

Responsible publisher:

Ernst Piehl, Director

Corrado Politi, Deputy Director

Enrique Retuerto de la Torre, Deputy Director

Editors:

Bernd Möhlmann, Tel.: 4930+88 41 21 47

Michael Adams, Tel.: 4930+88 41 21 25

Frédérique Rychener, Tel.: 4930+88 41 22 07

CEDEFOP: from Berlin to Thessaloniki

The Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the European Union declare that the seat of CEDEFOP be moved from Germany to Greece

This "Declaration" of the European Council of Heads of State and Government of 29.10.1993 reads as follows:

"Under Council Regulation (EEC) No. 337/75 of 10 February 1975, which was adopted unanimously by the Council on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, the seat of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training was located in **Berlin**. The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States call upon the institution of the European Community to provide that that seat shall be determined, as soon as possible, in **Thessaloniki**.

The Commission stated that it was willing to submit a proposal to that effect in the very near future."

This political agreement in the final stages of negotiation at the summit and which omitted to mention the obligation to consult the Economic and Social Committee must now **be implemented**. From the legal point of view, modification of the regulation of 10.2.1975 establishing CEDEFOP requires:

- a proposal of the EC Commission;
- the consultation of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee
- a unanimous decision of the Council.

The **Greek government** has already stated that it is taking the necessary measures to implement the political decision as soon as possible.

After the declaration of the European Council of Heads of State and Government had been published, the **Director of CEDEFOP** expressed his astonishment to the competent service of the EU over the lack of information and requested that CEDEFOP bodies participate in further decisions in this context.

The **staff of CEDEFOP** have pointed to the professional and personal implications of such a move in their declaration of 5.11.1993. As those directly affected by the Declaration, they demand participation of their elected delegates in the whole procedure. In a paper dated 19.11.93 they outlined their opinion and ideas which would be conducive to an orderly, smooth relocation of CEDEFOP to Thessaloniki which gives due consideration to their social concerns.

The **CEDEFOP Management Board**, in which the national governments, the trade unions and employer organizations in the EU Member States are each represented with 12 members and the European Commission with 3 members, declared unanimously on 10.12.1993:

"The Management Board acknowledges "the unexpected Declaration of the European Council of the Heads of State or Government of 29 October 1993 concerning the relocation of the seat of CEDEFOP from Berlin to Thessaloniki and the decision which is being prepared to this effect. continued on page 2

CEDEFOP Research FORUM 1993

The ninth CEDEFOP Research FORUM aimed to demonstrate how different Member States of the Community endeavour to traverse the gap between skill and training needs analysis and training provision. On 21 and 22 October, 1993, around forty representatives of vocational training research organizations from the Member States and a number of EFTA countries met in Berlin to explore the meth-

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Vocational integration of young people

Organized in collaboration with the European Network on Transitions in Youth¹ and the "Universidad Autonoma" in Barcelona, a CEDEFOP conference on the vocational integration of young people was held in Barcelona on 20 and 21 September 1993. This conference gave some 50 participants the opportunity of getting together: researchers from various European countries (Community members

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New training models and strategies for SMEs

On 4 and 5 October, the Valencia regional government and CEDEFOP organized a European seminar with the objective of announcing and submitting to discussion the results of a study carried out last year on the problems of access to training which face small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and on the support strategies used in the twelve Member States.

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S P E C I A L

4/93

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flash
CEDEFOP
CEDEFOP



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from the social partners and the Member States. It is provided free of charge upon request. Articles with a source reference do not necessarily reflect the views of CEDEFOP. Unsolicited manuscripts, books and other material will be carefully examined and assessed. Requests for contacts, news of forthcoming conferences and other information would be welcomed. For this, however, CEDEFOP bears no responsibility
CEDEFOP - European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, Jean Monnet House, Bundesallee 22, D-10717 Berlin, Tel. 4930+88 41 20; Fax: 4930+88 41 22 22
CEDEFOP flash special is published at irregular intervals in DE, EN, FR and contains information on vocational training in Europe, in particular the findings of work carried out by CEDEFOP and reports

CEDEFOP: from Berlin to Thessaloniki

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The Management Board is aware of its responsibility for CEDEFOP and its staff in this extraordinary situation. It congratulates Greece and is certain that CEDEFOP, the first and presently only institution in this Member State of the European Union, will continue its work successfully.

The Management Board attaches paramount importance to the continued efficient operation of the Centre during the relocation period, to adequate premises at the new location and equally to the solution of the staff's social problems. Preparations should be made to ensure the required infrastructure for the commencement of work in Thessaloniki. Assistance is to be given to staff and their families or partners who are relocating to facilitate working and living in Thessaloniki. Staff who are not in a position to relocate should be offered employment options in first and second generation Community institutions.

