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Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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PART ONE
SPECIAL FEATURES

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

ECU = European currency unit

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

DKR = Dansk krone

DM = Deutsche Mark

DR = Greek drachma

FF = Franc français

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

IRL = Irish pound / punt

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

LIT = Lira italiana

UKL = Pound sterling

USD = United States dollar

1. GATT ministerial meeting

1.1.1. The ministerial part of the 38th session of the GATT Contracting Parties was held in Geneva from 24 to 29 November.

After a 48-hour extension to give the negotiators a chance of reaching a last-minute compromise, the meeting ended at dawn on 29 November, with those who had over-ambitious objectives (Australia, Canada and the United States) being somewhat disillusioned.

The Conference adopted a final communiqué,¹ which covered all current trade problems and contained a political declaration along with commitments of a general nature and a work programme for the operation of GATT in the 1980s, mainly involving procedures and studies. For the Community the political declaration is an improvement on the draft which resulted from the preparatory work in that it is more realistic.

The Ministers' formal acceptance of the final communiqué was accompanied by a number of reservations and/or qualifying statements on the most controversial points which had arisen in the preparatory work (political commitments against protectionism, agriculture, the safeguard clause, the settlement of disputes, and services).

The Community, which had adopted a realistic and reasonable approach to the political commitments and the operational decisions, had its views on certain points put formally on record:¹

Political commitments: 'best endeavours' clause as regards the commitment to refrain from taking or maintaining any measures inconsistent with GATT;

Agriculture: acceptance of the work programme does not mean a commitment to fresh negotiations or any obligations in this sphere; the same applies to tropical products covered by the CAP;

Settlement of disputes: consensus will continue to be the accepted method for decision-making; nevertheless, it is recognized that obstruction of decision-making will have to be avoided;

Quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures: after examination, removal of these measures as far as possible, bearing in mind the historical grounds for some of these measures and the imbalance in the commitments accepted by the Contracting Parties; the study on fishery products must take into account the structural effects on trade in these products of the introduction of exclusive economic zones.

1.1.2. Australia dissociated itself from the document, while at the same time declaring its allegiance to the GATT. In Australia's opinion, the document had not attained the objectives, particularly in the commitments to combat protectionism and with respect to agricultural liberalization and the limitation of subsidies. A number of developing countries expressed their disappointment, particularly on the aspects of concern to them: safeguards (a merely procedural solution), the settlement of disputes and agriculture. Some of these countries reaffirmed their opposition to the inclusion of trade in services (although the final compromise makes provision for a non-committal study). There were no final declarations from the United States, Canada or Japan.

1.1.3. At Community level the negotiations were led by Mr Haferkamp, who was in close, continuous contact with the Member States and the Danish Presidency. Indeed, in the final stages of the meeting the Council was in session on the spot practically non-stop.

In a press statement published at the end of the ministerial meeting Mr Thorn expressed his satisfaction with the results and the role which the Community had played.

Mr Thorn said that although the results did not come up to the expectations of some who had underestimated the present economic environment, he considered that in such difficult times the meeting had not only avoided failure but had made some progress.

¹ Point 3.4.1.

Mr Thorn stressed that the outcome of the ministerial meeting was exactly in line with the realistic ambitions which the Community had entertained from the start in all the fields discussed at Geneva. The President added that in the agricultural sphere the Community had obtained a realistic agreement, closely defending the principles of the common agricultural policy.

There were neither winners nor losers. The results had been obtained thanks to the individual contributions of all the parties in-

involved. The Community could only congratulate itself on its cohesion.

Mr Haferkamp, head of the Community delegation at the Conference, considered that to have achieved a compromise during such a difficult period was a great achievement. With regard to the scope of the Community declaration Mr Haferkamp said that the EEC respected the consensus arrived at by the Ministers and that the declaration was intended to clarify the European position.

2. The economy and employment

Joint Council meeting

1.2.1. A joint Council meeting of Ministers of Economic and Financial Affairs and of Employment and Social Affairs was held in Brussels on 16 November, with Mr Christophersen, the Danish Finance Minister, in the chair. A similar meeting was held in June 1981.¹

The meeting followed intensive preparations by the Community bodies concerned. The Council had held two meetings the day before, one on economic affairs and finance and the other on social affairs. A preparatory paper from the Commission pinpointing three spheres of action, namely the improvement of the economic climate, the reorganization of working time and expanding job opportunities for young people, formed the basis of the Ministers' discussions.

Coordination of policies

Commission communication

1.2.2. The most pervasive problem in Europe at present is the high and growing level of unemployment. Given the severity of

the current recession and the significant worsening of unemployment in recent months, the Community's economic and social policies should be geared more directly towards the creation of an economic climate more conducive to job creation. This is the key theme of the paper prepared by the Commission for the joint Council meeting.

The Commission communication proposes a number of Community initiatives in the economic and social spheres aimed at alleviating unemployment. It stresses that the employment crisis has got steadily worse since mid-1981 despite the efforts of a previous joint Council meeting held in June 1981 to devise common policies in these fields. Since then, however, the situation has if anything deteriorated further and the need for policies aimed at a wider social consensus is all the more pressing. Unemployment has risen sharply, the Community has experienced a period of zero growth and investment has declined.

Creating a better economic climate

1.2.3. Economic and social policy should aim to create a climate in which firms are prepared to invest and absorb the increase in

¹ Bull. EC 6-1981, point 1.3.1. *et seq.*

the labour force in profitable and competitive jobs. The Commission's objective is to lay the foundation for investment-led economic growth.

At international level, the Community should seek above all to establish, via the European Monetary System, effective monetary cooperation with the United States and Japan in order to achieve, among other things, a lowering of interest rates.

A number of measures should be implemented to promote policy convergence and economic stability within the Community and the mechanisms of the EMS should be strengthened. As for budgetary policy, the Commission urgently reiterated its appeal for tighter control on public spending in order to release funds for top priority expenditure. Most Member States had to get their budgets under control again, whilst countries in a sounder financial position should avoid taking measures to offset increases in their budget deficits.

In the sphere of medium-term economic policy and structural change, efforts needed to be made throughout the Community to increase the proportion of GDP devoted to investment. This entails, among other things, the adaptation of existing indexation mechanisms so as to exclude factors outside corporate control. Public authorities have a particular responsibility in the field of investment. The ultimate aim of public investment should be to stimulate investment and the creation of jobs in the private sector.

Reduction and reorganization of working time

1.2.4. A more efficient organization of work resulting from a fairly extensive reorganization of working time, possibly in combination with a reduction in hours of work, may serve to boost employment. This contribution to the reduction of unemployment hinges on a number of factors, however, such as the safeguarding of the competitive position of industry.

Overtime working plays an essential part in certain industries, but systematic overtime should be avoided. The Commission notes

that there is a general consensus that systematic overtime working should be further discouraged and that reductions in working time aimed at creating jobs should not lead to increased overtime working.

A gradual reduction in the number of hours worked per year is not an end in itself, as it might be in a period of economic growth, but can also serve as a means of redistributing existing jobs.

Any reduction in unemployment resulting from a rearrangement of working time would, in the Commission's view, mean a reduction in the cost of benefits and social transfers and an increase in tax revenue. Governments should therefore consider to what extent they might share in the cost of introducing new working time arrangements. They should at the same time set about removing legal and other obstacles to a more flexible organization of working time.

Special measures to increase job opportunities for the young

1.2.5. Young people are among the main victims of the recession, and many leave school with little prospect of ever getting a foothold in the labour market. The development of training facilities is thus of vital importance and the Commission is one of the main instigators of a Community-wide scheme designed to guarantee training and work experience for young people.¹ Nevertheless, training is not everything: however important training policies may be, their credibility in the eyes of young people will depend on whether the skills acquired subsequently lead to a job.

The Commission believes that special measures to promote the recruitment of young people and enhance their job opportunities are warranted if the present generation of young workers is to retain its capacity to contribute to the economic recovery. There will have to be a radical change in existing attitudes to job-creation policies, with emphasis being placed on opportunities offered by:

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.31.

- (i) special recruitment programmes for young people linked to reductions in working time;
- (ii) recruitment premiums or wage subsidies to help particularly disadvantaged young people;
- (iii) a new approach to job-creation subsidies, including the creation of jobs in the intermediate area between the traditional public and private sectors, for instance environmental protection and community service;
- (iv) a considerably more sophisticated network of local advice and guidance centres for young people.

Joint Council meeting

1.2.6. The Council restated certain facets of its approach to alleviating unemployment. It felt that a Community strategy should include measures to promote economic and financial stability, higher investment, an improvement in the competitiveness of firms, the realization of the internal market and adjustments to the labour market aimed at appreciably improving the employment situation, which is the most urgent task of the Community in present circumstances.

The conclusions that emerged from the meeting were as follows:

I. Economic and social situation

A lasting increase in the number of jobs will be achieved by strengthening the competitiveness and profitability of firms. This presupposes an improvement in the general economic situation linked to success in curbing inflation.

The dangers and risks inherent in the present economic situation can be checked and reversed only if appropriate policies are backed by a willingness to accept and share the necessary costs involved in the adjustment process. Close consultation with management and unions is of particular importance in this connection. Efforts should be made to ensure that the burden of the present economic difficulties is shared with due regard to the more vulnerable groups; in particular, efforts to reduce existing social or regional disparities should not be jeopardized in the process of adjustment.

II. Measures

International economic and financial stability. The Council reaffirms the Community's determination to reject protectionism in international trade in all its forms, including competitive devaluations. This is one of the principal dangers threatening the world economy and living standards. The Ministers recognize the need to formulate policies which contribute in a more significant way to the strengthening of trade flows.

Convergence and economic stability within the Community. Interest rates must continue to fall if productive investment is to pick up. The Council considers that the control and redistribution of public expenditure are necessary prerequisites of this objective. This applies in particular to countries still experiencing high inflation rates, where insufficient progress has been made towards reducing budget deficits and achieving a better balance in public finance and external payments.

At the same time, the Council underlines the risk the Member States would incur were they all to maintain the same degree of restraint with regard to public expenditure irrespective of their level of inflation, level of real interest rates or financial situation. Countries achieving a satisfactory slowdown in inflation, lower real interest rates and a healthier external, fiscal and monetary position should consider taking initiatives to boost economic activity in the context of a somewhat less constrained budgetary policy.

An important objective is the channelling of public expenditure away from consumption towards productive investment and activities apt to strengthen the productive capacity of firms.

Investment. The Council reaffirms that to expand employment all possible means to increase significantly the share of productive investment in GDP should be urgently and systematically deployed; measures should be coordinated at both national and Community level.

Internal market. The Council recognizes that the restoration of confidence needed for economic recovery and higher private investment hinges on the safeguarding of the common market and rapid moves towards its full attainment; this constitutes a key factor in the economic development of the Community.

Industrial policy. A marked increase in the competitiveness and profitability of firms in all Member States is necessary if the Community is to compete successfully with other major industrial—and newly industrializing—countries. The Community and the Member States will seek to help industry not only by removing administrative and financial constraints, but also by fostering

cooperation between industries in strategic sectors, subject to the rules of the Treaty.

Young people and the labour market. The Council expresses its deep concern about the employment prospects for young people and recalls that in March the European Council emphasized the key role of youth employment in the Community's overall strategy to alleviate unemployment. Furthermore, it reaffirms its commitment to ensure that all young people entering the labour market over the next five years will have access to vocational training or preliminary work experience.

Reorganization of working time. The Council considers that a rearrangement of working time, possibly coupled with a reduction in hours of work, may in certain circumstances help to improve employment, in particular if it entails a more flexible use of the means of production. The Council agrees that the reorganization and reduction of working time is bound to have a beneficial effect on the employment level provided that competitiveness is not impaired and there is sufficient flexibility in the labour market to prevent bottlenecks; at the same time proper account must be taken of specific and sectoral characteristics, notably the size of firms.

3. Promotion of investment

Conclusions of the Council

1.3.1. On 15 November the Council held a meeting on economic and financial affairs at which it considered the Commission's communication on initiatives for promoting investment,¹ in preparation for the European Council meeting on 3 and 4 December, and adopted the following conclusions.

1. The Council held an exchange of views in depth on a Commission communication to the Council on investment promotion and two reports from the Economic Policy Committee to the Council, one on the problem of investment, the other on real labour costs, profitability and employment.

2. The Council noted that the policies being pursued by the Member States have helped to reduce inflation rates and to improve external balances. This has again made it possible to move towards lower interest rates, in nominal terms.

These gratifying developments may have further beneficial effects for the European economy in the medium term.

The Council reaffirms its belief that economic stabilization must remain a fundamental objective in order to secure permanent and stable growth in the longer run.

3. Despite the efforts being made to improve the economic climate, the outlook for growth and employment, however, remains bleak.

Any lasting rise in investment depends largely on an improvement in the situation and in the economic outlook and an increase in firms' self-financing. Nevertheless, all existing possibilities for developing investment must be systematically exploited.

4. The Council has reviewed Member States' policies intended to promote investment. It feels that each Member State should, in so far as it is concerned, do its utmost to:

- (i) increase the after-tax profitability of firms and the availability of finance;
- (ii) improve specific incentives to investment: where they aim at correcting market imperfections, or encourage innovations and the activities of small and medium-sized firms, they can contribute to economic adjustments;
- (iii) restructure public expenditure in favour of productive expenditure;
- (iv) reduce the budgetary deficits in those countries where these deficits are large so as to reduce the interest burden and thus increase the means available on the capital markets in favour of productive investments.

5. The Council approved the procedures proposed in these areas by the Commission in its communication concerning investment promotion and accordingly agreed that:

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 1.1.2 *et seq.*

(i) the Commission would continue to assess the tax and financial measures introduced to help investment in the Member States and would submit any conclusions for the attention of the Council at one of its meetings in the first half of 1983;

(ii) it was necessary to adopt the principle of an operation during the coming year to improve the existing aid arrangements while ensuring that they were compatible with the proper functioning of the common market, and in particular with the provisions of the Treaty on aid and competition;

(iii) between now and the end of 1982 a balance-sheet should be drawn up of the way in which the principle of increasing public expenditure to assist development was starting to be implemented in the budgets for 1983, and that it was necessary to embark as quickly as possible in the Member States on an examination of the procedure for medium-term readjustment of public finance to help investment expenditure.

6. Community policies could give important additional stimulus to productive investment. The Council notes that the Commission has put forward concrete proposals to strengthen the internal market, among others by abolishing frontier formalities, by establishing technical norms and standards at Community level, through further harmonization of company law and by more coordinated use of public contracts to ensure an adequate development potential for advanced technologies.

The Council wishes to emphasize the need for an early decision on these and other proposals to improve the functioning of the internal market.

7. The Council notes with interest that the Commission has proposed action in specific fields of strategic importance to the strengthening of the European economy such as industrial innovation, research and development, new technologies, energy and education. The Council believes that decisions should be taken at the earliest possible moment on concrete proposals in areas where Community measures can be more effective than national measures, or can assist national endeavours in these areas of common interest.

8. The financial instruments of the Community are playing an important role in structural adjustment and development, and the Council believes that they should be used to their full extent and with a high degree of effectiveness. The Council notes with interest that the Commission has proposed a further increase in the borrowing possibilities of the New Community Instrument. The Council intends to reach a decision on this early in 1983.

9. The Council will follow closely the results of policies to promote productive investment and restructure public expenditure, and it wishes to review the situation at an early date on the basis of the further communications announced by the Commission.'



PART TWO
ACTIVITIES
IN NOVEMBER 1982

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

European Monetary System

Medium-term financial assistance

2.1.1. On 22 November the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a decision extending the medium-term financial assistance mechanism for two years unless the European Monetary System enters its final stage during that period.¹

Community borrowing

New Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI)

2.1.2. On 15 November the Council considered the Commission's proposal for a decision on a new tranche of borrowings totalling 3 000 million ECU.² The Council stated that it intended to take a decision on the matter early in 1983.

Economic situation

2.1.3. On 16 November the Council held a joint meeting of the Ministers of Economic and Financial Affairs and the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs to examine the economic and social situation and new Community measures aimed at complementing and reinforcing the Member States' policies.³

2.1.4. On 19 November Parliament delivered its opinion⁴ on the Commission's proposal concerning the adoption of the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and establishing economic policy guidelines for 1983.⁵ Parliament endorsed the annual report.

Promoting investment

2.1.5. On 15 November the Council discussed in detail the Commission's communication on promoting investment⁶ and two reports from the Economic Policy Committee—one on the problem of investment, the other on real labour costs, profitability and

employment. In its conclusions the Council stated that any lasting rise in investment depended largely on an improvement in the economic situation and outlook and on an increase in firms' self-financing, but that at the same time all existing possibilities for developing investment should be systematically exploited. It agreed that the Commission should continue to assess the tax and financial measures introduced to help investment, that the principle should be adopted of improving the existing aid arrangements and that, between now and the end of 1982, an assessment should be made of the way in which the principle of increasing public expenditure to assist development was starting to be implemented in the budgets for 1983.

Monetary Committee

2.1.6. The Monetary Committee held its 285th meeting in Paris on 4 November with Mr Schulmann in the chair. It discussed in detail the role and operation of the international monetary institutions. It also examined monetary policy objectives in the Community.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Reactivating the internal market

2.1.7. On 12 November the Commission sent the Council a communication on reactivating the European internal market.

In June 1981 the European Council had agreed that 'a concerted effort needed to be made to strengthen and develop the free in-

¹ OJ L 375, 31.12.1980; Bull. EC 12-1980, point 2.1.2.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.2.

³ Point 1.2.1. *et seq.*

⁴ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.3.

⁶ Bull. EC 10-1982, points 1.1.2 to 1.1.6.

ternal market which constitutes the very foundation of the European Community and the launching pad for the direction of its common commercial policy'.¹

As the Commission has never ceased to affirm (including recently in its communication on projects to stimulate investment²), European undertakings must be assured that their activities will be able to develop in an economic unit similar in size to the American market and distinctly bigger than the Japanese market: a sufficiently large technological development, financing and sales base is essential in order to be able to face world competition.

To date, this has not been achieved. Although the problem issues have been clearly identified and fully discussed, the decisions have not yet been taken. It is obvious that efforts to improve the operation of the European internal area with a view to utilizing it to the best possible economic advantage would be pointless without a common commercial policy capable of defending the legitimate interests of Community industry. Enhancement of the internal market must be conceived first and foremost as the basis from which the competitiveness of European undertakings can be increased. There are three sectors of primary importance, ripe for a decision, where some 30 proposals are pending, namely: the treatment of products from non-member countries in relation to the Community certificate arrangements stemming from the technical harmonization directives; the information procedure where technical rules are laid down by Member State authorities and industrial standards by national standards institutes; the simplification of frontier formalities.

The question of the treatment of products originating in non-member countries when they become subject to the certificate arrangements is bound up closely with the establishment of the internal market. It is blocking some 20 proposals for directives ready for adoption in the Permanent Representatives Committee and many other drafts at Council-group level. In these circumstances the work on removing technical barriers to trade is likely to be suspended.

What is lacking is agreement on the internal market's importance in relation to the common commercial policy.

Similarly, no progress has actually been made on the Commission proposal for an information procedure in the field of technical standards and rules. The main difficulty is apparently in connection with the notification procedure, the systems applied by the Member States not being equivalent. Rapid agreement would make it possible to reduce the Community institutions' workload, the creation of situations requiring harmonization being averted, and to keep control over the advance of industrial standardization.

The half-dozen proposals for simplifying formalities at the Community's internal frontiers have also encountered resistance, although frontier checks cause considerable expenditure and impede the integration of frontier regions, which remain artificially peripheral. If the impression were given that all internal frontiers will remain indefinitely in existence in their current form, this would undermine the business world's confidence and foster a wait-and-see attitude towards a Europe of the people.

In point of fact, none of the decisions awaited in the three priority sectors contains anything really contrary to the economic interests of one or other of the Member States; none of them would entail additional expenditure: on the contrary. On the other hand, they all call for an expression of political will.

The Council's present indecision contrasts with the proliferation of measures taken by national authorities, the secondary economic effects of which threaten to split up the internal market. Back in 1974 the European Council was already recommending that greater use be made of the possibilities afforded by Article 155, fourth indent, of the EEC Treaty to relieve the Council. The Council and Parliament should concentrate their attention on framework regulations

¹ Bull. EC 6-1981, point 2.1.11.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 1.1.2 *et seq.*

and directives of obvious political importance and leave it to the Commission to settle the questions of detail arising from them. Proposals are there, pending before the Council, for products intended for construction work and measuring instruments.

The Council (Foreign Ministers) should therefore reach agreement by 30 June 1983 on the possibility of making use of Article 155, fourth indent, and should also take a certain number of decisions in suitable batches, which would help reduce the number of proposals relating to the internal market which are still pending. Furthermore, the Council should give an undertaking to terminate other legislative work of political and economic importance, particularly in the field of company law, by the end of 1984 (i.e. before enlargement at the latest).

Decision-making would be facilitated if a return were made to the following basic principles:

- (i) European integration cannot succeed unless it is accepted that traditional systems of administration and supervision must be adapted to meet new situations and requirements;
- (ii) a common market cannot be viable without confidence in the common institutions;
- (iii) the Community must be able to make its presence felt in the field of technical barriers too. A certain differentiation in the treatment of Community products and non-Community products is possible and is indeed inherent in the very nature of the Community.

In not giving itself a big internal market the Community is depriving itself of the best means it could have to cure its economy and lay the foundations for a lasting revival.

The Commission proposals concerning economic, industrial, research and development and innovation policies are all, without exception, dependent for their success on the proper functioning of a continent-wide internal market.

The Commission proposes that the Council should:

(i) decide to give priority to the adoption of the proposals concerning the treatment of products from non-member countries in relation to the Community certificate arrangements stemming from the technical harmonization directives, the information procedure where technical rules are laid down by Member State authorities and industrial standards by national standard institutes and the simplification of frontier formalities;

(ii) take steps as a matter of urgency to organize its work in such a way that sufficient progress can be made within not more than two months on those issues still posing problems so as to enable it, without further discussion, to take decisions on the three issues mentioned above; in view of the urgency and political importance of the matter, the Council might, while abiding by the decision-making procedures laid down in the Treaty, be guided by the 'Spaak Committee' formula used during the negotiations preparatory to the creation of the EEC and make some eminent personage responsible for preparing its work here with the help of delegates specially chosen by the individual Member States;

(iii) agree to prepare for adoption other suitable batches of Commission proposals relating to the internal market which are still pending before the Council by 30 June 1983 and to terminate certain legislative work of political and economic importance, particularly in the field of company law, by the end of 1984.

2.1.8. Presenting the communication, Mr Narjes, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for the internal market, was critical in his review of the policy for the attainment of the internal market. He also stressed the fact that even achievements to date were in jeopardy, notably on account of the existence of non-tariff barriers of an administrative nature and by virtue of the 'renationalization' of economic concepts and practices. He described the Council's decision-making process for dealing with the Commission proposals as far too drawn out, particularly in a period of crisis, and he condemned the tendency on the part of the Member States to create new administrative

barriers from one moment to the next. The Commission was seeking to prevail upon the Council to introduce an emergency procedure for the adoption of certain priority proposals within a very short space of time. Mr Narjes emphasized that none of these decisions contained elements running counter to the economic interests of any Member State or entailing any additional expenditure.

On the subject of infringements, Mr Narjes confirmed that the number of new cases had snowballed over the last few years. He also made the point that the Commission measures were not directed at any Member State in particular, but merely sought to safeguard the Community's achievements to date for the benefit of all Member States.

*

2.1.9. On 18 November Parliament passed a resolution on the restriction of imports to France.¹

2.1.10. On 8 November the Commission had decided, in this connection, to initiate the infringement procedure with regard to certain French measures relating to external trade, namely:

- (i) the obligation to have video-tape recorders for the French market presented for customs clearance at Poitiers; and
- (ii) the requirement that customs papers accompanying imported products be in French.

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

2.1.11. On 22 November the Council amended² for the second time its Directive of 27 July 1976 relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations.³ Under the amending legislation it is prohibited for toys to contain dangerous quantities of benzene, a substance which is recognized as being highly toxic. The Commission's proposal on this matter dates from October 1980.⁴

Foodstuffs

2.1.12. On 23 November the Council adopted a concerted-action project on the effects of processing on the physical properties of foodstuffs (COST project 90 bis).⁵

Business law

Revision of Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property

2.1.13. On 22 November the Council approved a Commission proposal under Article 116 of the EEC Treaty laying down the guidelines whereby the Member States are to proceed by Community action in the negotiations to revise the Paris Convention.

The Council's decision refers to a new version of Article 5A(8) of the Convention and requires the Member States to signify their agreement. Article 5A concerns the grant of compulsory licences and the forfeiture or revocation of patents. The particular virtue of the new version is that it constitutes a sound compromise between the interests of developing and industrialized countries: it prohibits the grant of exclusive non-voluntary licences which would have the effect of depriving the owner of the patent entirely of his exclusive rights in any developing country granting such a licence.

Free movement of persons and freedom to provide services

Mutual recognition of diplomas and access to occupations

Dental practitioners

2.1.14. The Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners met on 10 and 11 November and decided to transmit to the Commission and the Member States

¹ Point 2.4.9; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

² OJ L 339, 1.12.1982.

³ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

⁴ OJ C 285, 4.11.1980; Bull. EC 10-1980, point 2.1.10.

⁵ Point 2.1.144.

the recommendations it had adopted in June.¹ It also approved a report describing the forms of specialized dental training recognized by Directive 78/686/EEC.

In 1983 the Committee plans to complete an analytical report on basic training in the Member States and, on this basis of the report on specialized training, to formulate general guidelines on training in recognized fields with a view to achieving comparably high training levels.

At the same meeting the Committee also heard reports on problems and trends in basic dental training in Denmark, Luxembourg, Greece and Ireland.

Industry

Steel

Informal meeting of Industry Ministers

2.1.15. On 17 and 18 November the Ministers of Industry met informally at Elsinore, Denmark. A broad consensus was reached on the following four points concerning steel:

(i) With a view to redressing the balance between supply and demand in the light of the medium-term prospects, substantial production plant shutdowns will be required.

(ii) The reductions in capacity of the order of 14 million tonnes reported to the Commission under the aid code are insufficient and do not restore the long-term viability of the companies in question. Furthermore, they do not appear to have achieved a balance in spreading the load among the Member States.

(iii) In the Commission's view, the objective to be achieved by 1 July 1983 is a reduction in capacity of the order of 30 to 35 million tonnes.

(iv) The back-up measures proposed by the Commission and supported by the governments are as follows: organization of the market (setting of guide prices and better control of the prices charged by the companies, adaptation of the quota system to

market fluctuations, adjustment of the external element); supervision of the granting of aid so as to ensure that it is not misdirected and does not exceed the amount necessary to cover losses; and action on conversion and employment.

Absolute transparency is essential at all times.

Anti-crisis measures

2.1.16. At the end of November the Commission approved in principle a number of measures designed to strengthen the anti-crisis arrangements currently in operation with a view to ensuring greater compliance with the Community constraints governing quantities, pricing regulations and supervision of aid. The majority of these measures, which under the ECSC Treaty are matters for the Commission, should be finalized during December.

In particular, the measures envisaged are intended to ensure the following:

(i) amendment of Decision 1696/82/ECSC (quotas) regarding deadlines for the publication of abatement rates;

(ii) setting of abatement rates for the first quarter;

(iii) publication of 'guide prices';

(iv) statistical monitoring of deliveries from the steel companies;

(v) statistical monitoring of deliveries from the dealers;

(vi) extension of Annex I to the ECSC Treaty to cover other products.

2.1.17. On 18 November Parliament passed a resolution on measures to combat the crisis in the European steel industry.²

Examination of aids

2.1.18. The Commission has also stated its position on the measures to aid the steel industry which are linked to the restructuring

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.20.

² Point 2.4.9; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

plans and which, under the aid code,¹ were to be reported to the Commission before 1 October. In very many cases the Commission has been prompted to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the code, in order to permit a more detailed examination of these measures to be carried out. In each instance the examination will be conducted in conjunction with the government concerned, so that the Commission can make a final decision. These decisions should be finalized during the first half of 1983. The planned aid can only be granted after the Commission's agreement has been obtained, and agreement will not be given unless the Commission is satisfied that the various restructuring measures envisaged form a balanced whole and offer a reasonable prospect of viability as far as the European steel industry is concerned.

Basic prices for certain products

2.1.19. On 17 November the Commission adopted a communication amending the basic import prices for certain iron and steel products.² This represents an average increase, expressed in ECU, of 8% on the basic prices published on 29 December 1981 for ordinary steels.³ The average increase for special steels is 6% for semi-finished products, merchant bars and stainless-steel wire rod. For the other products the average increase is 3%.

For pig iron and cast iron the price rise is of the order of 6.5%, with a rise of 3.5% for ferromanganese.

These new basic prices are to come into effect on 1 December 1982.

