, to counter any threat, and to ensure the peace. Our arms will never be used except in response to aggression.

We wish to achieve lower levels of arms through serious arms control negotiations. With this statement, we reaffirm our dedication to the search for peace and meaningful arms reductions. We are ready to work with the Soviet Union to this purpose and call upon the Soviet Union to work with us.

Effective arms control agreements must be based on the principle of equality and must be verifi-

able. Proposals have been put forward from the Western side to achieve positive results in various international negotiations: on strategic weapons (START), on intermediate-range nuclear missiles (INF), on chemical weapons, on reduction of forces in Central Europe (MBFR), and a conference on disarmament in Europe (CDE).

We believe that we must continue to pursue these negotiations with imperus and urgency. In the area of INF, in particular, we call upon the Soviet Union to contribute constructively to the success of the negotiations. Attempts to divide the West by proposing inclusion of the deterrent forces of third countries, such as those of France and the United Kingdom, will fail. Consideration of these systems has no place in the INF negotiations.

Our nations express the strong wish that a balanced INF agreement be reached shortly. Should this occur, the negotiations will determine the level of deployment. It is well known that should this not occur, the countries concerned will proceed with the planned deployment of the US systems in Europe at the end of 1983.

Our nations are united in efforts for arms reductions and will continue to carry out thorough and intensive consultations. The security of our countries is indivisible and must be approached on a global basis. Attempts to avoid serious negotia-

tion by seeking to influence public opinion in our countries will fail.

We commit ourselves to devote our full political resources to reducing the threat of war. We have a vision of a world in which the shadow of war has been lifted from all mankind, and we are determined to pursue that vision.

Declaration on economic recovery

3.4.2. Our nations are united in their dedication to democracy, individual freedom, creativity, moral purpose, human dignity, and personal and cultural development. It is to preserve, sustain, and extend these shared values that our prosperity is important.

The recession has put our societies through a severe test, but they have proved resilient. Significant success has been achieved in reducing inflation and interest rates; there have been improvements in productivity; and we now clearly see signs of recovery.

Nevertheless, the industrialized democracies continue to face the challenge of ensuring that the recovery materializes and endures, in order to reverse a decade of cumulative inflation and reduce unemployment. We must all focus on achieving and maintaining low inflation, and reducing interest rates from their present too-high levels. We renew our commitment to reduce structural budget deficits, in particular, by limiting the growth of expenditures.

We recognize that we must act together and that we must pursue a balanced set of policies that take into account and exploit relationships between growth, trade, and finance, in order that recovery may spread to all countries, developed and developing alike.

In pursuit of these objectives, we have agreed as follows:

(i) Our governments will pursue appropriate monetary and budgetary policies that will be conducive to low inflation, reduced interest rates, higher productive investment and greater employment opportunities, particularly for the young.

(ii) The consultation process initiated at Versailles will be enhanced to promote convergence of economic performance in our economies and greater stability of exchange rates, on the lines indicated in an annex to this Declaration. We agree to pursue closer consultations. While retaining our freedom to operate independently, we are willing to undertake coordinated intervention in exchange markets in instances where it is agreed that such intervention would be helpful.

(iii) We commit ourselves to halt protectionism, and as recovery proceeds to reverse it by dismantling trade barriers. We intend to consult

within appropriate existing forums on ways to implement and monitor this commitment. We shall give impetus to resolving current trade problems. We will actively pursue the current work programmes in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, including trade in services and in high-technology products. We should work to achieve further trade liberalization negotiations in the GATT, with particular emphasis on expanding trade with and among developing countries. We have agreed to continue consultations on proposals for a new negotiation round in the GATT.

(iv) We view with concern the international financial situation, and especially the debt burdens of many developing nations. We agree to a strategy based on: effective adjustment and development policies by debtor nations; adequate private and official financing; more open markets; and worldwide economic recovery. We will see early ratification of the increases in resources for the International Monetary Fund and the General Arrangements to Borrow. We encourage closer cooperation and timely sharing of information among countries and the international institutions, in particular between the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), and the GATT.

(v) We have invited Ministers of Finance, in consultation with the Managing Director of the IMF, to define the conditions for improving the international monetary system and to consider the part which might, in due course, be played in this process by a high-level international monetary conference.

(vi) The weight of the recession has fallen very heavily on developing countries and we are deeply concerned about their recovery. Restoring sound economic growth while keeping our markets open is crucial. Special attention will be given to the flow of resources, in particular official development assistance, to poorer countries, and for food and energy production, both bilaterally and through appropriate international institutions. We reaffirm our commitments to provide agreed funding levels for the International Development Association. We welcome the openness to dialogue which the developing countries evinced at the recent conferences of the Non-Aligned Movement in New Delhi and the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires, and we share their commitment to engage with understanding and cooperation in the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Belgrade.

(vii) We are agreed upon the need to encourage both the development of advanced technology and the public acceptance of its role in promoting

growth, employment and trade. We have noted with approval the report of the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment which was set up at Versailles last year, and commend the progress made in the 18 cooperative projects discussed in that report. We will follow the implementation and coordination of work on these projects, and look forward to receiving a further report at our next meeting.