The Management Board requests and expects that at European level the Commission, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Council of Ministers help within their respective areas of responsibility. In addition, the Management Board requests that the governments of Greece and Germany, including the regional authorities in Thessaloniki and Berlin, provide assistance for the social measures accompanying the relocation of the seat. The Management Board will rely on the continued professional and constructive cooperation of the Directorate and the staff in carrying out the planned transfer. The Bureau is charged in the intervening periods between Management Board meetings to take all measures which are required in the interests of CEDEFOP in consultation with the staff."

Source: CEDEFOP - BM/EP

CEDEFOP Research FORUM 1993

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ods and procedures adopted by different Member States to address this issue.

The discussions centred on presentations describing the approach and experience gained in the United Kingdom with the "Employer's Manpower and Skill Practices Survey" (EMSPS) and the model used in the Federal Republic of Germany to determine manpower trends as a means of forecasting skill and training needs and the experience. The Italian experience in analyzing and forecasting skill and training needs at a local level led to a discussion of the "virtues" and "vices" of a "local approach" versus a "national approach" to the subject. Speakers from Denmark and Spain described the new approaches of their countries for identifying training needs and their transposition into training provision following the far-reaching reforms undertaken recently. In addition to these presentations, representatives of the "Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth" of the Commission of the European Communities and CEDEFOP described a number of their activities in this field. The debate revealed that although much information and experience is available regarding the different approaches to the identification of skill and training needs, policy and decision-makers find considerable difficulty in transforming research findings into training provision.

The FORUM concluded with a presentation on the experience gained with the creation and development of a "Vocational Training Research Network" in the Federal Republic of Germany which was designed to encourage and promote cooperation between university researchers and public research bodies at Federal and "Länder" levels.

A detailed report on the proceedings at the 1993 CEDEFOP FORUM is given in "CEDEFOP flash" No. 7/93.

CEDEFOP project coordinator:
F. Alan Clarke,
tel.: 49-30 + 88 41 21 24

Vocational integration of young people

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and others), representatives of international organizations (OECD, ILO), representatives of the social partners on the CEDEFOP Administrative Council as well as representatives of various institutions, mainly Spanish. The presence of such an international research community provided an opportunity for a fruitful comparison of results and analyses on the integration of young people. Participants were able to discuss the evolution of training systems and employment markets and their influence on the relationship between training and employment, the effects of research projects on people leaving the education and training systems, and the manifestations of differences in quality of education and their effects on integration. But the conference also provided a golden opportunity for a converging of academic investigation and political investigation on the problem of exclusion from employment and training, one of the topics CEDEFOP intends to deal with in its next Work Programme. The final discussion thus opened up a number of research routes

for the network/researchers as well as for the Centre - the need to better understand the role of training as a factor of exclusion from employment, the various processes of exclusion from training and employment, taking into account, for the latter, recruitment and manpower management policies in companies, the need for new theoretical analyses on integration and exclusion - while confirming the interest of instruments such as longitudinal surveys on integration. It also uncovered prospects for research on the role of the State and of the social partners and the effects of their intervention in order to prevent exclusion.

The papers presented at the conference will be published early in 1994 in the "CEDEFOP panorama" series.

Project coordinator: Frédérique Rychener,
Tel.: + 49 30 884 12 207

¹ For further information on the Network, please contact: David Raffe, Centre for Educational Sociology, The University of Edinburgh, 7 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LW, tel: + 44 31 650 1000

CEDEFOP publications - free of charge

flash 1/1993

Occupational profiles in environmental protection
DE, EN, ES, FR, IT

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The development of a European dimension in the training of guidance practitioners
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Databases on Vocational Qualifications and courses Accredited - Report on the Workshop organized by CEDEFOP at Nürnberg on 25 and 26 November 1992
DE, EN, FR

flash 4/1993

FORCE sectoral survey on European retail trade
DA, DE, EN, ES, FR, GR, IT, NL, PT

flash 5/1993

"Participation of the disadvantaged"
European symposium for the Evaluation of Innovative Projects to Integrate Disadvantaged Young People into Work
DE, EN, ES, FR, IT

flash 6/1993

Comparative analysis of systems and procedures for certification of qualifications in force in the European Community - summary and tables
DA, DE, EN, ES, FR, GR, IT, NL, PT

flash 7/1993

CEDEFOP FORUM 1993
DE, EN, ES, FR, IT

May be obtained free of charge from
CEDEFOP Berlin
Bundesallee 22, D-10717 Berlin

New training models and strategies for SMEs

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The seminar, attended by 150 experts in training for SMEs including participants from several European countries, was inaugurated by Mr. Joan Lerma, head of the Valencia regional government.

The study was organized by CEDEFOP and carried out by two research teams each representing 6 Member States of the Community and coordinated by one Spanish and one German institution.

The study represents a contribution to the discussion of the problems particular to SMEs. It offers a synthesis of the work done in the Member States, a systematic presentation of support strategies in the area of training that are likely to encourage the growth and development of small and medium-sized enterprises, a selection of examples of very diverse strategies applicable to different contexts, and a series of conclusions and recommendations.