Electronics and information technology

2.1.20. On 12 November the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a decision on the preparatory phase for an information technology R & D programme (Esprit). It will be recalled that the Commission had transmitted a number of communications on this subject,⁴ and these were examined by the Council on 4 November.⁵

Industrial innovation and the information market

Industrial innovation

2.1.21. As part of the follow-up to the Commission's communication to the Council concerning a plan for the transnational development of supporting infrastructure for innovation,⁶ a second meeting of experts on the use of research by universities and State research centres was held in Luxembourg on 11 and 12 November. Highlighting the existence of bottlenecks between their sources of technology and the Community market, the experts emphasized the need to expand back-up facilities in order to intensify exchanges in connection with the exploitation of research at Community level. Priority topics were selected for future discussions. The next meeting will take place in May 1983.

Euronet — European networks

2.1.22. On 8 November the Commission decided to give concrete backing to exporting European information services (Euronet-Diane) to North America. This is part of the third three-year plan of action adopted by a Council Decision of 27 July 1981.⁷ More specifically, it falls within the scope of the chapter on the development of the Community information market, the objective of which is to increase the role of European industry in the world market and to encourage the exporting of information products and services.

2.1.23. On 15 November the Council adopted a Decision concluding:

(i) an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and Fin-

¹ Bull. EC 6-1981, point 1.4.3.

² OJ L 321, 17.11.1982.

³ OJ L 372, 29.12.1981.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.14; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.17.

⁵ Point 2.1.149.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.30.

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

land on the interconnection of Euronet and the Finnish data network, and

(ii) a Quadripartite Protocol on the purport of the agreements for data network cooperation between the EEC, Switzerland, Sweden and Finland.¹

Exploitation of research results

2.1.24. The Commission held a symposium in Luxembourg from 17 to 19 November on the needs of new-technology-based enterprises. It was the third symposium to be held by the Commission on the financing of innovation,² and was attended by many representatives of industry and the banking community.

The picture to emerge was one of a period of economic recession in which firms using new technologies — frequently small and medium-sized businesses — are having to take over from many of the major industries currently in decline. These firms are now in a good position to make their mark on the world market and thus serve as a fresh source of employment.

Since it generally takes a great many years for firms like this to reach break-even point, they can hardly be financed under traditional lending arrangements. Consequently, venture capital firms and specialized departments in banks have come forward to meet their requirements.

Furthermore, there is a need for governments to provide a direct incentive by imposing the lowest possible rate of taxation on capital gains, for unofficial securities markets to be set up throughout the Community, for part of the financial resources of insurance companies, pension funds, etc. to be mobilized for the purpose of developing innovation.

Multilingual projects

Eurotra

2.1.25. On 4 November the Council adopted the Eurotra programme,³ a Community research and development pro-

gramme for a machine translation system of advanced design.

Eurotra will run for a period of five and a half years, during which time it will receive Community financing to a total of 16 million ECU.

The purpose of the programme is to create a computer-aided machine translation system capable of handling all the official Community languages.

By the end of the programme a prototype system should be available for operations involving a limited range of texts. It will also serve as a basis for development of the system on an industrial scale.

The programme is divided into three phases:

(i) a two-year preparatory phase, accounting for 2 million ECU, and covering project definition, organization and working methods;

(ii) a second two-year phase (8.5 million ECU) for basic and applied linguistic research;

(iii) a third phase for finalization of the linguistic models and evaluation of results (18 months, 5.5 million ECU).

From the second phase the Commission will be able to conclude agreements with non-member States, particularly those participating in COST projects, associating them with the programme.

Under the terms of the decision adopting the programme, part of the Community's contribution will have to be repaid if the results are used industrially or commercially.

Transfer between European languages

2.1.26. On 25 November the Commission decided to implement the third three-year plan of action (1983-85) for the improvement of the transfer of information between European languages.

The main objective of this third plan is to perfect and apply the tools designed and de-

¹ OJ L 345, 6.12.1982.

² Bull. EC 9-1980, point 2.1.95; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.18.

³ OJ L 317, 13.11.1982.

veloped under the first two plans of action in order to gain the maximum profit from the investment made so far, benefiting the institutions involved and the European economy as a whole.

Customs union

Simplification of customs formalities

Community transit

2.1.27. The Commission extended until 31 December 1984¹ the Regulation introducing a Community transit declaration form for use in an automatic or electronic data-processing system.²

Common Customs Tariff

2.1.28. The Council adopted the Common Customs Tariff to be applied from 1 January 1983.³ The new regulation incorporates the fourth reduction in duties agreed at the end of the multilateral trade negotiations. This new edition also includes the amendments introduced by certain agricultural and other regulations in the course of 1982.

Economic tariff matters

Tariff quotas

2.1.29. In November the Council adopted regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of tariff quotas for 1983⁴ in respect of:

dried figs originating in Spain, falling within CCT subheading ex 08.03 B;

dried grapes originating in Spain, falling within CCT subheading ex 08.04 B I;

certain petroleum products refined in Spain, falling within CCT Chapter 27;

woven cotton fabrics originating in Spain, falling within CCT heading No 55.09;

apricot pulp originating in Morocco, falling within CCT subheading ex 20.06 B II c) 1 aa);

apricot pulp originating in Tunisia, falling within CCT subheading ex 20.06 B II c) 1 aa);

apricot pulp originating in Israel, falling within CCT subheading ex 20.06 B II c) 1 aa);

'sljivovica' plum spirit originating in Yugoslavia, falling within CCT subheading ex 22.09 C IV a);

certain tobaccos originating in Yugoslavia, falling within CCT subheading ex 24.01 B;

wines of fresh grapes and grape must with fermentation arrested by the addition of alcohol entirely obtained in Greece, falling within CCT heading No 22.05;

certain hand-made products;

dried grapes in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kilograms or less falling within CCT subheading 08.04 B I;

certain handwoven fabrics, pile and chenille, falling within CCT heading Nos ex 50.09, ex 55.07, ex 55.09 and ex 58.04;

raw silk (not thrown), falling within CCT heading No 50.02;

yarn, entirely of silk, not put up for retail sale, falling within CCT heading No ex 50.04;

yarn, spun entirely from waste silk other than noil, not put up for retail sale, falling within CCT subheading 50.05 A;

yarn of poly (p-phenylene terephthalamide) intended for use in the manufacture of tyres or products used in the manufacture of tyres, falling within CCT subheading ex 51.01 A;

rosin (including 'brais résineux') falling within CCT subheading 38.08 A;

certain plywoods of coniferous species, falling within CCT heading No ex 44.15;

silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) falling within CCT subheading ex 03.01 B I t);

frozen cod (*Gadus morrhua*) fillets falling within CCT subheading 03.01 B II b) 1;

¹ OJ L 310, 6.11.1982.

² OJ L 333, 24.12.1977.

³ OJ L 318, 15.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 328, 24.11.1982; OJ L 333, 27.11.1982; OJ L 340, 2.12.1982; OJ L 345, 6.12.1982.

fresh or dried hazelnuts, shelled or not, originating in Turkey, falling within CCT subheading ex 08.05 G.

Suspensions

2.1.30. In November the Council adopted Regulations temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on the following products:¹

certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft;
a number of industrial products;
a number of agricultural products.

Community surveillance of imports

2.1.31. On 15 November the Council adopted a Regulation establishing ceilings and Community surveillance for imports of certain products originating in Portugal (1983).²

Customs value

2.1.32. By a Regulation adopted on 18 November³ the Commission increased the number of imported perishable goods which can be processed under the system of simplified procedures for the determination of customs value. With 57 headings in all, the system now covers nearly all fresh fruit and vegetables imported into the Community in substantial quantities, and considerably reduces the customs formalities usually imposed on these products, which tend to be sold in consignments.

General legislation

2.1.33. On 23 November the Advisory Committee on Customs Matters held its 14th plenary session in Brussels. It issued opinions on several pieces of draft legislation concerning the origin of goods, customs value and the simplification of customs formalities for intra-Community trade. It hoped that it would be kept informed of work carried out in this field.

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Joint ventures

Improvement in competition on the market for aerospace parts

2.1.34. Steps taken by the Commission have led to changes in the statutes and rules of Air-Forge, a *groupement d'intérêt économique* (a form of joint venture) owned in equal proportions by Creusot-Loire and Forgeal, a subsidiary of Péchiney Ugine Kuhlmann.

Forgeal and Creusot-Loire manufacture parts for the aerospace industry, in light alloys and titanium; they shape these parts using 20 000-tonne presses, which they both possess, and a 65 000-tonne press which they own jointly and which is the largest press in existence in the free-market economies.

Air-Forge's task is to take orders for parts for ballistic missiles and aircraft, to pool them, and to allocate them between the two parent companies. Air-Forge's statutes and rules provided for orders to be allocated under a system of fixed quotas.

These provisions were incompatible with the EEC Treaty competition rules (Article 85), because they shared the market between Creusot-Loire and Forgeal.

After the Commission initiated proceedings the firms agreed to drop the offending provisions, which had not been complied with in any case. Each company is now free to manufacture in accordance with its own capacity and the requirements of the market, with Air-Forge's role being confined to pooling orders, allocating them to whichever of the partners offers the best prices and terms, and harmonizing workloads.

¹ OJ L 324, 19.11.1982; OJ L 325, 20.11.1982; OJ L 332, 27.11.1982.

² OJ L 345, 6.12.1982.

³ OJ L 323, 19.11.1982.

The Commission's move demonstrates its desire to maintain effective competition between firms which have economic interests in common, for example where they have jointly undertaken large investments.

State aids

Aid to research and development

Federal Republic of Germany

2.1.35. On 27 October the Commission decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the second programme on aid to energy research and energy technology, notified by the Federal Republic of Germany under Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty.

This programme covers the period from 1981 to 1985. A total of DM 13 465 million has been allocated for its implementation, divided among the following six main areas: new technologies for the rational utilization and provision of energy; coal and other fossil energy resources; new sources of energy (solar, wind, etc.); nuclear fuel cycle and reactor safety research; advanced reactors; controlled nuclear fusion.

The aid would take the form of grants of up to 50, 75 or 100% of project costs and could be combined with other aid schemes. Recipient companies would be required to give preference to Lufthansa for their air transport needs and to use German subcontractors wherever possible; in addition, restrictions could be placed on non-German companies which wished to acquire licences to exploit the results of the aided projects.

The Commission considered that, even though the general thrust of the planned aid scheme is in line with the Commission's policy in respect of both energy and research and development, the intensity of the aid, the volume of the funds involved and the fact that the majority of the aid will go to very large undertakings are likely to distort competition to an extent contrary to the common interest. Furthermore, the limitations introduced in the implementing regula-

tions are contrary to the provisions of Articles 7, 30, 52 and 59 of the Treaty, and the Commission cannot grant the programme derogations under Article 92(2) and (3) when it violates other Articles of the Treaty.

The Commission has therefore formally invited the Federal German Government, the governments of the other Member States and interested third parties (the latter by means of a notice in the *Official Journal*) to submit their comments.

United Kingdom

2.1.36. On 10 November the Commission decided to raise no objection to the implementation of an aid scheme in favour of flexible manufacturing systems, notified under Article 93(3).

The scheme provides for aid under the Science and Technology Act and under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 to encourage the design, research, development and application of flexible manufacturing systems. Such systems combine micro-electronic and mechanical engineering to bring economies of scale to batch work.

The total budget for the scheme amounts to UKL 60 million, UKL 25 million under the Science and Technology Act and UKL 35 million under the 1972 Industry Act. The aid will take the form of grants of up to 50% of professional consultancy fees, subject to a ceiling of UKL 50 000, and grants of up to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % for development costs (planning, research, design, software and installation of machine tools, robots, mechanized handling equipment, computers, etc.). A part of the scheme is devoted exclusively to robots. In this latter case, the minimum cost level to qualify for support is UKL 25 000, or in the case of more general schemes, UKL 200 000. Applications may be submitted up to 31 March 1986.

As regards the origin of products, the United Kingdom Government has agreed that equal opportunity should be given to products from other Member States. Individual cases involving project costs of more than UKL 5 million will be subject to prior notification.

Taking into account the Commission's policy on research and development as outlined in its communication on a Community strategy to develop Europe's industry, as well as Community policy towards the promotion of microtechnology, the Commission took the view that there was no objection to the implementation of this scheme.

Industry aids

Petroleum products

2.1.37. On 27 October the Commission adopted a final decision prohibiting the Belgian Government from granting assistance under the Economic Expansion Act of 17 July 1959 towards investment in a cracking plant by an oil group at its Antwerp refinery.

This decision closes the Article 93(2) procedure initiated in March.

State monopolies of a commercial character

Greece

2.1.38. Article 40 of the Greek Act of Accession requires the Commission to make recommendations as to the manner in which and the timetable according to which the progressive adjustment of these monopolies must be carried out. In order to carry out this task, the Commission needs to consult the legislative and other instruments governing the national monopolies existing in Greece. During the negotiations on the terms of accession, the Commission's staff requested, without avail, that these documents be transmitted to it. The Commission has reiterated this request since accession and has asked for details of the steps taken to meet the obligations arising from Article 40, without any precise response. On 10 November the Commission decided to pursue the infringement procedure (under Article 169 of the Treaty) initiated at the beginning of 1982 by sending a reasoned opinion to the Greek Government.

Financial institutions and taxation

Indirect taxation

Turnover tax

2.1.39. On 26 November the Commission sent the Council two communications concerning the application of Article 30 of the sixth Council Directive of 17 May 1977 on value-added tax¹ to two applications for derogations made by the Italian Government in connection with conventions between Italy and Switzerland and between Italy and Austria.

These conventions permit exemption from VAT of the temporary importation of equipment and the final importation of materials, fuels and consumable goods used in the event of emergency measures to combat accidental pollution of the common waters (convention between Italy and Switzerland), and for the maintenance of the frontier between Italy and Austria (convention between those two countries).

In accordance with Article 30 of the Directive, the Council's decisions authorizing Italy to conclude these two conventions will be deemed to have been adopted if, within two months of the other Member States being informed, the matters have not been raised before the Council.

In its communications to the Council the Commission states that it does not intend to request that the questions be raised before the Council.

Tax-free allowances

2.1.40. On 29 November the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a directive granting Denmark a further prolongation until 31 December 1987 of the derogation from the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty in international travel.² The

¹ OJ L 145, 13.5.1977.

² OJ L 206, 14.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1980, point 2.1.60.

proposal was made in response to a request by the Danish Government for the derogation to be extended for six years.

The derogation proposed by the Commission provides that the arrangements at present applied in Denmark should be gradually brought into line with the Community arrangements over a five-year period.

Excise duties

Manufactured tobacco

2.1.41. On 15 November the Commission proposed that the Council extend for the fourth time, until the end of 1983, the second stage of harmonization of the structure of excise duties on cigarettes.¹ This extension is required to prevent a legal hiatus after 31 December 1982.

Parliament has several times rejected the proposal for a directive introducing the third stage of harmonization;² as the Commission has not withdrawn its proposal, Parliament decided on 19 November to refer the question back to the appropriate committee once again, in accordance with Rule 35 of its Rules of Procedure.

Employment, education and social policy

Joint Council meeting

2.1.42. On 16 November the Council held a joint meeting of the Ministers of Economic and Financial Affairs and the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs. Like their 11 June 1981 meeting,³ the aim of this meeting was to improve mutual understanding for all aspects of the unemployment problem and to examine in common the economic and social situation and new Community measures aimed at complementing and reinforcing the Member States' policies in this area.⁴

Youth unemployment

2.1.43. On 24 and 25 November the European Youth Forum, which embraces all youth organizations in the Member States,

organized a meeting in Brussels in connection with its campaign for youth employment. The meeting was attended by 100 young unemployed workers, who spoke on behalf of the 4.5 million young unemployed in the Community.

On 24 November Mr Richard met the delegates and told them that the Commission was giving priority to their problem. On 25 November a special hearing was organized with Parliament's Committee on Social Affairs and Committee on Youth. The main message of the numerous and meaningful statements made by the young people at the hearing was that they did not want a policy of aid but worthwhile jobs with fair remuneration. A document drawn up by the Youth Forum contains detailed replies—which the Commission will take into account—to the many questions raised by current training and employment policies.

Financial instruments

European Social Fund

2.1.44. On 24 November the Commission recommended that the Council extend beyond 31 December 1982 four decisions in respect of assistance from the Social Fund for persons in employment difficulties,⁵ persons employed in the textiles and clothing industry,⁶ immigrant workers⁷ and women.⁷

Education and vocational training

Education Committee

2.1.45. The Education Committee met on 18 and 19 November and discussed the education of migrant workers and their families, pilot projects for handicapped persons and

¹ OJ C 310, 27.11.1982.

² OJ C 264, 11.10.1980; Bull. EC 6-1980, point 2.1.39; Bull. EC 6-1981, point 2.3.7.

³ Bull. EC 6-1981, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3.

⁴ Point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

⁵ OJ L 199, 30.7.1975.

⁶ OJ L 39, 14.2.1976.

⁷ OJ L 337, 27.12.1977.

girls, preparation of a symposium on information technology and education to take place in Marseilles in the spring of 1983, and the development of contacts between the Commission and the European Teachers' Trade Union Committee.

A wide-ranging discussion on the impact of demographic changes on education systems in the Community and its repercussions on teachers' careers provided an opportunity for each national delegation to describe the measures already adopted or envisaged.

Cooperation in education

2.1.46. A European seminar on education for the 11 to 14 age range and its priority tasks took place from 8 to 13 November at Pont-à-Mousson, France. The seminar, which was organized by the French Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Commission, discussed the transition from primary to secondary school, guidance and counselling, priority zones, training for school administrators and the European dimension of in-service training for teachers.

The development of a programme of study visits for local and regional administrators of establishments for the 11 to 19 age range was also discussed.

Specific action in the field of education and vocational training

New technologies, training and education

2.1.47. With the assistance of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, the Commission organized a conference on technological change, employment, qualifications and training, which was held in Berlin from 24 to 26 November, attended by government experts, employers, trade unionists and research workers. This conference is a follow-up to the proposals for Community action on new information technology and vocational training presented by the Commission to the Council in June.¹

2.1.48. On 11 and 12 November the Commission held a meeting of experts in Brussels to review current developments in the use of

the new technologies in education. A number of preliminary conclusions and suggestions emerged from this meeting in response to the request by the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council last May.¹

Exchanges of young workers

2.1.49. National coordinators and representatives of bodies organizing exchanges of young workers² met on 29 and 30 November to discuss ways of widening the scope of the programme in terms of quantity and quality. In 1983 other sources of financing will be explored and particular attention focused on the instructional content of these exchanges.

Social security — Living and working conditions

Social security and protection

2.1.50. The Commission transmitted a communication on social security problems (points for consideration) to the Council on 18 November.

In the present economic context, national social security systems are presenting the budgetary authorities with problems—problems which, at the same time, are calling into question the maintenance of the level of coverage.

To some extent these are common problems and discussions in the Member States should be extended to the Community as a whole to help promote a convergence of national policies, which is becoming all the more pressing in the present circumstances.

The communication briefly outlines the differences between the Member States' economic structures and social systems, sums up the characteristics of the present situation and finally proposes principal areas for corrective action.

¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.1.38 and 2.1.41.

² Council Decision 79/642/EEC of 16 July 1979.

It is intended that the document should be widely discussed with governments and the two sides of industry within the Community institutions. It is meant to result in identification of areas which could be tackled in depth at Community level, as well as more specific action which could be incorporated in national policies.

Paul Finet Foundation

2.1.51. At its 54th meeting the Executive Committee of the Paul Finet Foundation examined 219 cases and awarded 200 grants, totalling BFR 2.73 million. During the 17 years of its existence the Foundation has received 16 324 applications from 5 407 candidates and has awarded 11 742 grants, totalling BFR 108 236 678.

Equal treatment for men and women

2.1.52. The Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men¹ held its third meeting from 24 to 26 November to review progress in the implementation of the new action programme. The points dealt with included equal treatment for men and women who are self-employed or working in agriculture and parental and family leave. The Committee finalized its opinion on a Community legal instrument covering these subjects, as provided in the Community action programme.

2.1.53. From 10 to 12 November the Commission took part in a seminar at Grado, Italy, on the subject of the advancement of women farm workers. Discussions concentrated on the drafting of a Community instrument establishing the legal status of this category of worker.

Living and working conditions

Housing

2.1.54. Under the seventh, eighth and ninth subsidized housing schemes (first and second instalments) for workers in ECSC industries, the Commission approved loans totalling 462 860 ECU towards the financing of 170

housing units in Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Health and safety

Health and safety at work

2.1.55. On 4 November the Commission sent to the Council a draft resolution on a second Community action programme on safety and health at work.²

The new programme, which would run until the end of 1988, is intended to improve safety at the workplace for the some 100 million employed workers in the Community through 14 priority measures. It continues the first programme adopted by the Council in 1978.³

Health and safety (Euratom)

2.1.56. The fourth information seminar on the European programme for the intercomparison of dosimeters used in radiation protection, which was held in Bilthoven, the Netherlands, from 25 to 27 October, was devoted to an assessment of results obtained so far and marked the end of the 1981-82 phase of the programme for the intercomparison of dosimeters that had been initiated and coordinated by the Commission with the participation of some 30 institutes specializing in dosimetry in the field of radiation protection. In view of the acknowledged value of such programmes, which are intended to improve the quality and reliability of dosimetry in this area, the Commission was asked to conduct further intercomparisons of this type, particularly in view of the practical assistance they provide for the implementation of the basic standards directive as regards the medical surveillance of workers in the nuclear industry.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.73.

² OJ C 308, 25.11.1982.

³ OJ C 165, 11.7.1978; Twelfth General Report, point 228.

2.1.57. A meeting for the exchange of experience relating to the practical organization of radiation protection in nuclear power stations was held on 8 and 9 November, with the participation of experts from the Member States, Sweden and Switzerland. It dealt in particular with measures for registering the dose-uptake of workers in the industry, dose optimization techniques and the basic principles of radiation protection training for those employed in nuclear power stations. The Commission was asked to help in developing practical cooperation in this last field.

Health and safety (ECSC)

2.1.58. At a meeting on 23 November the Mines Safety and Health Commission adopted a number of proposals concerning the safety of drilling operations during the production of oil and gas on land; like provisions were adopted in 1981 in respect of offshore drilling. Two other proposals relating to the use of diesel engines underground and the safety of work on live components during electrification projects were also approved.

The Mines Safety and Health Commission also examined, for information purposes, a document on the reduction of underground working noise in the extractive industries and a report on safety provisions relating to hoisting cables and their attachments.

2.1.59. The Commission asked the Council for its assent and the ECSC Consultative Committee for its opinion concerning a draft memorandum relating to a first Community research programme on occupational safety in the steel industry (steel casting).¹

Regional policy

Coordination and programmes

Regional Policy Committee

2.1.60. The Regional Policy Committee met on 12 November with Mr Bernard Attali in the chair.

It delivered a favourable opinion on 74 major infrastructure projects submitted with applications for financial assistance from the ERDF totalling 930.19 million ECU.

Financial instruments

European Regional Development Fund

Fund Committee

2.1.61. The Committee of the European Regional Development Fund, meeting on 25 and 26 November, delivered its opinion on the draft decisions for granting Fund aid under the fourth allocation for 1982 of the quota section.

ERDF assistance: quota section

2.1.62. On 15 November the Commission decided to grant aid of 200 000 ECU under Article 12 of the Fund Regulation to finance four studies closely related to Fund operations in the United Kingdom, Denmark (Greenland), Greece and Ireland.

Conversion loans

2.1.63. In November the Commission paid out a total of 37.51 million ECU for conversion loans under Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty.²

Measures in favour of the United Kingdom

2.1.64. On 12 November the Commission transmitted a proposal to extend for a further financial year, in accordance with the conclusions of the Council meeting of 26 October,³ the supplementary measures in favour of investment under special programmes submitted by the United Kingdom.⁴

¹ Point 2.1.153.

² Point 2.3.11.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.4.

⁴ OJ L 284, 29.10.1980.

Disaster relief

2.1.65. Parliament adopted resolutions¹ on:

- (i) damage caused by the earthquake in Umbria and part of Marche and its aftermath;
- (ii) Community assistance to regions of Greece after the recent floods;
- (iii) emergency relief following violent storms in southern France;
- (iv) a financial grant to the regions of France and Spain struck by storms;
- (v) floods in the regions of Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany and Liguria.

Environment and consumers**Environment****Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances****Freshwater and marine pollution**

2.1.66. At its plenary sitting on 19 November Parliament gave its opinion¹ on the proposal for a directive concerning the limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment, which the Commission put to the Council on 17 February 1981.² Parliament approved the proposal and suggested a number of additional technical changes.

2.1.67. During the same sitting Parliament came out in favour¹ of ratification of the Protocol, to the Barcelona Convention, for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources.³

Chemicals

2.1.68. The Commission was closely involved in the preparation and proceedings of the OECD's second high-level meeting on chemicals, which was held in Paris between 15 and 17 November.⁴

2.1.69. The Scientific Advisory Committee on the Toxicity and Ecotoxicity of Chemical Compounds⁵ held its seventh plenary meeting in Brussels on 25 November. It approved the wording of an opinion concerning the classification, packaging and labelling of carcinogenic, mutagenic and teratogenic substances and also the draft report on its activities during its first three-year term. Besides that, the Committee examined in depth the problems posed by:

- (i) the toxicity of the formaldehyde released by foams and materials containing ureaformaldehyde;
- (ii) benzidine-based colouring agents;
- (iii) the quality objectives for benzene, chloroform and carbon tetrachloride in the aquatic environment.

Talks on these items are to continue at the next plenary meeting with a view to formulating the Committee's opinion.

2.1.70. On 16 November the Council formally adopted the decision on the consolidation of precautionary measures concerning chlorofluorocarbons in the environment,⁶ to which it had agreed on 24 June.⁷

Noise pollution

2.1.71. On 19 November Parliament delivered an opinion¹ approving the proposal for a directive on the limitation of noise emissions from subsonic aircraft, which the Commission had put to the Council on 28 September 1981.⁸ The Council agreed the basic principles behind this proposal last June.⁹

¹ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

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

³ OJ C 4, 8.1.1982; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.82. Point 2.2.53.

⁴ OJ L 198, 22.7.1978; Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.72.

⁶ OJ L 329, 25.11.1982.

⁷ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.83.

⁸ OJ C 276, 28.10.1981; Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.1.57.

⁹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.91.

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

Flora and fauna

2.1.72. Both Parliament¹ and the Economic and Social Committee² each delivered opinions approving the proposal for a regulation to ban imports into the Community of skins and other products derived from the pups of certain species of seal.³

2.1.73. On 18 November Parliament adopted a resolution on the Community's response to the refusal by certain members of the International Whaling Commission to abide by that body's decision to put an end to commercial whaling.⁴

Agriculture

Council meeting

2.1.74. At its meeting on 15 and 16 November the Council gave further close consideration to the various points arising with regard to the fruit and vegetables sector and the olive-oil sector, as regards the adjustment of the *acquis communautaire* for Mediterranean products.⁵ In closing its discussions, the Council found that many technical aspects of the problems had been clarified, but that some basic options remained unresolved.

2.1.75. In addition, the Council discussed further: the determination of the areas planted with olive trees qualifying for aid for the production of olive oil, the proposal for a regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a 50 000-tonne quota for frozen beef and veal for 1983, in respect of which there emerged an agreement in principle, and the proposal for a regulation amending the Regulation opening a Community tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal (Hilton beef), which called for the quota to be increased from 21 000 to 29 800 tonnes in accordance with undertakings entered into under GATT.⁶

2.1.76. Concerning agricultural structures, the Council among other things extended the period of validity of the common measures on the processing and marketing of agricultural products.⁷

2.1.77. The Council also discussed a Commission proposal calling for a reduction of 25 mg per litre in the sulphur dioxide content of wines other than sparkling wines and liqueur wines and the proposal for a decision recognizing certain parts of the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany as being free from swine fever.

2.1.78. In addition, the Council considered a progress report on discussions in the veterinary sector, particularly as regards: problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat and imports of animals and fresh meat from non-Community countries; Community measures for the control of foot-and-mouth disease; and health problems affecting personnel responsible for carrying out health inspections.

Market situation: milk sector

2.1.79. On 3 December the Commission proposed/adopted a package of measures in the milk sector aimed at signalling to Community milk producers that production will exceed the guarantee threshold fixed by the Council for 1982 and at preventing a significant build-up of stocks.

The Commission adopted its package after a thorough analysis of developments in the dairy sector. Milk deliveries to dairies are expected to rise by 2.7% in 1982 whilst butter and skimmed-milk powder production is 6 to 7% higher than last year.

Prices

2.1.80. Council Regulation No 1184/82⁸ set a guarantee threshold for the volume of

¹ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

² Point 2.4.25.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.58.

⁴ Point 2.4.9; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1981, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9.

⁶ Both regulations were adopted on 23 November (OJ L 340, 2.12.1982).

⁷ Point 2.1.100.

⁸ OJ L 140, 20.5.1982.

milk delivered to dairies in 1982. This threshold is at the level of milk deliveries to dairies in 1981 plus 0.5%. It is now expected that the volume of milk delivered to dairies in 1982 will exceed last year's level by 2.7%. The Council Regulation requires that appropriate measures be taken in order to offset the costs of disposing of the additional milk production. The Commission made clear in the 1982 price package that, in the event of the threshold being exceeded, it would propose an appropriate reduction of intervention prices with effect from 1 April 1983.

