

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

7 July 1980

DOCUMENT 1-287/80

Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

**for QUESTION TIME
on 7 and 8 July 1980**

QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Question by Lord DOURO (H-95/80)

Subject: VAT on bloodstock

Officials from the Commission have now visited the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom and France to investigate the anomalies concerning VAT charged on bloodstock and supplies of training services. Will the Commission now disclose whether or not they believe that the Republic of Ireland or France are in any way contravening the Sixth VAT Directive?

2. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-160/80)

Subject: Arab Telecommunications Satellite Project (ARABSAT)

Following the decision by ASCO, the Arab Satellite Communication Organization, in Rabat, to issue a new tender later this year for the project ARABSAT, what steps is the Commission taking, possibly in conjunction with the European Investment Bank, to ensure that Community firms compete successfully for a project that could have incalculable results for dialogue between the peoples of the Arab world and of Europe, noting the steps that US firms have taken to be removed from the Arab boycott list for the second tender?

3. Question by Mrs EWING (H-166/80)

Subject: Forecasting and assessment in the field of science and technology (FAST)

What progress has been made in establishing the FAST research programme and with what existing specialised research groups in the Community is FAST planning to collaborate; and in view of the unique research capabilities of Universities and other bodies in Scotland, how much of the 4.4 million EUA available is being spent in Scotland in the period to 1983?

4. Question by Mr SEAL (H-276/80) (x)

Subject: The EEC textile industry

The European textile industry is being threatened from many sides. The world's developing countries are increasing textile production, the eastern European countries and China are exporting low cost textiles to the Community, and in addition the entry of Greece, Spain and Portugal into the EEC is going to cause many problems for the EEC textile industry.

In view of these developments, when will the Commission produce a European textile industrial plan for the next five years which will guarantee and retain a percentage of the Community market for the Community industry and will it also indicate how the industry should be strengthened to meet these new challenges.

Further, why has the Commission not designated the textile industry as one to which monetary assistance will be made available from the non-quota section of the Regional Fund where it has been reported that 220 million EUA has been set aside to help specific industries offset the effects of the entry of Greece, Spain and Portugal into the Community?

(x) Former oral question with debate (O-122/79/rev.) converted into a question for Question Time

5. Question by Mr CAPANNA (H-263/80) (x)

Subject: Use of the EEC appropriations for
the earthquake area in Friuli, Italy

The Consorzio di Bonifica per la Sinistra
Tagliamento (CBST - Association for the
Redevelopment of the Left Bank of the Tagliamento)
intends to use several billion lire of EEC funds
allocated to the earthquake area in Friuli for
land redevelopment in the Pantianicco area
(commune of Mereto di Tomba - province of Udine).

A number of citizens are opposing this project
and have informed the Office of the Agricultural
Councillor for the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region
of the illegal operations of the CBST.

Will the Commission give Parliament the following
information:

- What urgent measures does it intend to take to ensure that EEC finance intended for restoration and rehabilitation work in the Friuli earthquake area is not diverted from the objective indicated by the Community institutions and illegally used for large-scale and completely new land development operations which are in no way connected with the earthquake damage?
- What measures has the Commission already taken or does it intend to take as a matter of urgency to check in general that Community funds allocated to the Friuli earthquake area are used for the correct purpose?

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-157/79) converted into a question for Question Time

6. Question by Mrs CINCIARI RODANO (H-264/80) (x)

Subject: Meeting of the Council of Education Ministers

- Considering that the Commission of the European Communities, on 10 December 1979, informed the European Parliament's Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport of the reasons for the postponement of the meeting of the Council of Education Ministers which had been scheduled for 6 November 1979 and of the Commission's commitment to seek agreement with the Danish Government with a view to arranging a meeting for the end of 1979 or the beginning of 1980;
- bearing in mind that the first three months of 1980 have already passed without a new date for the meeting having been announced;
- bearing in mind furthermore that the postponement of the meeting will lead to further delays in decisions on important matters such as the teaching of foreign languages in the Community, the admission of students from other Member States to higher education institutions, and equal opportunities for girls in education and training;

The Commission is asked to inform the European Parliament of the steps taken by the Commission, the difficulties encountered and the likelihood of the Council of Education Ministers meeting at an early date.

