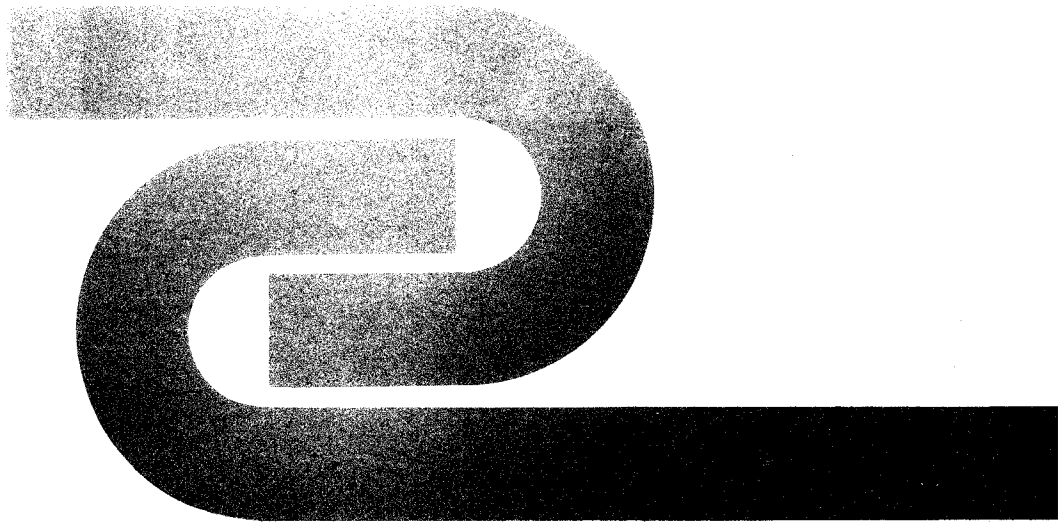




ANNUAL REPORT 1983



Brussels

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Press, information and publications division

Rue Ravenstein 2
1000 BRUSSELS

Tel. 5123920
5139595

Telegrams: ECOSEUR
Telex: 25983 CESEUR

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Annual Report 1983

Brussels – 1984

This publication is also available in the following languages:

DA ISBN 92-830-0034-X

DE ISBN 92-830-0035-8

GR ISBN 92-830-0036-6

FR ISBN 92-830-0038-2

IT ISBN 92-830-0039-0

NL ISBN 92-830-0047-1

Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1984

ISBN 92-830-0037-4

Catalogue number: EX-38-83-653-EN-C

Articles and texts appearing in this document may be reproduced freely in whole or in part so long as their source is mentioned

Printed in the FR of Germany

Contents

Preface	5
<i>Chapter I – Role and place in the institutional framework</i>	7
<i>Chapter II – Work of the Committee</i>	11
1. Agricultural policy	11
2. Transport policy	17
3. Social policy	20
4. Economic and financial policy	28
5. Regional policy	32
6. Industrial policy	33
7. External relations	39
8. Energy policy	43
9. Protection of the environment – Consumers – Public health	46
<i>Chapter III – Relations with the press and outside reaction</i>	53
<i>Chapter IV – The Groups</i>	57
<i>Chapter V – Participation in certain events</i>	63
<i>Chapter VI – Appointments and resignations</i>	69
<i>Chapter VII – Internal affairs of the General Secretariat</i>	71
1. Staff	71
2. Budget	71
3. Meetings	71
4. Structure of the General Secretariat (1983)	72
Annex A – List of opinions, studies and information reports issued during 1983	73
Annex B – List of opinions drawn up by the Economic and Social Committee on its own initiative (1973–83)	85
Annex C – Tables indicating the extent to which opinions led to proposals being amended	95
Annex D – Graphs	103

Preface

The year which has just passed ended on a note of failure for the Community with the Athens Summit. This failure served to highlight the profound crisis through which the Community is passing and the need to lay new foundations on which new progress can be based.

For beyond the political disagreements, one fact is more obvious than ever. The Community is now irreplaceable as the framework in which the economic and social activity of all its inhabitants is conducted. It is the arena for all those who work, run businesses or live on our continent.

Because of this, when the outcome of the summit became known, the Committee was able to declare that the social and occupational groups which it represents were not prepared to abandon the European Community.

We are among those who refused to dramatize the Athens failure, but it must be recognized that it is a serious incident entailing grave dangers.

Firstly, it undermines confidence. What must the Community's millions of unemployed think of a meeting at which discussions centred exclusively on short-term national interests while the problem of unemployment, which after all is of vital importance, seemed to have been completely overlooked? How many plans for new investment are in danger of being postponed or discouraged by the present crisis? And what credibility will our institutions now enjoy with our trading partners – the United States and Japan, for example? At a time when international economic warfare is intensifying, what authority will the Community's negotiators have in defending our interests?

The failure in Athens also created a great deal of uncertainty regarding the whole operation of the Community. I am not thinking here only of the common agricultural policy, whose financing is more precarious than ever, or of the industrial policy projects, essential for future development, on which the Economic and Social Committee recently expressed its opinion (the 'Esprit' programme, for instance). This uncertainty also affects regional policy, social policy and even the process of eliminating non-tariff barriers (completion of the internal market) which, as we are well aware, cannot be carried out unless the Community's decision-making machinery is functioning properly.

In this situation we have a role to play. As representatives of social and occupational groups, we must testify to the permanence of the Community and to our determination to promote its future development.

The Economic and Social Committee, which celebrated its 25th anniversary on 31 May 1983, demonstrated its European vocation again this year. It played a very active role in organizing the European Year of Small and Medium-sized Undertakings, and maintained constant pressure on the Council to deal resolutely with the fundamental problem of completing the internal market.

The Committee also insisted that the completion of the internal market should be considered as just one element in a broader and more direct action to support industrial activity and employment. We all know now that any purely national attempt to bring about recovery is doomed to failure. Only a policy conducted at the level of the entire Community stands any chance of achieving positive results. This alone can create lasting employment, not least for young people; lasting because it is based on competitive economic structures attuned not only to the situation on the Community market but also to world market conditions.

François CEYRAC
Chairman

Role and place in the institutional framework

Last year the Committee celebrated its 25th anniversary. To mark the occasion a formal sitting was held on 31 May 1983. The guest of honour was HRH the Prince of Liège. Other guests included the presidents and other representatives of the Community institutions, the Permanent Representatives of the Member States, and representatives of the Belgian authorities. The 400 guests also included the ambassadors of the ACP States and other countries accredited to the Community, the presidents of Member States' economic and social councils, and other leading figures drawn from socio-economic groups involved in the Committee's activities.

In his address the ESC Chairman, Mr Ceyrac, clearly defined the Committee's place in the institutional framework:

'When the authors of the Treaty of Rome set up the Economic and Social Committee, they did not want the European Community to be merely the preserve of governments and administrations; those engaged in economic activity were also to have a role.

Experience has proved them right. The practices of working together, examining difficulties together and comparing points of view, which have been established within our institution over the past 25 years, have become deep-rooted. They have helped create a Europe which is in touch with reality and which is much more than a network of bureaucracies. It is partly for this reason that the Community has shown an astonishing resilience in the face of the centrifugal forces which have been squeezing it since the onset of the recession and the rise in unemployment. Time and again it has confounded forecasts of its decline, or even demise.

Of course, we do run into difficulties. It is sometimes difficult for an advisory body to play an effective role in the decision-making machinery of the Community, which is complex and subject to great pressures and constraints which are, at times, contradictory.

But we are resolved to play our part to the full because we believe that the interests and organizations which we represent have a decisive contribution to make to the construction of Europe.

Alongside the European Parliament, which is the democratic cornerstone of the Community, the Economic and Social Committee is a specific factor for balance in today's pluralist society.

It is only the Community forum which transcends national, corporate, occupational and social interests and which works for consensus on the issues facing Europe. Sometimes these issues are highly technical; but they are also very concrete. Sometimes they are very general, touching upon the major economic and social issues facing us. We are not always able to achieve unanimity. But the Committee's views are always objective.

We are always looking for a consensus. This explains why we usually reach an agreement supported by a wide spectrum of representatives of producers, workers and others. In my view, the Committee's opinion should therefore be taken into account by those who have the heavy responsibility of taking decisions.

At a time when radical and rapid changes in behaviour and habits are called for, the Committee can also serve as a test-bed for new ideas or proposals. It has already done so on several occasions. Take for instance the conferences on genetic engineering, the enlargement of the Community, the role of the construction industry and small and medium-sized enterprises.

It is precisely because it is not always obliged to come to a decision that the Committee can accommodate a wide range of attitudes and, at the same time, exhibit a strong feeling of interdependence while rejecting dogmatic, extremist, utopian or unrealistic remedies.

In this way it can help pave the way for necessary changes and developments.'

In conclusion Mr. Ceyrac stated that:

'Without underestimating the intensity of the pressures working on our industrial society, or the intensity of the economic battle which we have to wage in the world, we are convinced that our Europe possesses abundant resources of renewal and vitality. To bring them out, we must lower the barriers which separate our countries and their traditions, our social classes and their interests. We must continually improve communication and step-up the quest for convergence which is essential in so many areas.