(viii) We all share the view that more predictability and less volatility in oil prices would be helpful to world economic prospects. We agree that the fall in oil prices in no way diminishes the importance and urgency of efforts to conserve energy, to develop economic alternative energy sources, to maintain and, where possible improve contacts between oil-exporting and importing countries, and to encourage the growth of indigenous energy production in developing countries which at present lack it.

(ix) East-West economic relations should be compatible with our security interests. We take note with approval of the work of the multilateral organizations which have in recent months analysed and drawn conclusions regarding the key aspects of East-West economic relations. We encourage continuing work by these organizations, as appropriate.

(x) We have agreed to strengthen cooperation in protection of the environment, in better use of natural resources, and in health research.

Our discussions here at Williamsburg give us new confidence in the prospects for a recovery. We have strengthened our resolve to deal cooperatively with continuing problems so as to promote a sound and sustainable recovery, bringing new jobs and a better life for the people of our own countries and of the world.

We have agreed to meet again next year, and have accepted the British Prime Minister's invitation to meet in the United Kingdom.

Annex

Strengthening economic cooperation for growth and stability

3.4.3. I. We have examined in the light of our experience the procedures outlined in the undertakings agreed at Versailles last year¹ which seek to ensure greater monetary stability in the interest of balanced growth and progress of the world economy.

II. We reaffirm the objectives of achieving non-inflationary growth of income and employment, and promoting exchange market stability through policies designed to bring about greater convergence of economic performance in this direction.

III. We are reinforcing our multilateral cooperation with the International Monetary Fund in its surveillance activities, according to the procedures agreed at Versailles, through the following approach:

A. We are focusing on short-term policy actions leading to convergence of economic conditions in the medium term. The overall medium-term perspective remains essential, both to ensure that short-term policy innovations do not lead to divergence and to measure business and financial markets.

B. In accordance with the agreement reached at Versailles, we are focusing our attention on issues in the monetary and financial fields including interaction with policies in other areas. We shall take fully into account the international implications of our own policy decisions. Policies and objectives that will be kept under review include:

1. *Monetary policy.* Disciplined non-inflationary growth of monetary aggregates, and appropriate interest rates, to avoid subsequent resurgence of inflation and rebound in interest rates, thus allowing room for sustainable growth.

2. *Fiscal policy.* We will aim, preferably through discipline over government expenditures, to reduce structural budget deficits and bear in mind the consequences of fiscal policy for interest rates and growth.

3. *Exchange rate policy.* We will improve consultations, policy convergence and international cooperation to help stabilize exchange markets, bearing in mind our conclusions on the exchange market intervention study.

4. *Policies toward productivity and employment.* While relying on market signals as a guide to efficient economic decisions, we will take measures to improve training and mobility of our labour forces, with particular concern for the problems of youth unemployment, and promote continued structural adjustment, especially by:

(i) enhancing flexibility and openness of economies and financial markets;

(ii) encouraging research and development as well as profitability and productive investment;

(iii) continued efforts in each country, and improved international cooperation, where appropriate, on structural adjustment measures (e.g. regional, sectoral, energy policies).

IV. We shall continue to assess together regularly in this framework the progress we are making, consider any corrective action which may be necessary from time to time, and react promptly to significant changes.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 3.4.1.

Publications of the European Communities

Publications of the European Communities

5 — 1983

Introductory note

This catalogue includes the newly published monographs and series issued during the period to which it relates by the institutions of the European Communities, and also their current periodicals. Publications of which English versions have been issued are listed only in that language; otherwise another version, but only one, is included, in the following order of choice:

French	Spanish
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Where other language versions also exist, cross-references are provided by means of a code (those codes should not be used for ordering purposes):

IT: 1 - 12

which means that the Italian version is described in the Italian catalogue of January under No 12. This number is specific to each catalogue; it is a sequence number printed in consecutive order, opposite each entry in the classified list.

Arrangement

The catalogue is divided into three parts, as follows:

Part I — The classified list provides a subject classification of the titles included under 20 headings each divided into subheadings (see below).

Under each subheading, monographs and series are listed first in alphabetical order; there then follows a similar list of periodical titles.

Full entries for monographs and series appear only once; otherwise cross-references are given to the full entries identifying them by the sequence numbers already described. Periodical titles appear in the classified list only as cross-reference entries, full entries being found in Part II.

Part II — Periodicals presents full details of each current Community periodical, listed alphabetically.

Part III — The indexes of titles and series are listed alphabetically and cross-refer using the abovementioned

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How to obtain publications

Publications may be priced for sale, gratis, or of limited distribution. Those of the last two classes may be obtained from the issuing institutions, or, where they are published by the Information Offices of the Commission, from those offices, whose addresses are given in the lists on pp. 4 and 5. Publications of limited distribution are, however, generally only for the attention of governments of Member States, Community departments and other authorities concerned.