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-15/80) converted into a question for Question Time

7. Question by Mr NEWTON-DUNN (H-104/80)

Subject: Fishing

In his written answer to my oral question (H-19/80), Commissioner Gundelach stated that Member States are now legally required to report to him by the 15th of each month details of all catches in the preceding month. Will he now confirm that all Member States are fulfilling their obligations in this respect - and will he now publish to the Parliament all details of catches since this system started operating on 15th February 1980?

8. Question by Mr BOYES (H-130/80)

Subject : Spanish Steel

Would the Commission detail the latest position in relation to Spanish steel's proposals, published in 1979, to increase production capacity from 13.9 mn tonnes in 1978 to 18.6mn tonnes in 1985?

9. Question by Mr PATTERSON (H-245/80) (x)

Subject: Year of the disabled

What action does the Commission plan to take in support of the International Year of the Disabled in 1981?

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-16/80) converted into a question for Question Time

10. Question by Mr ROMUALDI (H-253/80) (x)

Subject: Attacks on Libyan refugees in Community countries

What security measures does the Commission intend to take to put a stop to the series of savage murders of Libyan refugees in the countries of the Community and to the activities of the hired assassins acting with the backing of the authorities in their country, following the threats made on various occasions by the Libyan Head of State Colonel GADDAFI whose intention it is in this way to eliminate all opposition to his regime and all dissidents?

11. Question by Mr TYRRELL (H-170/80)

Subject: Exports of butter to Russia

Did the Commission, in relation to the butter for which tenders for export to Russia were considered on the 30th April, propose a minimum selling price lower than the tenders received, and if so, how was this price calculated?

12. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-179/80)

Subject: Harmonization of speed limits in Europe

Does the Commission intend to propose harmonization of the speed limits on roads and motorways in the nine Community countries?

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-21/80) converted into a question for Question Time

13. Question by Mr ADAM (H-198/80)

Subject: Information policy

Bearing in mind the importance of full information, will the Commission undertake to widen the contact of visiting journalists with other institutions of the Community to ensure contact with the Parliament's members and in particular members participating in meetings in Brussels?

14. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-199/80)

Subject: Allocation of responsibilities within the new Commission

Does not the Commission consider that to give a single Commissioner responsibility for both energy policy and nuclear safety, areas which may often have conflicting aims, will have an inhibiting effect, and that there is good reason to separate the two areas of responsibility?

15. Question by Mr HORD (H-206/80)

Subject: Sales to Iran

Will the Commission confirm that sales of surplus Community agricultural commodities have recently been made to Iran and if so would the Commission indicate the commodities concerned, the quantities involved, the dates of the transactions and the amount of the EEC subsidy given?

16. Question by Mr HUME (H-214/80)

Subject: Social Fund aid

Is the Commission prepared to widen the criteria for aid to the handicapped under the Social Fund?

17. Question by Mr WELSH (H-227/80)

Subject: Letter to Commission of March 22nd

When does the Commission intend to answer my letter of March 22nd addressed to Commissioner Vouel in connection with his answer to oral question (H-386/79)¹ by Mr Pininfarina?

18. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-233/80)

Subject: Transfer of football players

What action is to follow from the Commission's recent discussions with the European Football Association (UEFA) and the Player's Associations on the problems of the transfer of football players between clubs within the Community?

19. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-234/80)

Subject: Competition from imports of chemicals from the East

What does the Commission intend to do to put an end to the permanent threat facing our industries in the form of large-scale imports of chemicals from the East?

20. Question by Mr BUCHOU (H-235/80)

Subject: Unsatisfactory level of increase in agricultural prices

Does the Commission not consider that the increase in agricultural prices agreed on recently by the Council is insufficient to cover agricultural production costs and does it not think it necessary to envisage an additional increase before the start of the 1980/81 marketing year?

¹ Debates of the European Parliament No. 251, p. 23

21. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-236/80)

Subject: Community-level policy on energy prices

Does the Commission think it would be possible to pursue a policy on energy prices at Community level? Could such a policy be combined with suitable incentives in order to resolve short-term difficulties?

22. Question by Mr PROVAN (H-238/80)

Subject : Scottish raspberry growers

Will the Commission take steps to assist the Scottish raspberry growers, who last year and most probably this year, will be facing severe competition from raspberry products imported from Eastern Europe? These imports are coming in at prices far below those that Member nations can compete with and would the Commission agree that it is for the long-term benefit of the Community that we produce our own raspberries?

23. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-240/80)

Subject: Dumping of new potatoes by Greece and Spain on the Community market

Greece and Spain have granted subsidies on exports of new potatoes to the Community countries. In addition, the Greek Government has guaranteed its producers a price of FF 0.83 per kilo until 31 July. Since the Commission is responsible for monitoring imports of agricultural products into the Community, why has it not reacted to this development? Would it not agree that measures are urgently needed to put a stop to such unfair competition?

24. Question by Mr VAN AERSSEN (H-244/80)

Subject: Review of the OECD export credit system

Is the Commission prepared to cooperate on an early and thorough review of the OECD agreement on export credits, with a view to reducing government export subsidies and the risk of distortions of competition?

25. Question by Miss HOOPER (H-255/80)

Subject: Mechanism for communicating Parliament proposals
to the Council

What is the mechanism for forwarding proposals and amendments passed by the Parliament to the Council, and what steps are taken to ensure that the Council receives these proposals and amendments in good time for meetings at which they are to be considered?

26. Question by Sir Peter VANNECK (H-257/80)

Subject: Sale of home-made food and preserves for charitable purposes

With reference to the 1955 British Food and Drugs Act, which forbids the sale of home-made jams and preserves unless the home kitchen is inspected and licensed, can the Commission confirm that this sort of de minimis legislation neither exists in the other Member States nor is encouraged by the Commission?

27. Question by Mr COTTRELL (H-261/80)

Subject: Experiments on animals

Is the Commission aware of the disgust felt throughout Europe concerning the practice of experiments upon animals in connection with the cosmetics industry? Does the Commission believe that the opportunity should now be taken to establish a Code of Conduct for the European Community concerning the whole field of experimentation involving animals and will the Commission give an assurance that research and development funds in this area are apportioned only with strict regard to essential experimentation of a medical nature and that this work is carefully monitored to ensure essential humanitarian values?

28. Question by Mrs CRESSON (H-262/80)

Subject: Information on Regional Fund projects

Can the Commission reaffirm its claim in response to my Written Question No. 1692/79¹ that it respects the wishes of some Member States which prefer the precise location of Regional Fund projects not to be indicated, and could it say which Member States they are and why they want to keep the location of ERDF projects secret when Members of the European Parliament and the public have a right to such information?

29. Question by Mrs SQUARCIALUPI (H-266/80)

Subject: Discrimination against women in competitions organized by the EEC

Can the Commission explain what criteria are used for recruiting Community officials from reserve lists for competitions, as successful female candidates are often surreptitiously discriminated against, in flagrant violation of the directive on equality?

30. Question by Mr PAISLEY (H-267/80)

Subject : Northern Ireland's unemployment

As Northern Ireland's unemployment is about double the EEC and UK average, and the high cost of feedstuffs is a substantial handicap to the pig and poultry sections of agriculture, and as 5000 or more jobs are at stake, would the Commission consider extending the same arrangement which assists Italy on grain prices to Northern Ireland in order to save this vital section of agriculture?

¹ OJ No. C 126, 27.5.1980, p.83

31. Question by Mr MOORHOUSE (H-268/80)

Subject : Community shipping by the dumping of freight services
by Comecon countries

In view of the increasingly serious threat posed to Community shipping by the dumping of freight services by Comecon countries, what proposals will the Commission now make to bring about a Community response, particularly with regard to the possible introduction of a quota system and what is the Commission's estimate of the impact which the Trans-Siberian Land Bridge will make over the next few years to Community freight concerns' share of contracts generated by trade between Western Europe and The Far East?

32. Question by Mr O'DONNELL (H-269/80)

Subject : The Gaeltacht (Irish Speaking Regions) of Ireland

Is the Commission aware of the special cultural significance of the Gaeltacht Regions of Ireland, and of the serious economic and social disadvantages from which these regions suffer, and, if so, whether the Commission would be willing to co-operate with and assist the newly established Gaeltacht Authority - Udarás na Gaeltachta, in formulating and implementing a comprehensive, integrated development programme for the Gaeltacht.

33. Question by Mrs DESMOND (H-273/80)

Subject : ECSC Housing Schemes in Ireland

Can the Commission state what changes have been made recently relating to ECSC Housing Schemes in Ireland, particularly concerning total amounts payable and application and assessment procedures, and also whether these changes had the approval of the Irish Government?

34. Question by Mrs MARTIN (H-274/80)

Subject: Exports of fresh milk to the UK market

What action does the Commission intend to take to put an end to the discriminatory measures which prevent the other eight Member States from exporting fresh milk to the UK market?