The report consists of two parts. The first part identifies the main internal and external

obstacles small businesses must face in the field of training; the second part presents strategies and support programmes used with success in the twelve Member States. The annexes are equally interesting, as each of them presents in detail an example of training strategy in SMEs taken from one of the twelve. In addition to this detailed case, two further examples are given for each country.

Throughout the colloquium there was a great deal of lively debate on the recent Spanish programmes in the field of ongoing vocational training for employed or unemployed adults. The debate showed the importance of this topic nowadays and the great expectations pinned on recent measures in the field of vocational training.

There was great interest in the international exchange of experience, as the selection of cases presented had an "exemplary" and motivating character, each of them being based on the will to solve practical problems, and often being of local character.

For more information, a CEDEFOP-FLASH is being prepared which will summarize the contributions made to this topic and the discussions held during the colloquium.

Project coordinator
Africa Melis,
tel. 49-30+884 12 193

Additional results

of comparability work have been published in the Official Journal of the EC:

- "Printing/Media" Sector, Official Journal of the EC Nr. C295 of 30 October 1993, price: ECU 18;
- "Wood" Sector, Official Journal of the EC Nr. C330 of 6 December 1993, price: ECU 18;

These can be obtained in nine languages (DA, DE, EN, ES, FR, GR, IT, NL, PT) from the Sales Offices of the European Communities.

BI- AND MULTI-LATERAL RELATIONS

Training needs and opportunities for television professionals

A research project carried out in Ireland, Greece, Spain, Portugal and the UK to assess the skills and training needs of small businesses and freelance workers in the television industry has recently been completed and a report produced.

The 32-page report with recommendations for developing training places designed to meet the needs of professionals is based on the results of an extensive postal and telephone survey of freelance workers and

small companies in the above-named countries.

The project was led by Stonehills Television with North East Media Training Centre in partnership with small production companies and television industry organizations. It had the financial support of the Commission of the European Communities through the FORCE Programme.

It is hoped the partnership and funding may be continued for a second year to develop and pilot in-service training in two

to three of the subject areas identified by the survey.

Copies of the full report are available in English with summaries in Spanish, Greek and Portuguese. These and further information can be obtained from:

Stonehills Television
Stonehills
Shields Road
Gateshead
GB-Tyne and Wear NE10 0HW
Tel.: 44-91 + 438 46 67
Fax: 44-91 + 438 55 08

CONTACTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Employer initiatives in initial vocational training

As part of the European Commission PETRA programme, OCOS European Consultants, Ireland, are carrying out a study of employer initiatives in initial vocational training throughout Europe. They are trying to locate good examples of innovative practice in employer led initiatives in this area. Examples of such projects could include employer involvement in local schools, school-business partnerships, and employer initiatives with disabled or unemployed young people. They are not interested in training which is already in the formal system, such as

apprenticeships. OCOS would be very grateful for information on such initiatives.

Contact:
Eileen O'Connor
OCOS European Consultants
36 Palmerston Road
IRL-Dublin 6
Tel.: 353-1 + 96 59 62 or -2855771
Fax : 353-1 + 97 60 70 or -2855771

Vocational training school in Bulgaria is looking for partners in EU Member States

In Bulgaria the school for Trade, Export and Marketing in Trudovetz is planning two-year vocational training courses in

trade, export, marketing and tourism. Direct and correspondence studies are planned as well as six-month continuing training and retaining courses.

The Bulgarian school is looking for partners in EU Member States which are willing to share their experiences in these areas.

The following topics are of particular interest:

- How are learning processes structured in vocational training?
- What should be the content of the training programmes?

■ How are theoretical and practical training linked?

Contact address:
School for Trade, Export and Marketing,
2160 Trudovetz, Bulgaria
Tel./Fax: 00359 - 287 02 92

Training of transnational training coordinators

The Department of Labour of the Catalanian Government would like to make contact with teachers and experts who plan and manage transnational vocational training programmes (particularly those taking place outside the education system) and who could define their own training needs so as to ensure the development of such programmes. The objective would then be to jointly prepare training programmes for the coordinators of transnational vocational training courses.

Contact:
Antoni del Barrie i Gauxachs
Assessor del Conseller
Generalitat de Catalunya
Department de Treball
Ample, 11-13
E-08002 Barcelona
Tel.: 34-93 + 41 24 688
Fax : 34-93 + 30 22 789

Educational and Training Systems Design

The Faculty of Educational Science and Technology at the University of Twente in Enschede, the Netherlands, is planning to start in August 1994 a Masters of Science Programme in "Educational and Training Systems Design". The one-year course is aimed at professionals in all sectors of public and private education and training. Applicants should have at least a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent, relevant work experience, and competence in English.

For further information:
Jan Nelissen (Bureau for International Contacts, Communication and Study Advice)
University of Twente
Faculty of Educational Science and Technology
P.O. Box 217
NL-7500 AE Enschede
Tel.: 31-53 + 89 35 88
Fax : 31-53 + 36 55 31

Training in the jewellery business

Le Arti Orafe, a non-profit-making organization in Florence, Italy, provides training and other services in the goldsmithery and jewellery industry, including courses varying from three months to three years. It would like to develop relationships and projects with training organizations and companies. In particular, it is seeking partners with whom it could organize programmes involving information exchange and student mobility.

