

# European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1979 - 1980

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11 February 1980

DOCUMENT 1-623/79/ANNEX

OPINION

of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment

on the proposals from the Commission of the  
European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-249/79)  
for

- I. a decision on Community aid for restructuring  
or conversion investments in the shipbuilding  
industry
- II. a decision on Community aid for restructuring  
or conversion investments in the textile  
industry, particularly in the man-made fibres  
industry

Draftsman: Mr T. SPENCER



The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment:

1. Stresses the need for social measures to deal with the current problems of the shipbuilding and man-made fibre industries;
2. Regrets that suitable action was not taken earlier and accepts that ad hoc measures must now be taken as proposed by the Commission;
3. Is of the opinion that social measures should in future be taken as an integral part of a coherent industrial policy aimed at creating full employment and calls for a speedy formulation of such a policy;
4. Urges the Commission to elaborate concrete measures for maintenance of employment through diversification in those areas which are heavily dependent on textiles and/or shipbuilding. Regions which are already economically and socially underprivileged and suffering from the collapse of existing industries cannot withstand further cuts in job opportunities;
5. Considers that, as in other industrial areas, there exists an urgent need to change the traditional work patterns. The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment is concerned that EEC aid should not be an isolated effort but should be part of an integrated scheme which must include vocational training, retraining and apprenticeships in new industries;
6. States that the Commission needs to take into account the problem of the geographic position of these industries which are often sited in areas unattractive to alternative industries. Any programme of restructuring must be tied in with Community aid to the infrastructure;
7. Is of the opinion that the attribution of Community aid is a responsibility of the Commission of the European Community and not of the governments of the Member States;
8. Stresses the need for full consultation of all parties concerned;
9. Notes with extreme regret the decision of the Council to reduce the relevant budget entry to a token entry, and calls on the Council to use the opportunity of the revised 1980 budget to include a proper Community aid programme for the shipbuilding and textile industries.



On 1 October 1979 the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment appointed Mr Spencer draftsman.

It considered the draft opinion at its meetings of 30 October 1979, 18 December 1979, 14 January 1980 and 30 January 1980 and adopted it by 16 votes to 4 on 30 January 1980.

Present: Mr Dido, acting chairman; Mr Peters, vice-chairman; Mr Spencer, draftsman; Mr Calvez, Mrs Cassanmagnago-Cerretti, Ms Clwyd, Mr Dalsass (deputizing for Mr Van der Gun), Mrs Dekker, Mr Lezzi (deputizing for Mr Boyes), Mrs Tove Nielsen, Mr Nordlohne, Mr Oehler, Mr Patterson (deputizing for Mr Spicer), Mr Prag, Mrs Salisch, Mr Sarre, Mr Spautz, Mr Verhaegen, Mr Vernimmen (deputizing for Mr Van Minnen) and Mr Veronesi (deputizing for Mr Ceravolo).