The Economic and Social Committee is resolved to play its part fully here.'

In 1983 the ESC also gave considerable thought to its role *vis-à-vis* the other institutions, the Council in particular, and to its internal working methods and efficiency.

This action was prompted by a letter in which the United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the Council in June 1982 questioned the role of the ESC and its *raison d'être*.

As a result of this letter, the ESC Chairman met each of the Permanent Representatives of the Member States and the Presidents of the Commission and the European Parliament. The Secretary-General discussed the issue with his counterparts at the Council and the Commission.

During visits to London and Bonn the Chairman and Vice-Chairman held detailed talks on the same subject with the British and German ministers and junior ministers responsible for Community matters.

These different initiatives seem to have cleared up many misunderstandings in the Committee's relations with the Council. Under these circumstances the ESC's opinions should carry greater weight.

The talks with the Commission produced more rapid results. A monthly consultation procedure between the Commission and the Committee is now functioning satisfactorily. By providing more information on the proposals in preparation at the Commission, these consultations should ensure that the ESC's opinions are available to the Council and its working parties right from the start of the decision-making process.

This puts the Committee in a better position to persuade the Council, with all the conviction it possesses, to take greater account of ESC opinions.

The Committee has also been involved in valuable cooperation with the European Parliament. The talks which the ESC Chairman had in Strasbourg with most of the EP committee chairmen and Mr Dankert have had positive repercussions for the work of several ESC Sections, e.g. Regional Development, Social Questions, Transport and Communications, and External Relations (in connection with the meetings with the representatives of the ACP socio-economic interest groups).

At institutional level, several clauses in the 'Spinelli Resolution' on European union, adopted in autumn by the Parliament, mention and support the role of the ESC.

On the eve of the next European elections it has also been agreed to study proposals for action in several important spheres. These proposals have been submitted to the ESC Bureau.

Internally, attention has been centred on the ESC's working methods, which have been discussed at several meetings between the Committee's Bureau and the Section and Group Chairmen.

Concurrently the ESC secretariat drew up some specific proposals concerning for instance the layout of opinions and the constitution and operation of study groups. These proposals were submitted to the Bureau which subsequently amended some of its standing orders.

As in previous years, attention has been focused on the Committee's external relations. Apart from talks with the presidents of the Community institutions and

the members of Coreper, reference should be made to the official visits by the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen to the UK and Germany, the contacts with international organizations such as the International Labour Organization, and with European and national interest groups. In September a Committee delegation went to London to meet the presidents and secretaries-general of the national economic and social councils. Several study groups also held meetings in the Member States. Two meetings took place between the ESC and the EFTA Consultative Committee. The ninth joint meeting was held in Geneva on 15 March. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Erik Hoff, leading the Consultative Committee delegation, and Mr W.G.N. Miller, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee's External Relations Section. Mr F. Ceyrac, Chairman of the ESC, Mr R. Louet, Secretary-General of the ESC, and Mr P. Kleppe, Secretary-General of EFTA, also attended. The EC Commission, the European Trade Union Confederation, and the Union of Industries of the European Communities sent observers.

The two delegations, which included representatives of socio-economic interest groups in the 17 countries participating in the West European free trade system, assessed the results of 10 years cooperation between the EC and EFTA under the Free Trade Agreements. The prospects for future cooperation were also reviewed.

About 40 members of the EFTA Consultative Committee and the ESC met in Brussels on 15 November 1983.

The meeting discussed papers by Mr. Odhner, (Swedish trade unions) on 'Western Europe in the 1980s' and Mr. Staratzke (German employers) on 'EFTA-EEC cooperation through the strengthening of the internal market and steps to combat unfair commercial practices.'

Finally, on 20 and 21 January 1983, the ESC played host to some 250 participants at the conference inaugurating the European Year of Small and Medium-sized Undertakings, organized jointly by the European Parliament, the Commission and the ESC.

During the two-day conference, the representatives of socio-economic interest groups from the Ten devoted special attention to the conditions under which SMUs are started up and developed, and to the legal and administrative situation of small business.

His Majesty King Baudouin I, King of the Belgians, was the guest of honour.

Mr Piet Dankert, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Karl-Heinz Narjes, Member of the EC Commission attended the opening ceremonies.

The closing addresses were given by Otto Graf Lambsdorff, President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers, and Viscount Etienne Davignon, Vice-President of the EC Commission.

Work of the Committee

1. AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Farm prices

The Commission's proposals on farm prices and certain related measures for the 1983/84 marketing year basically called for a general increase of 5.5%, the rate being lower for certain products, in particular cereals and sugar, and slightly higher for a number of Mediterranean products. In making its proposals the Commission took account of the fact that the 1982/83 guarantee thresholds for milk, cereals and colza had been exceeded, thereby bringing about a corresponding reduction in the level of price support for those products. The proposals were made against the background of: a general economic situation which still gave cause for concern; increases in 1982 production costs of agricultural products in the Community, as a whole higher than the increase in levels of consumption over that period; and a higher increase in agricultural incomes than in previous years (more than 5%).¹

Once again the Commission's proposals provoked varying reactions from the members of the Economic and Social Committee.

Having regard to the criteria used for the Commission's proposal and the various economic indicators, the Committee considered that the average price increase should be that proposed by the Commission. However, the Committee urged that there be a more appropriate relationship between the prices of the various products, although that should not entail any increase in the prices of products in surplus.

The Committee was concerned that, despite the favourable situation with respect to farm incomes in 1982, pricing policy would not ensure that they were maintained at an adequate level unless there was massive support from the CAP

¹ The Commission also proposed a reduction in the positive monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) for the Federal Republic of Germany (-2.8%) the UK (-2.3%) and the Netherlands (-2.3%) in addition to the reduction or deletion of the negative MCAs applying to France, Belgium and Luxembourg already approved by the Council.

to bring structures up to scratch, bring the factors market back into balance and increase productivity in the light of Community production targets.

The Committee called once again for the complete dismantling of the current negative MCAs. It endorsed the Commission's view that the present imbalances between regions, products and farms could not be righted by pricing policy. The Committee therefore wanted to see specific measures taken to protect the incomes of the weakest farms and to develop farming in the most disadvantaged regions concurrently with the adoption of the new common prices.

Responsibility for correcting market imbalances had to be shared with producers in other parts of the world who had also increased their output. Accordingly the Committee had in the past endorsed the system of co-responsibility proposed for the dairy sector as well as Commission proposals for the introduction of production thresholds for some products in structural surplus.

However, under the Commission's new proposals farmers who had not increased their production or had even cut it back would have to continue to pay the co-responsibility levy. The Committee therefore asked the Commission to look for a better solution which took greater account of the situation of particular farms and regions.

The Committee also issued an additional opinion in which it set out a number of specific comments on the various agricultural products. From an overall point of view the Committee was in favour of a moderate increase in prices, as proposed by the Commission.

The Committee members representing agriculture voted against the two documents and rejected the Commission's proposals. They pointed out that, despite the 1982 increase, farm incomes were still approximately 20% lower in real terms than the average for 1973-75. They deplored the fact that the Commission had merely taken up the restrictive aspects of the report on the 1980 mandate – i.e. the reduction of prices linked to the guarantee thresholds and alignment of EEC prices on the prices of competing countries – and did not heed key elements of the report, such as adherence to the principles underlying the CAP and the necessity to develop an active exports policy in order to safeguard the position of European farming on the world markets.

Those same members urged that the 7% average increase resulting from the objective method be really considered as a minimum increase to be applied to the common target and intervention prices and to the aids and premiums currently in force under the market régimes. They also stressed the need for the existing negative MCAs to be abolished completely. In addition, they called for strict observance of Community preference in all sectors of production, the maintenance of the market régime mechanisms and the improvement of those mechanisms for some products (including Mediterranean products) so as to provide levels of support and guarantees with equivalent effect for all products,

bearing in mind their specific characteristics. They also called for an improvement in the management of the markets and an adequate adjustment forthwith of processing, marketing and storage aids and margins.

Spirituos beverages

In its opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of spirituous beverages and of vermouths and other wines of fresh grapes flavoured with plants or other aromatic substances the Committee noted that the main aim of the proposal was to protect consumers.

Since the judgment in the 'Cassis de Dijon' case any alcoholic beverage lawfully produced and put into circulation in one Member State could in principle be marketed freely throughout the Community. In view of that new legal situation the proposed regulation was considered essential to prevent a general decline in quality standards and distortions of competition between producers in the various Member States, especially since some Member States had no regulations on the matter.

The Committee therefore considered it essential that certain generic names be reserved for products which met the quality standards traditionally expected by the consumer as regards the raw materials used, manufacturing processes, minimum ageing and alcohol content. In that respect the Committee noted that the Commission's proposal answered the request made in its opinion of 30 March 1978 in which it stressed 'the extreme importance of working out precise definitions for all the products covered by the proposed regulation as soon as possible.'

The Committee acknowledged the extreme complexity of the problems to be resolved in arriving at definitions which took account of: (a) the industrial and commercial traditions and views of manufacturers and traders, (b) consumer expectations and (c) national habits.