Consequently, taking account of these developments in the dairy sector, the Commission has at this stage decided—independently of its price proposals for 1983/84—to propose a 2.2% reduction in intervention prices for dairy products, to take effect from the beginning of the 1983/84 marketing year. The proposal in question was put to the Council on 16 November.¹

Christmas butter

2.1.81. A quantity of 120 000 tonnes of butter will be made available with a total subsidy—wholly paid by Community funds—of 130 ECU/100 kg; this is equal to about a third of the wholesale price of butter and should therefore have a favourable impact on consumer prices. The cost of this operation is estimated at 142 million ECU.

In the light of the special situation on the Danish, Greek, Italian and Luxembourg markets in butter, where stocks—whether public or private—are almost non-existent, the Council adopted a special decision in connection with the 'Christmas butter' measure by allowing the Member States concerned to subsidize a total of up to 20 904 tonnes of market butter.²

Social butter

2.1.82. The Commission also proposed to the Council an increase—which was adopted on 9 November²—in the subsidy on butter for persons receiving social assistance. The subsidy, which is chargeable to the Com-

munity, amounts to 80 ECU/100 kg of butter as against 60.4 ECU previously.

Export policy

2.1.83. The Commission feels that it is no longer necessary to exclude butter from the range of foodstuffs currently exported to the Soviet Union. Implementation will depend on the commercial situation on the butter market. On account of the interest it has shown, Parliament was informed by the Commission.³ The Commission has decided that any exports will be subject to close surveillance in the form of a tendering system which will allow complete control of the timing of sales and of quantities and prices.

2.1.84. On 22 November, in a communication on adjustments to refunds fixed in advance for milk products for export during the 1983/84 milk year,⁴ the Commission laid down the criteria for making the adjustments in respect of the different products, in order to help Community exporters conclude sales contracts specifying delivery during the first six months of 1983.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

Cereal substitutes

2.1.85. To prevent any delays from jeopardizing the implementation of the Agreements between the Community and certain non-member countries on manioc imports,⁵ and pending the adoption of a regulation on import arrangements for 1983-86 for products falling within CCT subheading 07.06 A (on a proposal sent to the Council on 18 November), the Commission at the same time put forward a proposal for a regulation, based on Article 113 of the Treaty, on the transitional import system applicable at

¹ OJ C 318, 4.12.1982.

² OJ L 314, 10.11.1982.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.4.18.

⁴ OJ C 307, 24.11.1982.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.91.

the beginning of 1983 to products falling within CCT subheading 07.06 A.

In order to enable importers to import products falling within CCT subheading 07.06 A at the beginning of 1983 it is also proposed that import licences may be issued before 1 January 1983 but that their period of validity should not commence until 1 January 1983.

Lastly, it is proposed that the Common Customs Tariff be amended in line with the proposed arrangements.

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.86. On 5 November the Commission sent to the Council a proposal to extend for a further period—until 31 December 1984—the use of the European Monetary System in the common agricultural policy,¹ pending the adoption of the proposal on the definitive introduction of the ECU into the CAP.²

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2.1.87. On 6 November Parliament adopted a resolution on the cost to the Community budget of the common agricultural policy in the cereals sector.³

2.1.88. On 18 November Parliament adopted a series of guidelines for drawing up the 1983/84 price proposals and related measures.⁴

Market organizations

Adjustments to basic Regulations

2.1.89. On 15 November, on a proposal from the Commission,⁵ the Council⁶ amended the basic Regulation on wine.⁷

The definitions of sparkling wine, aerated sparkling wine, semi-sparkling wine and aerated semi-sparkling wine have been made more precise in order to reduce the risk of fraud. The amendments in question enter into force on 1 January 1983.

Prices and specific measures

Fresh fruit and vegetables

2.1.90. On 22 November the Commission amended⁸ the Regulation increasing for part

of the 1982/83 marketing year the minimum size of apples allowed to be marketed.⁸

Notwithstanding the common quality standards, apples of large-fruit varieties less than 60 millimetres in size may not be marketed from 1 January to 30 June 1983 for delivery fresh to the consumer.

2.1.91. In November the Commission fixed:

- (i) the 1982/83 reference price for clementines;⁹ and
- (ii) the 1982/83 Community offer price for clementines in respect of Greece.

Processed fruit and vegetables

2.1.92. The Commission adopted the Regulation on the sale at prices fixed in advance of dried figs held by the Greek storage agency.¹⁰

Wine

2.1.93. In the light of the amendment of the basic Regulation on wine¹¹ the Commission altered the definitions of certain products originating in non-Community countries.⁶

2.1.94. On 12 November the Commission adopted a Regulation authorizing, in the Château-neuf-du-Pape and Gigondas registered designation areas, the additional acidification of certain products from the 1982 wine harvest.¹²

2.1.95. On 9 November the Commission amended the Regulation laying down the provisions relating to distillation¹³ in order

¹ OJ C 302, 19.11.1982.

² OJ C 57, 7.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.65.

³ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁴ Point 2.4.6; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁵ OJ C 206, 14.8.1981.

⁶ OJ L 326, 23.11.1982.

⁷ OJ L 54, 5.3.1979.

⁸ OJ L 277, 29.9.1982.

⁹ OJ L 310, 6.11.1982.

¹⁰ OJ L 340, 2.12.1982.

¹¹ Point 2.1.89.

¹² OJ L 317, 13.11.1982.

¹³ OJ L 262, 10.9.1982.

to determine, for 1982/83, the quantities of wine not covered by compulsory distillation under Article 40 of the basic Regulation¹ in the case of wines produced from grapes classed as both wine grapes and grapes intended for the production of wine spirits.

It also amended the Regulation laying down provisions concerning the distillation of by-products of wine-making² by specifying that, as in the past, the aids for such distillation and for distillation under Article 40 of the basic Regulation apply to the products concerned prior to distillation.³

2.1.96. On 25 November the Commission fixed the reference prices applicable from 16 December 1982 to 15 December 1983 in the wine sector.⁴ The prices in question are on average 10.5% up on the last wine-growing year.

Beef and veal

2.1.97. On 12 November the Commission laid before the Council proposals for two estimates for the period 1 January to 31 December 1983:⁵ concerning beef and veal intended for the processing industry (60 000 tonnes and young male bovine animals intended for fattening (225 000 head).

Olive oil

2.1.98. On 4 November the Council adopted two Regulations⁶ concerning special measures in respect of olive-oil producers' organizations for the 1982/83 marketing year and the general rules relating to the production aid scheme for 1982/83.⁷

The Regulations in question extend for a further marketing year the period of application of the transitional arrangements which have been in force during the past four marketing years.

On 5 November the Commission laid down detailed rules implementing the Regulations.⁸

Sugar

2.1.99. On 24 November the Commission adopted a Regulation amending the special detailed rules for the application of the sys-

tem of import and export licences in the sugar sector.⁹

The Regulation is designed: to increase the security relating to export licences with advance fixing of the refund in the case of certain sugars and syrups and isoglucose, in the light of the volume of trade in those products; to waive the requirement whereby a licence must be issued on the third day following that on which the application is lodged in the case of sugar-candy and flavoured or coloured sugars, in view of their special characteristics and the small volume of trade that they represent; and to specify a particular term of validity (three months longer than usual, i.e. until 30 September 1983) for licences used in the event of prior exportation of white sugar followed by corresponding importation of raw sugar, in the light of the traditional patterns of trade in sugar between the Community and certain non-member countries.

Structures

New measures and adjustments to directives

2.1.100. On 16 November the Council adopted a Regulation¹⁰ extending until 31 December 1984 the period of validity of the horizontal common measures on the processing and marketing of agricultural products,¹¹ with the proviso that applications for EAGGF assistance under the Regulation can be made up to 30 April 1984 at the latest. Accordingly, the Regulation concerning the stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of the west of Ireland¹² was also amended.

¹ OJ L 54, 5.3.1979.

² OJ L 262, 10.9.1982.

³ OJ L 314, 10.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 331, 26.11.1982.

⁵ OJ C 322, 8.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 309, 5.11.1982.

⁷ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.112.

⁸ OJ L 310, 6.11.1982.

⁹ OJ L 329, 25.11.1982.

¹⁰ OJ L 325, 20.11.1982.

¹¹ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

¹² OJ L 180, 14.7.1980.

2.1.101. On 15 November the Council amended¹ its Directive on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas.² The purpose of the amendment is to extend to Greece the conditions applicable to Italy as regards access to Community reimbursement under the Directive.

2.1.102. On 22 November the Council extended to Greece the conditions at present applicable to southern Italy,³ namely the possibility of charging to the EAGGF Guidance Section up to 50% of the cost of projects under the Regulation to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed.⁴

Agricultural legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.103. On 24 November, following the declaration of an outbreak of classical swine fever in parts of the Netherlands and Belgium, the Commission adopted decisions prohibiting the introduction of live pigs from certain areas of the Netherlands and Belgium into the other Member States.⁵

2.1.104. On 17 November the Commission adopted two decisions concerning an initial list of establishments in Swaziland and Yugoslavia approved for the purpose of exporting fresh meat to the Community.⁶

Plant health legislation

2.1.105. On 9 November the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal amending the Directive prohibiting the placing on the market and the use of plant protection products containing certain active substances:⁷ the proposal in question concerns ethylene oxide.

Competition

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

Federal Republic of Germany

Lower Saxony: measures adopted by the *Länder* which do not fall within the scope of the 'joint scheme' for 1982, in particular aids for environmental improvements and the restructuring of villages. The measure in question consists of a change of a budgetary nature.

France

Aid for fodder transport following the drought. The aim is to compensate stockfarmers in certain regions affected by the drought and to offset part of the cost of transporting fodder in drought-stricken areas, where fodder production has been halved.

Renewal, for a five-year period from January 1983, of a parafiscal charge on vegetable and animal fats. The proceeds of the charge, which applies to almost all sales of fats, go to the Fats Institute, which operates in the fields of research, documentation, education, training, technical assistance and technical and scientific representation. The measure now also covers the preparation of edible fats for market.

Italy

Abruzzi: draft organic law on agricultural development in 1982-85. In addition to Community measures the bill provides for numerous aids covering a number of sectors, as follows: agricultural research and experiment and the dissemination of new production techniques; the granting of low-interest loans for repairing major public structures; technical assistance to cooperatives; the creation of a working capital fund to help develop owner-occupation; protective measures against natural disasters (caused by the weather); the construction of rural roads and aqueducts and an electricity-supply grid;

¹ OJ L 327, 24.11.1982.

² OJ L 128, 19.5.1975.

³ OJ L 332, 27.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

⁵ OJ L 347, 7.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 343, 4.12.1982.

⁷ OJ L 33, 8.2.1979.

measures to encourage the purchase, construction, extension and modernization of plants for processing and preserving agricultural products; advertising aid in respect of agricultural products; research and trials involving new varieties of seeds and reproductive material; and measures aimed at the genetic improvement of livestock through research, testing, selection and artificial insemination.

The Commission may review its position at a later stage concerning the advertising aid and operating loans, under Article 93(1) of the Treaty.

Apulia: credit facilities for producers adversely affected by natural disasters. These consist of loans for the purchase of new machinery and livestock by farms and groups of farms which suffered damage as a result of the adverse weather conditions during 1981/82 and the three previous years, and subsidies for the purchase of seeds, fodder, straw and feedingstuffs and for transporting water.

United Kingdom

Guernsey: interest-rate subsidy on loans to horticulturists for the installation of less costly forms of heating.

Aid for the development of new crops such as flowers and ornamental plants, nursery products and alternative vegetable crops. The measure in question also covers research into new markets and sales promotion. The Commission may review its position at a later stage under Article 93(1).

Renewal, for a one-year period, of the quality premium for cut flowers and advertising aid.

Renewal, for a one-year period, of the deficiency payments system for tomato growers: the Commission has noted that the aid in question is not allowed under Community rules and has accordingly advised the British authorities to bring the measures into line with the arrangements applicable under the common organization of the market for the sector in question. The Commission has also

asked for certain data concerning the marketing of tomatoes in 1983.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guarantee Section

2.1.107. On 15 November, in the light of the change in the rules governing the common organization of the markets which allowed for the first time the public storage of certain products (wine alcohol produced under certain distillation measures and sheepmeat), the Council adopted a Regulation¹ amending the Regulation on the financing by the EAGGF Guarantee Section of certain intervention measures.²

Guidance Section

2.1.108. On 12 November the Commission adopted a Regulation laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the decision by the EAGGF Guidance Section to grant aid for projects designed to improve public amenities in certain less-favoured agricultural areas of the Federal Republic of Germany³ and the decision on applications for reimbursement in connection with the development of agriculture in the French overseas departments.⁴

Fisheries

Council

2.1.109. The Council met on 8 and 9 and 29 November but failed to reach agreement on the fisheries policy package, although the Commission had presented new suggestions to resolve the difficulties still outstanding resulting from Danish requests (Western Scotland mackerel quota and licences in Orkney/Shetland box).

¹ OJ L 322, 18.11.1982.

² OJ L 327, 14.11.1981.

³ OJ L 329, 25.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 344, 6.12.1982.

Nine Member States confirmed their approval of the package, including the Commission's new suggestions. The Danish delegation, after consulting the appropriate committee of the Folketing, was unable to give its assent.

The Council then decided to set up a high-level working party of Member States' representatives chaired by the Commission to consider what measures would have to be taken if agreement could not be reached before 1 January 1983.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for 21 December.

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.110. In the absence of Council agreement on the development of the common fisheries policy the Commission ascertained that the following national measures would be consistent with Community law and with the common fisheries policy until the entry into force of a regulation superseding Regulation (EEC) No 2527/80:¹

(i) two Danish measures extending until 15 December 1982 the period of validity in Danish and Greenland waters of the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 2527/80 on technical fishery measures;

(ii) four United Kingdom measures extending to the end of 1982 the period of validity of the technical measures in UK waters, except for the proposal on the mesh size of beam trawl nets as given in the Fishing Nets (Variation) (No 4) Order 1982, which is not in line with the Commission's proposals recently transmitted to the Council.

2.1.111. A further national conservation measure, an Irish measure on the control of mackerel fishing in 1982, was also endorsed, with the proviso that the limits set by the Council and in the Commission Declaration of 21 July 1982² on fishing activities are respected.

External aspects

Bilateral relations

2.1.112. An Agreement was initialled on 19 November with the Republic of Guinea-Bissau renewing the present Agreement on fisheries off the coast of Guinea-Bissau signed on 27 February 1980.³ The new Agreement, which is for three years from 1 January 1983, raises the tonnage of Community vessels authorized to fish in Guinea-Bissau waters from 6 500 to 7 500 grt. Of this 7 500 grt an annual average of 3 500 can be used by the Community under licences issued for up to three months. In addition 25 tuna vessels with freezing facilities and 25 without (instead of 23 300 grt for tuna vessels with freezing facilities) will be authorized to fish in Guinea-Bissau waters. The Community will pay Guinea-Bissau financial compensation of 4 275 000 ECU per year for three years and will help finance a scientific programme on fisheries up to a maximum of 250 000 ECU for the same period. The Community will also make available to Guinea-Bissau ten three-year study and training grants or their annual equivalent.

Multilateral relations

2.1.113. The Commission represented the Community as an observer at the second meeting, held in Warsaw from 9 to 11 November, of the representatives of the States party to the Baltic Fisheries Convention. The purpose of the meeting was to consider accession of the Community to full membership of the Baltic Commission. On 11 November a protocol was signed amending the Convention to allow the EEC to join. All the parties to the Convention must now agree to invite the Community to accede and the EEC Council must approve the amended Convention.

2.1.114. The Commission took part as an observer in the annual meeting of the Inter-

¹ OJ L 258, 1.10.1980; Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.112.

² OJ C 199, 3.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.137.

³ Bull. EC 2-1980, point 2.1.75.

national Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas held in Madeira from 10 to 16 November. The agenda included the question of the Community's accession as a full member, already discussed by a group of legal experts at a meeting held in Paris in June. After a thorough examination of the texts prepared, the subject was carried over to the next meeting.

2.1.115. The Commission represented the Community at the first meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, held in London from 22 to 25 November.

Markets and structures

Organization of markets

2.1.116. In implementation of the new Regulation of 29 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products,¹ the Council adopted on 22 November:

- (i) an amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 103/76 laying down common marketing standards for certain fresh or chilled fish;² and
- (ii) a Regulation on granting and financing aid granted by Member States to producers' organizations in the fishery products sector.³

2.1.117. Under the same new Regulation on the common organization of the market in fishery products, the Commission adopted Regulations:

- (i) on the list of representative wholesale markets or ports for fishery products;⁴
- (ii) laying down detailed rules for the granting of financial compensation in respect of certain fishery products;⁵
- (iii) laying down detailed rules for the grant of a special carryover premium for Mediterranean sardines and anchovies;⁵
- (iv) laying down detailed rules for the extension of certain rules adopted by producers' organizations in the fisheries sector to non-members;⁶ and
- (v) laying down detailed rules for the application of the reference price system for fishery products.⁶

Transport

Inland transport

Approximation of structures

Railways

2.1.118. The Advisory Committee on Railway Costing set up under the Council Regulation of 19 September 1978 laying down uniform costing principles for railway undertakings⁷ held its second meeting on 18 November. This meeting provided an opportunity for examining the harmonization of the various railway costing methods. A subcommittee of experts will work out the details for a standard costing method for whole trainloads.

2.1.119. The Transport Committees set up under the ECSC-Austria and ECSC-Switzerland agreements on the introduction of through international railway tariffs for the carriage of coal and steel through Austria and Switzerland respectively held their annual meetings on 4 and 5 November in Pamhagen in Austria.

In particular, they examined the 1981 report on the development of the carriage of coal and steel between Italy and the other Member States by the various modes of transport, examined the conditions relating to the flow of rail traffic and exchanged opinions on the future prospects for rail traffic on the various routes.

Operation of the market

2.1.120. On 11 November the Commission laid before the Council a proposal for a directive amending the Directive concerning the standardization of certain rules relating

¹ OJ L 379, 31.12.1981.

² OJ L 332, 27.11.1982.

³ OJ L 331, 26.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 312, 9.11.1982.

⁵ OJ L 335, 29.11.1982.

⁶ OJ L 338, 30.11.1982.

⁷ OJ L 258, 21.9.1978.

to authorizations for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.¹

The purpose of this proposal is to simplify the administrative procedures for removal firms, which, in order to carry out international removals, now require several bilateral authorizations. If the new proposal is accepted, removal firms will in future be able to obtain multilateral authorizations issued by the Member State of vehicle registration. This will enable removal transport within the Community to be organized more efficiently.

Community quotas

2.1.121. The Economic and Social Committee² and Parliament³ each adopted an opinion on the proposal amending the regulations relating to the Community quota for the carriage of goods by rail between Member States.⁴

The Economic and Social Committee was against the proposal, while Parliament endorsed it subject to a number of amendments.

Sea transport

2.1.122. The Commission addressed a favourable opinion⁵ to the Danish Government on the implementation of the Council Directive of 21 December 1978 concerning pilotage of vessels by deep-sea pilots in the North Sea and English Channel.⁶ The Commission found that examination of the circular communicated by the Danish Government shows that, despite a reservation, the latter has fully implemented the provisions of the Directive as far as Denmark is concerned.

2.1.123. On 5 November the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a fourth decision on the collection of information concerning the activities of carriers participating in cargo liner traffic between the Member States and certain areas of operation. This proposal seeks to extend the system in force until the end of 1984.

Air transport

2.1.124. On 18 November Parliament adopted a resolution on Eurocontrol and its political accountability.³

Energy

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

Council meeting

2.1.125. At its 9 November meeting the Council held a policy debate on the proposals on the granting of financial support for demonstration projects relating to the exploitation of alternative energy sources and the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels.⁷ It then held an initial exchange of views on the proposal on the granting of financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment in the rational use of energy.⁸

The Council reached an agreement on the communication from the Commission on the Community's natural gas supplies.⁹ Where solid fuels are concerned, the Council decided to hold a meeting of the Ministers concerned in the near future in order to discuss this issue in detail.

The Council took a favourable view of the Commission's proposal concerning the use of alternative motor fuels,¹⁰ and examined the Commission's proposal on the maintenance of minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products¹¹ without reaching an agreement.

¹ OJ C 307, 24.11.1982.

² Point 2.4.22.

³ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁴ OJ C 247, 21.9.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.89.

⁵ OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 33, 8.2.1979.

⁷ Point 2.1.130.

⁸ Point 2.1.129.

⁹ Point 2.1.135.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.133.

¹¹ Point 2.1.132.

The Council did, however, reach agreement on an amendment to the Directive on the performance of heat generators.¹

2.1.126. In addition, the Council took note of an interim report by the Commission on energy pricing and developments in Community policy during 1981-82.²

Energy development programmes

2.1.127. On 12 November the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a regulation instituting a special energy development programme for the Federal Republic of Germany.³

Specific problems

Energy saving and rational use

Heat generators

2.1.128. On 9 November the Council signified its agreement in principle on the proposal for an amendment to the Directive on the performance of heat generators for space heating and the production of hot water in new or existing non-industrial buildings and on the insulation of heat and hot-water distribution in non-industrial buildings.⁴

Financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment

2.1.129. On 9 November the Council held a policy debate on the Commission's proposal on the granting of financial incentives—in the form of interest rebates—in support of certain categories of investment in the rational use of energy.⁵

It referred this matter to its competent bodies for more detailed examination.

Demonstration projects

2.1.130. The Council held a policy debate on the Commission's proposals⁶ on the granting of financial support for:

(i) demonstration projects relating to the exploitation of alternative energy sources, energy saving and the substitution of hydrocarbons;

(ii) pilot industrial projects and demonstration projects relating to the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels.

The Council noted, in particular in the light of the assessment reports by the Commission, the considerable value of demonstration projects in the context of Community energy policy, and all the delegation agreed that this activity should be continued.

However, the Council did not formally adopt the regulations as two of the six points submitted to it for discussion still required clarification. The Council agreed to settle the two points swiftly so that the regulations could come into force on 1 January 1983.

The four points settled on 9 November concerned: the role of the Advisory Committee on the Management of Demonstration Projects, financial support for demonstration projects to be carried out in non-member countries, the acceptance of two separate regulations as proposed by the Commission, and the inclusion of geothermal energy and ocean energy in the scope of the regulations.

The two points which could not be settled were: the Council's role in the Commission's decision-making procedure and the financial details of the programme.

2.1.131. On 16 November Parliament adopted a resolution⁷ on the Commission's reports to the Council on the application of the Regulations concerning financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources and for demonstration projects in the field of energy saving.⁸

Oil and gas

2.1.132. On 9 November the Council examined the proposal to amend the Directive imposing an obligation on Member States to

¹ Point 2.1.128.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.119.

³ OJ C 307, 24.11.1982.

⁴ OJ C 87, 9.4.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.102.

⁵ OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91.

⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.174.

⁷ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁸ Bull. EC 7/8-1981, point 2.1.139.

maintain minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products.¹ It instructed its competent bodies to intensify their study of this question so that the Council could take a decision before the end of the year if possible.

2.1.133. Pending receipt of Parliament's opinion, the Council took a favourable view on 9 November of the proposal for a Council Directive on crude-oil savings through the use of substitute fuel components in petrol.²

The Council instructed its competent bodies to continue the detailed examination of the technical aspects of the proposal in order to prepare a text for subsequent adoption.

2.1.134. On 9 November the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a decision concerning support for Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector.

This will supplement the decision taken by the Council on 27 July.³

Natural gas

2.1.135. On 9 November the Council adopted the following conclusions concerning the communication from the Commission on the Community's natural gas supplies:⁴

'Natural gas will continue to play an important role in meeting Community energy needs, in diversifying the Community's energy supplies and in helping to reduce the Community's dependence on oil.

Very considerable efforts are in hand in the gas industry of the Member States to assure the security of natural-gas supplies. On the basis of information returned by the Member States and account being taken of the measures currently envisaged, it would be possible to deal with a major interruption in supplies (at least 25% over a period of 6 consecutive months), with the minimum of repercussions for the final consumer. The gas deficit would then be partially covered by supplementary supplies of oil. The Commission will continue to follow the evolution of the situation in consultation with the Member States.

The following measures will be pursued within the Member States in order further to enhance the security of natural-gas supplies in the long term:

(i) encouragement of indigenous production, exploration and development;

(ii) diversification of imports;

(iii) development of substitute natural gas (SNG).

The Commission will continue, in cooperation with Member States' representatives and assisted as necessary by experts from the gas industry, to assess the possibilities for further collaboration between the Member States; in particular, studies will be made of the adequacy of the natural gas transport systems and of the prospects for exploiting "deep gas" in the Community.

Pending the conclusions of such assessment, the Council stresses the need for the public authorities to encourage the gas companies to take adequate steps to ensure the security of natural-gas supplies.

The Member States' representatives and the Commission will consult each other on an *ad hoc* basis in the event of a major interruption in supplies.'

Coal

2.1.136. On 30 November the Commission decided, under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty, to consult the ECSC Consultative Committee and request the Council's assent to a supplementary coal research programme relating to mining engineering and the preparation and upgrading of coal. It is proposed that 3 million ECU should be allocated to this programme.

Relations with non-member countries

2.1.137. A Commission delegation visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait between 14 and 17 November.

The exchanges of views in Saudi Arabia indicated the interest of the authorities in that country in the development of contacts with the Commission.

In Kuwait discussion covered: mutual energy policies and demand and oil-consumption flows; the problems of the developing countries; areas for possible cooperation in the

¹ OJ C 55, 3.3.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.97.

³ OJ C 229, 2.9.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.170.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.169.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.121.

field of energy research. In this connection, certain Community activities in which the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries could take part were identified.

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On 16 November Parliament adopted a resolution on a common approach to energy pricing structures.¹

Nuclear safety

Decommissioning of nuclear power plants

2.1.138. The Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee met in Brussels on 26 November and delivered a favourable opinion on the proposal concerning the 1984-88 research and development programme on the decommissioning of nuclear power plants.

Research and development

Council

2.1.139. At its meeting on 4 November the Council concentrated on discussing the research programme for the Joint Research Centre and defining contract research in information technology. It also looked at the problem of stimulating multidisciplinary advanced research and research to help developing countries.

JRC research programme. The Council examined in depth the problems which exist in connection with the Super-Sara nuclear safety project in the context of the proposed revision of the 1983 programme and the proposed guidelines for the 1984-87 programme.² The Council concluded by agreeing to allow itself a breathing space so that delegations could consult with their national bodies on the possible solutions to this major problem in the light of the explanations and suggestions concerning the financing of the project provided by the Commission during the discussions.

Esprit programme. Further to the positive guidelines established at its 30 June meeting,³ the Council agreed on a joint position on the essential features of Community R & D activity in the field of information technology. On 12 November the Commission sent the Council a proposal concerning the preparatory phase of a Community R & D policy in this field,⁴ which the Economic and Social Committee endorsed on 24 November.⁵

Stimulating scientific potential. The Council also gave its consent to the experimental phase of a project to stimulate the scientific and technical potential of the Community,⁶ on which the Commission will shortly present a formal proposal. The experimental phase should last two years and would be allocated 7 million ECU.

Science and technology for development. Nine delegations reached agreement⁷ on a programme of research and development in the field of science and technology for development for an initial four-year period (1982-85). The programme will concentrate on tropical agriculture and on medicine, health and nutrition in the tropics. The funds required are estimated at 40 million ECU.

Development of the common policy

2.1.140. The European Research and Development Committee met for the 33rd and last time on 18 November.⁸

Now that the Council had agreed on 4 November that the experimental phase of a project to stimulate scientific potential

¹ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.165; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.177.

³ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.152; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.166.

⁴ OJ C 314, 30.11.1982.

⁵ Point 2.4.25.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.164; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.178.

⁷ The Council formally adopted its decision on 3 December: OJ L 352, 14.12.1982.

⁸ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.168.

should go ahead,¹ the Commission felt—and the Committee agreed—that the tasks which would now fall to the relevant advisory committee were of a very different order from those originally assigned to the European Research and Development Committee, and that a new committee with new terms of reference would therefore be required.

The Committee also discussed some of the theme plans which are being used as a basis for the general framework programme, concentrating the discussion on research measures intended to boost European industrial competitiveness, particularly in information technology.

The Committee and the Commission were in general agreement that Community industrial research strategy should be spearheaded by efforts in the field of biotechnology, information technology and the use of innovation technologies in important but vulnerable traditional industries.

2.1.141. The Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee met in Brussels on 26 November and delivered a favourable opinion on the proposal to amend the Council Decision concerning the multiannual raw materials R & D programme for 1982-85.²

The proposed amendment provides that after completion of the present R & D programme in the field of uranium exploration and extraction on 31 December, the content of the 1982-85 raw materials programme will be supplemented with effect from 1 January 1983 by a number of research topics relating to uranium exploration.