35. Question by Mr Christopher JACKSON (H-275/80)

Subject : Type Approval Number

In the U.K. all vehicles manufactured after August 1978 require a "Type Approval Number" before they can be registered and given a number plate. In practice, because of the technical nature of the information required, Primary Type Approval Numbers are restricted to manufacturers. There is evidence that in the U.K. importers of cars assembled in other Community countries have been denied access to Type Approval numbers, and thus denied registration, where cars have been converted by the importer to left-hand drive, although all duties and taxes have been paid and the vehicles conform to all required safety regulations. Does the Commission consider the restriction of access to Type Approval Numbers to be in contravention of the Treaty of Rome, in that it restricts fair competition by constituting a barrier against free trade between Community countries and will the Commission take action to ensure that free competition is maintained?

36. Question by Miss CLWYD (H-277/80)

Subject : Contravention of Code of Conduct on South Africa,
relating to minimum wage level

What is the Commission's view of recent allegations that at least 20 % of African workers employed by British companies in South Africa are paid below the minimum level recommended by the EEC Code of Conduct and will the Commission ensure that a full list of those companies contravening the spirit of the code of conduct be made public?

37.

Question by Mr DEBRE (H-281/80)

Subject : Turkish exports of industrial goods

Given the potentially harmful effects on the European textile industry, and the French textile industry in particular, of any failure to take all possible steps to ensure that our markets are open to imports under conditions which allow our manufacturers to compete on an equal footing, does the Commission really believe that this is the right moment to remove all the restrictions and obstacles to imports of industrial goods from Turkey?

38.

Question by Mr DONNEZ (H-283/80)

Subject: Restructuring of the iron and steel industry at
Bagnoli

Could the Commission indicate why it financed the construction at Bagnoli of a semi-continuous wide strip mill with a capacity of three million tonnes when the Community sheet-steel market is already saturated and the plant at Denain is operating at only 40% of its capacity?

39.

Question by Mr BETTIZA (H-286/80)

Subject: Community contribution to measures to control
erosion in Ravenna

Is the Commission aware of the appeal issued by the city of Ravenna to the European Parliament and to national authorities for the Community to help solve the problem of subsidence and coastal erosion in the Ravenna area, where the land has sunk by more than a metre in the past few years; and in view of this region's inestimable cultural, historical and artistic value in European terms, could it indicate what practical scope exists for aid under the EEC's 1981 budget to supplement the damming, excavating and aqueduct work and to deal with the ebb-water?

40. Question by Mr CURRY (H-288/80)

Subject: Beef taken into intervention

In the light of the quantities of beef recently going into intervention, does the Commission believe that it will be necessary to revise its estimates of the cost of the beef regime in 1980 and does it intend to renew its proposals to suspend intervention for beef during the summer months?

41. Question by Mr GRIFFITHS (H-290/80)

Subject : EEC aid programme for the Horn of Africa

Is there any truth in the claim made in the B.B.C. 2 programme "The World About Us" - "Refugee" broadcast in the U.K. on 19th June 1980. that an EEC aid programme for the Horn of Africa, approved in November 1979 took six months to put into action (the first aid arriving in East Africa in May 1980)? If so, what is the reason for this delay?

42. Question by Mr LALOR (H-291/80)

Subject : Deferment of payment of excise duty

Will the Commission indicate, in the case of the Member States other than Ireland, any instances where deferment of payment of excise duty on beer or spirits is permitted on a more favourable basis to domestic production than to imports; and in respect of any such instances, what course of action does the Commission envisage taking?

43. Question by Mr ADAM (H-183/80)

Subject: New Community energy initiative

What is the reaction of the Council to the proposals for a new Community energy initiative issued by CEPCEO (the Community Coal Producers' Organisation) on 24th March 1980 and how far are the views expressed by CEPCEO acceptable to the Council and how soon can positive measures to implement the proposals be expected?

44. Question by Sir STEWART-CLARK (H-223/80)

Subject: Protection of animals during international transport

Would the Council accept that directive 77/489/EEC¹ on the protection of animals during international transport needs clarification to ensure firstly that responsibility during transport is defined and that those countries exporting particularly horses to the Community are subject to the conditions of the directive?

45. Question by Mr SEAL (H-148/80)

Subject: Treaty of Rome and application of Community legislation in Member States

What amendments would have to be made to the Treaty of Rome in order for a national Parliament to enact legislation to restore powers to decide whether Community legislation should be applicable to itself?