The Committee pointed out that the spirituous beverages and aromatized wines sectors were still governed mainly by national legislation.

As such legislation varied considerably, that situation could not, in the Committee's view, be allowed to continue, especially in view of the considerable economic importance of the sector for the EEC and the level of intra-Community and external trade.

Oils and fats

Following on from the information report drawn up by the Section for Agriculture on 17 September 1982, the Committee drew up an opinion on its own initiative on the Community policy on oils and fats.

The Committee considered that changes should be made in the oils and fats sector with a view to ensuring:

1. A gradual, steady increase in Community self-sufficiency in vegetable oils and fats, and in vegetable protein;
2. Diversification of farming – including increased production of oleaginous products and protein – geared to more rational utilization of the Community's land and budgetary resources;
3. Tighter control of the external and internal factors which boosted production in the livestock sector;
4. Stabilization and/or improvement of the terms of competition between (a) olive oil and seed oil, and (b) butter and margarine;
5. Consumption directed towards those products which were best for the health of the consumer and not merely towards those in which there was a surplus that was proving particularly difficult to dispose of.

The Committee considered that:

- attainment of the above-mentioned objectives, i.e.

implementation of a market and budget-equilibrium policy, hinged on a policy of reducing the supply of Community products in structural surplus and in that case the Committee would accept, as a *quid pro quo*, a reduction in the gap between (a) the entry (or marketing) prices of imported vegetable oils, fats and proteins, and (b) the cost of producing these products (or substitutes) in the Community.

- Such a policy was the only way:

1. To contain the budgetary outlay which under the present system inevitably resulted from any increase in Community output of oleaginous and protein products (by making it possible to cut unit aid);
2. At the same time, to cut the cost of supporting the marketing of olive oil;
3. To improve the balance of Community agricultural production by encouraging more intensive production of crops in which the Community was not self-sufficient and which could be substituted for surplus crops on a small but significant scale;
4. To improve control of livestock products (milk in particular).

The Committee therefore acknowledged the need to achieve an alignment in the oils and fats sector between the import price and the Community cost price.

That could be achieved in various ways:

The Commission, for its part, had opted for the use of taxation as set out in the proposal submitted on 3 October 1983 (COM(83) 562 final).

The Committee pointed out that it had come out against the introduction of a tax in the oils and fats sector on a number of occasions over the last few years. It did, however, recognize that the new background against which the Commission submitted the above-mentioned proposal – namely the revision of the CAP in accordance with the Stuttgart mandate – provided justification for a fresh and thorough consideration of the issue.

The Committee intended to carry out such an examination and it would take up the matter anew in the opinion to be adopted in the near future on the proposed revision of the CAP.

At the same time the Committee recommended:

1. more intensive R & D (advice for farmers) to improve oleaginous and protein yields and varieties;
2. extending the present policy of production support for protein crops to a wider range of high-protein products.

That compromise formula, which was supported by a majority of ESC members, resulted from a mass debate on what guidelines should be laid down for fats and oils. As opposed to the views expressed by farmers, some industrialists and consumers were against any measure which smacked of a levy, minimum entry price or tax and would lead to higher costs for the cattlebreeder, industry or the consumer. Their proposal was only rejected by 68 votes to 66, with 7 absentions. The Committee considered that the recommended closer alignment of import prices and Community cost prices was not to lead to a blanket rise in consumer prices of certain food products. That policy was not designed to upset the balance in agricultural production and consumption but to halt and gradually change a trend which would otherwise lead to uncontrollable budgetary expenditure or to an extremely tight (and blind) policy on farm prices, with obvious repercussions for employment in agriculture.

In the Committee's view those recommendations would not create insurmountable problems in the Community's relations with the rest of the world. Anyway, the Community was currently considering the introduction of various co-responsibility schemes for its own production, which virtually obliged it to review its commercial relations and farm trade with other countries. A non-discriminatory tax on both imported and Community-produced oils and fats would not seem to be incompatible with GATT rules, any more than some minimum marketing price schemes would be.

An import levy system more closely in line with the general rules of Community preference would have to be discussed in GATT with the main supplier countries.

At any rate, those countries would receive a significant *quid pro quo* in (a) the relative contraction (or slower rate of growth) of Community cereal exports in the wake of a significant expansion in Community output of oleaginous and protein products; (b) the relative contraction (or slower rate of growth) of Community dairy exports as vegetable protein imports were gradually replaced by home production.

Subcommittee on integrated Mediterranean programmes

The Economic and Social Committee began a meticulous examination of the Commission proposals on integrated Mediterranean programmes.

As the proposals embraced a number of sectors, a special subcommittee was set up in April.

The subcommittee advised the Economic and Social Committee, to take a general stand on the proposals before the Athens European Summit of 6 and 7 December 1983.

The ESC did that at its November plenary session, when it unanimously adopted a stop-gap opinion, pending a more detailed examination of the proposals. The main points are outlined below.

The Committee welcomed the proposals, which were primarily designed to narrow regional disparities in accordance with the objectives of the Treaty of Rome.

The Committee agreed with the Commission that integrated Mediterranean programmes should ensure a more efficient use of the various Community and national financial schemes, thanks to the overall and multisectoral approach adopted. It felt that, as well as agriculture, which was still the main activity in most of the regions concerned, the programmes should cover all infrastructures and economic and social sectors. In order to achieve the objective of greater efficiency, it would be necessary to ensure close coordination and employ all the resources offered by the different Funds.

The Committee stressed that the trade organizations and the communities concerned would have to be fully informed about the programmes, if they were to be successful; the Committee fully intends to play its part in that respect.

In addition, there had to be close collaboration between the Commission, national authorities and local authorities in the regions concerned, to ensure that the programmes and their implementation were tailored as closely as possible to local needs and requirements. The consultation and coordination machinery planned by the Commission would have to take account of those requirements. That machinery would have to remain in place after expiry of the six-year deadline for the implementation of the programmes, so as to ensure that long-term results were monitored and evaluated.

The Committee was aware that the Commission's proposals came at a difficult time for the economy and the budget. The greatest strictness would have to be exercised when implementing the programmes.

The success of the programmes would largely depend on the Commission's attitude towards regional development, as would the chances of achieving the internal balance which was vital to the Community's future.

The Committee therefore called upon the relevant Community authorities, and particularly the European Council to be held in Athens in December, to shoulder their responsibilities and take the decisions necessary for the rapid implementation of the proposed measures to help the disadvantaged regions of the Community.

2. TRANSPORT POLICY

In 1983 the ESC again produced a large number of opinions in the transport sphere. Of the 16 opinions delivered, six were concerned with road transport, two with air transport, two with combined transport and two with infrastructure policy. One opinion was adopted on sea transport and one on rail transport.

The ESC once again set out its views on the fundamental issues in an opinion on the Commission memorandum on common transport policy in the 1980s entitled 'Progress towards a common transport policy – Inland transport', which the ESC had called for in its own-initiative opinion of 28 October 1982 (see 1982 annual report).

Another important opinion dealt with the facilitation of formalities and inspections in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States. This opinion formed part of a series on the establishment of a single Community market and was adopted in the presence of Commissioner Narjes and MEP von Wogau.

The ESC's opinions were reported on regularly in the international trade press, arousing keen interest (*Lloyd Anversois*, *Tijdschrift voor Vervoerswetenschappen*, *Deutsche Verkehrszeitung*, *VWD*, etc.).

In the period under review the ESC also further developed its relations with the European Parliament's Committee on Transport. In addition to direct contacts between MEPs and ESC members, officials of the Section secretariat regularly attended meetings of the EP Committee on Transport as observers.

Representatives of the Council presidency also took part in the activities of the working bodies of ESC under the Ertl-Lappas agreement of 12 February 1974. Representatives of the ESC and the Secretariat attended international and European functions of Community importance. The ESC's actual task of advising the Council and the Commission was carried out in the following areas:

Common transport policy – 1983

At the beginning of its opinion on the proposal for a Council resolution on the implementation, in stages, of a series of measures in the field of the common policy for inland transport and on the communication from the Commission to the Council on progress towards a common transport policy (inland transport), the Economic and Social Committee noted with satisfaction that the Commission had taken up, in both texts, a number of ideas the ESC had put forward in its own-initiative opinion of 28 October 1982 on the common transport policy in the 1980s (see *Annual Report 1982*, p. 20 et seq.). In particular the ESC noted that the Commission had taken up its call for an overall blueprint coupled with pragmatism and purposeful action by the Council, although it was unable, owing to the short time available, to make a detailed examination of the Commission's blueprint representing a further development for the 1980s of its 1961 and 1973 communications. The ESC had to make known its endorsement in principle of the draft resolution – which did not imply approval of the basic blueprint – before the Council meeting in June. Unfortunately the ESC's hopes in this area have again been disappointed, so that it will probably be reverting to this matter in the near future.

Sea transport

In view of the great importance of applying the competition rules to sea transport, the ESC considered that the Commission proposal on this subject should be based not just on Article 87 of the Treaty but also on Article 84 (2), under which decisions in this important area would have to be taken unanimously by the Council. In the ESC's view this would also square with previous Council practice in the sphere of sea and air transport. The ESC also considered that the Commission proposal did not take sufficient account of the specific character of international sea transport, since the exemption from Article 85 was subject to certain conditions which were vague and questionable. This meant that there was a risk of the exemption having no effect. The ESC also raised certain objections of a procedural nature.