The Committee discussed the research and training programme for 1985-89 in the field of biology and health protection (radiation protection programme). It also expressed a favourable opinion on the proposal concerning the 1984-88 research and development programme on the decommissioning of nuclear installations.

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2.1.142. On 18 November Parliament adopted a resolution on the problems and prospects of the common research policy.³

Coordination of national policies

2.1.143. The Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) met on 26 November with alternates present. It held an initial exchange of views on two preliminary draft communications from the Commission on promoting the use of R & D results and evaluating these results.

CREST also approved revised terms of reference for its Subcommittee on Research in Medicine and Public Health (CRM). With a view to rationalization the CRM will henceforth assume, in addition to its role of adviser to CREST and to the Commission (as well as coordinator of national policies within its purview), the tasks of the General Concerted Action Committee set up by the Council Decision of 17 August 1982 adopting a new R & D programme in this field.⁴

Cooperation with non-member countries

2.1.144. Two decisions, one concerning a concerted-action project on the effect of processing on the physical properties of foodstuffs and the other concerning the conclusion of a Community-COST agreement to harmonize this project with the corresponding programmes of certain non-member countries participating in European cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research (COST), were adopted by the Council at its 22 and 23 November meeting. This project continues and extends the first concerted-action project in the field (COST project 90), adopted by the Council on 21 February 1978;⁵ its particular purpose is to coordinate work on the mechanical, diffusive and electrical properties of foodstuffs with a view to optimizing the technologies currently applied in the procedure of transforming farm produce into food products.

2.1.145. On 15 November the Council adopted a decision concluding:

¹ Point 2.1.139.

² Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.51.

³ Point 2.4.7; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁴ OJ L 148, 24.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.186.

⁵ Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.1.76.

- (i) an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and Finland on the interconnection of Euronet and the Finnish data network, and
- (ii) a Quadripartite Protocol on the purport of the agreements for data network cooperation between the EEC, Switzerland, Sweden and Finland.¹

Scientific and technological objectives

Energy

2.1.146. As part of the second phase (1983-84) of the programme on the management and storage of radioactive waste (1980-84),² more than a hundred individual research projects, selected from 219 proposals and representing a Community contribution of some 15 million ECU, will be started and continued over the next two years. This follows a favourable opinion from the Advisory Committee, which met on 3 and 4 November.

On 29 November the Commission sent the Council a communication concerning the review of the 1980-84 programme at the end of the second year as provided in the Council Decision.³

The Commission feels that the work described in the annex to the programme is still of interest and should be continued. It recommends intensifying work on the evaluation of all types of conditioned waste so as to ensure that storage and disposal are carried out in optimum conditions.

2.1.147. The Community plan of action on radioactive waste⁴ was reviewed with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, which approved the operation of the plan and expressed the view that it required no revision.

2.1.148. The Fast Reactor Coordinating Committee, which met on 18 November, approved the plan of action in the field of codes and standards for the next three years (1983-85).

This plan has the aim of establishing an equivalent standard of structural integrity

for nuclear components designed and manufactured in the Member States.

The Committee briefed the Safety Working Group to assist the Commission in preparing a shared-cost research programme on fast reactor safety for 1984-87.

Industrial competitiveness

Information technology (*Esprit*)

2.1.149. On 12 November the Commission, acting on the wish expressed by the Council on 4 November, put up a proposal for a decision on a preparatory phase for a Community research and development programme in the field of information technology.⁵

2.1.150. Parliament delivered a favourable opinion on 16 November⁶ on the proposal for a decision on a five-year R & D programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials,⁷ an indirect non-nuclear action (1983-87), subject to a number of amendments being made (one of them concerning a reappraisal of the programme during the third year).

Living and working conditions

2.1.151. During its meetings in May, July and November the Advisory Committee on the Biology—Health Protection Programme examined in detail the proposal for a multiannual concerted-action programme (1985-88) in the field of biology, health protection and non-ionizing radiation.

The Committee said such work was necessary in order to guarantee adequate protection for man, and to add to the knowledge which will form the scientific basis for deriving acceptable human exposure levels, while

¹ OJ L 345, 6.12.1982.

² OJ L 78, 25.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.112.

³ OJ L 78, 25.3.1980.

⁴ OJ C 51, 29.2.1980; Bull. EC 2-1980, point 2.1.87.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 2.1.17 and 2.1.183.

⁶ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

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

avoiding technical barriers to trade which would arise from different national protection standards.

Such a programme could influence the development of new concepts in health protection against non-ionizing radiation.

The Advisory Committee gave its firm support to the draft research and training programme in the field of radiation protection (1985-89).

2.1.152. A European seminar on risks from exposure to tritium, jointly organized by the Commission, was held at the Centre d'études nucléaires establishment in Mol, Belgium, from 22 to 24 November.

Tritium is used in significant amounts in fusion reactors. It is also formed in nuclear power stations and during reprocessing. It is not a particularly toxic radionuclide but readily spreads through the environment since it is diluted by water and can be incorporated into organic molecules. During the seminar possible sources of tritium, includ-

ing those in the planned fusion plant, were reviewed. Particular attention was paid to the different ways in which organic tritium can be formed in soil, plants and animals.

The dosimetric aspects of tritium incorporated in different parts of cells and the question of the quality factor of the soft beta rays of tritium were also summarized, and recent data on the toxicity of long-term application of tritium with respect to induction of genetic damage, cancer and effects on development were presented. Several highlights for future research were defined, including better definition of source terms, improved forecasting models and a better evaluation of the contribution of organic tritium.

2.1.153. On 26 November the Commission sent the Council, for its assent, a memorandum on the establishment of a first Community research programme on safety at work in the iron and steel industry (steel casting). The programme was to last two and a half years and would receive a total appropriation of 1 million ECU.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Inventory of enlargement problems

2.2.1. The Commission adopted a communication to the European Council, for its Copenhagen meeting on 3 and 4 December, on the principal problems posed by the enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and Spain.¹

The Commission confirms the line it has followed since the start of negotiations:² ac-

ceptance of the *acquis communautaire*, supplemented as required for certain sensitive areas in agriculture (Mediterranean products); the importance of active cooperation with the applicant countries before they actually join the Community; the need to increase own resources; and the need to take account of the problems of the other Mediterranean countries.

¹ Supplement 8/82 — Bull. EC (not yet published).

² Supplements 1/78, 2/78 and 3/78 — Bull. EC.

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.2. The tenth meeting of the Conference at ministerial level was held in Brussels on 22 November. The two delegations exchanged statements on the progress of the negotiations. This meeting was preceded on 12 November by the 22nd meeting of the negotiations at deputy level, at which the Portuguese delegation had presented statements on agriculture (traditional mechanisms), taxation, approximation of laws, environment and consumer protection.

Bilateral relations

2.2.3. A symposium was held in Brussels on 15 and 16 November on industrial cooperation between the EEC and Portugal in the textile, clothing and ceramics industries, organized, in collaboration with the Portuguese Institute for Small Businesses (IAPMEI), by the Commission's Business Cooperation Centre. This symposium, attended by over 150 representatives from the industries concerned, provided an opportunity to review all the problems facing the Community and Portugal in connection with Portugal's accession to the Community.

Spain

Accession negotiations

2.2.4. The 23rd meeting of the Spanish accession negotiations at deputy level was held on 26 November.

The Community presented statements on patents and customs union (quantitative restrictions).

The Spanish delegation presented an additional statement on external relations.

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2.2.5. On 17 November Parliament adopted a resolution on the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal.¹

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Trade protection

2.2.6. The Council adopted a Regulation requiring definitive collection of a provisional anti-dumping duty on trichloroethylene originating in the German Democratic Republic or Poland.²

The Commission imposed a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of sodium carbonate originating in the United States of America³ and a definitive anti-dumping duty on certain sheets and plates of iron or steel originating in Brazil.⁴

2.2.7. The Council extended the provisional anti-dumping duties on photographic enlargers in Poland or the Soviet Union⁵ and on certain chemical fertilizers originating in the United States of America.⁵

The Commission amended the recommendation of 13 August 1982⁶ imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on broad-flanged beams originating in Spain and extended the application of the duty.³

2.2.8. The Commission also decided to open a proceeding concerning imports of certain cellulose ester resins (cellulose-acetobutyrate and cellulose-acetopropionate) originating in the United States of America.⁷

2.2.9. The undertakings given in respect of imports of sodium carbonate and decabromodiphenylether originating in the United

¹ Point 2.4.4; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

² OJ L 326, 23.11.1982.

³ OJ L 317, 13.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 312, 9.11.1982.

⁵ OJ L 322, 18.11.1982.

⁶ OJ L 238, 13.8.1982.

⁷ OJ C 299, 16.11.1982.

States of America were accepted by the Commission and the latter proceeding was terminated.¹

The Commission also terminated the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of aluminium foil for household and catering use originating in Austria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary or Israel.²

2.2.10. The Commission amended the recommendation of 31 December 1979³ on protection against dumped or subsidized imports from countries not members of the ECSC.⁴

2.2.11. The Commission opened anti-dumping proceedings concerning imports of iron or steel coils for re-rolling originating in Argentina, Brazil, Canada or Venezuela⁵ and imports of glass textile fibre originating in Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic or Japan.⁶

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Iron and steel products

2.2.12. At its meeting on 22 November the Council authorized the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of voluntary-restraint arrangements for 1983 with the Community's main partners.

The 1983 mandate includes several changes from that of 1982,⁷ among which are the reduction to be applied to the arrangement quantities (12.5% relative to 1980, as compared to 9.5% in 1982) and an additional sanction involving reductions in the margins of penetration (currently 6% for ordinary and 4% for special steels) in cases where persistent, unjustified underquotation of arrangement prices has been observed.

Textiles

Renewal of bilateral agreements under the MFA

2.2.13. In accordance with Council decisions dated 25 and 26 October⁸ the Commission resumed negotiations⁹ with a view

to securing the outstanding bilateral textile agreements. Agreements were signed with Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore. Reviewing the position on 22 November, the Council authorized the Commission, in negotiating with Hong Kong, South Korea and Macao, to reduce by 10% the quota cutbacks initially planned for the most sensitive products provided this did not breach the global import ceilings set by the Council.

An agreement with Hong Kong was accordingly initialled on 30 November, providing for cutbacks of between 6.3% and 8.3%. It runs from 1983 to 1986, and offers less scope for transfers between quotas ('flexibility') and lower growth rates than the agreement currently in force. It also incorporates a number of standard clauses dealing with the introduction of new quotas ('basket exit'), sudden surges of imports within quota limits, and fraudulent circumvention of quotas, all circumstances in which the Community is required to take action in the last resort if it proves impossible to reach an amicable settlement through consultations.

Bilateral negotiations with the remaining supplier countries are continuing.

2.2.14. On 15 November the Council adopted a Regulation concluding an agreement between the Community and Bulgaria on trade in textile products.¹⁰

2.2.15. The Commission has imposed quantitative restrictions until the end of the year on imports of certain textile products originating in Turkey.¹¹

¹ OJ L 319, 16.11.1982.

² OJ L 339, 1.12.1982.

³ OJ L 339, 31.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 317, 13.11.1982.

⁵ OJ C 303, 20.11.1982.

⁶ OJ C 310, 27.11.1982.

⁷ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.2.12.

⁸ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.14.

⁹ Argentina, Brazil, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Macao, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and South Korea.

¹⁰ OJ C 330, 25.11.1982.

¹¹ OJ L 332, 27.11.1982.

Development

Council

2.2.16. The Council held a meeting on development cooperation in Brussels on 8 November. Among the subjects discussed were the campaign to combat world hunger¹ and North-South relations.² A preliminary exchange of views was held on the Commission's memorandum on Community development policy.³

2.2.17. The draft conclusions on maintenance aid—aid which contributes towards maintaining in operation the productive capacities of a sector of a developing country's economy—obtained broad assent, although further time was necessary to devote thought to the matter. The draft is intended to provide guidelines for the granting of maintenance aid, within certain limits and under certain conditions.

2.2.18. The Council also approved conclusions concerning Community development aid in connection with the situation of women in the developing countries:

'In adopting these conclusions, the Council, anxious that its cooperation measures should contribute to the harmonious development of the entire population in the countries assisted, is prepared to take full account of the role of women in development and of the specific problems of women. The Community is aware that development aid projects or operations in favour of women must be carried out in conformity with the development objectives of the recipient country.

These conclusions comprise guidelines for both the appraisal of the Community aid programme and its participation in international organizations which discuss the situation of women in developing countries. The Council agreed to examine the application of these conclusions in the light of the experience gained during the second half of 1984.'

Memorandum on the Community's development policy

2.2.19. On 8 November the Council held a broad and detailed discussion on the Commission memorandum on Community development policy.⁴ It considered that the memorandum represented an extremely use-

ful basis for an overall appraisal of this important question.

The Council focused its discussions on a number of major points raised in the memorandum, namely:

- (i) objectives of the Community development policy;
- (ii) policy dialogue between the EEC and the developing countries and development aid;
- (iii) Lomé: framework convention and implementing protocols;
- (iv) Asian and Latin American countries;
- (v) Community action within the multi-lateral development-financing institutions;
- (vi) financial resources: volume and growth;
- (vii) trade and commodities.

On all these points, the Council's discussions revealed where views converged and what the positions of the various delegations were.

On 22 and 23 November the Council continued discussion of the Commission's memorandum, stressing its importance and interest.

With particular reference to financial resources for development aid, the Council acknowledged the need to step up budget allocations, but without endorsing the goal proposed by the Commission.⁵

The Commission would be guided by the discussions held in connection with such specific proposals as it might make for implementation of the development policy. The Council noted in particular that in March 1983 the Commission would put forward its proposals for the renewal of the Lomé Convention.

North-South relations

2.2.20. The Council expressed the hope that the current proceedings in the United

¹ Point 2.2.21.

² Point 2.2.20.

³ Point 2.2.19.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.12 and point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 1.1.10.

Nations General Assembly would lead to a consensus on the commencement of the global negotiations.

It also stressed the importance it attached to Unctad VI and to the proper preparation of the Community position for the Conference.

Campaign to combat world hunger

2.2.21. At its 8 November meeting the Council instructed its relevant bodies to continue the examination of the questions raised by the Commission communication on a special programme to combat hunger in the world¹ (operations to support food policy and operations with a specific theme) in order appropriately to prepare the ground for the Council's discussions with a view to a subsequent decision.

2.2.22. The Council took note of fresh information provided by the Commission concerning the progress made in implementing the operations in support of food strategies in the three countries—Mali, Zambia and Kenya—selected by the Council on 15 June 1982 for an initial exercise.¹ It was agreed that such Community support would be extended to Rwanda.

Generalized preferences

1983 scheme

2.2.23. On the basis of proposals sent to it by the Commission on 26 July² the Council adopted on 22 November the Communities' scheme of generalized preferences for 1983.

2.2.24. In the agricultural sector the 1983 scheme provides for improvements in preference margins for all beneficiaries on 17 headings or subheadings for products already included in the scheme and the introduction of 8 entirely new products including horse-radish, dried and frozen okra, sweet peppers, bilberries and seasnails. In addition, the Council has to a very large extent accepted the Commission's proposal to accord least developed countries terms of access broadly equivalent to those for the ACP on all dutiable agricultural products not further

protected by a levy or similar device. This potentially important extension of the Community's offer to the most needy countries will bring in around 370 additional products — virtually doubling product coverage in their case.

There will also be an improvement in the special arrangements applicable to China, which will be able to benefit on six additional products, including three quota items.

Finally, following an examination of the pattern of trade flows in agricultural products in recent months, the Council agreed to substantial modifications in the allocation of shares among Member States for the five agricultural products subject to quotas.

2.2.25. For manufactured and semi-manufactured industrial products, given the continued difficulties afflicting many industries and enterprises, which the Commission itself had recognized in its proposals, improvements for 1983 have had to be relatively restrained.

For the 1981-85 period as a whole the Council has decided, after a rigorous examination of the situation governing individual products, on a net addition of four products to the sensitive list, which will now comprise 129 industrial and six ECSC items. A number of beneficiary countries have clearly shown themselves to be strongly competitive on various individual products for which they were not hitherto subject to quotas, so that after the elimination of some other quotas there is a net increase of 13 individual country quotas.

Improvements in the value of the quotas and ceilings have had to be strictly tailored to the situation in each of the industries concerned: thus for ECSC and certain other steel products, shoes and most leather items and a variety of chemicals no increases could be contemplated for 1983. Nevertheless the Community has been able to agree to increase 14 quotas and 39 ceilings by 5% and 7 quotas and 52 ceilings by 10% or more,

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, points 1.3.4 to 1.3.7.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 2.2.24 to 2.2.27.

while for all the non-sensitive products without exception there will be a 15% across-the-board increase.

2.2.26. In the textile sector, following the successful conclusion of negotiations on bilateral voluntary restraint agreements with most of the major textile suppliers in the developing countries to complement the earlier renewal of the Multifibre Arrangement, the Community has felt able to agree to some improvement also in its GSP textile offer but on a scale related to the MFA improvements.

Thus, in the case of MFA products, for which eligibility to benefit under the Community's GSP scheme remains conditional upon having signed a bilateral agreement or given a similar undertaking (least developed countries are exempt), the situation of certain major suppliers¹ will remain frozen at 1982 levels; for the other beneficiaries there will be no improvement in the 12 most sensitive categories but they will receive a 2.5% increase in the volume of their individual ceilings for other products in Group II and a 5% increase for Group III products.

In addition, for products on which there is a minimum offer, the offers have been recalculated by applying a more up-to-date reference year (1980 instead of 1977). It should also be noted that, having given the necessary similar undertakings, Bolivia and Ecuador have become eligible to benefit from the GSP on textile products.

For non-MFA products, the 1983 scheme extends the principle of the individualization of ceilings adopted in 1981 for industrial products other than textiles, these ceilings being calculated in relation to 1980 imports.

Commodities and international agreements

Jute

2.2.27. The 18th session of the FAO Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres was held in Rome at the end of October. The Group carried out a detailed review of the situation and outlook for jute

and its main competing synthetic substitute on world markets. It also maintained its indicative price recommendations for jute and kenaf, the former for the fourth consecutive season, although it slightly changed the technicalities of the relevant price quotation.

The Group also had an initial discussion on possible means for improving the indicative price system for jute, based on an assessment of the past working of the informal arrangement.

Bananas

2.2.28. The Intergovernmental Group on Bananas, meeting in Geneva under the auspices of Unctad from 1 to 5 November, drew up a list of research and development projects on bananas. The list contains nine priority projects, including a large genetic research component and a campaign to control various pests and diseases (insects and fungus diseases) which affect profitability on small plantations.

The list will be presented at the second Unctad preparatory meeting on bananas, due to be held some time in 1983. This research and development programme is one of the main international cooperation operations to be undertaken as part of a possible international agreement on bananas.

The Community and its Member States made a very positive contribution to the discussions on the programme, which was devised by the Unctad Secretariat on the basis of proposals from the banana-exporting countries.

Rubber and tin

2.2.29. The Malaysian Minister of Primary Industries had talks with Members of the Commission on 24 November about the rubber and tin agreements. The agreements have been working satisfactorily, with prices remaining within the bracket, but the operations have been very expensive for the consumer countries. The forecast trend of demand is not favourable either. The Malay-

¹ China, Hong Kong, Macao, Romania and South Korea.

sian Minister stated that the producer countries intended to conform wholly to the letter and the spirit of the commodity agreements.

Sugar

2.2.30. The Community took part, as an observer, in the recent session of the International Sugar Organization—held in London on 18 and 19 November—which was concerned chiefly with restoring the world market, currently in deep depression, to health and with the prospects for the negotiation of a new agreement to replace the present one, which will expire at the end of 1984.

The Community, which has imposed upon itself a good deal of discipline, restated its resolve to make a constructive contribution to these two undertakings. It is in this spirit that it will be taking part in the ISO's preparatory work for a negotiating conference on a new agreement, which is due to be held in Geneva in May 1983.

Bauxite

2.2.31. The first preparatory meeting on bauxite was held in Geneva from 8 to 12 November. The purpose of the meeting was to review the problems facing the world bauxite market, look into what action would be possible on an international scale and what subsequent measures to recommend.

The conclusions adopted, which reflect the views of consumer and producer countries, call on all member governments to present, by the end of July 1983, their additional views on the problems of the sector and state that a second preparatory meeting will be arranged.

Throughout the meeting the Commission and Member States' delegations acted in close coordination, which resulted notably in a Community statement.

Commercial, industrial, financial and technical cooperation

2.2.32. Nine ACP States and six Asian and Latin-American developing countries took

part in the Paris International Food Fair, with technical and financial assistance from the Community.

2.2.33. Papua New Guinea and Honduras took part in the wood trade fair in Rotterdam from 2 to 6 November.

2.2.34. The Commission organized five trade missions from Bangladesh, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay and Thailand.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.35. Under the 1982 programme of financial and technical aid to NADCs the Commission approved the following projects and allocations (Article 930 of the budget):

Thailand — Oilseed crop development programme: 3 300 000 ECU;

Junta of the Cartagena Agreement (Andean Pact) — Energy cooperation: 500 000 ECU;

India — Cyclone shelters (phase 2): 3 000 000 ECU;

India — Cyclone shelters (phase 3): 1 000 000 ECU.

2.2.36. Following the European Council's declarations of March and June,¹ the Council agreed on 22 and 23 November to increase the Community's financial and technical assistance to Central America for this year. Out of the additional funds recently released for aid to non-associated developing countries, 30 million ECU will be used for this purpose.

The increased aid will be used mainly for schemes aimed at stepping up agricultural production in the countries concerned on the basis of the existing agrarian reform programmes.

The Commission, after consulting the appropriate committee, will be deciding on projects for these countries by the end of the year.

2.2.37. On 19 November Parliament adopted an opinion² on the proposal for a deci-

¹ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 1.3.6; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 1.5.6.

² OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

sion supplementing the general guidelines for financial and technical cooperation with non-associated developing countries for 1982.¹ Parliament is in favour of the proposal.

Food aid, emergency aid and exceptional aid

Assistance to refugees

2.2.38. In application of its communication of 2 June (approved by the Council on 15 June²), which provided for 35 million ECU to help refugees, displaced persons and victims of conflict (of which 10 million ECU for South-East Asia, 10 million ECU for Afghan refugees in Pakistan, 5 million ECU for Angola and 10 million ECU for Central America), the Commission decided that this sum should be allocated as follows: UNHCR: 27.5 million ECU; ICRC and Licross: 4.7 million ECU; NGOs: 2.8 million ECU.

Food aid

Framework regulation

2.2.39. At its 22 and 23 November meeting the Council agreed to modify its 'common position'³ on the framework regulation on food aid policy and food aid management by keeping the qualified majority rule for setting the overall quantities and choosing eligible countries. The President will be informing Parliament of the Council's intention to complete the conciliation procedure on this basis.

Annual programmes

2.2.40. On 22 and 23 November the Council paved the way for agreement on the Presidency's compromise whereby the Community's supplementary cereals food aid programme for 1982⁴ would be increased to 1 million tonnes.

It was agreed that the decision would be approved formally at the same time as the food aid framework regulation was adopted.

Emergency schemes

2.2.41. On 28 October the Council authorized the allocation of emergency food aid to Nepal in the form of 5 000 tonnes of cereals, valued at approximately 625 000 ECU at world prices.

Exceptional aid

2.2.42. In view of the interest it attaches to Community assistance to Lebanon, the Council agreed on 22 November to ask the European Investment Bank to commit an amount of 50 million ECU out of its own resources for granting Lebanon a special supplementary aid—following that granted in 1977—in the form of loans for reconstruction projects.

Emergency aid

2.2.43. Following the floods in Tunisia the Commission decided, on 10 November, to grant emergency aid to the amount of 200 000 ECU via the League of Red Cross Societies to help victims of the disaster.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.44. By the end of November 342 projects totalling 37 245 070 ECU had been submitted to the Commission by 128 NGOs.

Also by the end of November, grants amounting to 21 446 230 ECU had been committed for 205 projects.

In addition 1 212 405 ECU was spent on co-financing 43 campaigns to inform the European public about development issues.

¹ OJ C 223, 27.8.1982.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

³ OJ C 26, 30.1.1979; Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.2.16.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.20.

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Trade and Development Board

2.2.45. The Trade and Development Board devoted the second part of its 25th session (19 to 29 October) to examining problems posed by Unctad's activities in the field of economic cooperation among developing countries. The aim was to devise ways and means whereby Unctad could support such activities. The Community took an active part in the negotiations throughout the session, relying on its spokesmen, the representatives of the Council Presidency and the Commission, to state the positions that had been agreed upon during the Community's coordination meetings.

A resolution presented by the Group of 77 was adopted.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

First consultation on industrial manpower training

(Stuttgart, 22 to 26 November)

2.2.46. The first consultation on industrial manpower training ended with agreement on a series of measures to be taken by Unido, together with the ILO and Unesco (which had cooperated in organizing the consultation), to improve and strengthen their training activities for developing countries.

The participants agreed that expansion of the developing countries' own training capacity was essential if they were to achieve their long-term development objectives and called for urgent attention to be given by the international community to providing financial assistance to help them strengthen their industrial capacity.

Apart from the role of international organizations, the participants examined such is-

ues as the relationship between training and the transfer of technology and contractual relations concerning training activities. Representatives from 84 countries and 24 international organizations were present.

The Community representative commented on a number of the issues being discussed at the consultation and described the Community's training activities in favour of the developing countries, particularly those covered by the first and second Lomé Conventions. He drew attention to the increased emphasis being given to training in the second Lomé Convention. The Community representative proposed that further meetings organized by Unido in this field should address themselves to specific topics identified at the Stuttgart consultation. It was agreed in the final conclusions that the need for a second consultation on these issues be considered by Unido's governing bodies.

World Intellectual Property Organization

2.2.47. At its 22 and 23 November meeting the Council set the guidelines to be observed by the Member States for joint Community action at the third session of the diplomatic conference on the revision of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property,¹ which resumed in Geneva from 23 to 27 November.

The Council decision requires the Member States to accept the text under discussion, which would enable developing countries to take more radical steps against the owners of patents which are not being worked.²

United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

2.2.48. At its 22 and 23 November meeting the Council agreed that the Community and its Member States should sign the Final Act of the Third Conference³ in Jamaica on 6 December. This will mean that they will be able to take part in the work of the Preparatory Committee, which will make the arrangements for the implementation of the

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.28.

² Point 2.1.13.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.29.

Convention. However, the Council has not yet taken a decision on whether the Community itself should sign the Convention.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

2.2.49. The GATT ministerial meeting was held in Geneva from 24 to 29 November. Negotiations on the final text were long and difficult, but agreement was reached eventually on a text comprising policy guidelines and a number of operational decisions regarding GATT's future activities.¹

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2.2.50. On 16 November Parliament adopted a resolution on the GATT ministerial meeting.²

Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

2.2.51. The Madrid meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe resumed on 9 November. The meeting in February/March³ had been the scene of confrontation between Eastern and Western delegations on the issue of the recent events in Poland. This time too the Western delegations, headed by Denmark, which is currently President of the Communities, severely criticized the violations of the Helsinki Final Act that had occurred since the previous meeting, especially the outlawing of the free trade union 'solidarity' and other infringements of civil liberty in Poland as well as repression in the USSR and other Eastern-bloc countries. The countries concerned rejected these criticisms as interference in their internal affairs, but their reactions were much less violent than at the earlier meeting and the speakers on both sides emphasized their wish to negotiate a substantial and balanced final document. To this end, the Western countries proposed a series of amendments to the draft final document produced in 1981 by the neutral and non-aligned delegations, amendments concerning *inter alia* trade union freedoms and the right of citizens to monitor whether their own governments are complying with the Final Act.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

2.2.52. While a renewed attempt was being made in the United Nations General Assembly to find a solution to the problem of the global negotiations, the Group on North-South Economic Issues met on 3 and 4 November to take stock of the situation from its standpoint. The Community and the other members of OECD restated their support for the idea of global negotiations, pointing out that the conclusions of the Western Summit at Versailles formed a suitable basis for the opening of the negotiations. It was also felt that the position of the developing countries needed further clarification, notably as regards the principle of not duplicating existing forums when forming working parties for the global negotiations.

Whatever the fate of these negotiations, the members of OECD are regarding Unctad VI as one of the coming major landmarks in the North-South dialogue. They expressed regret that at its last meeting the Unctad Board had not managed to reach a unanimous agreement on the question of economic cooperation among developing countries and hoped that feelings would now not be running so high so that this issue would not weigh too heavily on the proceedings of the sixth Conference. In any case, however the OECD countries may view the procedures or framework of South-South cooperation, they, like the Community, are in favour of such cooperation. Lastly, their views also coincide on the respective importance of the different subjects on the agenda for the sixth Conference and on the need for careful preparation.

The North-South Group completed its general review of the problems of interdependence, paying attention this time to the different aspects of interdependence in the fields of technology and the environment. It is planning to draw up in due course a summary of all the aspects discussed over the year.

¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

² Point 2.4.5; OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

³ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.2.29.