For further information, contact:
Gio' Carbone, Director
LE ARTI ORAFE
Via del Campuccio, 8
I-50124 Firenze
Tel/fax: 39-55 + 22 80 163

German non-profit-making training institute seeks partners throughout the European Union (EU)

The "Grone-Schule" Foundation, a large non-profit-making training organization in Germany, would like to expand upon its national and East European training offer and is looking for partners in the EU (vocational training schools, higher technical schools, adult training centres). The foundation plans binational occupational qualifications, preparation and organization of training abroad, an exchange of ideas on course design and, possibly, of instructors. A similar project with a partner in Italy has already borne fruit.

Contact address:
Stiftung Grone-Schule, -Gemeinnützige Stiftung des bürgerlichen Rechts-
Dr. Bernt Plickat,
Heidekampsweg 32,
D-20097 Hamburg
Tel. 49-40 + 237 03-0
Fax: 49-40 + 23 703-334

Contacts in the metal- and wood-processing sector

The Training Centre in Angermünde/D for the Promotion of Trades and Small Business (ABW) is a German non-profit-making training body. It was set up to provide young people with initial training in trades and technical and commercial areas. The centre also offers retraining and continuing training courses - particularly in metal- and wood-processing - ranging from apprentice training to master craftsman level in addition to continuing training for teachers, training for disadvantaged young people and intra-company training.

The ABW is looking for contacts to training and further training centres in the metal- and wood-processing industry throughout Europe.

Contact:
Angermünder Bildungswerk zur Förderung des Handwerks und des Mittelstandes e.V.,
Schwedter Str. 36,
D - 16278 Angermünde
Tel. 49-3331 + 22 443 or 22 928
Fax 49-3331 + 22 928

It is an important aspect of CEDEFOP's work to promote the exchange of information, encounters and cooperation between all those involved in vocational training. CEDEFOP flash special serves as a platform for this. Well-prepared texts of a concise nature have a better chance of obtaining a positive reaction through this multilingual publication.

SOCIAL PARTNERS

Uniting training and technology in Belgium

The graphic industry has long played a major role in the Charleroi area. It is not surprising then that the "Centre de Formation professionnelle des Industries Graphiques en Communauté française" (CEFOGRAF) [Vocational Training Centre for the Graphic Industry in the French-speaking Community], an institution representing workers and employers in this sector, has chosen Charleroi as the site of its "Centre wallon de Formation et de Perfectionnement" [Walloon Centre for

Training and Further Training]. CEPEGRA - as the centre is called - has just been inaugurated. CEFOGRAF and FOREM [Community and Regional Office for Vocational Training and Employment] work in close collaboration within this institution. The location is home to the centre for compound materials and to the centre for the graphic industry, the latter also organizing training courses for polyvalent pre-press operators and for offset operators. It provides not only initial training for such professions but also further training or retraining for workers

who have been made redundant or workers whose job contents have developed to an extent where job loss is a true danger.

Contacts can be arranged through the following address:
CEPEGRA Charleroi
Mrs Annie Poncin
FOREM coordinator
Avenue des Etats-Unis 7
B-6041 Gosselies
Tel.: + 32 71 37 33 18
Fax: + 32 71 37 03 20

Source: Syndicat, 20 September 1993

FROM THE EC MEMBER STATES

B The Ministry of Labour scraps 235 courses from the list of educational leave

In September, the National Ministry of Labour scrapped no less than 235 training programmes from the list of courses for which "Betaald Educatief Verlof" (BEV) [paid educational leave] is available, a system which makes it possible for working students to be given time off during part of their working hours in order to attend courses or prepare for exams; the employer is reimbursed the salary paid out for this time. The courses affected by the new regulation are those which the advisory commission considers directed to leisure activities rather than to the improvement of career skills and of job opportunities. Besides, some of the courses scrapped from the list were judged as offering little perspective on the labour market (subjects such as flower arranging, model training, etc.). The cut-back has already been criticized; as a result, it is presently being seriously considered, for instance, whether training in household science should be put back on the list for the sake of its value in terms of the labour market.

Source: Nieuwsbrief Steunpunt Werkgelegenheid, Arbeid, Vorming - ICODOC

B Soon only six official institutions of higher learning in Flanders

In September, the Flemish Ministerial Council gave its approval to the Flemish Education Minister's bill regarding institutions of higher learning. This bill deals with the reorganization of higher learning outside universities. It serves a double purpose: to bring about a strong reduction in the number of such institutions and at the same time to give these colleges more autonomy. In this manner, the Flemish authorities hope to improve the quality of teaching while avoiding additional expenditure. The number of official institutions of higher learning in Flanders would, according to the bill, drop from 66 to 6: one per province, with the exception of East Flanders, which would have two. In concrete terms, it is hoped that the planned scaling up would counter the disadvantages of the (current) dispersion of means to a greater number of small colleges. From now on, the colleges would be allotted a fixed annual budget for operations and personnel costs, calculated on the basis of student numbers ("envelope" financing). Regulations applying to personnel would be brought in line with policies in universities (lecturers in higher education outside universities should have a doctorate). The reforms are to begin in the next academic year and be operational after 5 years.