Air transport

As far as the legal basis of the Commission proposal on the application of the competition rules to air transport is concerned, reference can be made *mutatis mutandis* to the corresponding passages in the opinion on sea transport. The ESC considered that any rules on competition in air transport must take due account of overall transport policy and the specific features of this sector.

The ESC took a more differentiated but basically positive attitude to the Commission proposal on tariffs for scheduled air transport. It felt that, if the proposal was to result in improvements in efficiency and possibly cheaper fares, account had to be taken of a series of factors in the cost sphere, such as methods of ascertaining costs, differences in cost structure between airlines, and variations from one Member State to another in the public service obligations imposed on airlines.

Road transport

The ESC received requests for opinions on the following subjects: standardization of rules on authorizations for removals, admission of non-resident carriers (cabotage), formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road, amendment of the method of calculating the Community quota, hired vehicles, amendment of the first directive of 1962 (Greek accession). An opinion on the rationing of fuel in the event of a crisis had not been completed at the end of the period under review.

The ESC endorsed the standardization of the rules on authorizations for removals but suggested that the simplification be effected by means of a separate directive instead of by amending Directive 65/269/EEC of 13 May 1965.

The ESC endorsed by a very close vote the admission of non-resident carriers to cabotage in a Member State, after a majority of the Section for Transport and Communications had taken the view that integration had not yet reached the stage where the transport policy preconditions for such a measure would be met, particularly from the point of view of elimination of distortions of competition. By 54 votes to 45, with 4 abstentions, the ESC basically approved the Commission proposal, which will result in further liberalization of a sector of the transport market.

In its opinion on the formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road the ESC took an original middle path between non-binding recommended rates and compulsory tariffs. This intermediate solution involved basically the fixing of a market floor. Rates below this threshold would have to be notified either automatically or under certain conditions. Costs and market conditions were proposed as basis for the method of calculation. The ESC expressed the hope that the Council, which had taken a basic decision on 6 June 1983 'without prejudice to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee' (which was not yet available at that time), would take the intermediate solution into consideration. .

The ESC considered that the new method for calculating the Community quota should be subjected to a thorough re-examination, since it might be asked whether it contributes to a rational organization of the road haulage market. A majority of the ESC's members also criticized the semi-automatic annual increase in the quotas and the Commission's intention to have the authorizations issued by the Member States, after a transitional period. The Community would thereby be unnecessarily delegating responsibilities that belong to it alone.

A considerable minority in the ESC took a different line, however, and basically supported the Commission proposal.

The Economic and Social Committee approved a proposal for a directive on the use of hired vehicles by a very close vote (64 votes to 50, with 11 abstentions). It considered however, that the Commission document needed to be amended in certain important areas (legal, social and environmental aspects). A particular

point made by the ESC was that the rental period, especially in own account transport, should be not less than six months. The ESC also considered that the right to conclude hire contracts should be confined to own-account and professional operators.

The ESC was unanimous in its endorsement of the proposal for a Council directive amending the first Council directive on the establishment of common rules for certain types of carriage of goods by road between Member States. The extension of the scope of the annexes to the first Council directive of 23 July 1962 was designed primarily to adapt previous Community arrangements to Greek accession. While endorsing the objective of the proposal, the ESC felt that it had to express certain reservations; these concerned the need for the scope of the directive to be more clearly defined, the charting of all points 25 kilometres from borders with third countries or from the coast, checking how many kilometres are covered, shifts in the pattern of transport, etc.

Rail transport

The ESC fully endorsed the Commission's proposal concerning the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic. It expected a strengthening of commercial cooperation and an improvement in the position of the railways on the passenger transport market.

The ESC also unanimously approved two draft recommendations concerning piggyback transport (Interunit and rates).

In addition the ESC gave its unanimous endorsement to a proposal for a Council regulation on financial support for a multiannual transport infrastructure programme. It again expressed the view that a common infrastructure policy is long overdue and that this end should be pursued with the aid of a permanent instrument in the form of *Infrafonds*. As far as 1983 is concerned the ESC approved the choice of projects which are to be supported with Community budget funds (15 million ECU). As regards 1984 and subsequent years, however, the ESC considered that the criteria set out in its opinion of September 1983 (transport infrastructure experimental programme) should be applied in selecting the projects.

3. SOCIAL POLICY

Social developments in the Community in 1982

The Committee opinion concentrated on the most pressing social problem facing the Community, the spread of unemployment and the rising percentage of long-term unemployed.

The Commission forecast only 0.5% growth in 1983, arousing fears that unemployment would hit approximately 11% (= 12 million unemployed). The

Committee saw no sign of growth which could radically reduce unemployment in the next few years. Optimum economic growth must remain a fundamental economic policy aim, since the fight against unemployment would otherwise be doomed to failure; but mass unemployment could not be solved by growth policy alone.

The Community would therefore have to develop an economic and social policy strategy for combating the repercussions of long-term unemployment.

The following would be key elements of this strategy:

1. action to exploit opportunities for economic growth and the associated scope for boosting employment;
2. a campaign against the social disintegration resulting from long-term unemployment;
3. action to boost the efficiency of social security systems and to monitor and curtail expenditure;
4. steps to reduce and reorganize working time;
5. self-help schemes as part of economic and social policy;
6. deployment of the Community's organizational and financial resources in support of national action.

Youth employment

The Committee's own-initiative opinion drew attention to the unprecedented scale and disproportionate level of youth unemployment in the Community, particularly among women and disadvantaged groups. It stressed that real individual and collective solidarity was required in order to restore young people's right to work.

Policies had to break with those of the past, promoting at European rather than at individual state level a coordinated attempt to return to full employment.

The Committee specifically pointed to the need for:

1. More reliable, comparable Community data on youth employment and on employment trends, necessary for a full analysis and more useful youth training schemes;
2. Suitable mobility allowances for young job-seekers;
3. Proper welfare and social security cover, non-conditional on employment background;

4. Special job facilities for the handicapped;
5. Equal job openings for young women;
6. Vigorous action against the black economy;
7. Wider use of youth counselling, job experience schemes, day release and sandwich courses;
8. Most importantly, more apprenticeship schemes;
9. Better coordination between public authorities, schools and vocational guidance services in informing young people about the job market;
10. Both general and practical education at school to prepare young people better for working life;
11. More account to be taken in the education system of job prospects and of technological and economic reality;
12. A broader attitude in providing young people with job experience;
13. A more adaptable approach to work-sharing and the reorganization and reduction of working time;
14. More support for voluntary early retirement schemes which can open new jobs to young people;
15. The improvement of manual work conditions, so that it is more attractive to young people;
16. The expansion of job opportunities for young people in the service sector;
17. More environmental and community job openings and training for young people;
18. The promotion of cooperative and 'self-help' organizations;
19. More support for training, job openings and early retirement schemes in the agricultural sector;
20. Suitable help and promotion of useful jobs in the development-aid sector;
21. More development of, and Community research into, high technology, in order to improve Europe's competitiveness and jobs/growth potential, as well as to involve young people in research projects;
22. More support for job-creating small and medium-sized enterprises, encouraging them to recruit young people;

23. A greater Community commitment in fighting youth unemployment as a main priority, especially through increased resources for the European Social Fund so that it can step up training and expand job openings for young people;
24. A coordinated strategy among the Community ministers of employment, education and family affairs in order to evaluate, monitor and check youth unemployment;
25. Proper involvement of young people in the evaluation of measures which concern them;
26. The involvement of the ESC in cooperation with other EEC institutions in drawing up and regularly updating a youth employment programme;
27. Finally, an ESC-sponsored European colloquy on youth employment involving all parties concerned, in order to mobilize a movement of opinion on the problem and to promote a European Year of Employment.

Young people and their role in the development of the European Community

This own-initiative opinion contained a number of proposals to increase young people's awareness of the Community. The Committee favoured a special Community programme, improving the role of young people in the development of the EEC and promoting greater mutual understanding between youth and the European Community.

The main aims of this programme should be to promote by objective information (a) improved cross-frontier social links, (b) a sharper view of the profile of the Community, (c) the historical, idealistic and forward-thinking case for closer union within the Community, and (d) greater youth involvement in this process.

Measures proposed in this connection included: improved teaching, training and exchange openings to promote greater European awareness, more twinning and use of the mass media; and a greater Community commitment at grass-roots level, with a more active dialogue between young people and MEPs or ESC members. These projects should receive suitable financial backing.

Vocational training

Vocational training was covered in two separate opinions.

In the first, on vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s, the Committee noted the great importance of moves to improve vocational training, because of the rapid changes in labour market structures connected with the introduction of new technologies and because of the present high unemployment in the Community. At the same time the Committee stressed,

however, that this policy should not be based merely on short and medium-term labour market considerations; rather, it must also seek to enhance the personal and social skills of workers.