Environmental and health protection

2.2.53. Ministers and high-ranking officials responsible for environment and health policies met in Paris from 15 to 17 November, under the auspices of OECD, to take stock of what had been achieved since their meeting in May 1980¹ under the chemical products programme. The Commission played an active part in the work at this meeting; it was instrumental in enabling agreements to be reached on the points under discussion.

The participants approved measures aimed at encouraging and coordinating efficient management in this sphere at international level. They emphasized the need to align their positions on the monitoring of chemical products and to ensure that OECD's recommendations on the testing and assessment of such products were implemented. They restated their countries' commitments to keep up efforts to achieve optimum protection of health and the environment and to avoid unnecessary disruption of trade.

The meeting also paved the way for action by the OECD Council on the minimum basic data required prior to marketing for the evaluation of chemical products.

Council of Europe

Ministerial session

2.2.54. The ministerial session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe was held in Strasbourg on 10 November. One of the items dealt with was relations between the Council of Europe and the Community.

Industrialized countries

EFTA countries

Sweden

2.2.55. The Swedish Foreign Minister, Mr Bodström, visited the Commission on 29 November. He was received by the President, Mr Thorn, and by Mr Davignon, Mr Ortoli and Mr Dalsager.

The GATT ministerial meeting, monetary questions and other multilateral and bilateral issues were discussed at length.

Iceland

2.2.56. The EEC-Iceland Joint Committee held its 20th meeting in Brussels on 30 November. Both sides agreed that relations in general were excellent.

Iceland complained, however, about the gradual reduction of the Community's autonomous tariff quotas for fishery products.

It was confirmed that the Icelandic import deposit scheme for furniture would lapse at the end of the year.

The Committee discussed the import restrictions imposed by Iceland on fishing vessels in order to protect fish stocks; it is expected that a satisfactory solution can be found.

With regard to rules of origin, the Committee adopted *ad referendum* alternative percentage rules for products in Chapters 84 to 92 of the Customs Tariff.

Norway

2.2.57. The Joint Committee set up under the EEC-Norway Free Trade Agreement met in Brussels on 30 November. Discussions centred on the economic situation, trade development, the functioning of the agreements and various specific trade issues, and alternative percentage rules were adopted *ad referendum* for products in Chapters 84 to 92 of the Customs Tariff.

This meeting was immediately followed by a meeting of the Joint Committee set up under the ECSC-Norway Agreement, at which there was an exchange of views on the steel market situation and the Community's anti-crisis policy.

United States

2.2.58. The 24th round of biannual high-level consultations between the United States Government and the Commission took place in Washington on 8 and 9 November under

¹ Bull. EC 5-1980, point 2.2.37.

the joint chairmanship of Mr A. Wallis, Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, and Mr Haferkamp. The discussions centred chiefly on the preparations for the GATT ministerial meeting, EEC-US relations in the agricultural sector, East-West economic relations, economic developments in the Community, the United States and the world at large, US-EEC trade problems and energy developments and prospects. The high-level consultations concluded with a joint press conference at which Mr Haferkamp and Mr Wallis announced that the next round of ministerial consultations would take place in Brussels in December.

2.2.59. On 13 November President Reagan lifted the embargo which he had imposed on 22 June on exports to the USSR of oil and gas equipment for use in the construction of the Siberia-Europe gas pipeline. This decision removed a major cause of tension in recent relations between the Community and the United States. The Commission issued the following statement on 14 November:

'The Commission has given a warm welcome to the US decision to lift sanctions on firms involved in the construction of the pipeline to bring gas supplies from Siberia to Europe. Mr Thorn was informed of the decision in a letter from President Reagan, the Commission having taken part with the Council Presidency in the Washington talks.

The US decision constitutes an important step towards the stabilization of relations between the Community and the United States and is in line with the approach which the Community had constantly advocated, demonstrating once again that even the most complex issues dividing the Community and the United States can be resolved if the two sides are willing to consult each other and establish a genuine dialogue ...'

Canada

2.2.60. The 19th session of high-level consultations between the Community and Canada took place in Ottawa on 1 and 2 November. The discussions, which as is the tradition covered multilateral and bilateral economic and trade questions, were dominated by concern over the continuing world economic recession.

2.2.61. The two subcommittees set up under the 1976 Framework Agreement in order to promote cooperation between the Community and Canada (Industrial Cooperation Subcommittee and General and Preparatory Subcommittee) met on 2 and 3 November in Ottawa. The two parties discussed the state of current joint projects and, while stating their satisfaction over the results of cooperation, expressed the desire to broaden the field it covered and examine ways of making it more effective.

The two parties exchanged views on a number of new sectors providing scope for possible cooperation.

Preliminary discussions were also begun with a view to involving firms more actively in the process of cooperation.

Japan

2.2.62. The Commission, in consultation with the competent Council bodies, drew up an enlarged, revised list of demands aimed at making the Japanese market more open. This list was transmitted to the Japanese authorities on 23 November.

2.2.63. The high-level working party established in response to a request made by the Council on 22 March¹ met for the fifth time on 11 November and continued its discussions on the international competitiveness of European industry. It was to report to the Council on 13 and 14 December.

Australia

2.2.64. Mr Peter Nixon, Australian Minister for Primary Industry, visited the Commission on 29 November. Mr Nixon, who was visiting Europe to attend the OECD Agriculture Ministers' meeting, had discussions in Brussels with Mr Dalsager and senior Commission officials. The talks focused mainly on agriculture, but also covered a number of political, economic and trade issues including the GATT ministerial meeting, the improvement of mutual understanding and the need for a pragmatic approach

¹ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.2.35.

to outstanding problems. The specific agricultural topics concerned the CAP developments, the general orientation of the 1983 price package and certain key products, such as sugar, meat, dairy products (including cheese), wheat and wine.

These talks, which followed the GATT ministerial meeting,¹ took place in a cordial and constructive atmosphere. The importance was recognized of pursuing a close dialogue through all appropriate channels of communication, bilateral and multilateral, including, for example, within the International Sugar Organization. Mr Nixon issued a statement following these discussions, describing them as 'timely and encouraging'.

Mediterranean countries

Overall Mediterranean policy

2.2.65. On 17 November Parliament adopted a resolution on Mediterranean agriculture faced with the problems of Community enlargement.² This resolution is a follow-up to the Commission communication on the implementation of a Mediterranean policy for the enlarged Community.³

Maghreb

Algeria

2.2.66. On 24 November the Commission sent the Council a proposal aimed at extending until 31 December 1983 the arrangements applicable to imports of wine originating in Algeria.⁴

Mashreq

Lebanon

2.2.67. On 22 November the Council decided, in view of the importance which it attaches to Community action to meet the most urgent needs of Lebanese reconstruction, to request the European Investment Bank to allocate 50 million ECU from its own resources as additional exceptional aid

to Lebanon in the form of loans for the execution of reconstruction projects.

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2.2.68. On 22 November the Council adopted Regulations concluding second-generation financial protocols between the Community and the Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) and Mashreq (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria) countries.⁵ Parliament had given its opinion.²

Developing countries

ACP States and OCT

ACP-EEC Convention

Institutions

2.2.69. The ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly, under the joint chairmanship of Mr Dankert, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Kolane, Speaker of Lesotho's National Assembly, held its annual session in Rome, following a meeting from 1 to 3 November of the Joint Committee, also held in Rome. Mr Pisani, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development, took part in the proceedings of the Joint Committee and of the Assembly, where he presented the Commission's recent memorandum on the Community's development policy.⁶

The Assembly adopted seven resolutions, certain of which had already been prepared by the Joint Committee in Harare (formerly Salisbury), Zimbabwe, last February.⁷

The general debate, based on a report by Mr Vergeer (*EPP/NL*), centred on all the chapters of the second Lomé Convention, in particular those relating to trade relations, training, Stabex and sugar. A long passage of the resolution adopted following this de-

¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

² OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

³ Bull. EC 6-1982, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

⁴ OJ L 364, 19.12.1981.

⁵ OJ L 337, 29.11.1982; OJ L 356, 17.12.1982.

⁶ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

⁷ Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.2.34.

bate was devoted to the latter question, the political importance of which was stressed on both sides.

The Assembly also adopted resolutions on the fight against hunger in the world, cooperation in the energy field, relations with business and labour, and the global negotiations to be relaunched with a view to achieving a new world economic and political order. With regard to the implementation of the Chasle (Mauritius) report on cultural cooperation, adopted in September 1981,¹ widespread support was given to the incorporation of a socio-cultural dimension in the next Convention. In addition, a resolution on the situation in southern Africa embodied the ideas discussed at the Joint Committee meeting in Harare.²

Industrial cooperation

2.2.70. The Fifth West Africa Industrial Forum was held in Dakar from 24 to 27 November. Its purpose was to provide an opportunity for contact between European manufacturers and business promoters from the 16 English- and French-speaking countries in West Africa. The 1982 Forum, as in previous years, catered for medium-sized, and even small, European firms and covered three subject areas; the agri-food industry, construction and construction materials and the metal and mechanical engineering industries.³

European Development Fund

2.2.71. In November the Commission took decisions involving the allocation of fourth and fifth EDF resources totalling 31 565 000 ECU, in respect of Commission-administered projects and programmes and emergency aid, to finance operations in the following sectors:

	(ECU)
Fisheries and stockfarming	4 500 000
Rural production	7 000 000
Road infrastructure	14 330 000
Training	2 880 000
Emergency aid	2 000 000
Other	855 000
	31 565 000

Asia

ASEAN countries

2.2.72. The third meeting of the EEC-ASEAN Joint Cooperation Committee took place in Pattaya, Thailand, from 2 to 4 November, to review the development of the increasingly wide range of activities under the Cooperation Agreement. Agreement was reached on action programmes in fields including trade promotion, training, scientific and technological cooperation and insurance. The Committee felt that more emphasis must be given to strengthening industrial cooperation between the regions and it was agreed to undertake a programme of investment seminars and missions over the coming year.

There was also an exchange of views on developments in trade between the two regions, the progress of the textile negotiations under the Multifibre Arrangement, economic developments in the two regions, Community technical and financial assistance to ASEAN, the GATT ministerial meeting and international commodity agreements.

India

Commission President's visit

2.2.73. At the invitation of the Indian Government, Mr Thorn paid an official visit to India from 31 October to 7 November. He was received by the Vice-President and had talks with Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, and with the Ministers of External Affairs, Finance and Commerce. Mr Thorn also had discussions with the Speaker of the lower house of the Indian Parliament (Lok Sabha).

His talks with the Prime Minister centred on the North-South dialogue and the role which India, one of the most influential countries in the Group of 77, and the Community can play in reactivating the dialogue.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.2.39.

² Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.2.34.

³ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.46.

The topics discussed with the Finance and Commerce Ministers concerned the world economic situation, the GATT ministerial meeting and certain aspects of bilateral relations between the Community and India.

During his visit Mr Thorn visited the Delhi Fair, where for the first time all the Member States' stands were grouped around a Commission stand, and inaugurated the Fair's European Day.

Following his discussions in Delhi, Mr Thorn visited Tamil Nadu and Kerala, where he had talks with the state governments.

2.2.74. In the framework of EEC-India industrial cooperation, seminars were held in Düsseldorf (2-3 November), Paris (4-5 November) and Stratford-upon-Avon (8-9 November) to inform the business community of the opportunities for joint ventures and other forms of cooperation with India. This was the first stage of a project in which the Commission, in cooperation with the Indian Investment Centre, will be sponsoring an industrial conference in New Delhi in January 1983 with a view to encouraging such ventures.

Nepal

2.2.75. Mr Thorn visited Nepal from 7 to 9 November at the invitation of the Prime Minister.

He had talks with the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and the Finance Minister. He was also granted a private audience by King Birendra.

The discussions with the Nepalese authorities centred on Nepal's development and the country's critical food situation.

Latin America

Brazil

2.2.76. Following the entry into force on 1 October of the Framework Agreement for EEC-Brazil cooperation, signed in Brussels on 18 September 1980,¹ Mr Haferkamp visited Brazil from 3 to 6 November at the in-

itation of the government. He had talks with several ministers on the entire range of EEC-Brazil relations and on topics of common interest such as the GATT ministerial meeting. On behalf of the ECSC, he signed the order for the payment of the first instalment of the ECSC loan granted for the Carajas iron ore mining project.² The granting of this loan was linked to the signing of export contracts to supply European steel mills with iron ore.

Central America

2.2.77. On 19 November Parliament adopted a resolution³ on the Commission communication on special measures to promote economic and social development in Central America,⁴ giving its support to the Commission's proposals.

2.2.78. The Council agreed on 22 November that the 1982 allocation of financial and technical aid for Central America be increased by 30 million ECU. This sum will be used primarily for rural development projects as part of the agrarian restructuring programme.

State-trading countries

China

2.2.79. The fourth meeting of the Joint Committee set up under Article 9 of the EEC-China Trade Agreement met in Brussels on 11 and 12 November.

Both parties expressed satisfaction with the implementation of the Agreement, for although trade between the two sides since 1980 had not continued to make the same strides as it had in 1978 and 1979, the overall development of trade since the entry into force of the Agreement was considered to be satisfactory.

¹ Fourteenth General Report, point 696.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.2.72.

³ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.2.62.

It is true that, as a result of the policy of readjustment adopted by the Chinese in 1979, Community exports continued to decline in the first half of 1982, but with the conclusion of important contracts and the reactivation of certain large projects there would seem to be an improvement in the offing.

The Chinese side agreed to the Community's proposal for a one-year extension of the life of the Agreement,¹ which is due to expire on 31 May 1983, in accordance with Article 11.

Poland

2.2.80. On 22 November, as the final instalment of the 7.5 million ECU earmarked on 2 June² for the poorest sections of the Polish population (children, infants, the elderly, prisoners and their families), the Commission decided to allocate 1 050 000 ECU for basic foodstuffs, hygiene products, medicines and small-scale medical supplies of vital importance to be transported by lorry by the European NGOs in December.

2.2.81. In the belief that supply conditions in Poland are such that additional measures to those already adopted by the Community could help improve the food situation, the Council agreed (resolution adopted on 29 November) to allow the authorities of the Member States, during the 1982/83 marketing year, to make apples of Community origin withdrawn from the market available to approved charitable organizations for free distribution to the Polish people.

2.2.82. On 18 November Parliament adopted a resolution on free deliveries of intervention fruit to Poland.³

Diplomatic relations

2.2.83. On 23 November the President of the Council and the President of the Commission received His Excellency U Than Lwin, who presented his letters of credence as Head of the Mission of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the EEC.

The new ambassador succeeds U Maung Maung Nyunt.

European political cooperation

Ministerial meeting

2.2.84. The Foreign Ministers held a political cooperation meeting in Brussels on 23 November. At a press conference the President of the Council, Mr Ellemann-Jensen, gave the following report on the ministerial discussions.

Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

2.2.85. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that the moves by the Ten to obtain a substantive and balanced final document were supported by the Community's allies and friends. They had instructed their delegations in Madrid to work with this objective, acting in cooperation with other delegations and maintaining close contact with the neutral and non-aligned countries.

Poland

2.2.86. The Ministers expressed the desire to develop relations with Poland and the Polish people. They took note of the release from detention of Lech Walesa, which could be a step towards normalization of the situation. However, the Ten considered that it was too soon to comment in this regard and they would be following developments closely.

USSR

2.2.87. The Ministers noted with concern that the international climate remained tense. They expressed their interest in endeavouring to achieve a more positive state of affairs by stepping up the process of dialogue. In this context, they would give

¹ Bull. EC 1-1978, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

² Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.2.71.

³ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

careful consideration to all pronouncements by the new Soviet leaders.

Middle East

2.2.88. Referring to his recent visit to Lebanon and Jordan, Mr Ellemann-Jensen said that there were grounds for hope that the beginnings of a solution were emerging.

The Danish Foreign Minister was instructed by the Ten to travel to Israel, in the context of the continuing contacts with both Israel and the Arab countries, in order to inform the Israeli Government of the damaging effects of its policy in the occupied territories,

in particular regarding the establishment of settlements. He would also draw to the attention of the Israeli authorities the fact that the political impetus provided by President Reagan's declaration and the Arab Summit in Fez could be weakened if Israel showed no sign of flexibility.

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2.2.89. On 18 November Parliament adopted three resolutions on the situation in Argentina, Uruguay and Somalia.¹

¹ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

3. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Draft supplementary and amending budget for 1982

2.3.1. On 8 November the Council established a draft supplementary and amending budget for 1982 without changing the preliminary draft transmitted by the Commission.¹ As required by the budgetary procedure, the draft was then sent to Parliament for debate.

1983 draft budget — second reading by the Council

2.3.2. On 22 November the Council gave a second reading to the draft budget for 1983 following Parliament's first reading,² when it amended non-compulsory expenditure and proposed modifications to compulsory expenditure. Before discussions began the Council met a delegation from Parliament which explained the reasons for Parliament's changes and heard the reactions of the members of the Council. While there was some agreement on budget priorities, the Council

stressed the need to continue with a policy of austerity whereas the parliamentary representatives urged the opinion that savings be made above all in compulsory expenditure, i.e. agricultural market support. Opinions also differed on the determination of the base from which is calculated the margin for increasing non-compulsory expenditure compared with the previous year. Parliament felt, and was backed by the Commission, that transfers of appropriations between compulsory expenditure and non-compulsory expenditure had to be taken into account in the determination of the base, whereas the Council did not.

The draft budget to be given its second reading in Parliament at the part-session from 13 to 17 December amounts to 22 811 million ECU in appropriations for commitments and 21 421 million ECU in appropriations for payments — increases of 1.9% and 1.6% respectively over the draft established by the Council on first reading.³

¹ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.2.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.1.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.3.3.

In its draft the Council did not accept any of Parliament's proposed modifications to compulsory expenditure. On the other hand, the increases approved in non-compulsory expenditure total 419 million ECU in commitment appropriations and 325 million ECU in payment appropriations.

Taken by sector the increases in appropriations accepted by the Council were as follows:

(million ECU)

	Commitments	Payments
Social Fund	248.5	192.6
ERDF	100.0	80.0
Aid to non-associated developing countries	20.0	10.0
Esprit programme	11.5	7.5
Fight against hunger in the world	10.0	10.0
Energy	5.0	10.0
Transport	5.0	1.0
Miscellaneous	19.0	13.6
	419.0	324.7

Compensation for the United Kingdom

2.3.3. On 17 November the Commission sent the Council a communication on compensation for the United Kingdom for 1983, 1984 and possibly 1985.

At its meeting on 22 and 23 November the Council held a preliminary discussion on the communication. It instructed its committees to draw up a report for a detailed discussion in January.

2.3.4. At its November part-session¹ Parliament adopted resolutions on the following subjects: the measures taken in response to the discharge decisions for 1979; the Court of Auditors' report on the ECSC financial statements at 31 December 1980; and the budgetary control aspects of the JRC Establishment at Ispra.

2.3.5. Parliament passed a resolution¹ on the report of the Special Committee of Inquiry concerning the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF, cereals sector.

2.3.6. Parliament also adopted a decision giving a discharge to the Commission for ECSC operations in 1980.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.7. In November the Commission concluded a private placing in sterling for 5.5 million ECU, a private placing in marks for 64 million ECU and a private placing in guilders for 5.9 million ECU.

Loans paid out

2.3.8. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made loans in July amounting to a total of 167.9 million ECU (industrial loans, conversion loans and loans for subsidized housing).

Industrial loans

2.3.9. Industrial loans amounting to 129.15 million ECU were paid out during the period to the following firms:

Federal Republic of Germany

Eschweiler Bergwerksverein AG, Herzogenrath (Emil Mayrisch and Westfalen collieries).

Rogesa Roheisengesellschaft Saar mbH, Dillingen (Dillingen plant).

Peine-Salzgitter AG, Salzgitter (Peine and Salzgitter plants).

Ruhrkohle AG, Essen (Walsum, Prosper, Westerholt and Haus Aden collieries).

Non-Community

Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (iron ore mine at Carajas).

¹ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

Subsidized housing

2.3.10. Loans for the building of subsidized housing amounted to 1.24 million ECU.

Conversion loans

2.3.11. In November conversion loans (Article 56) amounted to a total of 37.51 million ECU.

Federal Republic of Germany (multiregional)

Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechselbank AG, Munich, for small and medium-sized firms.

Bayerische Vereinsbank AG, Munich, for small and medium-sized firms.

Industriekreditbank AG — Deutsche Industriebank, Düsseldorf, for small and medium-sized firms.

Westfalenbank AG, Bochum, for small and medium-sized firms.

Saarländische Investitionskreditbank, Saarbrücken, for small and medium-sized firms.

Belgium

Caisse nationale de crédit professionnel, Brussels, for small and medium-sized firms.

Titech Europe SA, Charleroi (Hainaut).

Luxembourg

General Motors Operation SA, Bascharage.

Société nationale de crédit et d'investissement, Luxembourg, for small and medium-sized firms.

United Kingdom

Strathclyde: Caledonian Airmotive, Prestwick, Ayrshire.

South Glamorgan: Chemical Bank, London (Cardiff branch).

Durham and Northamptonshire: Hunterprint Group Ltd, St Albans (Peterlee and Corby works).

Cumbria: Yates Circuit Foil Ltd, Silloth, Carlisle.

Multiregional: Barclays Bank, London; Finance for Industry, London; Royal Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Euratom

Loans raised

2.3.12. In November the Commission made a public issue of FF 500 million (the equivalent of 75 million ECU) for a term of 10 years at an annual interest rate of 16.30%. The issue price was 99.20%. It also made a public issue of 50 million ECU for a term of 8 years at an annual interest rate of 12.50% and an issue price of 100%.

This was the first public issue in ECU by the European Atomic Energy Community.

EEC

Loans raised

2.3.13. In November the Commission made a public issue of BFR 3 000 million (the equivalent of 6.6 million ECU) for a term of 8 years at an annual interest rate of 13.25%. It was issued at 100%. The Commission also concluded a private placing in guilders for 59 million ECU.

4. Institutional and political matters

European policy and relations between the institutions

European policy

European Union

2.4.1. At the Council meeting on foreign affairs on 22 and 23 November the representatives of the Ten agreed on the principle of informal contact between themselves and Parliament's enlarged Bureau for discussion of the draft European Act,¹ before a common stance is adopted between the Ten. A meeting is to be arranged early in 1983. Parliament had called for such meetings in its resolution of 15 October.²

Relations between the institutions

2.4.2. On 18 November Parliament passed a resolution instructing its committees working closely with the Commission 'to examine the ways in which the Commission's executive, supervisory and delegated legislative powers have been used in the past and the scope for, and political implications of, extending the uses of these powers and parliamentary control over them'.³

Parliament intends to examine the committees' reports at the February part-session, when the Commission's programme for the year will be debated.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament⁴

Strasbourg: 15 to 19 November

2.4.3. The problem of enlargement, particularly its agricultural side, was the focal point of the November sittings.

Parliament sought to highlight its political role by adopting an own-initiative report on

the guidelines for the agricultural prices before the Commission had presented its proposals.

In external relations and development the House broadly endorsed the Commission's proposals for Central America. It did, however, express its growing concern that Community action be made subject to respect of human rights. In particular it condemned the governments of Argentina and Uruguay and went so far as to call for suspension of all aid to Ethiopia until the Commission had presented a detailed report on Ethiopia's aggression against Somalia.

Throughout the debates on the steel industry, GATT, the French 'Poitiers' measures and the Community's economic situation the House echoed time and again to the call for common solutions to common problems. Greater convergence, efforts to win back the internal Community market and common stances towards the outside world were seen as the three pillars of European strategy. The same feeling also coloured the debates on research and energy policy.

Enlargement and Mediterranean agriculture (17 November)

2.4.4. Parliament passed two resolutions—on the enlargement of the Community to in-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1981, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.6 and 3.4.1.

² Bull. EC 10-1982, points 2.4.1 and 2.4.17; OJ C 292, 8.11.1982.

³ OJ C 334, 20.12.1982.

⁴ 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 334, 20.12.1982, and the report of the proceedings is contained in OJ Annex 1-291. 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* = The Netherlands, *UK* = United Kingdom.

clude Spain and Portugal, based on the amended report by Lord Douro (*ED/UK*) and adopted by 168 votes to 20 with 25 abstentions, and on Mediterranean agriculture and the problems of the enlargement of the EEC towards the south, based on the amended report by Mr Georges Sutra (*Soc/F*) and adopted by 101 votes to 70 with 12 abstentions.

In these resolutions the House insisted that the political commitments made in 1977 be honoured by March 1983 (and no longer by the end of 1982). The potential political gains far outweighed the economic difficulties, which could be resolved either by allowing transnational periods or by adjusting existing Community policies.

The emphasis was laid on the need to preserve the *acquis communautaire* to get to grips with the problems of the Mediterranean regions, develop relations with the other Mediterranean countries and break through the 1% Community VAT ceiling (*EPP* amendment). The Community must 'lay the foundations for a new global Mediterranean policy' which defined an overall strategy both for agriculture and for other areas (*EPP* amendment). Another amendment, by Mr von der Vring (*Soc/D*), stressed that full consideration be given to Parliament's proposals on the Mediterranean Plan in the Pöttering report.

The House called on the EIB to increase its loans to Spain and Portugal. The peseta and the escudo (as well as the drachma and the pound) should join the EMS. Fisheries policy must now include the negotiations with the applicant countries (amendment by Mrs Péry (*Soc/F*) and others).

The House reaffirmed the principle of the Treaty of Rome which postulates that any democratic and pluralist State has the right to become a member of the Community (amendment by Mr Arfé (*Soc/I*) and others).

GATT ministerial meeting

(16 November)

2.4.5. Parliament passed the resolution on GATT presented by Mr Van Aerssen

(*EPP/D*). It reaffirms Parliament's support for the principles of GATT and for the maintenance of an open world trade system, re-emphasizing that protectionism in all its forms must be resisted and that developing countries must accept the rules of GATT.

On agriculture, the House supported the goal of open world trade for agricultural products but urged the Commission to defend the common agricultural policy against the subsidy of most of the major exporting countries. It was absolutely essential to secure selective application of the safeguard clause, while tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade must be further reduced.

Agricultural prices for 1983/84

(18 November)

2.4.6. The rapporteur for the Committee on Agriculture, Mr Jean Mouchel (*EPD/F*), began by urging the Commission to announce its price proposals not later than 15 December so that Parliament could give its opinion by 1 April. There must be no repetition of last year's mistake when, with no decision until 18 May, the delay cost the farmers some 500 million ECU in income. This loss should be taken into consideration in setting the new prices. Mr Mouchel recalled that one of the objectives of the CAP was to guarantee farmers a decent living. This meant an appropriate increase in farm prices, otherwise many farmers would be thrown out of work. For prices to be adequate, account had to be taken of the rising costs and the work done by farmers as well as of variations in inflation and interest rates from one country to another, so that supporting measures could be applied to the hardest-hit countries.

The increase in prices should be enough to allow positive monetary compensatory amounts to be dismantled and negative amounts, which penalize weak-currency countries, to be eliminated. Such decisions would at last restore unity of prices and the market and would facilitate free movement.

Concerning each sector:

(i) Mr Mouchel condemned the alignment of cereal prices on those of the main com-

petitor countries. An effort must be made to develop production of maize and protein plants in order to stabilize imports of complementary or substitute products.

(ii) For milk production, which helped to maintain employment and preserve the countryside, adequate price levels and support should be ensured so that farms did not disappear too quickly.

(iii) Beef and veal: more support for beef and veal would help to reduce overproduction of milk and curb preferential imports which were costly to the Community.

(iv) Fruit and vegetables: priority must be given to quality produce.

(v) Citrus fruits: special measures must be applied in order to allow for the costs of transport and the enlargement of the Community.

(vi) Wine: the rapporteur emphasized quality and tax cuts.

(vii) It was essential to do away with compensatory amounts for pigmeat.

(viii) Mediterranean products: producers' organizations and marketing and processing structures should be strengthened.

(ix) It was high time that the Community had a coherent common policy for vegetable oils and fats, especially before Spain became a member.

Mr Mouchel also called for the creation of a European Export Agency. He reminded the House of the dangers to the CAP from excessive imports.

In conclusion, he said that though it was necessary to develop other common policies, it was unthinkable that this should be to the detriment of the only one that exists, the CAP.

Mr David Curry (*ED/UK*), Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, said that the Mouchel report was intended to offer guidelines for the Commission and the Council and added that 'it may ultimately be our job to give instructions but that will be for a Europe of future generations'.

The Mouchel report establishing Parliament's guidelines for the 1983/84 price

proposals was adopted by 84 votes to 43 with 27 abstentions.

Though no radical changes were made to the report, the line was altered by a number of amendments, which emphasized the balance between the objective of a 'reasonable income' for the farmer and the need to curb production of ever more costly surpluses and which fought shy of an unlimited guarantee on prices (which prompted undue production increases).

A key amendment by Mr Woltjer (*Soc/NL*) stressed that the percentage increase in EAGGF expenditure must be kept below the rate of increase in overall expenditure.

Common research policy

(16 and 18 November)

2.4.7. Parliament adopted the report by Mr Rolf Linkohr (*Soc/D*) on the prospects for the common research policy.

Mr Linkohr called for a complete restructuring of research policy in Europe.