Source: De Morgen, 28 September 1993 and Financieel Economische Tijd, 22 September 1993 / ICODOC

DK Continuing Training Initiatives

60,000 new places within the continuing training system in Denmark will be created before the year 2000. This requires a doubling of the existing capacity and an extra 10,000 places in 1994. This measure will result in an approx. 5% participation rate in training by the labour force.

This aim was presented by the Danish prime minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen at a government conference on continuing training on 23 March 1993.

It has not yet been decided where the training capacity is to be expanded or how the new measures are to be financed, but it has been underlined that the educational needs of the semi-skilled groups are to be solved first in the new public schemes. Rotation arrangements are intended so that people on paid training leave are replaced by unemployed people temporarily. Courses must combine technical and occupationally oriented subjects with general subjects.

In comparison with other countries, continuing training in Denmark is overwhelmingly supplied by public training institutions and paid for by the tax-payers. To obtain the goal put forward by the government, it will be necessary to find new financial mechanisms, new delivery structures and new training methods. Reports from the different FORCE initiatives, describing various ways to organize continuing training for adults in the EU countries, could serve as an inspiration for Danish decisions in this field.

Source: SEL

D Distance learning: a successful method in the field of further training

In Germany, distance learning is a method of further training in which learners and teachers are mainly apart and where the teacher or a person appointed by him assesses a learner's progress. Progress is assessed and supported by means of exercises and verificatory tasks which learners have to send in. In Germany, adults may take advantage of distance learning to achieve almost every educational goal, be it related to general or vocational education, or to hobbies.

Both the quality of these courses and their organization are controlled by the state. The **Staatliche Zentralstelle für Fernunterricht** [National Central Office for Distance Learning] in Cologne monitors every course and grants licenses. The major advantage of distance learning is most likely that participants can learn to a great extent independently from an

educational institution and set their time limits themselves.

One distance learning institution of long standing is the **Fernuniversität Hagen** [Hagen University for Distance Learning]. In the 1992 summer semester it had 45,180 registered students - 68.8 % of them men and 31.2 % women. In the 92/93 winter semester there were 52,478 students. On an average, approximately 20 % of them continue their studies beyond a period of three years; just under 8 % remain eight years or more. Registration at the **Fachhochschule für Berufstätige** [Technical College for the Employed] in Rendsburg was 4,133 in the 1991/92 winter semester, and 3,200 one year earlier. The **Süddeutsche Hochschule für Berufstätige** [South German College for the Employed] in Lahr, in the Black Forest area, was founded in 1992; shortly after the opening of this second distance technical college, it already had more than 400 distance students. The latest newcomer on the scene is the **Hochschule für Berufstätige** [College for the Employed] in Leipzig.

Six television channels broadcast a **Telekolleg** programme, directed primarily at working adults. By now more than 22,000 people have acquired university entrance qualifications through television, accompanying material and group learning.

Funkkolleg - further training by radio - imparts basic knowledge on a socially relevant topic in year-long courses at the end of which certificates are granted.

Information:

Deutsche Fernschulverband e.V.
Martinistr. 26;
D-20251 Hamburg
Tel: + 49 40 460 38 50
Fax: + 49 40 480 31 16

Source: Pressedienst Fernunterricht / October 1993

E Regulations governing training in employment centres

The General Directorate for national vocational training and for the promotion of education in the Ministry of Education and Science has issued a set of directives regarding the development of training in Employment Centres and pupil practical stages to be held during the 1993-94 school year.

These directives are aimed at the Centres operated under the control of the Ministry of Education and Science and providing training modules, training cycles and 2nd-level vocational training in which pupils are trained in Employment Centres or undergoing practical training stages in alternance training.

Among the innovations presented in these directives we can quote:

- extension of the duration of the special cooperation agreements between companies and training centres: 2 years with possibility of extension by another 2 years.
- framework agreements on training between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Chambers of Commerce
- establishment of follow-up and control criteria to assess the degree of integration and participation in work activities
- fixing periods of implementation for both training in Employment Centres, which will vary according to the training module or the training cycle, and the duration of the practical stages, which will not be allowed to exceed 60 days.

Source: Comunidad Escolar, 22 September 1993

F Decentralization of vocational training

A greater degree of decentralization in vocational training is called for by the government within the framework of its draft five-year law. The regions are currently responsible for apprenticeship and vocational training, but their competence remains subsidiary with respect to training for young people seeking vocational integration. The Cambon Report, submitted in July to the Ministry of Employment (**Propositions pour une plus grande efficacité des dispositifs de formation professionnelle***) - suggestions for a greater efficiency in vocational training programmes, sees this complex situation of overlapping jurisdiction as one reason for the opacity of the system. It recommends concerted steering operations on a national and regional level and confirms the competence of the regions for all training measures aiming at helping young people improve their qualifications. In the area of training for adults, the national government could maintain its role in operating insertion programmes for the unemployed while the regions would be responsible for further qualifications.