In its opinion on vocational training and new information technologies, the Committee stressed the need to distinguish between the short-term consequences of introducing new information technologies (problems of structural adjustment and social problems) and the medium and long-term results (increased competitiveness of EC businesses). In the context of the short-term consequences the Committee considered that special attention had to be paid to the question of the acceptance of the new technologies by workers and trade unions. When considering the link between vocational training and the new information technologies a comprehensive approach should be adopted, taking in all the economic, social and psychological aspects.

Reform of the European Social Fund

In its opinion on the review of the European Social Fund (ESF), the Committee expressed the hope that this would lead to the establishment of a Community employment policy, committed to greater solidarity, in which national priorities could also find a place. The Committee felt that the Fund should be allotted 10% of the Community's budgetary resources (in 1982 the Fund accounted for 6.3%).

The Committee regretted that no detailed analysis had been made of the past impact of the Fund on the Community. This would have made for a more informed assessment of the Fund review.

The nature of the aims of the reform made it necessary to ensure the serious involvement of the two sides of industry in the ESF Committee and in the preparation of programmes.

The Committee expressed doubts about the reliability of the statistical index drawn up by the Commission to classify regions. Lastly, it stressed the need for measures to help young people and to encourage innovation.

Second action programme of the European Communities on safety and health at work

The Committee was in favour of the second action programme proposed by the Commission, subject to the following remarks.

Taken as a whole, the programme was a positive contribution to the improvement of health and safety at work. It had to be organized, however, according to a clearer and tighter work schedule along with a proper cost/benefits assessment and greater financial and human resources than under the first programme. It also needed to make full use of new scientific and technological knowledge, involve management, labour and public authorities in a constructive way, and be accompanied by a large-scale information campaign and the setting up of a community monitoring mechanism.

On specific points, especially protection against dangerous substances, occurrences and accidents at work, closer definition and harmonized efforts were needed concerning standard risk assessments, exposure limits, preventive safety measures, training and information procedures and comparable statistical evidence. In this same connection, a European data bank on occupational cancers and a Community framework directive on machinery and instrument safety were called for.

Temporary work

In this opinion, the Committee endorsed the draft directive's aims of bringing about stricter control of the supply of temporary workers by temporary employment businesses and of ensuring better protection for the workers concerned, through the introduction of common rules.

It felt, however, that the provisions governing normal fixed-duration contracts of employment should not be included in this proposal for a directive but embodied in a special directive, if it was considered necessary to regulate this sphere.

While accepting that employment businesses needed to be regulated and supervised, the Employers Group pointed out in a minority statement that the proposed directive as drafted would introduce a rigidity in the labour market which would lead to industrial and commercial inefficiency and make a further rise in unemployment more likely.

Social security for migrant workers

The Committee approved the amendments proposed by the Commission to Regulations 1408/71 and 574/72 regarding *inter alia* the rules covering accidents at work and occupational diseases. However, it asked for clarification of the wording of some provisions.

Special financial assistance for Greece in the social field

In this opinion, the Committee approved the financial help proposed by the Commission to enable Greece (a) to bring itself into line soon with the other Member States as regards both vocational training and treatment and rehabilitation of the mentally ill and the mentally handicapped, and (b) to benefit subsequently from the European funds on an equitable basis.

The Committee stressed that the execution and financial monitoring of these programmes ought primarily to be service-oriented rather than strictly accountancy-oriented. The key element of evaluation, in place of potential bureaucratic trappings, ought to be the amount of groundwork achieved and actual aid provided in real, human terms to the trainees, to the sick and to the mentally handicapped in question.

Protection of workers against noise at work

The Committee welcomed the Commission's initiative in seeking to have a directive adopted on the protection of workers against noise, but considered that the proposal contained certain deficiencies and inaccuracies.

The Committee noted first of all that noise-induced hearing impairment is one of the most common occupational illnesses in individual Member States today and is not only a physical but also a major social handicap. The Committee was also convinced that the repercussions of noise-exposure on workers and people outside the workplace would have to be given more attention and would have to be combated by appropriate measures. The Committee also considered that the long-term objective should be the reduction of machine noise (tackling the problem at source).

Despite differing views on individual points, the Committee was of the general view that the limit values to be set in the directive could not be based solely on either cost/benefit analyses or medical considerations; the directive had to establish what seems realistically attainable, taking into account the varying conditions currently prevailing in the individual Member States.

The Committee accordingly proposed that the directive should apply to employed persons whose exposure to noise levels at work may exceed 80 dB(A); it accepted a limit value of 85 dB(A) with the possibility of 90 dB(A) on certain conditions and for a certain period.

Members of the Employers Group made a minority statement on this subject in which they called for a limit value of 90 dB(A), which they considered would be more practicable, technically and financially, for firms and would not entail any significant risks to the health of workers.

Reduction and reorganization of working time

The Committee considered that the draft recommendation was an important, if partial, contribution to a reduction and reorganization of working time.

The opinion summed up the statement on this subject made by the Committee in its opinion of July 1983 on the economic situation and the social situation. The Committee saw the Commission initiative as following on from these opinions, to which the Commission had made express reference.

The Committee gave the following main reasons for its support of the Commission proposal:

1. the positive impact on unemployment of a reduction and reorganization of working time;
2. the advantages of a Community approach to the issue and progressive convergence of labour utilization within the individual economic sectors of the various Community countries;

3. the weight given to the need to safeguard corporate competitiveness and to pursue a Community industrial strategy designed to promote competitiveness on foreign markets;
4. the practical approach adopted by the Commission (the role of the two sides of industry, the consideration of sectoral requirements, etc.);
5. the contribution to facilitating the radical structural changes which must necessarily precede a resurgence of the economy;
6. the results and further development of the working-time reduction/reorganization schemes set up by the two sides of industry at the various levels.

In a minority statement, members of the Employers Group expressed their opposition to the draft recommendation. They considered that such measures would not help to improve the employment situation and would entail serious risks for the competitiveness of Community manufacturers. These members took the general view that the solution to the employment problem did not lie in a general reduction of working time. The solution should be sought not at Community level but above all by the two sides of industry in the individual sectors or at firm level.

Implementation of the principle on equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes

The Committee broadly approved the Commission's draft directive and agreed that it complied with Article 119 of the Treaty.

The principle of providing equal treatment was interpreted in terms of the day-to-day living standards of individual men and women, according to equal periodic benefits and contributions, as opposed, for example, to average total life-time benefits based on unequal contributions.

There were, however, various practical problems of application, including: the need for some form of supplementary funding in order to equalize contributions in view of differing actuarial risk calculations and to ensure that low-paid employees would not be adversely affected; difficulties in preventing a disintegration into a number of individual schemes as regards small firms and the self-employed; anomalies concerning flexible and early retirement and pension conversions; the need for a realistic deadline.

Comparability of vocational training qualifications between the Member States of the European Community

While recognizing the long-term difficulties involved in achieving comparability and transparency of qualification systems and training levels in the Member States, the Committee welcomed the Commission's draft decision on the subject and endorsed the procedure proposed. Particular attention needed to be focused on occupations or groups of occupations specializing in technological

change. At the same time, regular progress checks, especially concerning certificate registrations, needed to be implemented through a better defined evaluation method of the reports to be submitted by the Member States.

4. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICY

Opinion on the harmonization of turnover taxes

The Committee endorsed the Commission proposal on deferred payment of import taxes but recognized that it was merely a stop-gap measure pending further harmonization of VAT and the achievement of a European internal market.

The Committee opinion stressed that:

1. the proposed arrangements must not hamper correct application of the tax regulations or allow goods to be imported without payment of tax;
2. authorizations should not be open-ended. The Member States should be empowered to restrict authorizations to, say, 12 month renewable periods, until data banks could be used to check authorizations;
3. taxable persons should not invariably have to submit a copy of authorization. There were other ways of establishing entitlement. All customs posts could, for example, be provided with a list of total authorizations or they could retrieve the appropriate information from data banks;
4. national legislation on deferred payment would have to be standardized swiftly to prevent distortions of competition.

The Committee also endorsed the proposal for a 13th directive, which seeks to harmonize legislation on VAT refunds to taxable persons established outside the Community. The Committee deplored the fact, however, that there was only limited scope for standardized arrangements. It took the view that, at any rate, the directive should urge the Commission and all Member States to insist on reciprocity clauses in future international agreements with third countries which did not already have such reciprocal arrangements with the Community. This would facilitate further harmonization.

Opinion on the New Community Instrument

On 26 January 1983 the Committee endorsed the principle of continuing and expanding NCI activities in accordance with general Commission guidelines. It also approved the proposal to authorize initial lending arrangements under NCI III.

The Committee stressed that NCI loans should complement all other forms of financing, and should be concentrated on small and medium-sized job-creating enterprises.

In line with past opinions, the Committee endorsed the Commission proposal to boost NCI resources in order to stimulate investment and economic growth, to combat unemployment and to foster competitiveness and to promote closer integration and convergent economic policies among Member States. This would involve using NCI in conjunction with other Community financial and lending instruments.

The Committee further recommended:

1. permanent recognition of NCI machinery;
2. a clearer appraisal of its past impact and intended use, and of its regional, sectoral, and sub-sectoral productive profile;
3. steps to avoid disruption of the capital market;
4. proper consultation of the Economic and Social Committee at the future stages of the programme.