¹ O.J. No L 200, 8.8.1977, p. 10

46. Question by Mrs EWING (H-167/80)

Subject: European Institute for Economic and Social Policy Research

In view of the Opinion of Parliament¹ that industrial restructuring problems, which are particularly acute in Scotland, should be referred for long-term analysis to a forecasting unit (such as the European Institute for Economic and Social Policy Research), what progress has the Council made in negotiations to set up this body; and will the Council establish it in central Scotland, as Scotland and Denmark are the only Community countries without any Community institution on their soil?

47. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-178/80)

Subject: Indexation of oil prices

In view of the fact that the OPEC countries have decided to adopt the principle of a quarterly adjustment of oil prices, does the Council intend to start negotiations in order to fix these prices on the basis of a jointly agreed and therefore reliable index?

48. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-216/80)

Subject: Meeting of Education Ministers

Will the Council outline briefly the main issues dealt with successfully at the recent meeting of Education Ministers?

49. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-220/80)

Subject: International harmonisation of energy prices and taxes

What consultations is the Council pursuing with their colleagues in the Council of Ministers of the International Energy Agency in order to achieve international harmonisation of energy prices and taxes?

¹ O.J. No. C 127 of 21.5.79, p.52

50. Question by Mr PURVIS (H-222/80)

Subject: Election of the President of the Council of Ministers by
universal suffrage

Would the Council consider, during its current Presidency, the possibility of the President of the Council of Ministers being elected by universal suffrage of the people of Europe for a term of four years and with powers equivalent to a Member State, so that the Community can benefit from the political leadership that such a person would encapsulate?

51. Question by Mr PENDERS (H-230/80)

Subject: CSCE (Madrid follow-up conference)

What practical measures have been taken with regard to
the Madrid CSCE follow-up conference in November 1980?

52. Question by Mr FUCHS (H-232/80)

Subject: Directive on measurements and weights of commercial vehicles

Does the Council not consider that a decision on a directive (or regulation) on the measurements and weights of commercial vehicles is urgently required in view of the fact that such a decision could help to promote energy-saving by reducing the fuel consumed per tonne carried?

53. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-239/80)

Subject: Economic situation in the Community and enlargement

Does the Council not agree that the difficulties experienced recently in the European Community in the economic, budgetary and agricultural fields call into question the proposed enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal? What conclusions does the Council draw from these developments?

54. Question by Mrs LE ROUX (H-241/80)

Subject: Free movement of milk within the Community

Would the Council not agree that the United Kingdom is protecting itself from imports of liquid milk by means of unfair health regulations which constitute an insuperable non-tariff barrier to trade and thus violate the principle of the free movement of goods within the Community, whereas the French regulations applicable to drinking milk fully safeguard the interests of the consumer? Would it not also agree that it is urgent and necessary to correct this illegal situation? If so, what action does it intend to take?

55. Question by Mr WURTZ (H-247/80)

Subject: Exclusion from public sector employment in the FRG

Would the Council not agree that the practice of excluding citizens of the FRG engaged in a wide variety of occupations from employment in the public sector (Berufsverbot) because of their beliefs or their affiliation to certain legally recognized parties is in flagrant breach of the principles of non-discrimination and equality of treatment before the law, which are the cornerstone of all democratic regimes?

56. Question by Mr LALOR (H-248/80)

Subject: Closing loopholes in trade sanctions with Iran

What action will the Council take to close the loopholes whereby EEC trade sanctions against Iran could be broken by the shipment of goods to Dubai or Kuwait and then across the Gulf to Iranian ports?

57. Question by Mr ANTONIOZZI (H-251/80)

Subject: Forestry policy

Would the Council indicate whether it is prepared to implement - within the framework of the common agricultural policy and on the basis of suitable measures at both Community and regional level - a forestry policy that is commensurate with present requirements and that possibly also provides for the creation of a special revolving fund linked to the Community's financial institutions?

58. Question by Miss HOOPER (H-256/80)

Subject: Communication of Parliament proposals to the Council

What steps are taken by the Council to ensure that the proposals under consideration at Council meetings contain the amendments and recommendations of Parliament?

59. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-265/80)

Subject: USA/European Community steel war

As the iron and steel conflict between the USA and the EEC appears to be leading towards a several million tonne reduction in European exports to the United States, and now that the European steel industry in general seems to be on the point of recovery, does the Council not think it would be advisable to warn the USA now that Europe would be forced to reduce its import quotas for steel products from third countries by an amount corresponding to any penalties imposed on it by the USA.