*) Available free of charge from the press office of the Ministry for Employment and Vocational Training: Ministère du Travail et de la formation professionnelle 1, Place de Fontenoy; F-75350 Paris 07 SP
Tél.: 33-1 + 40 56 60 00
Fax: 33-1 + 40 56 67 60

Source: INFFO Flash 388-389

GR National System for the Certification of Vocational Qualifications

The Organization for Vocational Education and Training (OEEK) is responsible - according to the law 2009/92 for the "National System for Vocational Education and Training" - for planning and applying the National System for the Certification of Vocational Qualifications (ESPEP) for graduates of the Institutes for Vocational Training (IEKs). The project is subsidized by the European Social Fund and is

supervised by a work team which started planning the whole procedure in April 1993.

The first pilot stage of the project will be completed by the end of 1993 and includes:

- creation of examination programmes by work teams;
- assignment of examination bodies;
- training validation and vocational assessment and
- certification of vocational qualifications.

During the pilot stage, the vocational qualifications of the following specialisms will be certified: ■ computerized accounting, ■ office automation, ■ cost accounting, ■ taxation, ■ database programmer, ■ applications programmer, ■ CNC technician, ■ poultry technician, ■ viticulture-winery technician and ■ irrigations technician.

It is expected that the first IEK graduates will take the respective examination at the end of 1993.

Source: OEEK

IRL The biggest development programme in the history

of the State was launched in Dublin recently. The primary target of the National Development Plan* is the creation, over the next six years, of 200,000 new jobs with a strong emphasis on indigenous industry and local initiatives. 1.2 million people are to be placed in education and training programmes.

The biggest allocation of the approx. IR£20 billion plan (ca. 25 billion ECU), which will be financed by IR£7.2 billion in EC structural funds, and IR£4 billion each from the Exchequer, the semi-state and the private sectors, reflects this emphasis, going to industry and human resources projects.

Investment in the area of human resources will be spread over initial and continuing training. These proposals include:

- an increase in the number of annual apprenticeships from 9,000 to 11,000;
- provision of agricultural and rural development training for 11,000 people per year;
- 4,000 places per year in the Community Youth Training Programme;
- restructuring vocational preparation and training courses to strengthen the technical content of senior cycle programmes;
- substantial investment in continuing training for both the unemployed and those in employment; and
- a series of programmes for the disadvantaged to include long-term unemployed, early school leavers, travellers and people with disability.

Local development is also targeted in the plan. The Community Employment

Development Programme is designed to provide training and work experience for up to 30,000 long-term unemployed; area based programmes are targeted at disadvantaged areas, urban renewal programmes at inner cities and County Enterprise Boards are to act as a catalyst for local enterprise initiatives.

* Ireland: National Development Plan, 1993-1999. Government Publications Sales Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Source: FAS

I The new law stipulating university training

for teachers of nursery and elementary school is due to go into force in the course of the 1994-95 academic year.

The degree programme for elementary school teaching includes eight subjects (the subjects which will then be taught to pupils) and two areas of in-depth training. For nursery school, instead of these specialization areas, the disciplines to be developed will be in the area of non-verbal communication: education through pictures, sounds, and movements, which the pedagogy of nursery-school age has tended to emphasize.

As it is planned, the degree course will last four years for both areas. Qualification for teaching will be obtained by means of a competitive examination. This means that not necessarily all those finishing the course will end up teaching: it will be possible to go on to other branches of the employment market.

With this degree in education science, Italy is getting into line with training conditions in other European countries, which require a four-year degree course at a university or other institution of higher education.

Source: La Repubblica, 8 October 1993

P Vocational certification for training integrated in the labour market

This diploma (Law no. 95/92 of 23 May) establishes the legal structure for vocational certification with regard to training integrated in the labour market and to other prerequisites to the exercise of vocational activities.

This structure and the group of bodies it involves make up the sub-system of vocational certification integrated in the labour market.

Certification inserted in the labour market is part of a system which also includes vocational certification within the educational system.

According to the terms of this diploma, both a certificate of vocational training and a certificate of vocational aptitude are

issued; they are also referred to as certificate of training and certificate of aptitude.

The training bodies have the jurisdiction to issue these certificates of vocational training.

The training bodies must issue the relevant certificate for each course or training activity irrespective of the name attributed to it and the existence of official recognition.

The following institutions have the jurisdiction to issue certificates of vocational aptitude:

- the "Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional" (IEFP) [Institute for Employment and Vocational Training] through the vocational training centres and other training bodies, and the centres for shared management;

- within the various ministries and Autonomous Regions, those services and organizations having the necessary jurisdiction for this purpose as recognized by legal means or through joint ruling of the Ministry of Employment and the Ministry of Social Security and the competent member of government.