Three challenges had to met: the escalation of the costs of research, American and Japanese competition and the cultural revolution about to sweep through Europe.

The Super-Sara programme, with its originality and its security, was seen as an important factor. The Commission was urged to direct Community research towards the less-favoured regions, small businesses and the Third World. Parliament had a definite role to play in monitoring research, with outside consultative committees playing their solely consultative part.

Finally, Mr Linkohr appealed for research to be focused on agriculture and nuclear, biological and chemical safety.

The House also adopted amendments tabled by Mr Yves Galland (*Lib/F*) and Mr Madron Seligman (*EPD/UK*). These were mainly designed to upgrade the status of European researchers and have them take an active part in the choice of new goals for research and to bring in not only national civil servants,

but also scientific experts, users of research and industrial representatives.

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2.4.8. The House gave opinions on a number of Commission proposals, including:

(i) the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and economic policy guidelines for 1983;¹

(ii) a proposal for a Decision concluding the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention of 1976 for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources;²

(iii) a Directive amending the Council Directive on the limitation of noise emissions from subsonic aircraft;³

(iv) a Regulation banning imports into the Community of skins of pups of certain species of seal and derived products;⁴

(v) the reports on the granting of financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources and for demonstration projects in the field of energy saving;⁵

(vi) a Regulation amending the Regulations on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States;⁶

(vii) a Directive concerning the limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment;⁷

(viii) a Decision on a five-year research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials—non-nuclear indirect action (1983-87);⁸

(ix) a Decision supplementing the general guidelines for 1982 concerning financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries;⁹

(x) the recommendations for regulations concerning the conclusion of new financial protocols between the Community and certain southern Mediterranean countries.¹⁰

2.4.9. The House also passed resolutions on:

(i) tackling the European steel crisis: the resolution called for tighter control by the Commission;

(ii) a reduction in imports from non-member countries; adaptation of restructuring programmes and parallel promotion of regional structures; conversion measures for companies, with retraining and suitable vocational training for workers; better coordination of assistance from the ERDF, the Social Fund and other Community financial instruments; the convening of a European Steel Conference of representatives of the Council and Commission, the trade unions and the employers;

(iii) recent trade measures taken by the French Government and the restrictions on imports into France: the Commission and the Council were urged to take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with the rules of the Treaty of Rome, but also to formulate a Community strategy to improve the competitiveness of European manufacturers in the video field and to develop a Community policy on imports from non-member countries;

(iv) the registration fees charged to foreign pupils and students in Belgium: the resolution called upon Belgium to abolish all discriminatory measures and called for a meeting of the Ministers of Education of the Member States to consider a common harmonized policy on the subject;

(v) damage caused by the earthquake in Umbria and certain parts of Marche in Italy; the regions recently hit by floods in Greece; emergency aid following the violent storms in the southern half of France; financial aid to the storm-hit areas of France and Spain; the floods in Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany and Liguria. All these resolutions supported action by the Community;

(vi) the budgetary costs of the common agricultural policy in the cereals sector and the factors which may influence these costs: the House welcomed the Commission's decision

¹ Point 2.1.4.

² Point 2.1.67.

³ Point 2.1.71.

⁴ Point 2.1.72.

⁵ Point 2.1.131.

⁶ Point 2.1.121.

⁷ Point 2.1.66.

⁸ Point 2.1.150.

⁹ Point 2.2.37.

¹⁰ Point 2.2.68.

to bring EEC cereals prices more into line with those of its main competitors;

(vii) the Community response to the failure of certain members of the International Whaling Commission to abide by the IWC's decision to end commercial whaling: the Community's Environment Ministers were urged to implement measures to encourage objecting countries to comply with IWC decisions;

(viii) Eurocontrol and its accountability: the House called on the member parliaments not to adopt a protocol amending the Convention;

(ix) Community energy policy concerning new and renewable sources of energy;

(x) a common approach to energy pricing structures: the House supported the Commission in its efforts to achieve the greatest possible transparency in energy pricing;¹

(xi) the Commission communication concerning special action in favour of the economic and social development of Central America;

(xii) trade agreements between the Community and Japan: the House asked the Commission to undertake without delay the negotiation of voluntary restraint agreements and urged the Council to take the measures necessary to stimulate European industry and protect it against unfair competition;

(xiii) the Commission's obligation to consult Parliament on decisions likely to have political repercussions or financial implications: the House called on the Commission to honour its undertaking by instituting a consultation process through its appropriate committees;

(xiv) the Commission's failure to act on Parliament's resolution on a Commission action programme: the House requested its committees to report back at the February part-session on the Commission's stewardship and how it was using the powers conferred upon it by the Treaties.

2.4.10. In the field of political cooperation Parliament passed resolutions on:

(i) the situation in Argentina: the House called upon the European Council and the Foreign Ministers to make formal representations to obtain the release of all political prisoners, called for an international inquiry to shed light on events and requested that in the European Parliament-Latin America Delegation, cooperation and coordination measures be studied with a view to immediate joint intervention where human rights are violated;

(ii) the situation in Somalia: the House believed that all aid to Ethiopia should be suspended until the Commission had made a full report to Parliament concerning Ethiopian aggression against Somalia;

(iii) the situation in Uruguay: Parliament called for the release of all political and trade union prisoners and a return to a free and democratic system, in particular with the reconstitution of the political parties;

(iv) free deliveries of intervention fruit to Poland: the House urged that instead of being destroyed, intervention fruit should be made available to non-governmental organizations, to be transported free of charge to Poland.

Council

2.4.11. The Council held ten meetings in November. The following table 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 Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.119.

Table 1 — Council meetings in November 1982

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
799th Brussels 4 November	Research	Mr Haarder	Mr Davignon, Mr Narjes	<p><i>Esprit programme—pilot stage.</i>¹ Joint position agreed regarding essential features of Community activity on information technology R&D.</p> <p><i>JRC research programme.</i>¹ Problems in connection with Super-Sara project examined in depth.</p> <p><i>Stimulating the Community's scientific and technical potential: experimental phase.</i>¹ Joint position.</p> <p><i>Research in the field of science and technology for development.</i>¹ Nine delegations agreed.</p> <p><i>Machine translation system of advanced design.</i>¹ Programme decision adopted.</p>
800th Brussels 8 November	Development cooperation	Mr Møller	Mr Pisani	<p><i>Community aid—situation of women in developing countries.</i>² Conclusions approved.</p> <p><i>Commission memorandum on the Community's development policy.</i>² Discussed in detail.</p> <p><i>Campaign to combat world hunger.</i>² Fresh information from Commission concerning progress in implementation of operations in support of food strategies noted; special programme to combat hunger in the world (operations in support of food policy and operations with a specific theme) examined.</p> <p><i>Maintenance aid.</i>² Draft conclusions examined.</p> <p><i>Amendment of 1982 Community cereals food aid programme.</i>² Examined.</p>
801st Brussels 8, 9 and 29 November	Fisheries	Mr Christophersen	Mr Tugendhat Mr Contogeorgis	<p><i>Common fisheries policy.</i>³ Work continued.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
802nd Brussels 9 November	Energy	Mr Enggaard	Mr Davignon	<p><i>Demonstration projects.</i>⁴ Policy debate.</p> <p><i>Financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment in rational use of energy.</i>⁴ Policy debate.</p> <p><i>Role of solid fuels.</i>⁴ President's conclusions.</p> <p><i>Maintaining minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products.</i>⁴ Examined.</p> <p><i>Crude oil savings through use of substitute fuels.</i>⁴ Favourable view.</p> <p><i>Energy prices.</i>⁴ Interim report from Commission.</p> <p><i>Community natural gas supplies.</i>⁴ Conclusions.</p> <p><i>Heat generators for space heating and hot water production in non-industrial buildings.</i>⁴ Amendment to 1978 Directive agreed.</p>
803rd Brussels 15 November	Economic and financial questions	Mr Christophersen	Mr Ortoli, Mr Davignon, Mr Richard	<p><i>Preparations for European Council. Investment promotion.</i>⁵ Conclusions approved.</p> <p><i>NCI III.</i>⁶ Decision on Commission proposal announced for early next year.</p> <p><i>Preparations for joint Council meeting with Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs.</i>⁷</p>
804th Brussels 15 November	Labour and social affairs	Mrs Fenger Møller	Mr Richard	<p><i>Preparations for joint Council meeting with Ministers of Finance and Economic Affairs.</i>⁷</p>
805th Brussels 15 and 16 November	Agriculture	Mr Kofoed	Mr Dalsager	<p><i>Adjustment of acquis communautaire for Mediterranean products (fruit and vegetables, olive oil).</i>⁸ Further close consideration.</p> <p><i>Determination of areas planted with olive trees qualifying for olive oil production aid.</i>⁸ Policy debate.</p> <p><i>Wine.</i>⁸ Commission proposal for reduction in sulphur dioxide content of wines other than sparkling and liqueur wines discussed.</p> <p><i>Agricultural structures: processing and marketing.</i>⁸</p> <p><i>Veterinary questions.</i>⁸ Views exchanged.</p>

Table 1 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
806th Brussels 16 November	Economic and financial questions/ Labour and social affairs	Mr Christophersen	Mr Ortoli, Mr Richard	<i>Examination of economic and social situation.</i> ⁷
807th Brussels 22 and 23 November	Foreign affairs	Mr Elleman-Jensen	Mr Thorn, Mr Ortoli, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Davignon, Mr Natali, Mr Tugendhat, Mr Narjes, Mr Pisani	<p><i>Aid to Lebanon.</i>²</p> <p><i>Budgetary problems.</i>⁹ Commission communication on compensation for UK: the subsequent solution.</p> <p><i>JRC programme for 1983.</i>¹ Problems regarding continuation of Super-Sara project reviewed.</p> <p><i>Steel — external aspects 1983.</i>¹⁰ Various features approved.</p> <p><i>Central America.</i>² Community technical and financial aid to be increased in 1982.</p> <p><i>Preparations for GATT ministerial meeting.</i>¹¹ Progress examined in depth.</p> <p><i>Generalized preferences in favour of developing countries: Community scheme for 1983.</i>² Approved in principle.</p> <p><i>UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.</i>¹² Problems regarding meeting for signing examined.</p> <p><i>MFA: textiles — bilateral negotiations.</i>¹⁰ Commission status report.</p> <p><i>Commission memorandum on Community development policy.</i>² Examined.</p> <p><i>Uniform electoral procedure.</i> Views exchanged on timetable for discussions.</p> <p><i>Protection of industrial policy.</i>¹²</p> <p><i>Preparations for European Council. German-Italian initiative.</i>¹³</p> <p><i>Report on European Union.</i> Report for European Council approved.</p> <p><i>Food aid.</i>²</p> <p><i>Portuguese accession.</i>¹⁴ Preparations for 10th session of ministerial conference.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
808th Brussels 22 and 23 November	Budget	Mr Møller	Mr Tugendhat	<p><i>Relations with Spain.</i> UK statement on implementation of 1970 agreement with Spain.</p> <p><i>Meeting with a Parliament delegation.</i>⁸</p> <p><i>Draft general budget for 1983.</i>⁹ Second reading.</p>

- ¹ Research and development.
² Development.
³ Fisheries.
⁴ Energy.
⁵ Point 1.3.1.
⁶ Economic and monetary policy.
⁷ Employment, education and social policy.
⁸ Agriculture.
⁹ Financing Community activities.
¹⁰ Commercial policy.
¹¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*
¹² International organizations and conferences.
¹³ Institutional and political matters.
¹⁴ Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries.

Commission

Activities

2.4.12. Commission meetings this month were mainly devoted to preparing for the joint Council meeting held on 16 November¹ and the Copenhagen European Council.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.13. The Commission adopted a communication on the problems of employment in the Community,² which served as the basis for discussions at the joint Council meeting.

Continuing its preparations for the Copenhagen European Council, the Commission approved communications on the economic and social situation, enlargement (taking stock of the main problems)³ and the annual report on European Union.

The Commission also adopted a communication to the Council on revitalizing the European internal market⁴ and a communication presenting points for consideration concerning social security.⁵ It approved a communication on the 'subsequent solution' for com-

pensation measures in favour of the United Kingdom, covering 1983, 1984 and possibly 1985.⁶

A number of measures were proposed for the milk sector (prices, Christmas butter, welfare butter and exports) in order to make it clear to Community milk producers that production will exceed the guaranteed threshold fixed by the Council in 1982 and to prevent an excessive increase in stocks.⁷

After the discussion with the Industry Ministers at an informal meeting on 18 November⁸ the Commission adopted a number of measures to strengthen the anti-crisis system for steel and took a position on aids for restructuring programmes.⁹

- ¹ Point 1.2.1 *et seq.*
² Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*
³ Supplement 8/82 — Bull. EC.
⁴ Point 2.1.7.
⁵ Point 2.1.50.
⁶ Point 2.3.3.
⁷ Point 2.1.79 *et seq.*
⁸ Point 2.1.15.
⁹ Point 2.1.16 *et seq.*

Discussions, policy debates and work in hand

2.4.14. As usual, the Commission made lengthy preparations for Parliament's part-session and, in particular, for the debates on research policy, the discharge to be given to the Commission for the 1980 budget, enlargement and the Directive on information and consultation of employees in companies with complex structures, particularly transnational companies.

The Commission made a start on the revision of Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty (Supplies).

Preparations were made for the GATT ministerial meeting from 24 to 29 November, where the Commission represented the Community.¹

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.4.15. With an eye to the joint Council meeting of 16 November the Commission, represented by Mr Ortoli, Mr Davignon and Mr Richard, met a delegation from the European Trade Union Confederation led by its President, Mr Debunne. The discussion

bore mainly on the Commission's communication for the joint Council meeting and on economic and employment policy guidelines that the Commission is proposing.² Though the talks did reveal some agreement between the Commission and ETUC on the diagnosis of the economic and social situation and on the causes, views differed sharply as regards the remedy.

2.4.16. Several briefing sessions were held. Trade union representatives from the ACP countries assessed Lomé II and prepared for Lomé III. The European Metalworkers Federation discussed the use of the new information technologies with the Commission. Trade union leaders learned about the Community's new action programme to promote equality of opportunity for women (1982-85).³

During preliminary consultations ETUC representatives considered transport policy, vocational training, working conditions and the economic situation.

¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

² Point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

³ Supplement 1/82 — Bull. EC.

Court of Justice¹

2.4.17. New cases

Case	Subject	Basis
ECSC — Steel		
284/82 — Acciaierie e Ferriere Busseni SpA v Commission	Decision imposing a fine for exceeding production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
291/82 — Klöckner-Werke AG v Commission ¹	Decision setting production quotas for steel	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the *Official Journal* and the *European Court Reports*, and the publications of its Information Office (e.g. the annual synopsis of the work of the Court or the information quarterly).

Case	Subject	Basis
Free movement of goods		
283/82 — Papierfabrik Schoeller-shammer H.A. Schoeller & Söhne GmbH & Co. KG v Commission	Annulment of the Commission Decision of 9 July 1982 finding that the repayment of import duties requested by the Federal Republic of Germany is unjustified	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
295/82 — GIE Rhône-Alpes Huiles La Talaudiere, and Others v Syndicat National des Fabricants Raffineurs d'Huiles de Graissage	Compatibility of the French law on the disposal of waste oils with Article 30 <i>et seq.</i> of the EEC Treaty	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
Customs union		
289/82 — Lohman GmbH and Co. KG v Oberfinanzdirektion Frankfurt am Main	Interpretation of CCT heading No 30.04 (dressings)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
298/82 — G. Schickedanz KG v Oberfinanzdirektion Frankfurt am Main	Interpretation of Regulation (EEC) No 1074/80 in regard to the tariff classification of sports shoes and, additionally, the validity of that Regulation	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Taxation		
294/82 — Senta Einberger v HZA Freiburg ¹	Compatibility with Article 2(2) of the Sixth Council Directive of 17 May 1977 on VAT of the imposition of VAT on smuggled drugs	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Competition		
296/82 — The Netherlands v Commission	Annulment of the Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on aid granted by the Dutch Government to a paperboard-processing firm, declaring the aid incompatible with Article 92 of the EEC Treaty	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
Agriculture		
292/82 — E. Merck v HZA Hamburg-Jonas ¹	Validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 2271/78, 2555/78, 2807/78, 3115/78, 181/79, 410/79 and 615/79 in so far as they apply to exports of mannitol and sorbitol (in respect of which no production refunds have been granted); the rates of refund specified in Table I of those Regulations	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
297/82 — De Samvirkende Danske Landboforeninger, representing rural landowners, S.A. Pedersen, K. Harbo and P. Grønbaek v Ministry of Fiscal Affairs	Compatibility with Community law of Danish Act No 541 of 28 December 1979 concerning land tax on rural properties	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
<p>Convention on Jurisdiction and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters</p> <p>288/82 — F.M. J.J. Duijnste, liquidator in the winding-up of BV Schroefboutenfabriek, formerly Everts en Van der Weijden v L. Goderbauer</p>	<p>Jurisdiction of the court of cassation to consider of its own motion whether the lower court complied with Article 19 (declaration of lack of jurisdiction). According to which law must the phrase 'in proceedings concerned with the registration or validity of patents' (Article 16) be interpreted?</p>	

Disputes between the Community and its staff

- v Court of Justice: 290/82¹
- v Parliament: 293/82

¹ OJ C 321, 7.12.1982.

2.4.18. Judgments

Date and case	Held
<p>Steel</p> <p>11.11.1982, 263/82 R — Klöckner-Werke AG v Commission</p>	<p>Stay of enforcement ordered in respect of a Commission decision imposing fines subject only to the applicant lodging a bank guarantee which includes the amount of interest payable</p>
<p>Free movement of goods</p> <p>10.11.1982, 261/81 — Walter Rau v De Smedt</p>	<p>A law allowing the sale of margarine only in the form of a cube infringes Article 30 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>Customs union</p> <p>11.11.1982, 47/82 — Gebroeders Vismans BV v Inspecteur der invoerrechten en accijnzen</p>	<p>The phrase 'beans of the genus <i>Phaseolus mungo</i>' contained in Annex A to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2792/79 must be interpreted as including beans both of the 'green gram' variety and of the 'black gram' variety</p>
<p>Fisheries</p> <p>30.11.1982, 287/81 — Anklagemyndigheden (Public Prosecutor) v Jack Noble Kerr</p>	<p>The Member States could, before 31 December 1978, exclude fishermen from certain Member States under measures warranted by objective fish conservation considerations</p>

Date and case	Held
Transport	
30.11.1982, 12/82 — Ministère public v Joseph Trinon	Road hauliers must comply with the tariffs laid down and introduced by the Member States pursuant to Council Regulations (EEC) Nos 1174/68 and 2831/77 or incur the penalties laid down therein
30.11.1982, 32/82 — Openbaar Ministerie v P.F. Suys and Others	Consideration of the questions raised has disclosed no factor of such a kind as to affect the validity of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1174/68
Infringements	
24.11.1982, 249/81 — Commission v Ireland	By organizing a campaign to promote the sale and purchase of Irish products in its territory, Ireland has failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty
28.10.1982, 153/82 — Commission v Federal Republic of Germany	Order for removal from the Court Register (Directive 78/25/EEC — colouring of medicinal products)
17.11.1982, 279/81 — Commission v Italy	Order for removal from the Court Register (Directives 76/117/EEC and 79/196/EEC — electrical equipment)
17.11.1982, 299/81 — Commission v Italy	Order for removal from the Court Register (Directive 77/799/EEC — mutual assistance)
17.11.1982, 93/82 — Commission v Italy	Order for removal from the Court Register (Directive 78/611/EEC — lead content of petrol)
Privileges and immunities	
27.10.1982, 1/82 — Mr and Mrs X v The State of Luxembourg	Application dismissed as inadmissible

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 29.11.1982, 173/82 R — Application dismissed

Orders for removal from the Court Register

11.11.1982, 239/81, 296/81 and 6/82 — Alpha Steel Ltd v Commission

17.11.1982, 135/82 — Administrative appeal proceedings brought by Coöperatieve Vereniging Groenten- en Fruitveiling 'Utrecht en Omstreken' BA against a disciplinary measure taken against it

23.11.1982, 1206 to 1248/79 — Pietro Barbero and Others v Commission

Court of Auditors

2.4.19. On 16 November the Court adopted an opinion on proposals for two Council Regulations, the first¹ amending the Regulation of 19 December 1977 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by own resources and the second² amending the Regulation of 19 December 1977 implementing in respect of own resources accruing from VAT the Decision of 21 April 1970.

2.4.20. On 25 November the Court adopted its annual report concerning the 1981 financial year. The report, together with the replies of the institutions, was sent to the discharge authorities and the other institutions.

Economic and Social Committee

202nd plenary session

2.4.21. The Economic and Social Committee held its 202nd plenary session on 24 and 25 November with Mr Ceyrac in the chair. The session was attended (on 25 November) by Mr Pisani, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development policy. Mr Pisani presented the memorandum on Community development policy, which received unanimous approval from the members present.

Opinions

Community quota for the carriage of goods

2.4.22. By 82 votes to 30 with 3 abstentions, the Committee adopted an opinion on the proposal³ for amendments to the Regulations relating to the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁴

The Committee did not approve the Commission's proposal, and thought that at this stage the Council should do no more than extend the current Regulation,⁵ which expires on 31 December. In his statement the rapporteur regretted that the Commission

had not yet adopted a definitive method of calculation which would take account, in a balanced way, of all the interests involved.

Processing and marketing of agricultural products

2.4.23. The Committee approved the proposal⁶ for a Regulation extending the common measures⁷ on the processing and marketing of agricultural products until 31 December 1984, but stressed the urgency of increasing the financial resources assigned to the scheme.

Multiannual data-processing programme

2.4.24. The Committee unanimously adopted an opinion on the proposal⁸ for a Council Decision extending the duration of the multiannual data-processing programme until 1986, increasing the funds allocated to it and broadening its range.

The Committee was anxious for the Community to derive real benefit from research results and to profit from the know-how of certain specialized firms outside the Community.

*

2.4.25. Other opinions adopted by the Committee concerned:

(i) the proposal for a Regulation on common rules to prevent the importation of skins of certain seal pups and products derived therefrom into the Community;⁹

(ii) the proposal for an amendment to the Directive on the approximation of the laws

¹ OJ C 231, 4.9.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.3.5.

² OJ C 200, 4.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.3.4.

³ OJ C 247, 21.9.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.89.

⁴ OJ L 357, 29.12.1976; OJ L 336, 29.12.1979.

⁵ OJ L 336, 29.12.1979.

⁶ OJ C 147, 11.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.112.

⁷ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

⁸ OJ C 193, 28.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.28.

⁹ OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.58.

of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from positive-ignition engines of motor vehicles;¹

(iii) the proposal for a five-year research and development programme on applied metrology and reference materials (non-nuclear indirect action 1983-87);²

(iv) the proposal for a Council Decision on the research programme in the field of information technologies.³

European Investment Bank

Operations in November

2.4.26. The loans announced by the European Investment Bank in November for investments in the Community totalled 629.1 million ECU⁴ broken down as follows: 357 million ECU in Italy, 110 million ECU in Greece, 78.8 million ECU in France, 58.3 million ECU in Ireland, 18.2 million ECU in the United Kingdom and 6.8 million ECU in Denmark. Of the total amount, 406.5 million ECU was provided from the resources of the new Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI — the 'Ortoli facility').⁵ Outside the Community, the EIB lent 22.75 million ECU in the ACP countries and 15 million ECU in Spain.

Community

Italy

2.4.27. LIT 472 000 million was lent, of which LIT 381 500 million came from NCI resources. LIT 160 000 million went towards investments in the Mezzogiorno.

LIT 255 000 million was granted out of NCI resources for productive investments in small and medium-sized firms in industry and the hotel trade: LIT 100 000 million went to the Mediocredito Centrale for on-lending to smaller businesses through the intermediary of the regional credit institutes; LIT 80 000 million went to the Istituto Mobiliare Italiano, LIT 50 000 million to the Centrobanca — Banca Centrale di Credito Popolare, and LIT 25 000 million to the Sezione

Speciale per il Credito Industriale, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro.

Global loan financing from NCI resources, of which this was the first example, will be complementary to EIB or ECSC global loans, as the funds may be placed irrespective of the geographical location of the project and without being tied to regional development schemes or conversion projects in the steel industry. Thus these four global loans will be mobilized for regions which do not benefit from global loans out of the Bank's own resources — Lombardy, Piedmont, Val d'Aosta and Emilia-Romagna — and in the provinces of Padua, Venezia, Treviso, Verona, Vicenza (Veneto), Florence, Livorno, Lucca, Massa Carrara, Pisa, Pistoia (Tuscany) and Greater Rome.

A fifth global loan for LIT 25 000 million—likewise from NCI resources—was granted to the Mediocredito Centrale for investments in industry located in the same regions with a view to promoting more efficient use of energy and reducing dependence on oil imports.

LIT 82 500 million, including LIT 51 500 million from NCI resources, was lent to help with the construction of 1 600 dwellings in the industrial development centres of Latium, Marches, Abruzzi, Apulia, Calabria, Sardinia and Sicily.

This NCI aid is granted under the Council Decision of 25 November 1980 authorizing the use of a tranche of 100 million ECU (more than LIT 130 000 million) for prefabricated factory buildings and 'housing, providing it forms part of an overall economic and industrial development project offering regional benefits'. The decision to grant an EIB loan has been taken on the grounds that

¹ OJ C 181, 19.7.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.5.

² OJ C 187, 22.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.75.

³ Points 2.1.20 and 2.1.149.

⁴ The conversion rates at 30 September 1982 used by the EIB in statistics for the fourth quarter were: 1 ECU = BFR 45.64, DKR 8.23, DM 2.35, DR 66.78, FF 6.64, HFL 2.57, IRL 0.69, LIT 1 324, LFR 45.64, UKL 0.55, USD 0.93.

⁵ OJ L 298, 25.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

the accommodation in question will directly underpin productive investment.

In the telecommunications sector, LIT 72 000 million—including LIT 50 000 million from the resources of the NCI—was made available for an extension of the telephone network to connect up over 138 000 new subscribers and thereby promote economic development.

The loan will carry a 3% interest subsidy in accordance with the arrangements made when Italy joined the European Monetary System.¹ The EIB also granted LIT 22 000 million out of its own resources to extend two satellite receiving and transmitting stations in Abruzzi and Lombardy, which will help develop cooperation between the Community countries in connection with a number of joint space link programmes.

A loan of LIT 24 000 million was made for further work to improve traffic conditions in the Fréjus transalpine road tunnel between France and Italy with a view to facilitating the transport of goods by road between Italy and the other Community countries.

LIT 9 500 million was provided for investment in a rubber tubing and belting plant in Marches; this will help safeguard employment by introducing new technology and modernizing the production facilities. LIT 4 000 million will go towards the restructuring and modernization of five hotels in Campania and Sicily to provide more accommodation in areas heavily dependent on tourism.

Greece

2.4.28. Loans totalling DR 7 300 million were granted, of which DR 5 300 million come from NCI resources. They carry a 3% interest subsidy financed from the Community budget and represent the total amount of aid decided on by the Council in December 1981 to help restore the regions damaged by earthquakes in February and March 1981. The aid will help finance repairs to 42 sections of road, the reconstruction or repair of about 800 school buildings, 27 other buildings and 7 railway bridges, and the erection

between now and the end of 1984 of 550 prefabricated buildings.

DR 1 000 million was granted for improvements to the Patras-Olympia road, which provides links with the Patras industrial zone and the tourist area of Olympia. This project, which should help to foster economic development in the western Peloponnese, is also being financed from European Regional Development Fund resources. The loan should also cover the cost of a study on the Patras bypass.

DR 1 000 million will go towards the financing of investments to modernize the plant owned by Aluminium of Greece at St Nicholas on the northern coast of the Gulf of Corinth. The project is expected to increase the output of alumina from 500 000 to 600 000 tonnes a year; aluminium will remain at the same level of 150 000 tonnes a year, but modernization of the facilities will permit annual energy savings of about 34 000 toe.

France

2.4.29. Loans totalling FF 524 million were granted, of which FF 250 million provided from NCI resources took the form of a global loan to the Crédit d'Équipement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises to help finance investments in industry and the hotel trade outside the areas receiving regional development aid. As in Italy, this global loan will complement the EIB global loans, which are intended more for investment in areas with development or conversion problems.

A loan of FF 250 million was granted for developing a lignite mine at Gardanne, near Aix-en-Provence in the south of France, and constructing a new 600-MW generating unit in a thermal power station. These investments will prolong the life of the mine by 15 years and permit the mining of lignite reserves equivalent to about 11 million tonnes of oil, thereby contributing to the Community's objective of reducing dependence on imported oil.

FF 24 million was lent for the enlargement of the commercial port of La Rochelle-Pal-

¹ OJ L 200, 8.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

lice in Charente-Maritime, where 1 800 metres of protective dikes, 10 hectares of harbour levels and a 180-metre wharf are to be constructed. The project is expected to have a beneficial effect on the economy of the region, which has an unemployment rate well above the national average.