Orders for priced publications should be directed to the Sales Offices listed on the last page.

All orders should quote the full title, as well as the ISBN or ISSN where such a number precedes the prices in the catalogue.

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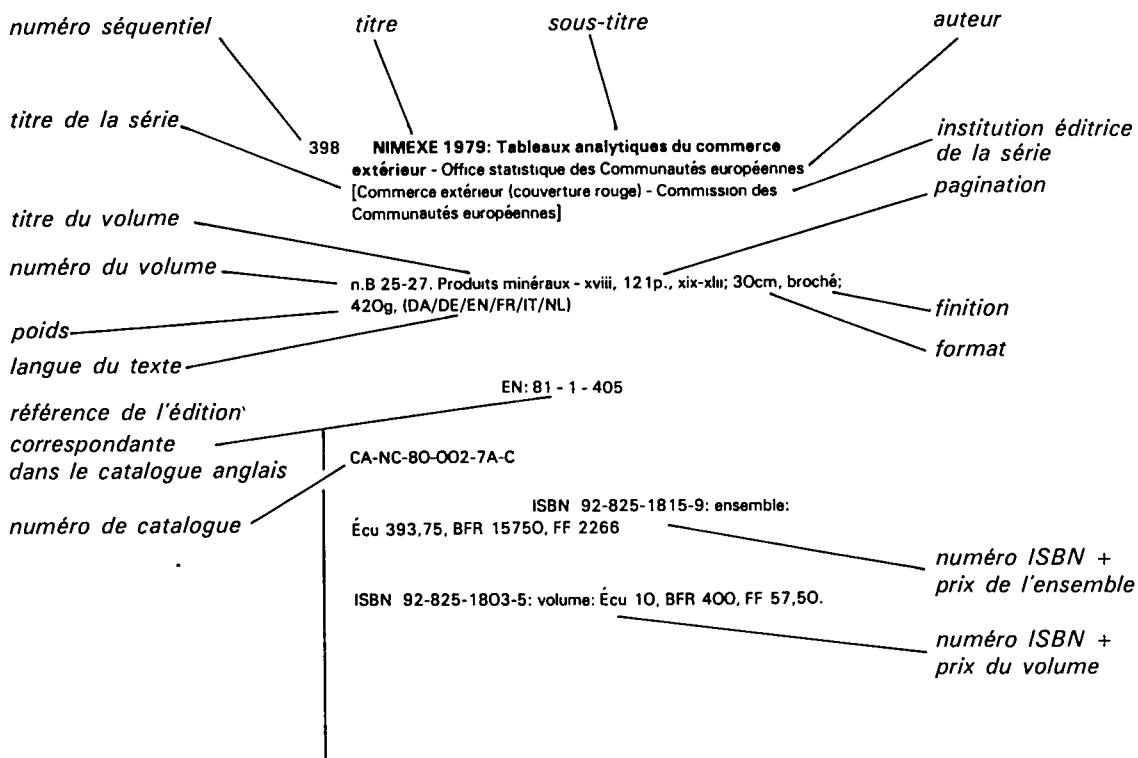
DA	Danish	GA	Irish
DE	German	IT	Italian
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Prices, which exclude any value-added tax which may be chargeable, are fixed in various currencies, using the following abbreviations:

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DKR	Danish crown	IRL	Irish pound
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DR	Greek drachma	PTA	Spanish peseta
ESC	Portuguese escudo	UKL	Pound sterling
FF	French franc	USD	US dollar



405 NIMEXE 1979: Analytical tables of foreign trade - Statistical Office of the European Communities [External trade (red cover) - Commission of the European Communities]
 n.B 25-27: Mineral products - xviii, 121p., xix-xlii; 30cm; softcover; 420g; (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)
 FR: 81 - 1 - 398
 CA-NC-80-002-7A-C ISBN 92-825-1815-9: set: ECU 393,75, BFR 15750, IRL 261, UKL 233, USD 497
 ISBN 92-825-1803-5: volume: ECU 10, BFR 400, IRL 6.65, UKL 5.90, USD 12.70.

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- 2 **Le système monétaire européen - Origines, fonctionnement et perspectives - van Ypersele, J.: Kosune, J.-C. - 129p.:** 25cm: broché: 250g: (FR) [Perspectives européennes - Commission des Communautés européennes]
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Fiches pédagogiques "30 jours d'Europe".

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Informazioni.

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Official Journal of the European Communities, series C: Information and Notices.

Official Journal of the European Communities, series L: Legislation.

Points de repère: supplément à 30 jours d'Europe.

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- Electrical stimulation and hot boning: effects on meat quality attributes** 12
- 4 **Energy consumption per tonne of competing agricultural products available to the EC - Directorate-General Agriculture - 82p.:** 30cm: softcover: 250g: (EN) [Information on Agriculture: 85 - Commission of the European Communities]
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CB-36-82-491-EN-C ISBN 92-825-3549-5: ECU 12,22,
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11 External relations

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