The participation of the various ministries and the social partners in the coordination of the coordination system is ensured through the IEFP administrative council, a standing commission having been established together with this administrative council, the members of which are:

- eight representatives of the Public Administration;
- four representatives of the trade unions represented in the IEFP administrative council;
- four representatives of the employers' associations belonging to this council.

Participation in the coordination of the certification sub-system on the part of the Ministries not represented in the Standing Commission is ensured by the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Employment (CIME).

Jointly with the Direcção Geral do Emprego e Formação Profissional [General Directorate for Employment and Vocational Training], the IEFP services provide technical support to the coordination structures.

Besides the Standing Commission, special tripartite technical commissions have been established to prepare certification norms for specific sectors or vocational areas.

Source: Diário da República, I Série - A / SICT

been adopted in the light of over 360 responses to the Council's nationwide consultation exercise.

FEFC Director of Finance Roger McClure comments, 'Responses to the ideas put forward by the Council were overwhelmingly in favour of this approach. Over 97% of college responses, all the college associations, the great majority of those TECs which responded, the main examining bodies and teaching unions, all supported this new funding method'.

Contact:
Further Education Funding Council,
Sheriff Orchard, Greyfriars Road,
GB-Coventry, CV1 3PJ,
Tel.: 44-203 + 53 03 00
Fax: 44-203 + 53 01 30

Source: BACIE

UK New funding methodology for Further Education (FE)

From August 1994, further education in England will be funded on a new basis. The Further Education Funding Council (FEFC) has decided that colleges will be funded according to costs they incur in supporting students through the three key stages of their learning programmes, namely, entry, 'on programme' and exit. This moves away from traditional methods based purely on numbers of students enrolled. It will reflect the initial assessment and guidance of students before they are placed on a study programme and their achievements by the end of it. It will also align funding more closely to the actual costs incurred by colleges.

This funding method is one of several possible options in the FEFC's consultative document "Funding Learning". It has

UK 140 TEC projects for GBP 10 million

Employment Secretary Gillian Shephard announced GBP 10 million worth of new Training and Employment Council (TEC) projects - more than 140 of them - in the Employment Department's National Development Programme for 1993/94.

Under the programme, TECs are asked for practical ideas to help improve the national training system, based on their knowledge of local needs. The successful projects must also support National Education and Training Targets. Included in the successful submissions are 29 information, advice and guidance projects, and 23 aimed at improving access to assessment for NVQs (National Vocational Qualifications).

Source: BACIE / Employment Department, Moorfoot,
GB-Sheffield, S1 4PQ Tel.: 44-742 + 50 33 39,
Fax: 44-742 + 59 35 64

CONGRESSES - SEMINARS - CONVENTIONS

31 January - 1 February 1994
Ewloe, Clwyd, Wales/UK
ATHENA, a Major European Conference on Skills, Training and Women's Economic Development
Information:
Gateway Europe
Welsh Development Agency
QED Centre, Main Avenue
Treforest Estate, Pontypridd
Mid Glamorgan CF37 5YR,
Wales, UK
Tel.: 44-443 + 84 14 08
Fax: 44-443 + 84 19 66

17 and 18 March 1994
Berlin/D
Second European Labour Market Congress and Information Centre. Learning from

European experience.
Strategies to counter the decline in labour.
Information:
Zukunft im Zentrum
Congress Office
Rungestr. 19
D-10179 Berlin
Tel.: 49-30 + 270 74 35
Fax: 49-30 + 270 74 32

23 - 26 March 1994
Brussels/B
European Student Fair
Information:
European Student Fair
Tilly Grijp
Rue de la Caserne 86
B-1000 Brussels
Tel.: 32-2 + 514 10 11
Fax: 32-2 + 514 48 18

16 - 18 May 1994
La Hulpe/B
International Conference and Exhibition
Learning Organizations
Innovations - Initiatives
Information:
P. De Potter, Secretary
E.C.L.O.,
Chaussee de Bruxelles 135
B-1310 La Hulpe
Tel.: 322+2 655 5803
Fax: 322+2 655 5812

6 - 8 June 1994
Tallinn/Estonia
1994 Eden Conference,
Human Resources, Human Potential, Human Development: The role of Distance Education

Information:
Ms. Kerry Mann
Executive Secretary, EDEN
PO Box 92
UK-Milton Keynes, MK7 6DX
Tel.: 44-908 + 65 24 68
Fax: 44-908 + 65 43 74

27 - 30 September 1994
Hannover/D
Qualifikation '94, International Trade Fair for Professional Qualification
Information:
Deutsche Messe AG,
Messegelände
Mr. Dr. Michael Taeger or
Mrs. Monika Arnold
D-30521 Hannover
Tel.: 49-511 + 89-0
Fax: 49-511 + 893 26 26

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Maryse Peschel
Documentation, CEDEFOP
Tel.: 4930+88 41 22 15

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29/09/1993, 19 p.
N° d. cat.: CB-CO-93-505-EN-C
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European Commission
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Rapporteur:

Mr. Georgios Romeos
Report of the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Relations with Regional and Local Authorities on the future of Community Initiatives under the Structural Funds (COM(93) 282 final - C3-0299/93)

European Parliament, session documents
1993, 27 pp.
Languages: DA, DE, EN, ES, FR, GR, IT, NL, PT
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PE 205.204/fin.