Opinion on the economic situation in the Community (mid-1983)

The Committee advocated a mixed economic strategy to solve mass unemployment. The strategy should cover the supply and demand sides. It should incorporate specific labour market measures and should make allowance for the international dimension of a policy to overcome the recession.

With a view to improving supply-side conditions, the Member States should pursue a coordinated economic policy designed to create the general conditions for encouraging private investment, with particular emphasis on job-creating investments. This policy, in conjunction with public investment measures, would be seen to be positive if it created confidence in a noticeable upturn in the short-term economic situation.

There was currently no evidence of any growth strategies which could by themselves achieve and sustain a sufficient level of employment. There was therefore a need for a policy to promote investment and growth and also for specific measures to boost employment – including shorter working hours – if any headway was to be made in the fight against unemployment. As an integral part of the policy-mix on growth and employment, shorter working hours could lead to a fairer distribution of work. At the same time, increased leisure time would create new needs and these needs would also have to be satisfied – in other words, shorter working hours could also be regarded as part of the policy on growth.

Interest subsidies for certain loans granted under the EMS

In its opinion of 28 September 1983, the Committee approved the Commission proposal concerning interest subsidies for certain loans granted under the

European Monetary System. This proposal provides for 3% interest subsidies in respect of NCI and EIB loans for the financing of infrastructure projects or programmes.

Future financing of the Community

In its opinion of 26 October 1983, the Committee took the view that the Community was in the throes of a crisis that could give rise to very serious difficulties.

Because of the numerous problems confronting the Member States in the economic and social sphere, it was necessary to strengthen the Community, which in the long run was the guarantor of peace, stability, recovery and greater prosperity. To strengthen the Community it was necessary to increase the Community's own resources.

The principle of solidarity should prevail in the financing of the Community and the Member States should realize that the advantages and drawbacks of Community membership cannot be measured in purely financial terms. Economy and efficiency should be the watchwords for Community expenditure.

Since spending on agriculture had reached alarming proportions, the CAP should in principle be reformed so as to reduce its share of the Community budget, particularly since the implementation of new common policies would entail new expenditure.

VAT formed an adequate basis for financing the Community, since it had the following advantages: it was already in operation, it was extensively harmonized, it was practicable and efficient and it reflected each Member State's ability to contribute. It was therefore appropriate to raise the ceiling from 1% to 1.4%.

Of the three indicators for determining the variable VAT rates, *per capita* GDP and the share of each Member State in the Community's net operating surplus could be defended, as they reflected even better the individual Member State's ability to contribute to the Community budget. The third indicator, the level of agricultural production, was devised to reduce the financial contribution of some Member States and increase that of others. The aim was also to encourage a more responsible agriculture spending policy of providing a counterbalance and giving greater scope for rational management. However, it was not certain whether this indicator would really operate as an effective brake.

There were no objections to further increases in the upper VAT limit by steps of 0.4%, provided that due account was taken of current needs.

The inclusion of ECSC customs duties in the Community's resources was acceptable, as was the fixing of a 10% ceiling for Community receipts reimbursed to the Member States.

On sectoral taxes, the Committee took the view that the underlying principles of such taxes must be examined on an individual basis.

Report on the Commission's Annual Economic Report 1983-84

The Committee agreed with the Commission's analysis as regards (a) the sluggish and fragile nature of the upturn (with variations from one Member State to another), (b) the need for a dynamic growth strategy, and (c) the continuing high unemployment, although the rate of increase in 1984 was expected to be less than in 1983.

The Committee considered that the interest rate trend in Europe depended also on US interest rates, that priority should be given to expenditure on infrastructure which would help to expand productive potential and that structural budget deficits could not be allowed to continue indefinitely. The reduction of structural budget deficits was an operation that had to be carried out in such a way as to avoid causing a drop in demand, which would slow down the recovery.

The Committee advocated measures to improve conditions on the supply side. These measures ranged from selective promotion of private-sector investment to the creation of a viable internal market, support for growth sectors and encouragement of SMUs. It pointed out that these measures would be all the more successful the greater the reduction that was achieved in real interest rates. The Committee considered that the reduction in the tax burden on business recommended by the Commission had to be seen against the background of the difficult budget situation in the Member States and that the use of tax receipts (which were barely adequate) for the selective promotion of growth sectors and SMUs should have priority (among assistance measures in the fiscal sphere) over general tax relief for the entire business sector.

In contrast to the Commission, the Committee considered that the two sides of industry should pursue strategies on factor incomes that not only leave sufficient profits to make provision for and finance investments with all their risks but also ensure sales (and hence better utilization of production capacity with a corresponding reduction in costs) through stabilization of purchasing power. Growth should also be consolidated by reinforcing investment demand through government investment initiatives in major areas of collective need.

The Committee agreed on the need for more vigorous efforts to strengthen the EMS, create a viable internal Community market and develop the Community's potential in advanced technology growth sectors. It also called for Community initiatives to reduce the excessively high interest rates, stabilize exchange rates, prevent the collapse of the international credit networks, regulate and stabilize world commodity prices and fight protectionism.

Report on the economic situation in Member States

The Committee drew up reports on the economic situation in the two Member States holding the Presidency of the Council in 1983, namely, Germany and Greece.

Fifteenth VAT Directive

In its opinion of 15 December 1983, the Committee approved the proposal for a 15th Council directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes – deferment of the introduction of the common system of value-added tax in the Hellenic Republic.

5. REGIONAL POLICY

Review of the ERDF Regulation

The Committee had issued detailed opinions on this matter in 1981 and 1982 (see previous annual reports). The 1983 opinion which was issued in June was therefore along the lines of a Parliamentary resolution urging the Council to come to an agreement quickly. The Committee condemned the stalemate at Council level which not only hampered progress but also jeopardized earlier achievements.

7th ERDF Report

The Committee issued its opinion in February 1983.

The report had stressed the need to coordinate regional and economic policies, as well as Community and national policies on regional development. The Committee broadly endorsed this approach.

The Committee called for a shift of emphasis from infrastructure investment to job-creation investment. It stressed the need to launch more integrated development operations, to intensify research and to carry out stricter checks particularly as regards the impact of measures taken. The latter task was a matter for independent experts, the Committee said.

Second series of quota-free measures

This opinion was issued in March 1983. The Committee reiterated its support for a better-funded quota-free section. It criticized the Council's reluctance to adopt the Commission proposal to raise the 5% ceiling on the quota-free section.

The Committee also felt that the Commission's selection criteria were rather unclear, particularly as regards aid for the textile industry. The Committee felt that the concept of 'sharp industrial decline' should receive greater prominence.

Urban renewal in Northern Ireland

The original proposal which was confined to housing projects was first referred to the Committee in February 1982. It too ran into opposition at the Council and the Commission was requested to revise the draft.

In its opinion of June 1983, the Committee deplored the procedural wrangle but conceded that the new version was an improvement, in that it provided for a wider range of measures, under the new heading 'urban renewal'.

The Committee emphasized that steps to upgrade the quality of life could not be divorced from action to put the economy on its feet.

The Committee felt that priority should be given to the following areas:

1. medical facilities, with the emphasis on pediatrics and the care for the handicapped;
2. schools and crèches;
3. street-lighting;
4. Leisure centres and meeting facilities for young people from both communities.

The Irish border area

The Section began work on an information report on the Irish border area at the beginning of the year. The preparatory work was carried out by a study group which toured the entire border area. The report sought to identify joint projects eligible for Community funding and capable of assisting the development of the area on both sides of the frontier.

The information report which drew heavily on submissions by local authorities throughout the area was finalized in December. Press conferences are also to be held in both Northern Ireland and the Republic in early 1984. The Section's findings are to be published in brochure form, copies of which will be sent to all interested parties.

6. INDUSTRIAL POLICY

In 1983 the Committee issued two important industrial policy opinions. The first covered the internal market and the second textile products and clothing.

The internal market opinion dealt with a package of commission proposals. These were primarily concerned with (a) streamlining border checks on EEC citizens travelling between Member States, and (b) the adoption of a single customs declaration form covering the whole range of customs and Community transit formalities.

The Committee emphasized that customs red-tape is a real obstacle for many companies, particularly small and medium-sized firms. It prevents them from exploiting their full potential and from taking advantage of opportunities for greater specialization.

The Committee pointed out that the European Parliament, the Commission and the Economic and Social Committee had made valiant attempts to break down barriers in Europe. However, their efforts had been in vain; the Council had failed to act, and some industries in Europe had lost ground both in the internal and international markets. The incomplete nature of the common market and the lack of adequate Community policies was largely to blame for the failure to create new jobs the Committee concluded.

With regard to sectoral policy, the Committee concentrated on a draft regulation on the indication of the origin of some imported textile products.

Despite protracted discussions on the exact line to be taken by the Community institutions, the Committee failed to reach a clear-cut stance on the Commission proposal. The opinion listed the main viewpoints expressed during discussions. It noted that views differed within other Community institutions, and urged the Commission to examine the matter in greater depth.