60. Question by Mrs SCRIVENER (H-280/80)

Subject : Meeting of the Council of Environment Ministers

On 30 June the Environment Ministers of the Nine examined a report and various proposals drawn up by the Commission on problems relating to the environment.

Was the Council able to reach agreement on a set of clear priorities and on measures to combat pollution and to finance the Community environmental protection policy?

61. Question by Mr CURRY (H-287/80)

Subject: Supplementary levy on the dairy sector

Following the agreement of the Council to impose a supplementary levy on the dairy sector if milk production this year is more than 1½ per cent above that recorded in 1979, will the Council explain at what date it expects to receive clear indications of the trend of the milk levy and from what date if it is clear that milk production has increased by 1½ per cent; what form the levy will take and what plans it has to ensure that the levy is imposed only on those regions which show a production increase and that no supplementary levy will be imposed on those areas and producers which have observed market and production disciplines?

QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

62. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-165 '80)

Subject: Consultation with the United States

Do the Foreign Ministers not consider that it is desirable and necessary to improve consultation with the United States through the appropriate channels, in view of the fact that the Foreign Ministers took a decision concerning Iran on 22 April last, manifestly unaware of the United States' decision to take military action, as a result of which the Secretary of State, Mr Vance, tendered his resignation on 21 April?

63. Question by Mr ROMUALDI (H-254/80) (x)

Subject: Attacks on Libyan refugees in Community countries

What security measures does the Council intend to take to put a stop to the series of savage murders of Libyan refugees in the countries of the Community and to the activities of the hired assassins acting with the backing of the authorities in their country, following the threats made on various occasions by the Libyan Head of State Colonel GADDAFI whose intention it is in this way to eliminate all opposition to his regime and all dissidents?

(x) Former oral question without debate (O-22/80) converted into question for Question Time

64. Question by Mr FERGUSSON (H-197/80)

Subject: Danger of chemical warfare to civilian population

Will the foreign ministers say what steps they have taken or are considering, meeting in political cooperation, to protect the civilian population of the Community from the harmful effects of the possible use of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons in the event of war in the European theatre?

65. Question by Mr HUTTON (H-225/80)

Subject: Prevention of chemical warfare

In view of the answer given by the President in Office to question (H-26/80) on 21st May, 1980 would the President in Office agree that the process he described is wholly inadequate to determine and prevent the current use of chemical weapons in warfare?

66. Question By Mr PENDERS (H-231/80)

Subject: CSCE (Madrid follow-up conference)

What practical measures have been taken with regard to the Madrid follow-up conference in November 1980?

67. Question by Mr LALOR (H-249/80)

Subject: Solutions to the Afghanistan crisis

The Nine have stated that they are convinced that the Islamic and non-aligned countries have a particularly important part to play in bringing about a solution to the Afghanistan crisis (1). Would the ministers elaborate on how this might be done following the Islamic Conference in Islamabad?

(1) Answer to Oral Question No. H-121/80 of 21.5.1980

68. Question by Mr ISRAEL (H-250/80)

Subject: Conference in Madrid

Have the Foreign Ministers adopted a joint position for the Madrid Conference? What specific proposals do they intend to put forward and what instructions do they intend to give to the Council?

69. Question by Mr SELIGMAN (H-259/80)

Subject: Accession of the European Community to the Convention of the European Space Agency

In view of the political importance of space cooperation for the Community and the need to take decisions concerning the future of the European Space Agency at the highest political level, will the Foreign Ministers now authorize negotiations for the accession of the Community to the Convention of the European Space Agency?

70. Question by Miss CLWYD (H-278/80)

Subject : Contravention of Code of Conduct on South Africa, relating to minimum wage level

What is the Council's view of recent allegations that at least 20% of African workers employed by British companies in South Africa are paid below the minimum level recommended by the EEC Code of Conduct and will the Council ensure that a full list of those companies contravening the spirit of the Code of Conduct be made public?

71. Question by Mr HUME (H-279/80)

Subject : Employment conditions in European companies in
South Africa

Does the Council know of any European companies infringing the code of employment laid down by the Council for European Companies operating in South Africa and if so, will the Council name such companies and state what action can be taken against them ?

72. Question by Mrs LIZIN (H-285/80)

Subject: European legal area

Could the Foreign Ministers indicate the current position regarding the agreements reached on the European legal area, the deadline for their implementation and the progress made on work within the Trevi Group?