Ireland

2.4.30. A loan of IRL 40 million will go towards the financing of a major programme of modernization at the cement works at Limerick in the mid-west of Ireland. The investment consists of a 650 000-tonne dry-process production line which will achieve substantial energy savings.

United Kingdom

2.4.31. UKL 10 million was lent to help finance infrastructure works and an industrial project. UKL 4 million was for road construction projects at Grimsby, Goole and Scunthorpe (a relief road, an inner bypass and an orbital road) and a plant for processing industrial waste and household refuse at Grimsby (Humberside). The plant should permit energy savings of around 10 000 toe per year by cutting down the haulage distances and using the processed waste as fuel. UKL 3.5 million went towards improvements to the road network, water supplies and sewerage and to finance the setting up of 20 small workshops and training centres for agricultural techniques and electronics in the Borders region of Scotland. UKL 2.5 million was provided for fitting out a production unit for hydraulic motors at Plymouth, where—in parallel with the rationalization of other company activities—some 250 new jobs are expected to be created.

Denmark

2.4.32. DKR 56 million was lent for the construction of a regional airport at Jakobs-

havn, Greenland, to improve air communications within the island and with the rest of Denmark and abroad; the project is expected to contribute to Greenland's economic development.

Outside the Community

2.4.33. In the ACP countries the EIB lent 15 million ECU for the construction of a 90-MW coal-fired electric power station in Botswana, which will raise the country's installed generating capacity to over 200 MW. The project also makes provision for the associated equipment. The three generating units of the power station are due to come on stream in 1986. 4 million ECU was lent to the Development Bank of Mauritius for small and medium-scale investments in industry, agro-industry and tourism on Mauritius. A further 500 000 ECU from risk capital resources provided for under the Lomé Convention and managed by the EIB was advanced to finance feasibility studies and share acquisitions. Also from risk capital resources, the Bank is lending 1.85 million ECU for the construction of a 100-room tourist hotel on the Petite Côte, 80 miles south of Dakar in Senegal, 1 million ECU to the Development Bank of Vanuatu to help finance small-scale investments and 400 000 ECU for a feasibility study on priority requirements for the mining and export of coal reserves in Zimbabwe and their conversion to liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons.

2.4.34. In the Mediterranean region the EIB lent 15 million ECU in Spain for the construction of a gasline to carry natural gas from the field at Serrablo in the central Pyrenees to the Zaragoza region, where it will connect up with the main grid linking Barcelona with the Basque country. Ultimately, the new gasline might become a component in a future link-up between the French and Spanish networks.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. ECU

Values in national currencies of one ECU

30 November 1982¹

Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (convertible)	45.5095
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (financial)	46.2986
German mark	2.31937
Dutch guilder	2.55331
Pound sterling	0.578273
Danish krone	8.15537
French franc	6.55605
Italian lira	¹ 338.76
Irish pound	0.688979
Greek drachma	66.6252
United States dollar	0.933911
Swiss franc	1.99222
Spanish peseta	110.528
Swedish krona	6.94082
Norwegian krone	6.60368
Canadian dollar	1.15898
Portuguese escudo	86.2466
Austrian schilling	16.3248
Finnish mark	5.07861
Japanese yen	235.719
Australian dollar	0.977917
New Zealand dollar	1.30071

¹ OJ C 315, 1.12.1982.

NB. Explanatory notes on the ECU and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3.

Private use of the ECU

3.1.1. Although it had already been used for a number of years for current accounts held for the most part in the name of the Community institutions, the European unit of account (EUA) effectively assumed the role of monetary instrument for settling private transactions only when it was introduced under the ECU label in central banks' balance sheets for recording transactions under the European Monetary System. It is now possible, three years after this official act of recognition, to make a survey of the private use of the ECU and to clarify its status with regard to the different sets of exchange regulations in force in the Community.

The ECU market

3.1.2. The use of the ECU as a market instrument in private transactions is reviewed below.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU used in connection with the common agricultural policy

November 1982	
National currency	Value in national currency of one ECU
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	44.9704 ¹ 42.9772 ²
Danish krone	8.23400
German mark	2.57524 ² 2.65660 ¹
Greek drachma	66.5526
French franc	6.37174 ³ 6.19564 ²
Irish pound	0.691011
Italian lira	1 289.00 ² 1 227.00 ⁴
Dutch guilder	2.75563 ² 2.81318 ¹
Pound sterling	0.618655

¹ For wine, fish and seeds.

² For other products.

³ For pigmeat and olive oil.

⁴ For fish.

Buying and selling operations are dealt with first, followed by banking operations and then the financial market.

Buying and selling of ECUs

3.1.3. The ECU is bought and sold on both the spot market and the forward market (with maturities of up to 12 months) against any convertible currency, although so far the European currencies and the dollar are the ones that have been used most. What was behind the development of ECU-denominated currency transactions was the desire of those who conducted the first financial transactions in ECU that it would be used not only as a simple unit of account, which would have required a currency of settlement, but also as a fully-fledged instrument of settlement. It follows that subscribers to an ECU-denominated issue must effect payment in ECUs and that the beneficiary of an ECU-denominated loan receives

ECUs in an ECU account. With the development of the market along the lines indicated, it is now possible, subject to national regulations, to buy ECUs, to have them transferred to another bank, to hold them on fixed-term deposit and to use them for settling business transactions or for purchasing long-term securities. It is also possible to obtain forward ECU cover. As with any sizeable currency transaction, the banks offer an ECU rate determined in each individual case. To date, only the Banca d'Italia and the Danmarks Nationalbank have an ECU fixing derived from the fixings for the currencies making up the ECU. There can be no doubt that the rates offered by the banks are representative, since market operators will be aware of the various exchange rates and so the usual conditions of competition will obtain. The most dynamic banks¹ announce their buying/selling rates and their lending/deposit rates for terms of up to 12 months; in this way, transactors have access to the full range of short-term services, from current accounts and overdrafts to longer-term deposits and loans.

Banking operations

3.1.4. Since it now enjoys the *de jure* or *de facto* status of a currency, the ECU can be used by non-residents in each Member State² for all banking operations. Residents, however, can make use of these facilities only if the exchange control regulations in their countries permit identical operations in foreign currencies.

Deposits and overdrafts

3.1.5. The first current accounts were opened in 1976 by the Commission, which wanted to use the EUA, the unit of account which was employed in the Commission's various budgets before being superseded by the ECU in 1979, for managing some of its assets and for carrying out certain operations.

This has since become general practice, and the fact that all the Community authorities, including the European Investment Bank, now hold accounts in ECUs greatly facilitates financial management and transfers between the institutions, which all use the ECU for bookkeeping purposes. The ECU is now starting to be used by individual transactors alongside the institutional transactors such as the Community authorities and the banks. Although these individual transactors are few in number and have only small amounts to deposit, they are the forerunners of what will be the real development of the ECU. For only if the ECU comes to be used more widely by the public will there be any hope of this instrument emerging as the Community's monetary unit and moving beyond its present Eurocurrency status.

ECU-denominated transactions by individuals have expanded significantly since the beginning of the year in Belgium and Luxembourg, where banks accept fixed-term deposits subject to only a very low minimum amount and offer demand savings accounts for amounts of 20 ECU or more, 48-hour accounts yielding interest at the market rate and current accounts producing the statutory rate of interest. These new banking services have all met with considerable success.

Another group, also essential to the future of the ECU, is also gaining in importance, namely business transactors. At the moment, it is still rare for ECUs acquired from the few business contracts denominated in ECUs to be held in special ECU accounts but, by contrast, an ever-growing number of exporting firms are finding it attractive to obtain ECU cover to protect themselves against the exchange risk pending settlement in currencies. The increase in transactions of this kind has been particularly marked in Italy, where savings institutions and several banks allow overdrafts for between 30 and 60 days as a source of bridging finance for small and medium-sized businesses engaged in exporting. It is estimated that these transactions must number about a hundred, and with the amount involved in such overdrafts exceeding 100 million ECU, the ECU will be in third place behind the dollar and the mark for this category of bank lending.

Bank loans

3.1.6. So as to meet the particular needs of borrowers, bank loans, whether to banking or financial institutions or to firms, take a variety of forms ranging from straightforward fixed-rate credits to syndicated floating-rate credits where large sums are involved. In the latter case, short-term securities have been issued on the specialized financial market as a back-up facility.

The number of ECU bank loans is still quite small. At the end of 1982 they amounted to 500 million ECU. The figure is much higher if payments in ECUs by the EIB are included.

The EIB's role in the development of loans made in ECUs is similar to that of the Commission in promoting ECU-denominated bank accounts. By offering to pay out loans in ECUs as well as in other currencies, the EIB prompted the national monetary authorities, wherever appropriate, to

¹ For the sake of simplicity, the term 'bank' is used to refer not only to banks proper but also to savings banks and any other financial institutions operating on the ECU market.

² Except in Germany, where the monetary authorities treat the ECU as if it were an indexation clause and do not allow its use.

make the necessary arrangements for the ECU to be treated in the same way as any currency.

ECU-denominated bank loans other than those granted by the EIB carry variable interest rates that are reviewed every six months. The benchmarks used are much the same for all transactions but, as more and more offers are made for fixed-term ECUs, it has been found that the rates result less from a calculation based on the interest rates for the component currencies than from the ECU market rate offered by the participating banks for the relevant period.

The financial market

Operations carried out

3.1.7. Since 21 March 1981, when the first issue was floated on behalf of an Italian borrower, 23 issues have been placed on the market totalling 2 063 million ECU (including a private placing by Euratom on 15 December 1982 for 42 million ECU).

With the exception of the two bond issues by the Italian Government, all the other issues have been floated on the Euromarket.

The average maturity is 8 years. The issue floated by the Crédit Foncier has a maturity that can be extended to 12 years at the holder's request, while the private Euratom placing is for 15 years.

Interest rates have remained relatively stable. After starting at 13% in 1981, they rose to 14¹/₄% at the end of that year (with the exception of one private issue carrying a 14³/₄% coupon) and are now at 12.50%.

The bulk of subscriptions have tended to come from Belgium and Luxembourg, but takers are now being found in France and the Netherlands. It would also appear that the Citicorp issue attracted the attention of Scandinavian, Arab and even Swiss financial institutions.

The securities, which are always in denominations of 1 000 ECU, are performing well on the Luxembourg stock exchange and are being actively dealt in, an indication that they are held by individuals rather than by financial institutions.

Issuers

3.1.8. In raising 500 million ECU on 23 February this year and a further 700 million ECU on 15 October, the Italian Republic is easily the leading issuer. The placing of these two issues, each for seven years and carrying coupons of 14% and 13% respectively, was managed by two issuing syndicates: a syndicate of Italian banks for tranches of 450 million ECU and 650 million

ECU respectively, to be subscribed in lire in Italy, and an international syndicate for the remaining 50 million ECU tranche in each case, to be subscribed in ECUs on the Euromarket.

The Community institutions rank second, with 288 million ECU in six operations, made up of 196 million ECU in four issues floated on behalf of the EIB and 92 million ECU in two issues floated on behalf of Euratom (the 42 million ECU private placing referred to earlier and an eight-year, 12.50% public issue of 50 million ECU).

French financial institutions and firms have raised 310 million ECU in seven issues and Italian operators (other than the State) have floated three issues totalling 105 million ECU.

North American issuers have also been in evidence, raising a total of 105 million ECU in three issues: 90 million ECU in two loans floated on behalf of Hydro-Québec and 15 million ECU for Citicorp, which used the proceeds to refinance ECU loans made to US firms. Albeit for only a very small sum, this first issue by a US institution is a significant development, since this US name has opened up the ECU market to Arab, British and doubtless Swiss investors, who are more interested in the quality of the name than in the kind of currency used.

To round off the picture, the Council of Europe's Resettlement Fund has raised two loans totalling 55 million ECU, and Ireland has just floated a loan of 30 million ECU.

Status of the ECU with regard to national regulations

Principle

3.1.9. Since the ECU is composed of all the Community currencies, it is subject, in any Member State imposing monetary or exchange restrictions, to the regulations governing both the national currency and foreign currencies. In some Member States, the national-currency component is caught by the rules imposed under domestic monetary policy, which may prohibit certain operations (e.g. loans to non-residents) or impose restrictions (credit controls, ceilings on money supply growth, compulsory reserves, etc.).

Where these obstacles exist, the competent authorities must therefore take two sets of measures in order to clear the way for ECU operations:

- (i) lift the restrictions applying to the use of the national currency, which is then regarded as a non-residents' currency and treated as a Eurocurrency; this will enable the commercial banks to deal in national currency with non-residents in respect of the relevant national-currency component of the ECU;

(ii) have ECUs shown as such in the accounting returns that must be sent in to the competent monetary authorities by financial operators dealing in ECUs rather than have them broken down into component currencies. This recognition of the ECU purely for accounting purposes will simplify the management of operations and thereby reduce costs. It would also provide statistics that at the moment are sorely lacking.

The removal of these obstacles would amount to official recognition of the ECU, which, as far as the regulations are concerned, would no longer be regarded as a basket of currencies but as a currency in its own right. Operations in ECUs would then be subject in their entirety to the national regulations applicable to foreign-currency operations.

Situation in Member States

3.1.10. The policy of Member States' monetary authorities on the status to be accorded the ECU range from the ban imposed in Germany on any operation denominated in this instrument to the beginnings of a preferential status in Italy, while between these extremes the other countries regard the ECU *de jure* or *de facto* as a foreign currency.

Germany. On the basis of legislation dating from 1948, the Bundesbank takes the view that, like any reference to gold, denomination in ECUs is equivalent to an indexation clause. Accordingly, use of the ECU is prohibited between residents, and ECU-denominated banking operations with non-residents require the Bundesbank's authorization, which is not readily forthcoming.

Italy. Italy is the Member State that has gone furthest in recognizing the ECU. The Italian monetary authorities have added the ECU to the list of currencies which have the status of *valuta di conto valutario* (Ministerial Decree of 27 August 1981 and instructions issued to the banks by the Italian Foreign Exchange Office on 11 September 1981). Accordingly:

- (i) residents may hold ECU accounts on the same conditions and for the same lengths of time as accounts denominated in other currencies;
- (ii) the ECU is officially quoted (from a calculation of the value of its component currencies) at the fixings on the Rome and Milan exchanges;
- (iii) assets and liabilities denominated in ECUs are recorded with assets and liabilities in Community currencies for the purpose of determining the day's balance;
- (iv) the Banca d'Italia reserves the right to buy or sell at the fixing rate and does in fact exercise this right.

Belgium and Luxembourg. The Belgo-Luxembourg Foreign Exchange Institute (IBLC) and the Belgian National Bank have for many years accepted, on the basis of *ad hoc* decisions, that the EUA and subsequently the ECU be treated as currencies. In view of the scale of operations in ECUs carried out by Belgian and Luxembourg banks and because of certain practical difficulties caused by the existence of the two-tier market and the convertibility of the franc component of the ECU, the IBLC issued official regulations on 1 March 1982 in the form of 'instructions to authorized banks' concerning ECU operations. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of these regulations stipulate that 'all operations in ECUs on behalf of residents, foreigners and organs or institutions of the European Communities are authorized, subject to the same conditions as are applicable under the IBLC's rules and authorizations to the foreign-currency operations specified in List No 4'.

Since it is regarded as a currency, the ECU is subject to the provisions governing the two-tier exchange market: residents' ECU-denominated assets have to be classified as 'regulated assets' or 'free assets' in accordance with the rules applicable to assets denominated in foreign currency.

France. Notwithstanding the general rule prohibiting such operations, French banks have been authorized since July 1981 to make franc loans to non-residents where these represent the franc component of ECU-denominated loans.

By decision of the Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs dated 21 May 1982,¹ operations denominated in ECUs are now treated as foreign-currency operations. This decision has the following implications:

- (i) French banks manage their ECU-denominated assets and liabilities on the same conditions as their foreign-currency assets and liabilities within their overall foreign-currency position. Where they are obliged to borrow francs in order to constitute ECU assets, these borrowings must be made from non-residents; where their ECU deposits exceed their capacity for placing ECUs and where they are obliged to break down their ECU surpluses into the different component currencies, the francs obtained in this way may be lent to non-residents;
- (ii) French banks may make ECU loans and advances to residents on the same conditions as loans and advances denominated in foreign currency. At the same time, residents may contract ECU-denominated borrowings direct from foreign banks on the same conditions as foreign-currency borrowings.

¹ Letter No 15891 from the Treasury to the President of the French Banking Association, dated 21 May 1982.

The Netherlands. There are no restrictions in the Netherlands on the use of the ECU by banks; the competent authorities treat the ECU in the same way as foreign currencies. Banks may submit their accounting returns either in ECUs directly or in the different component currencies.

United Kingdom. Commercial banks in the United Kingdom may submit their accounting returns in ECUs. There is no policy aimed at encouraging or restricting private use of the ECU. The authorities take the view that there is nothing in UK regulations to hamper wider use of the ECU.

Ireland. Under the present exchange regulations, the ECU is treated as a currency. Towards the end of the year the Irish Government is floating

a loan issue denominated in ECU. The Irish Central Bank and the commercial banks hold ECU accounts. The Central Bank calculates and publishes a closing rate for the ECU, as it does for other currencies.

Denmark. The banks may use the ECU for accounting purposes. At noon each day, the Central Bank calculates an ECU rate based on the rates for its component currencies.

Greece. Transfers in ECUs, often involving substantial sums, are effected directly by crediting ECU accounts held by Greek financial institutions. At the very least, this indicates that ECU operations are treated informally as foreign-currency operations.

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

3.2.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments and notices of Community institutions or organs which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relating to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers is followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 7/8-1982

Point 2.1.38

Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on the designation of development areas pursuant to Article 11 of the Belgian Law of 30 December 1970

OJ L 312, 9.11.1982

Bull. EC 9-1982

Point 2.1.22

Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on a Belgian Government aid scheme concerning the set-

ting-up of a new factory by a soft drinks manufacturer

Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on a Belgian Government aid scheme concerning the expansion of the production capacity of an undertaking manufacturing mineral water and soft drinks

Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on a Belgian Government aid scheme concerning the expansion of the production capacity of an undertaking manufacturing mineral water, hot spring water and soft drinks

OJ L 323, 19.11.1982

Point 2.4.22

Special report of the Court of Auditors on the Community inward processing system (observations, Article 206a of the EEC Treaty)

OJ C 286, 4.11.1982

Bull. EC 10-1982

Point 2.4.58

Special report (observations) concerning clearance of the accounts of the EAGGF Guarantee Section

OJ C 313, 29.11.1982

3. Infringement procedures

Initiation of proceedings for failure to implement Directives

3.3.1. In November the Commission sent a letter of formal notice to a Member State for failure to implement a Directive in the following case:

Council Directive 68/360/EEC of 15 October 1968 on the abolition of restrictions on movement and residence within the Community for workers of Member States and their families¹ (Denmark).

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. In November the Commission delivered seven reasoned opinions concerning four Member States, in the following cases:

Order of 23 June 1978 concerning fixed heating installations (France);

Import arrangements governing sports ammunition (France);

Requirement of two authorizations for international transport operations effected by articulated vehicles consisting of sections registered in two different Member States (Italy);

Requirement of a double check on the conformity of pressure vessels (France);

Obstacles to the importation of Belgian *spéculoos* (The Netherlands);

Importation of foodstuffs containing gelatine (Italy);

Council Directive 77/452/EEC of 27 June 1977 concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of the formal qualifications of nurses responsible for general care, including measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services² and Council Directive 77/453/EEC of 27 June 1977 concerning the coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of the activities of nurses responsible for general care² (Luxembourg).

¹ OJ L 257, 19.10.1968.

² OJ L 176, 15.7.1977

4. GATT ministerial meeting

Ministerial declaration adopted at the 38th session of the GATT Contracting Parties from 24 to 29 November 1982

3.4.1. The Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade have met at ministerial level on 24 to 29 November 1982. They recognize that the multilateral trading system, of which the General Agreement is the legal foundation, is seriously endangered. In the current crisis of the world economy, to which the lack of convergence in national economic policies has contributed, protectionist pressures on governments have multiplied, disregard of GATT disciplines has increased and certain shortcomings in the functioning of the GATT system have been accentuated. Conscious of the role of the GATT system in furthering economic well-being and an unprecedented expansion of world trade, and

convinced of the lasting validity of the basic principles and objectives of the General Agreement in a world of increasing economic interdependence, the Contracting Parties are resolved to overcome these threats to the system.

The deep and prolonged crisis of the world economy has severely depressed levels of production and trade. In many countries growth rates are low or negative; there is growing unemployment and a climate of uncertainty, exacerbated by persistent inflation, high rates of interest and volatile exchange rates, which seriously inhibit investment and structural adjustment and intensify protectionist pressures. Many countries, and particularly developing countries, now face critical difficulties created by the combination of uncertain and limited access to export markets, declining external demand, a sharp fall in commodity prices and the high cost of borrowing. The import capacity of developing countries, which is es-

sential to their economic growth and development, is being impaired and is no longer serving as a dynamic factor sustaining the exports of the developed world. Acute problems of debt servicing threaten the stability of the financial system.

In the field of trade, the responses of governments to the challenges of the crisis have too often been inadequate and inward-looking. Import restrictions have increased and a growing proportion of them have for various reasons been applied outside GATT disciplines, thus undermining the multilateral trading system. Trade patterns have also been adversely affected by certain forms of economic assistance for production and exports and by some restrictive trade measures applied for non-economic purposes. In the depressed economic circumstances these measures, together with continuing pressures for further protective action, have contributed to further delays in necessary structural adjustment, increased economic uncertainty and discouraged productive investment.

The results of the Tokyo Round, including in particular the implementation on schedule of the tariff reductions, have provided some impetus to the functioning of the trading system. However, despite the strength and resilience which it has shown, the stresses on the system, which are reflected in the growing number and intensity of disputes between Contracting Parties, many of which remain unresolved, have made more pronounced certain shortcomings in its functioning. Existing strains have been aggravated by differences of perception regarding the balance of rights and obligations under the GATT, the way in which these rights and obligations have been implemented and the extent to which the interests of different Contracting Parties have been met by the GATT. There are also concerns over the manner in which rights are being pursued as well as the manner in which obligations are being fulfilled. Disagreements persist over the interpretation of some important provisions and over their application. Disciplines governing the restriction of trade through safeguard measures are inadequate; there is widespread dissatisfaction with the application of GATT rules and the degree of liberalization in relation to agricultural trade, even though such trade has continued to expand; trade in textiles and clothing continues to be treated under an arrangement which is a major derogation from the General Agreement—a matter of critical importance to developing countries in particular. Such differences and imbalances are particularly detrimental to the stability of the international trading system when they concern access to the markets of major trading countries or when, through the use of export subsidies, competition among major suppliers is distorted.

The Contracting Parties recognize that the interdependence of national economies means that no country can solve its trade problems in isolation and also that solutions would be greatly facilitated by parallel efforts in the financial and monetary fields. In this light, they commit themselves to reduce trade frictions, overcome protectionist pressures, avoid using export subsidies inconsistent with Article XVI of the GATT and promote the liberalization and expansion of trade. They are therefore determined to create, through concerted action, a renewed consensus in support of the GATT system, so as to restore and reinforce confidence in its capacity to provide a stable and predictable trading environment and respond to new challenges.

The Contracting Parties have accordingly decided:

- (i) to reaffirm their commitment to abide by their GATT obligations and to support and improve the GATT trading system, so that it may contribute vigorously to the further liberalization and expansion of trade based on mutual commitment, mutual advantage and overall reciprocity, and the most-favoured-nation clause;
- (ii) to preserve, in the operation and functioning of GATT instruments, the unity and consistency of the GATT system; and
- (iii) to ensure that GATT provides a continuing forum for negotiation and consultation, in which an appropriate balance of rights and obligations can be assured for all contracting parties and the rules and procedures of the system are effectively and fairly applied, on the basis of agreed interpretations, for the economic development and benefit of all.

In drawing up the work programme and priorities for the 1980s, the Contracting Parties undertake, individually and jointly:

- (i) to make determined efforts to ensure that trade policies and measures are consistent with GATT principles and rules and to resist protectionist pressures in the formulation and implementation of national trade policy and in proposing legislation; and also to refrain from taking or maintaining any measures inconsistent with GATT and to make determined efforts to avoid measures which would limit or distort international trade;
- (ii) to give fullest consideration, in the application of measures falling within the GATT framework, and in the general exercise of their GATT rights, to the trading interests of other contracting parties and the shared objective of trade liberalization and expansion;
- (iii) to abstain from taking restrictive trade measures, for reasons of a non-economic character, not consistent with the General Agreement;

(iv) (a) to ensure the effective implementation of GATT rules and provisions and specifically those concerning the developing countries, thereby furthering the dynamic role of developing countries in international trade;

(b) to ensure special treatment for the least-developed countries, in the context of differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries, in order to ameliorate the grave economic situation of these countries;

(v) to bring agriculture more fully into the multilateral trading system by improving the effectiveness of GATT rules, provisions and disciplines and through their common interpretation; to seek to improve terms of access to markets; and to bring export competition under greater discipline. To this end a major two-year work programme shall be undertaken;

(vi) to bring into effect expeditiously a comprehensive understanding on safeguards to be based on the principles of the General Agreement;

(vii) to ensure increased transparency of trade measures and the effective resolution of disputes through improvement in the operation of the pertinent procedures, supported by a determination to comply with rulings and respect recommendations;

(viii) to examine ways and means of, and to pursue measures aimed at, liberalizing trade in textiles and clothing, including the eventual application of the General Agreement, after the expiry of the 1981 Protocol extending the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, it being understood that in the interim the parties to the Arrangement shall adhere strictly to its rules;

(ix) to give continuing consideration to changes in the trading environment so as to ensure that the GATT is responsive to these changes.

Safeguards

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. That, having regard to the objectives and disciplines of the General Agreement, there is need for an improved and more efficient safeguard system which provides for greater predictability and clarity and also greater security and equity for both importing and exporting countries, so as to preserve the results of trade liberalization and avoid the proliferation of restrictive measures; and

2. That to this end, effect should be given to a comprehensive understanding to be based on the principles of the General Agreement which would contain, *inter alia*, the following elements:

- (i) transparency;
- (ii) coverage;

(iii) objective criteria for action including the concept of serious injury or threat thereof;

(iv) temporary nature, degressivity and structural adjustment;

(v) compensation and retaliation; and

(vi) notification, consultation, multilateral surveillance and dispute settlement with particular reference to the role and functions of the Safeguards Committee;

3. That such an understanding should be drawn up by the Council for adoption by the Contracting Parties not later than their 1983 session.

GATT rules and activities relating to developing countries

The Contracting Parties:

1. Instruct the Committee on Trade and Development, bearing in mind particularly the special responsibility of the developed Contracting Parties in this regard, to consult on a regular basis with Contracting Parties individually or collectively, as appropriate, to examine how individual Contracting Parties have responded to the requirements of Part IV;

2. Urge Contracting Parties to implement more effectively Part IV and the Decision of 28 November 1979 regarding 'differential and more favourable treatment, reciprocity and fuller participation of developing countries';

3. Urge Contracting Parties to work towards further improvement of GSP or MFN treatment for products of particular export interest to least-developed countries, and the elimination or reduction of non-tariff measures affecting such products;

4. Agree to strengthen the technical cooperation programme of GATT;

5. Instruct the Committee on Trade and Development to carry out an examination of the prospects for increasing trade between developed and developing countries and the possibilities in GATT for facilitating this objective.

To this effect, the Contracting Parties are also taking the decisions annexed and decide to review the action taken in these areas at their 1984 session.

Dispute settlement procedures

The Contracting Parties:

Agree that the Understanding of Notification, Consultation, Surveillance and Dispute Settlement negotiated during the Tokyo Round (hereinafter referred to as the 'Understanding') provides the essential framework of procedures for the settle-

ment of disputes among Contracting Parties and that no major change is required in this framework, but that there is scope for more effective use of the existing mechanism and for specific improvements in procedures to this end.

And agree further that:

(i) With reference to paragraph 8 of the Understanding, if a dispute is not resolved through consultations, any party to a dispute may, with the agreement of the other party, seek the good offices of the Director-General or of an individual or group of persons nominated by the Director-General. This conciliatory process would be carried out expeditiously, and the Director-General would inform the Council of the outcome of the conciliatory process. Conciliation proceedings, and in particular positions taken by the parties to the dispute during conciliation, shall be confidential, and without prejudice to the rights of either party in any further proceedings under Article XXIII:2. It would remain open at any time during any conciliatory process for either party to the dispute to refer the matter to the Contracting Parties.

(ii) In order to ensure more effective compliance with the provisions of paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Understanding, the Director-General shall inform the Council of any case in which it has not been found possible to meet the time-limits for the establishment of a panel.

(iii) With reference to paragraph 13 of the Understanding, Contracting Parties will cooperate effectively with the Director-General in making suitably qualified experts available to serve on panels. Where experts are not drawn from Geneva, any expenses, including travel and subsistence allowance, shall be met from the GATT budget.

(iv) The secretariat of GATT has the responsibility of assisting the panel, especially on the legal, historical and procedural aspects of the matters dealt with.