The Committee also broadly approved a draft regulation on loans for projects under research programmes for non-energy raw materials in the Member States. The Committee issued an opinion on a major proposal to help finance innovation within the Community.

In this opinion, the Committee emphasized the fact that small and medium enterprises from whom the Community and its member countries expected an essential contribution to technological progress, job creation and competitiveness, encountered particular difficulties when facing up to 'innovation', not least concerning its finance. In most, if not all EEC member countries, special financial measures were taken to try and reduce these difficulties: but these measures varied greatly, were much more comprehensive and effective in some countries than in others, and were in general incapable of providing conditions equivalent to those prevailing amongst the Community's main competitors, Japan and the USA in particular.

The Committee felt that the decisions concerning the 'eligibility of the financing requests' would be a vital role to the success of the scheme. It agreed that these decisions should be taken by the Commission, in line with existing practice and also because some such applications could emanate from intermediaries operating at European level. In taking these decisions, the Commission would need to obtain the best advice available, including that of qualified representatives of the social partners.

The decisions on financing applications were difficult because the choice of financial intermediary had to take account of the intermediary's ability to meet a number of criteria. These intermediaries had to be reputable companies known for their probity, rectitude and creditworthiness. They had to be able to give evidence of their ability to provide technically qualified assessment of innovation projects, whether in-house or through outside advisors, or both. It also had to be shown that they had dealt swiftly and efficiently with applications, and had not unduly prolonged provision of credit in the past.

Competition policy

The Committee examined the main points raised in the 12th competition policy report. The opinion followed the lines of its predecessors on the 10th and 11th reports. It examined the main aspects of competition policy and pointed out that now, more than ever, action must be taken to prevent distortion of competition. It observed that the sectors where there was greatest scope for competition were the ones weathering the storm most successfully.

The Committee urged the Commission not to confine itself to annual reports but to express its views more frequently, especially via communications on specific issues. This practice should be resuscitated.

The Committee advocated support for all moves to speed up and streamline procedures, and hence stimulate competition.

The Committee felt that the *Annual Report on Competition Policy* should provide details of rulings made by national courts in furtherance of Community legislation. The Commission should also take steps to publicize national remedies available to individual plaintiffs (firms, workers, consumers, etc.) where Community competition law was breached. If need be, the Commission should frame proposals to ensure effective and uniform implementation of Community competition legislation by national courts.

The Committee noted the sharp increase in the scale of State aid which was originally justified as a short-term measure to deal with emergency situations. The Committee was dismayed by this trend, especially as experience showed that contingency aids all too frequently became long-term structural aids, breeding a handout mentality in the firms concerned.

In its review of the development of concentration, the Committee welcomed the fact that the Commission's studies were now focusing on sectors, on a Community-wide basis, rather than on individual Member States. This new approach should be warmly encouraged, though reliable statistics were essential in order to draw comparisons meeting the Community stringent methodological requirements.

The Committee expressed regret that the chapter on pricing policy in business dealt only with book publishing and the motor vehicle industry. In future, special emphasis should be placed on the insurance, pharmaceutical products, banking, energy and building materials sectors, the Committee said.

In 1982 the Committee issued its first specific opinion on the application of competition rules to particularly sensitive sectors. This was part of a general attempt to gear Committee opinions more closely to Commission initiatives in this area. The Committee subsequently issued opinions on Commission proposals on:

1. exclusive distribution agreements;

2. exclusive purchasing agreements;
3. motor vehicle and servicing agreements.

The matter was so complex that the Industry Section had to hold two meetings before an opinion was finally drawn up. The Committee approved the Commission's proposal to exempt vertical distribution in the motor vehicle industry from the general ban stipulated in Treaty Article 85 (1). Nevertheless the Committee came out against a regulation laying down a standard contract governing relations between manufacturers and dealers. The Committee felt that parallel imports should not lead to acceptance of non-authorized dealers. Otherwise the whole concept of vertical distribution would be destroyed. In addition, the Committee urged the Commission to make a more thorough study of the spare parts market. This was of vital importance to consumers interests, particularly as regards spare-part availability, price, quality and guarantees. The Committee felt that the stipulation that manufacturers must supply all EEC dealers with the entire range of their models was impracticable and did not generally reflect economic and commercial realities. Nevertheless, consumers should be able to order anywhere in the Community a vehicle meeting the legal specifications of the country of registration, provided that such a vehicle is supplied in that country.

Information technology

The Committee issued a major opinion on the proposal for a Council decision adopting the first European Strategic Programme for Research and Development in Information Technologies (Esprit). This was a follow-up to last year's work on the preparatory phase of the Community programme of research and development into information technologies.

The Committee stated broadly that the development and application of information technologies must make a significant contribution solving the economic and employment problems in the Member States.

Although no priorities were fixed within Esprit research areas, the Committee called for special importance to be given to research into technical alternatives, business structure and organizational problems, and measures to improve skills.

Turning to the budgetary aspect, the Committee assumed that the 11.5 m ECU allocated for 1983 for the pilot phase was merely a beginning. Given the vast sums which the Americans and Japanese were pouring into the promotion and development of information technologies, Esprit would require a comparable outlay if it was to initiate real qualitative technological progress. The Committee hoped that the aims of the Esprit projects would not be jeopardized by the excessively tight appropriations for research and development in the EC's annual budgets.

Attempts to catch up on the USA and Japan might be thwarted by premature leaks of research findings through EC-based branches of multinationals. The firms involved in Esprit projects should be given priority in exploiting research findings.

To secure the programme's ultimate success, it was vital for individual Esprit projects to be geared to one strategic objective. The requisite coordinating bodies should be set up where they did not already exist. Above all, Esprit projects had to be coordinated with projects sponsored by national governments and other national R & D projects. This was vital to a more effective and concerted deployment of available resources.

The Committee felt that the proposed project management arrangements were essential, in terms of both structure and number of staff, to ensure that the individual Esprit projects were coordinated effectively and that information was constantly available on the state of work.

As regards social problems linked with technological development, the Committee assumed that the Commission intended to ensure that R & D projects were not appraised purely in economic and technological terms. In conjunction with specific technological development this would make it possible to give policy-makers an early warning about necessary changes in the general social environment, with particular reference to policies on the labour market and education and training. Otherwise, the social implications of highly specialized research and development findings might not be recognized until it was too late and conflict might result. The Committee urged that employers and trade union representatives be involved at an early stage in working out individual projects and assessing the results. In this way the technological aspects and the impact on the labour force could be investigated and appraised. Any social conflict due to the introduction of new technologies could be alleviated by timely action by both sides of industry.

The Committee recognized the danger if training failed to keep pace as regards both quantity and, more particularly, quality, with the rapid progress in advanced technologies. Thus the strategic programme should, as far as possible, promote the scientific training of the workforce of the future. Institutes of higher education and scientific institutions should therefore be involved in the projects.

Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the EEC on Insurance

The Committee issued a major opinion on a draft agreement between the EEC and Switzerland. The agreement will enable agencies and branches of companies whose head office is located in the territory of one of the contracting parties to take up and pursue the self-employed activity of direct insurance other than life assurance.

The Committee felt that the draft agreement between the EEC and Switzerland was of considerable importance, constituting a 'first' in the Community's

relations with a non-member country as regards the right of establishment. At a time when protectionist tendencies were re-emerging, the agreement proved that the Community's basic stance was one of openness to the rest of the world. It highlighted the international character of the insurance business and underlined the interest of the contracting parties in improving their relations with each other, thereby contributing towards economic coordination. For this reason the Committee supported the principle of such agreements with third countries.

However, an analysis of the specific provisions of the draft agreement and its economic and social effects revealed a number of basic problems which made approval impossible.

These could be summed up as follows:

1. The agreement must be more explicit as regards the scope of the non-discrimination principle. It must stipulate that agencies and branches of EEC insurance firms must enjoy the same right as Swiss firms; this must apply also to activities connected with insurance, such as investments and equal treatment in the tax sphere, etc.
2. In view of the financial security afforded by Switzerland, not only Swiss firms but above all Community firms could be induced to keep a large proportion of their assets in Switzerland, (particularly the free assets forming the solvency margin) thereby depriving the Member States of financial resources which at present benefit their national economies.
3. The existence of cantonal monopolies deprives insurers of a substantial part of the fire insurance market from insurers and poses a delicate problem in that Community firms are placed at a disadvantage. These monopolies, which operate in most areas of Switzerland thus create an imbalance which cannot be offset at the present time.

The Committee considered that until such time as a satisfactory solution was found for all these basic problems, ratification would be premature.

Customs harmonization

In addition to the internal market dealt with under 'Industrial policy', the Committee issued opinions on the following topics:

1. ECU;
2. Customs debt security;
3. Statistical simplification;
4. Standard customs declaration form;
5. Frontier controls of goods.

Technical obstacles

The Committee issued opinions on:

1. Lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles;
2. Measuring units;
3. Tractor roll-over guards;
4. Tractor power take-offs.

7. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

In 1982 the Section for External Relations issued an information report on EEC-US relations. In its 1983 follow-up opinion the Committee said that the deep-seated Western solidarity underlying EEC-USA relations, and the economic interdependence of the two partners, called for genuine cooperation.