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European Commission, CEDEFOP, coordination BBJ Servis GmbH
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Multilingual version: DE/EN/FR
Distributed by:

BBJ Verlag, Berlin
Alt-Moabit 73
D-10555 Berlin
Tel. 4930+390 80 50
Fax 4930+390 80 540

European Index of Agricultural Schools (in the twelve countries of the European Community)

The European Training and Development Centre for Farming and Rural Life (CEPFAR)
1991-1992, 364 p.
Language: EN
Distributed by: CEPFAR
23, rue de la Science (Boîte 10)
B-1040 Bruxelles
Tel. 322+2303263

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1993, 342 pp.
Languages: DE, EN, FR
ISBN: 92-826-6002-8
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Camp Road
Wimbledon
UK-London SW19 4UX

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Language: EN
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7-9, rue Eugène-Delacroix
F-75116 Paris

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1, Place de Fontenoy
F-75350 Paris 07 SP

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(Travaux et documents du CIRAC)
Centre d'Information et de Recherche sur l'Allemagne contemporaine (CIRAC)
1993, 123 p.
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9, rue de Téhéran
F-75008 Paris

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1993, 128 p.
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Price: 143,13 FF

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1993, 80 pp.
Language: FR
Price: 157,35 FF

Distributed by:
Centre INFFO

Norbert Kailer, Hubert Regner
Neue Wettbewerbsfaktoren in der Weiterbildung (Austria)
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1993, 240 p.
Language: DE
ISBN: 3-85122-371-3
Distributed by: LINDE Verlag Wien GmbH
Scheydgasse 24
A-1210 Wien
Tel. 431+2780526

ADDRESSES

EC
Commission of the EC - TASK FORCE - Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth
Rue de la Loi, 200; B-1049 Brussels
Tel.: 322+299 11 11
Fax: 332+235 72 95

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
2, rue Mercier; L-2985 Luxembourg
Tel.: 352+49 92 81
Fax: 352+49 00 03 / 49 57 19
and its national sales offices

Belgium
CIDOC
Centre intercommunautaire de documentation pour la formation professionnelle
ICODOC
Intercommunautaire documentatiecentrum voor beroepsopleiding
Boulevard de l'Empereur 11; B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel.: 322+502 51 41, (Grandjean, CIDOC)
Tel.: 322+502 50 01, (Fred. Geers, ICODOC)
Fax: 322+502 54 74

Denmark
SEL - Statens erhvervspædagogiske Lærerruddannelse
Rigsgade 13; DK-1416 København K
Tel.: 4533+14 41 24
Fax: 4533+14 42 14

Germany
BIBB - Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung
Fehrbelliner Platz 3; D-10707 Berlin
Tel.: 4930+86 43 22 30 (B. Christopher)
Tel.: 4930+86 43 24 38 (M. Bergmann)
Fax: 4930+864 32 455

France
Centre INFFO
Tour Europe CEDEX 07
F-92049 Paris-La-Défense
Tel.: 331+412 522 22
Fax: 331+477 374 20

Greece
OEEK (Organization for Vocational Education and Training)
1, Iloupoleos Street; 17236 Ymittos
GR-Athen
Tel.: 30-1+97 33 828 (C. Georgopoulou)
Fax: 30-1+92 50 136

Ireland
FAS - The Training & Employment Authority
P.O. Box 456; 27-33, Upper Baggot Street
IRL - Dublin 4
Tel.: 3531+668 57 77
Fax: 3531+660 90 93

Italy
ISFOL - Istituto per lo sviluppo della formazione professionale dei lavoratori
Via Morgagni 33; I-00161 Roma
Tel.: 396+44 59 01
Fax: 396+884 58 83

Netherlands
cibb - centrum innovatie beroepsopdracht
bedrijfsleven
Pettelaarpark 1, Postbus 1585
NL-5200 BP 's-Hertogenbosch
Tel.: 3173+12 40 11
Fax: 3173+12 34 25

Portugal
Ministério do emprego e da Segurança social
SICT - Serviço de Informação Científica e Técnica
Praça de Londres, 2-1 andar
P-1091 Lisboa Codex
Tel.: 3511+849 66 28
Fax: 3511+806 171

Spain
INEM - Instituto Nacional de Empleo
Condesa de Venadito, 9; E-28027 Madrid
Tel.: 341+58 59 58 2
Fax: 341+377 58 81

United Kingdom
BACIE - British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education
35, Harbour Exchange Square, Marsh Wall
UK-London E14 9GE
Tel.: 4471+987 89 89
Fax: 4471+987 98 98

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