(v) The terms of reference of a panel should be formulated so as to permit a clear finding with respect to any contravention of GATT provisions and/or on the question of nullification and impairment of benefits. In terms of paragraph 16 of the Understanding, and after reviewing the facts of the case, the applicability of GATT provisions and the arguments advanced, the panel should come to such a finding. Where a finding establishing a contravention of GATT provisions or nullification and impairment is made, the panel should make such suggestions as appropriate for dealing with the matter as would assist the Contracting Parties in making recommendations to the Contracting Parties which they consider to be concerned, or give a ruling on the matter, as appropriate.

(vi) Panels would aim to deliver their findings without undue delay, as provided in paragraph 20 of the Understanding. If a complete report cannot be made within the period foreseen in that paragraph, panels would be expected to so advise the Council and the report should be submitted as soon as possible thereafter.

(vii) Reports of panels should be given prompt consideration by the Contracting Parties. Where a decision on the findings contained in a report calls for a ruling or recommendation by the Council, the Council may allow the Contracting Party concerned a reasonable specified time to indicate what action it proposes to take with a view to a satisfactory settlement of the matter, before making any recommendation or ruling on the basis of the report.

(viii) The recommendation or ruling made by the Contracting Parties shall be aimed at achieving a satisfactory settlement of the matter in accordance with GATT obligations. In furtherance of the provisions of paragraph 22 of the Understanding the Council shall periodically review the action taken pursuant to such recommendations. The Contracting Party to which such a recommendation has been addressed shall report within a reasonable specified period on action taken or on its reason for not implementing the recommendation or ruling by the Contracting Parties. The Contracting Party bringing the case may also ask the Contracting Parties to make suitable efforts with a view to finding an appropriate solution as provided in paragraph 22 of the Understanding.

(ix) The further action taken by the Contracting Parties in the above circumstances might include a recommendation for compensatory adjustment with respect to other products or authorization for the suspension of such concessions or other obligations as foreseen in Article XXIII:2, as the Contracting Parties may determine to be appropriate in the circumstances.

(x) The parties to a dispute would fully participate in the consideration of the matter by the Contracting parties under paragraph (vii) above, including the consideration of any rulings or recommendations the Contracting parties might make pursuant to Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement, and their views would be fully recorded. They would likewise participate and have their views recorded in the considerations of the further actions provided for under paragraphs (viii) and (ix) above. The Contracting Parties reaffirmed that consensus will continue to be the traditional method of resolving disputes; however, they agreed that obstruction in the process of dispute settlement shall be avoided.¹ It is

¹ This does not prejudice the provisions on decision making in the General Agreement.

understood that decisions in this process cannot add to or diminish the rights and obligations provided in the General Agreement.

Trade in agriculture

With the purpose of accelerating the achievement of the objectives of the General Agreement, including Part IV, and recognizing that there is an urgent need to find lasting solutions to the problems of trade in agricultural products, the Contracting Parties decide:

1. That the following matters be examined, in the light of the objectives, principles and relevant provisions of the General Agreement and also taking into account the effects of national agricultural policies, with the purpose of making appropriate recommendations. The examination shall cover all measures affecting trade, market access and competition and supply in agricultural products, including subsidies and other forms of assistance.

(i) Trade measures affecting market access and supplies, with a view to achieving greater liberalization in the trade of agricultural products with respect to tariffs and non-tariff measures, on a basis of overall reciprocity and mutual advantage under the General Agreement.

(ii) The operation of the General Agreement as regards subsidies affecting agriculture, especially export subsidies, with a view to examining its effectiveness, in the light of actual experience, in promoting the objectives of the General Agreement and avoiding subsidization seriously prejudicial to the trade or interests of Contracting Parties. Other forms of export assistance will be included in this examination.

(iii) Trade measures affecting agriculture maintained under exceptions or derogations without prejudice to the rights of Contracting Parties under the General Agreement.

2. That in carrying out the tasks enumerated above, full account shall be taken of the need for a balance of rights and obligations under the GATT, and of the special needs of developing countries in the light of the GATT provisions providing for differential and more favourable treatment for such Contracting Parties. Full account shall also be taken of specific characteristics and problems in agriculture, of the scope for improving the operation of GATT rules, provisions and disciplines and agreed interpretations of its provisions.

3. That for the purpose of carrying out this work, an improved and unified system of notifications shall be introduced so as to ensure full transparency.

4. That a Committee on Trade in Agriculture shall be established, open to all Contracting Parties, for the purpose of carrying out the tasks enumerated above and of making recommendations with a view to achieving greater liberalization in the trade of agricultural products. The Committee will report periodically on the results achieved and make appropriate recommendations to the Council and the Contracting Parties for consideration not later than their 1984 session.

Tropical products

The Contracting Parties decide to carry out, on the basis of the work programme pursued by the Committee on Trade and Development, consultations and appropriate negotiations aimed at further liberalization of trade in tropical products, including in their processed and semi-processed forms, and to review the progress achieved in eliminating or reducing existing obstacles to trade in tropical products at their 1984 session.

Quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. To review, in a group created for the purpose, existing quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures, the grounds on which these are maintained, and their conformity with the provisions of the General Agreement, so as to achieve the elimination of quantitative restrictions which are not in conformity with the General Agreement or their being brought into conformity with the General Agreement, and also to achieve progress in liberalizing other quantitative restrictions and non-tariff measures, adequate attention being given to the need for action on quantitative restrictions and other measures affecting products of particular export interest to developing countries; and

2. That the group should make progress reports to the Council and that its complete report containing its findings and conclusions should be available for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 1984 session.

Tariffs

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. That prompt attention should be given to the problem of escalation of tariffs on products with increased processing with a view to effective action towards the elimination or reduction of such escalation where it inhibits international trade, taking into account the concerns relating to exports of developing countries; and agree

2. That wide acceptance of a common system for classifying products for tariff and statistical purposes would facilitate world trade and therefore recommend prompt action towards the introduction of such a system. They take note of the ongoing work to this end in the Customs Cooperation Council. They further agree that, if such a system is introduced, the general level of benefits provided by GATT concessions must be maintained, that existing concessions should normally remain unchanged and that any negotiations that may prove necessary should be initiated promptly so as to avoid any undue delay in the implementation of a system. They also agree that technical support shall be provided by the GATT secretariat to developing Contracting Parties in order to fully assist their participation in such a process.

MTN agreements and arrangements

The Contracting Parties decide to review the operation of the MTN agreements and arrangements, taking into account reports from the committees or councils concerned, with a view to determining what action if any is called for, in terms of their decision of November 1979. The Contracting Parties further agree that, for this purpose, the review should focus on the adequacy and effectiveness of these agreements and arrangements and the obstacles to the acceptance of these agreements and arrangements by interested parties.

Structural adjustment and trade policy

The Contracting Parties decide to continue the work on structural adjustment and trade policy in order to focus on the interaction between structural adjustment and the fulfillment of the objectives of the General Agreement, and to review the results of this work at their 1983 session.

Trade in counterfeit goods

The Contracting Parties instruct the Council to examine the question of counterfeit goods with a view to determining the appropriateness of joint action in the GATT framework on the trade aspects of commercial counterfeiting and, if such joint action is found to be appropriate, the modalities for such action, having full regard to the competence of other international organizations. For the purposes of such examination, the Contracting Parties request the Director-General to hold consultations with the Director-General of WIPO in order to clarify the legal and institutional aspects involved.

Export of domestically prohibited goods

The Contracting Parties decide that Contracting Parties shall, to the maximum extent feasible, notify GATT of any goods produced and exported by them but banned by their national authorities for sale on their domestic markets on grounds of human health and safety. At their 1984 session, the Contracting Parties will consider in the light of experience gained with this notification procedure, the need for study of problems relevant to the GATT in relation to exports of domestically prohibited goods and of any action that may be appropriate to deal with such problems.

Export credits for capital goods

The Contracting Parties:

1. Are aware that official export credit provisions on capital goods which apply to developing countries may pose problems for the expansion of imports into these countries consistent with their trade and development needs;
2. Therefore recommend that Contracting Parties, members of those international arrangements concerning official export credit matters, when reviewing or revising their various international undertakings, give special attention to relevant credit provisions, including specific terms and conditions, in order to facilitate the expansion of developing countries' imports of capital goods consistent with their trade and development needs; and
3. Request the Director-General of the GATT to consult with the Contracting Parties concerned and report to the 39th session.

Textiles and clothing

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. To carry out on a priority basis a study of:
 - (i) the importance of textiles and clothing in world trade and particularly for trade prospects of developing countries;
 - (ii) the impact on economic activity and prospects of countries participating in textiles trade, of the existing systems of restraints and restrictions relating to textiles and clothing, principally the MFA;
 - (iii) consequences for economic and trade prospects in these countries of a phasing out on the basis of the provisions of the General Agreement, or of the continued maintenance, of the restraints and restrictions applied under the existing textile and clothing regimes, principally the MFA; and
2. To examine expeditiously, taking into account the results of such a study, modalities of further

trade liberalization in textiles and clothing including the possibilities for bringing about the full application of GATT provisions to this sector of trade;

3. this work should be completed for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 1984 session.

Problems of trade in certain natural resource products

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. That problems relating to trade in the following natural resource products, including in their semi-processed and processed forms, falling under the competence of the General Agreement relating to tariffs, non-tariff measures and other factors affecting trade, should be examined with a view to recommending possible solutions:

- (a) non-ferrous metals and minerals,
- (b) forestry products,
- (c) fish and fisheries products.

2. That for this purpose the Council should decide, for each of these three items, the terms of reference, time frame and procedures.

Exchange rate fluctuations and their effect on trade

The Contracting Parties decide:

To request the Director-General to consult the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund on the possibility of a study of the effects of erratic fluctuations in exchange rates on international trade, to report to the Council on the results of these consultations and to forward any such study to the Council so that it may consider any implications for the General Agreement.

Dual pricing and rules of origin

The Contracting Parties decide:

To request the Council to make arrangements for studies of dual-pricing practices and rules of origin; and

To consider what further action may be necessary with regard to these matters when the results of these studies are available.

Services

The Contracting Parties decide:

1. To recommend to each Contracting Party with an interest in services of different types to undertake, as far as it is able, a national examination of the issues in this sector.

2. To invite Contracting Parties to exchange information on such matters among themselves, *inter alia* through international organizations such as GATT. The compilation and distribution of such information should be based on as uniform a format as possible.

3. To review the results of these examinations, along with the information and comments provided by relevant international organizations, at their 1984 session and to consider whether any multilateral action in these matters is appropriate and desirable.

Annex

GATT rules and activities relating to developing countries

The Contracting Parties:

1. Decide, in order to improve the review and surveillance procedures in regard to the implementation of Part IV, that:

(a) the Committee on Trade and Development, bearing in mind particularly the special responsibility of the developed Contracting Parties in this regard, shall adopt a programme of consultations with Contracting Parties individually or collectively, as appropriate, to examine how individual Contracting Parties have responded to the requirements of Part IV;

(b) each such consultation shall be based on information supplied by the Contracting Party or Parties in question and additional factual material prepared by the secretariat;

(c) the Committee on Trade and Development shall also examine other aspects of existing procedures for reviewing the implementation of Part IV and for dealing with problems relating to the application of its provisions, and prepare guidelines for their improvement.

2. Invite the Committee on Trade and Development to review the operation of the Enabling Clause as provided for in its paragraph 9, with a view to its more effective implementation, *inter alia*, with respect to objectivity and transparency of modifications to GSP schemes and the operation of consultative provisions relating to differential and more favourable treatment for developing countries.

3. Invite Contracting Parties to pursue action as follows towards facilitating trade of least-developed countries and reducing tariff and non-tariff obstacles to their exports:

(a) further improve GSP or MFN treatment for products of particular export interest to least-developed countries, with the objective of providing fullest possible duty-free access to such products;

(b) use, upon request and where feasible, more flexible requirements for rules of origin for products of particular export interest to least-developed countries;

(c) eliminate or reduce non-tariff measures affecting products of particular export interest to least-developed countries;

(d) facilitate the participation of least-developed countries in MTN agreements and arrangements;

(e) strengthen the technical assistance facilities of the GATT secretariat targeted to the special requirements of least-developed countries;

(f) strengthen trade promotion activities, through the ITC and other initiatives, such as by encouraging the establishment of import promotion offices in importing countries;

(g) give more emphasis to the discussion and examination of policy issues of interest to least-developed countries in the context of further efforts to liberalize trade.

4. Decide to strengthen the technical cooperation programme of the GATT with a view to facilitating the more effective participation of developing countries in the GATT trading system:

(a) by responding to increasing requests for seminars and other technical assistance activities;

(b) by permitting increased participation in the GATT commercial policy courses, and the inclusion in the training programme of a regular course in the Spanish language;

(c) by encouraging, in the context of this programme, appropriate contributions from individual Contracting Parties.

5. Invite Contracting Parties individually to grant new voluntary contributions or provide other forms of assistance to the ITC.

Declaration by the Commission on behalf of the European Communities concerning certain parts of the GATT ministerial declaration

3.4.2. We welcome the commitment in the ministerial declaration to overcome protectionist pressures, as well as the clear reaffirmation of the resolve to support and improve the GATT trading system. These were the basic objectives of the Conference; we are determined in the Community to devote maximum efforts to these objectives.

In view of the importance of the range of issues in the ministerial declaration, on which it has been possible to reach agreement, and in view of the critical importance, at this time of crisis in the world economy, of maintaining solidarity between the trading nations of the world, the Community is prepared to accept the declaration in

its final version, as submitted to us by our Chairman.

But we need to make the Communities' position absolutely clear on certain points.

As regards the undertaking to refrain from taking or maintaining any measures inconsistent with GATT the Community considers this undertaking to mean that its best efforts will be deployed to avoid taking or maintaining such measures.

We reaffirm the points made in my letter of 27 November to you, Mr Chairman, regarding agricultural issues. We would like the relevant passages in this letter to be recorded in the *Procès verbal* of this conference. We recognize that only some of our proposed amendments are taken account of in the new text.

Therefore, while we accept and fully support a major work programme on agriculture which will examine all measures on the same basis, we underline that this acceptance is on the understanding that this is not a commitment to any new negotiation or obligation in relation to agricultural products. This is also the position as regards those tropical products which are subject to rules for the common organization of the market within the Community.

We welcome also the fact that it has been possible to reach agreement on the means to improve dispute settlement procedures. The strengthening of the conciliation procedures should be of value. We further agree that without prejudice to the provisions on decision making in the General Agreement, consensus will continue to be the traditional method of resolving disputes. However, obstruction in the process of dispute settlement shall be avoided.

As regards the work programme on quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures, the Community is willing to participate fully in the review established by the Contracting Parties, in order to achieve elimination where possible. We would envisage in this context giving priority to measures in favour of developing countries. However, we recall that there is a long historical background to the few residual measures which still exist within the Community; and that, if we are to achieve further liberalization, this will have to take account of the fact that there is an imbalance in the level of commitments which Contracting Parties have accepted.

The Community accepts a decision of principle on a study on fisheries products, on the understanding that this study will take account of the structural effects on trade of the introduction of exclusive economic zones. The Community will insist that the terms of reference of the study cover this point.

Grants for research into European integration 1983-84

In order to encourage university research in the field of European integration, the Commission of the European Communities will award in July 1983

20 RESEARCH GRANTS OF A MAXIMUM OF 4 500 ECU¹

3 grants will be reserved for historical research on the origins of European integration

CONDITIONS:

1. The awards will be given to young university teachers at the start of their career who, individually or as a team, are doing research work on European integration.
2. Applications should be submitted in duplicate and contain:
 - a 5-10 page typed description of the research project;
 - an estimate of costs;
 - a completed application form;²
 - a curriculum vitae;
 - a certificate from the institution, confirming the position currently held by the applicant.These papers are not returned to applicants.
3. Applicants should not be over 40 years of age.
4. Awards are not renewable.
5. The maximum award is 4 500 ECU, paid as follows:
 - 1st half — at the commencement of the research,
 - 2nd half — on receipt of the typed text referred to in paragraph 8.
6. Award holders who do not complete their research must reimburse the amount they have received.
7. Employees of the institutions of the European Communities as well as their spouses and children are not eligible to apply.
8. The work must be drawn up in one of the official languages of the European Communities (Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian).
The final text must be typewritten and submitted in duplicate before 1 October 1984.
9. The Commission of the European Communities may assist with the costs of publishing the work.
10. The awards will be made by 15 July 1983 at the latest.
11. Applications must be submitted by 31 March 1983 to:

Commission of the European Communities
University Information
200 rue de la Loi
1049 Brussels (Belgium) — Tel. 235 11 11

¹ 4 500 ECU = circa BFR or LFR 200 000, DM 10 500, HFL 11 500, UKL 2 400, DKR 37 000, FF 29 500, LIT 6 000 000, IRL 3 100, DR 300 000.

² Application forms can be obtained from the above address or from the press and information offices of the European Communities listed below:

ATHENS: 2, Vassilissis Sofias, T.K. 1602 GR-Athens 134.

BONN: Zitelmannstraße, 22, D-5300 Bonn.

BRUSSELS: Rue Archimède, 73, B-1040 Bruxelles.

COPENHAGEN: Gammel Torv, 6, Postbox 144,

DK-1004 København-K.

DUBLIN: 39, Molesworth Street, IRL-Dublin 2.

THE HAGUE: Lange Voorhout, 29, NL-Den Haag.

LONDON: 20, Kensington Palace Gardens,

GB-London W 8 4QQ.

LUXEMBOURG: Bâtiment Jean Monnet,

rue Alcide De Gasperi, Luxembourg-Kirchberg.

PARIS: 61, rue des Belles Feuilles, F-75782 Paris Cedex 16

ROME: Via Poli, 29, I-00187 Roma.

ANKARA: 13, Bogaz Sokak, Kavaklidere, TR-Ankara.

BANGKOK: 34, Phya Thai Road, Thung Phya Thai District, Bangkok.

CARACAS: Quinta Bienvenida, Valle Arriba, Calle Colibri, Distrito Sucre, Caracas.

GENEVA: rue de Vermont, 37-39, CH-1211 Genève 20.

LISBON: 35, rua do Sacramento à Lapa, 1200 Lisboa.

MADRID: Calle de Serrano, 41, 5A, Planta, Madrid.

OTTAWA: Inn of the Provinces — Office Tower

(Suite 1110), 350 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ont. K1R 7S8.

TOKYO: Kowa 25, 8-7 Sanban-Cho, Chiyoda-Ku,

Tokyo 102.

WASHINGTON: 2100 M Street NW (suite No 707)

USA-Washington DC 20037.

Publications of the European Communities

Publications of the European Communities

11 – 1982

Introductory note

This catalogue includes the newly published monographs and series issued during the period to which it relates by the Institutions of the European Communities, and also their current periodicals. Publications of which English versions have been issued are only listed in that language; otherwise another version, but only one, is included, in the following order of choice:

French,	Spanish,
German,	Portuguese,
Italian,	Greek,
Dutch,	others.
Danish,	

Where other language versions also exist, cross-references are provided by means of a code (those codes should not be used for ordering purposes):

IT: 1 - 12

which means that the Italian version is described in the Italian catalogue of January under No 12. This number is specific to each catalogue; it is a sequence number printed in consecutive order, opposite each entry in the classified list.

Arrangement

The catalogue is divided into three parts, as follows :

Part I – The classified list provides a subject classification of the titles included under 20 headings each divided into subheadings (see below).

Under each subheading, monographs and series are listed first in alphabetical order; there then follows a similar list of periodical titles.

Full entries for monographs and series appear only once; otherwise cross-references are given to the full entries identifying them by the sequence numbers already described. Periodical titles only appear in the classified list as cross-reference entries, full entries being found in Part II.

Part II – The list of periodicals presents full details of each current Community periodical, listed alphabetically.

Part III – The indexes of titles and series are listed alphabetically and cross-refer using the abovementioned sequence numbers to the entries in Part I of the monthly catalogue. These indexes cumulate throughout the year.

How to obtain publications. Publications may be priced for sale, gratis, or of limited distribution. Those of the last two classes may be obtained from the issuing institutions, or, where they are published by the Information Offices of the Commission, from those offices, whose addresses are given in the lists on pp. 4 and 5. Publications of limited distribution are, however, generally only for the attention of governments of Member States, Community departments and other authorities concerned.

Orders for priced publications should be directed to the Sales Offices listed on the last page.

All orders should quote the full title, as well as the ISBN or ISSN where such a number precedes the prices in the catalogue.

Abbreviations and conventional signs. The text languages of publications are indicated by the following abbreviations :

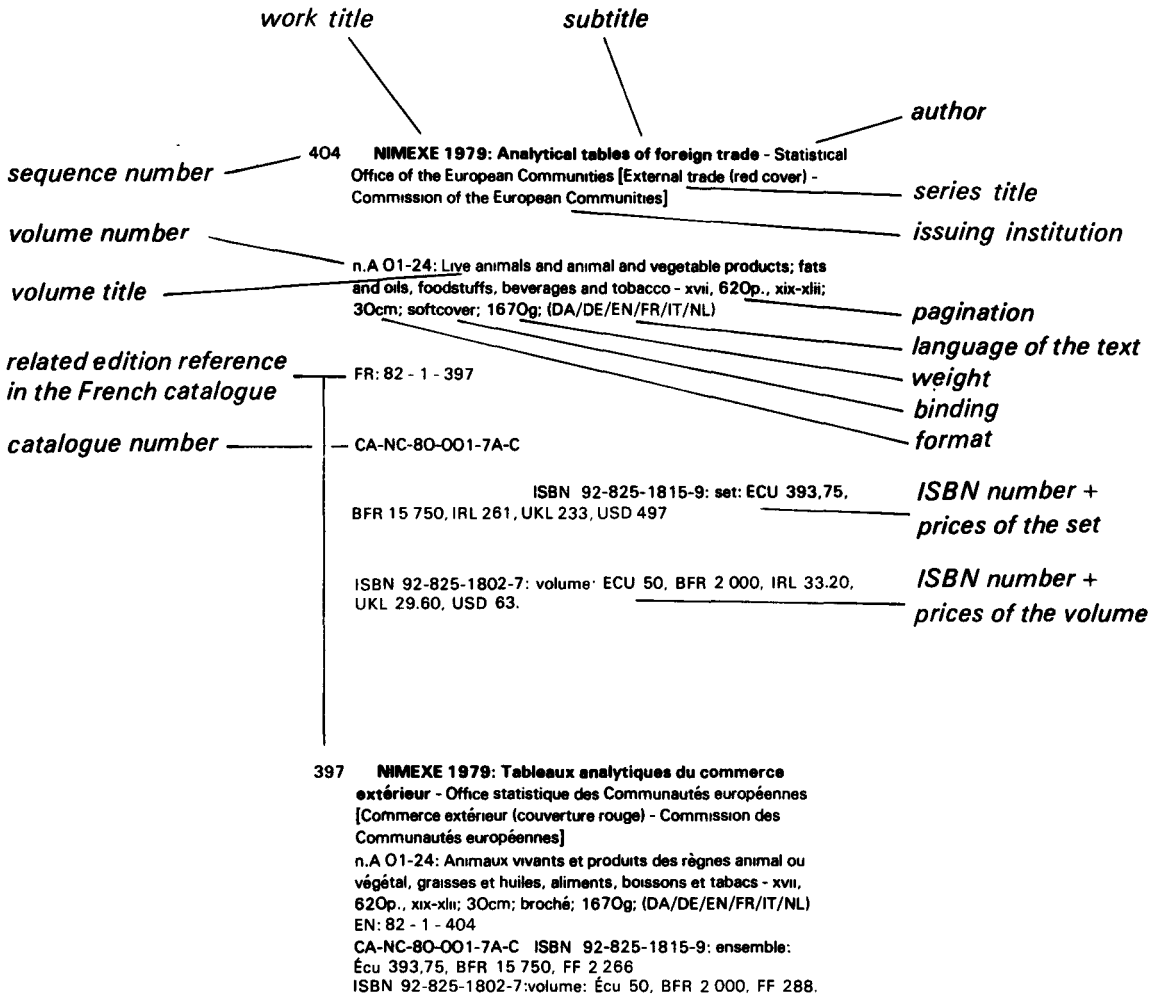
DA Danish	GA Irish
DE German	IT Italian
GR Greek	NL Dutch
EN English	ES Spanish
FR French	PT Portuguese

A string of such symbols separated by diagonal strokes denotes a publication in which different language versions of the same text appear under one cover.

The abbreviation 'multi' indicates a publication with a mixed multilingual text.

Prices, which exclude any value-added tax which may be chargeable, are fixed in various currencies, using the following abbreviations :

BFR Belgian franc	HFL Dutch guilder
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DM German mark	LIT Italian lira
DR Greek drachma	PTA Spanish peseta
ESC Portuguese escudo	UKL Pound sterling
FF French franc	USD US dollar



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Secrétariat général du Parlement européen
Direction générale du greffe et des services généraux
L - 2920 Luxembourg
Tél.: 4 30 01

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New York, NY 10017
Tel. 371 38 04

Classified list

1 General, political and institutional matters

MONOGRAPHS AND SERIES

- 1 **A Community policy on tourism - Initial guidelines** - 32pp.:
25cm: stapled: 70g: (EN) [Bulletin of the European Communities :
Supplement: 82/4 - Commission of the European Communities]
DA:82 - 11 - 1. DE:82 - 11 - 1. FR:82 - 11 - 1. GR:82 - 11 - 1.
IT:82 - 11 - 2. NL:82 - 11 - 1
CB-NF-82-004-EN-C ISBN 92-825-3226-7: ECU 2, BFR 90,
IRL 1.40, UKL 1.20, USD 2.

PERIODICALS

30 jours d'Europe.
Avrupa.
Background Report.
Berichte und Informationen.
Bulletin of the European Communities.
Committee Reports of the European Parliament.
Communauté européenne: Lettre d'information du Bureau de Genève.
Communauté Européenne Informations.
Community file: Current activities of the institutions of the European Communities summarised for the information of Member State Embassies in South and South-East Asia.
Comunidad europea.
Comunidades Europeias: Informação.
Comunità europea.
Debates of the European Parliament.
Dokumente und Publikationen.
Échos de l'Europe.
Economic and Social Committee: Bulletin.
EF-avisen.
EG Magazin.
EIB-Information.
Eorascáil.
Eur info
Europa.
Europa-Informationen für die Jugendpresse.
Europa van morgen
Europe 82.
European File
European news
European Parliament.
Eurostat-news.
Fiches pédagogiques "30 jours d'Europe".
Information on the Court of Justice of the European Communities.
Informazioni.
Informazioni documenti.
Informazioni rassegna periodica.
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.

Press Release.

The week in Europe.

Εβδομαδιαία Κουσότρητα.

2 Customs union

3 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

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Agricultural Markets: Prices.

Animal production.

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Official Journal of the European Communities, series L: Legislation.

Reports of Cases before the Court of Justice.

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DE:82 - 11 - 2. FR:82 - 11 - 3. IT:82 - 11 - 4
HX-32-81-714-EN-C ISBN 92-825-2870-7: ECU 4, BFR 165, IRL 2.75, UKL 2.25, USD 4.25.
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DA:82 - 11 - 5. DE:82 - 11 - 6. FR:82 - 6 - 5. IT:82 - 11 - 6
CE-32-81-544-EN-C ISBN 92-825-2583-5: ECU 11,05, BFR 500, IRL 7.70, UKL 6.20, USD 11.50.
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- 5 **Des perspectives nouvelles pour les femmes** - Centre européen pour le développement de la formation professionnelle: Commission des Communautés européennes - 23p.: 21 x 21: agrafé: 90g: (FR)
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- Unemployment: Monthly bulletin.
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- Wages and incomes - Rapid information.
- Women of Europe - Information bulletin.

6 Tertiary sector

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- A Community policy on tourism - Initial guidelines** 1

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- Agricultural Markets: Prices.
- Pig-irons and steels: Basic prices - basic document situation as of 1 January and amendments.

7 Transport

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- Balances of payments: Quarterly data.
 European Economy.
 European Economy: complete series of supplements.
 European Economy - Supplement - Series A: Recent economic trends.
 European Economy - Supplement - Series B: Economic prospects: Business survey results.
 European Economy - Supplement - Series C: Economic prospects: Consumer survey results.
 European Economy and supplements A B C.
 Eurostatistics: Data for short-term economic analysis.
 Industrial short-term trends.
 Results of the business survey carried out among managements in the Community.

11 External relations

MONOGRAPHS AND SERIES

- 6 **Annual Report of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers (1 March - 31 December 1981)** - Council of the European Communities 1981 - 116pp.: 30cm. softcover: 350g: ACP-EEC Convention of Lome (EN)
 DA:82 - 11 - 6 DE:82 - 11 - 7. FR:82 - 11 - 6. IT:82 - 11 - 7.
 NL:82 - 11 - 6
 ECU 5,55, BFR 250, IRL 3.90, UKL 13, USD 6.

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- Le courrier: Afrique-Caraïbes -Pacifique - Communauté européenne.
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