

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(74) 1932 final

Brussels, 26 November 1974

Amending of the
Proposal for a Council Regulation
on the establishment of a European
Vocational Training Centre

(presented by the Commission to the Council pursuant to
the second paragraph of Article 149 of the EEC Treaty)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

A. Amendments proposed by the Economic and Social Committee

Article 1

The Commission agrees in principle with the very wide concept of professional training recommended by the Economic and Social Committee; it seems unnecessary, however, to change the wording of this Article, since the terms used, as normally understood, cover the concept of vocational training proposed by the Economic and Social Committee.

As regards the last sentence of Article 1 (cf. note 2.2, Art. 1), the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee contains nothing new which would lead the Commission to reconsider its decision not to express an opinion as to the place in which the Centre should be situated.

Articles 2 and 3

The Commission believes that the Centre could base its annual working plans on the Economic and Social Committee's list of occupations contained in the "Study on the Systems of Education and Vocational Training in the European Community" of 13 December 1973. By its specific nature, this list cannot, however, be included in the Council Regulation.

Third indent of the first paragraph of Article 2

The proposed amendment would give no greater force to the original Commission text, which already provides for the types of measures desired, quite rightly, by the Economic and Social Committee.

Article 3(1)

The proposed amendment seems unnecessary, since the Commission text already allows the Management Board to draw up an annual working plan for the Centre which takes into consideration priority needs.

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Article 3(2)

The proposed amendment clarifies the scope of the provision.

Article 4(1)

The proposed amendment would disturb considerably the balance of representation provided for in the original Commission text.

Moreover, the tripartite structure of the Management Board shown in the original text is based on other tripartite structures existing in the European Communities which have proved satisfactory. Furthermore, it should be noted that in a number of cases representatives of a variety of occupations and particularly, occupations engaged in by self-employed persons have been included in the employers' category.

For these reasons the amendment concerned cannot be accepted.

Article 4(3)

The proposed amendment concerns a matter which was studied in detail by the Commission when it adopted the proposal for a Regulation which it submitted to the Council. The Economic and Social Committee introduces no new factors which could justify a change in the Commission's position.

Article 4(4)

The proposed amendment seems very reasonable and should therefore be accepted.

Article 4(5)

This amendment seems justified in that it will enable the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Management Board to be better informed as to the opinions of the Experts Committee on the various problems under discussion and to take part in Committee discussions where they will be able to provide all the necessary information or clarification.

Article 5

The desire expressed that the Economic and Social Committee and the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training should be informed regularly of the activities of the Centre seems justified; the Commission can accept the recommendation without amending the present wording of Article 5.

Article 6(2)

The proposed amendment seems unacceptable since it would alter the "political" balance between the Experts Committee and the Management Board as laid down by the Commission in its original proposal.

Article 7(1)

The proposed amendment may be accepted in view of the fact that its object is to avoid differences of policy between the Experts Committee and the Management Board, which is responsible for running the Centre.

Article 7(2)

The amendment may be accepted since it would ensure the proper functioning of the Experts Committee in the event of the President being unable to attend.

Article 7(3)

This amendment, whose object is to abolish the obligation to convene a minimum number of annual meetings of the Experts Committee has not been accepted since it would mean less participation by the Committee in the activities of the Centre and would create difficulties in drawing up new work plans and records of past activities.

Article 10(1)

According to the fourth general principle for implementing a common vocational training policy (Council Decision of 2 April 1963) the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training is a consultative body which cooperates with the Commission. It is for the latter, therefore, to accept, where appropriate, suggestions from the Committee and to bring them to the notice of the Centre. The amendment

proposed by the Economic and Social Committee cannot therefore be accepted.

B. Amendments proposed by the European Parliament

Article 4(1)(c)

The amendment is unacceptable for the simple reason that according to the original Commission draft there should be qualified teachers and representatives of bodies concerned with youth problems on the Experts Committee which delivers technical and scientific opinions. It seems completely unjustified that the Centre's administrators should necessarily be teachers.

Article 6(1)

The two proposed amendments should be accepted because they would enable the Centre to be assisted by an Experts Committee which possessed the widest and most varied experience possible.

Article 11

The proposed amendment should be accepted since it corresponds with the Commission's intention, even though this was not so clearly expressed in the original text.

FINANCIAL RECORD

The European Parliament hopes that the Centre will be allocated sufficient funds to enable it to carry out its operations effectively. The Commission endorses this policy wholeheartedly.

ANNEX 1

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of a European Vocational Training Centre

(amended proposal)

Preamble unchanged

Articles 1 and 2 unchanged

- Article 3
1. - unchanged
 - conclude study and research contracts, grant financial assistance for carrying out specific projects;
 - unchanged
 2. - unchanged

- Article 4
- 1.)
 - 2.) unchanged
 - 3.)
 4. The Chairman shall convene the Management Board at least four times a year or at the request of not less than one third of its members.
 5. unchanged
 6. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Management Board shall attend meetings of the Experts Committee.

- Article 6
1. The Experts Committee shall consist of 36 members; each Member State shall nominate four members. They shall be selected on account of their theoretical knowledge and practical experience in the various fields connected with vocational and general training.
 2. unchanged.

- Article 7
1. Last sentence
- It may, on its own initiative and subject to the approval of the Management Board, examine any question relating to the objects of the Centre.

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ANNEX 1

2. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among its members and shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

3.) unchanged

4.)

Article 8)

Article 9) unchanged

Article 10)

Article 11 - The Management Board shall adopt not later than 31 March the general report on the activities, financial situation and work programme of the Centre and shall submit it to the Commission of the European Communities and to the European Parliament.

Articles 12 to 18 unchanged.

FINANCIAL RECORD

The following indent is to be added under OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE:

<u>- organization of pilot projects, subsidies, study grants, symposia, meetings, congresses, experiments</u>	
	1 000 000 u.a.
<u>congresses, experiments</u>	1 200 000 u.
Total operational expenditure	1 520 000 u.a.
Total 1975	2 200 000 u.a.