The Committee noted that the main sources of EEC-USA friction were clashes of interest leading to the adoption of opposing policies, and differing perceptions of factual situations, which could often generate misunderstandings. The conflict should be kept in perspective, but its importance was on no account to be underestimated.

The common agricultural policy was, a major source of controversy between the USA and the Community; that had frequently been the case since the inception of the EEC, and was likely to remain so. The USA and the Community, as major agricultural exporters had to settle their differences if they were to work together for the smooth development of international trade in agricultural products.

Periodic conflicts would inevitably arise in certain sectors, but experience had shown that fully acceptable agreements could be negotiated.

Turning to multilateral issues, the Committee noted that the US Congress, Administration and courts had repeatedly tried to give domestic US laws and regulations precedence over international obligations. Interpretation of the GATT rules agreed in Tokyo were a case in point. The ESC reaffirmed its belief in GATT as the keystone of international trade.

The Committee expressed concern at (a) American moves towards bilateral reciprocity, (b) the tendency to underestimate the importance of the Community's trade with Eastern Europe, and (c) American failure to grasp the real scale of development problems.

From the economic and monetary angle the Committee expressed disappointment that at the Williamsburg Summit, the Community failed to convince the USA of the need for both parties to take stock, fairly and squarely, of each other's interests.

Stability in international trade and finance was in the interests of both the USA and the Community and the Committee considered that new strategies should be devised by both sides. This would make it easier to overcome the shock caused by the financial crisis bedevilling a large number of countries.

The Committee also acknowledged that the Community would have to rely on its own strength if it was to play its full role in dealings with the USA. Only by implementing and consolidating its common policies, including industrial policy could the Community achieve a genuine common policy on trade with the outside world. A united Community would bolster the Member States' negotiating position and was crucial to international peace and security. The Committee hoped that the USA would resume the positive attitude to European integration which it had displayed at the Community's inception, and provide the support which was forthcoming then.

For these reasons, the Committee was convinced that the Community should engage in an ongoing dialogue with the USA.

Dialogue should involve not only politicians and civil servants but also economic and social interest groups. The Committee also recommended a systematic campaign to educate the public in the realities of the situation.

At the Council's request the Committee issued an opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the strengthening of the common commercial policy with regard in particular to protection against unfair commercial practices.

The proposal did not set out to enhance the community's rights in respect of non-member countries, but to provide it with a new arm against violations of those regulations governing commercial policy which were commonly accepted by the Community's main trading partners.

In past opinions the Committee had repeatedly expressed concern at the shortcomings of the common trade policy. It hailed this latest proposal as a practical response to the real needs of the Community's economic operators. In particular it welcomed the proposal to enable firms to complain to the Commission about damage caused by illicit practices pursued by non-member countries.

The Committee also approved the proposal to introduce swifter, more efficient decision-making machinery, and to establish a new procedure for dealing with accusations of protectionism, to be used in accordance and in conjunction with GATT. This was entirely consistent with previous Committee proposals on international trade.

The Committee felt that this new legal instrument could help to defeat protectionism.

The sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, was held in Belgrade in June. This conference provided the only major opportunity in 1983 for an international debate on the North-South dialogue.

In its own-initiative opinion on the Commission's guidelines on a Community position at the conference, the Committee stressed that world economic recovery should be the first priority at Belgrade.

The Committee opinion therefore urged the Community to wrest an explicit commitment from all participants to:

1. stimulate the growth of world trade in commodities and manufactured goods;
2. improve the flow of financial resources;
3. allow the economies of developed and developing countries to adjust in line with growth.

In the Committee's view, an increase in world trade would provide a major stimulus to economic recovery. Action had to be taken in order to increase the developing countries' share in world trade: priority must be given to stemming new forms of protectionism and to abolishing non-tariff barriers to exports from developing countries.

As regards commodities, the Committee called for the ratification of the interim 'Immediate action programme'. Alternatively a series of specific arrangements could be introduced for individual products.

Export earnings guarantee schemes should be improved by expanding both the IMF's compensatory finance facility and the Community's Stabex System.

In conclusion, the Committee urged all EC Member States and other industrialized nations to redouble their efforts to achieve the United Nations development aid target of 0.7% of GNP.

The Commission's recent Memorandum on Community Development Policy, made a critical reappraisal of development policy, designed to boost the efficiency of the Community's development policy instruments. On the basis of its analysis the Commission put forward a set of proposals designed to harmonize national policies and contribute to a new international socio-economic order.

The Committee examined relations with the Lomé Convention signatories separately from relations with non-ACP countries. It did so because the levels and machinery of cooperation were not comparable.

In its initial opinion on new guidelines for closer cooperation between ACP Countries and the Community, the Committee reiterated its belief that the cooperation system embodied in the Lomé Convention should be persevered

with and that the new Lomé Convention should be founded on an integrated policy which combined food aid and agricultural and rural development. The poorest countries and the most underprivileged populations should be the main targets for cooperation and, above all, aid.

Community development policy should keep pace with international economic trends and with the situation in individual developing countries. It should also be coordinated with the development strategies of other international bodies.

The Committee called for the following key points to be borne in mind when the Convention was renewed:

1. Aid must go to the poorest and most deprived;
2. Food self-sufficiency must be a goal, so support must be given to development policies designed to bring that about; the Centre for Agricultural Development must therefore be given a larger role;
3. A similar approach should be adopted to an integrated development policy for energy, fisheries and the processing of mineral resources;
4. Industrial development in the ACP countries must be helped by encouraging the establishment of small firms, cooperatives and craft organizations and by supporting maintenance operations and the training of local labour.

The Committee made the following recommendations in the field of trade:

1. Community aid for market research, trade promotion and the improvement of production;
2. The abolition of obstacles to ACP goods entering the EEC market;
3. The encouragement of trade between ACP countries;
4. Allowing more ACP goods free access to the EEC market.

The Committee approved the aims of Stabex, but felt that the scheme should be reassessed in order to secure real stability of export earnings. The Committee proposed a Stabex scheme backed up by international arrangements which would give producers stable, profitable prices.

The Committee felt that the Community's mining strategy with respect to its ACP partners should be part and parcel of Community commodity supplies policy. Minex was an important first step, but its funding needed to be reviewed.

The Committee felt that the new Convention should be assigned far greater financial resources, and that *per capita* aid at least should be maintained in real terms. The Committee approved the Commission's proposal to devote 0.1% of

Community GNP to development aid, in addition to bilateral aid from the Member States. Regarding the latter, there should be no obligation to buy goods in the donor country in preference to any other Member State or the other developing countries.

As in previous years, an Economic and Social Committee delegation attended the annual meeting of the ACP-EEC economic and social interest groups. This year's meeting was held in Geneva on 4 June. It was attended by European and ACP representatives of the Joint Committee of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly, EEC and ACP representatives of regional professional organizations, national representatives of ACP economic and social interest groups and, for the first time, observers from the European Youth Forum.

The main topics were the encouragement of vocational training in ACP countries and the situation of ACP migrant workers and their families in the Community. This issue had been first raised at the 1982 meeting.

The ACP-EEC meeting stressed that it was vital to establish a permanent dialogue between representatives of economic and social interest groups in both areas, in view of their important role in cooperation.

8. ENERGY POLICY

In 1983 the Committee adopted opinions on Commission proposals designed to significantly increase the importance of Community policies in the areas of both energy, and research and development.

Energy

In its communication 'Energy and energy research in the Community: a five-year programme of action and its financing' the Commission makes suggestions for energy policy which are intended to reinforce progress towards the Community's 1990 energy objectives. The programme concerns essentially rational use of energy, prospecting, and the development of a more balanced energy supply.

The Committee in its opinion supported increased Community activity in the field of energy. It approved the concept of a multiannual plan for energy policy and stressed in this context the usefulness of creating a stable planning framework for business and industry.

The Committee believed, however, that the Commission's analysis of the energy situation was somewhat pessimistic. The Committee did not feel that the current price level for energy products would hinder the major structural changes in energy demand which are necessary.

Resulting from the five-year energy programme, a number of proposals concerning the solid fuels industry were made in 1983. The Committee adopted a single

opinion on the 'Communication on proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy' and the proposal for a regulation concerning financial support in favour of industries producing solid fuels.

In its opinion, the Committee approved the Commission's basic strategy which is to concentrate available resources on the most efficient producers. The Committee stressed, however, that retraining and re-employment possibilities be taken into account in making decisions on capacity reductions. The Committee approved the proposals on lignite and peat.

Although it approved the Commission's general approach, the Committee did not approve the eligibility criteria for financial support for modernization and destocking which are central to the draft regulation concerning financial support. The Committee in its opinion proposed radically different criteria.

The Commission also proposed a contribution to the ECSC budget from the general budget of the Communities in order to begin tackling the problems of the coal industry as soon as possible. The Committee approved this budget transfer which allows greater use of the possibilities offered by the ECSC Treaty until the Council takes a final decision on the balanced solid fuels policy.

The Committee opinion on the new system for coking coal and coke stated that the proposal to phase out aid over a five-year period was too radical. The Committee put forward a compromise solution for a two-year period.

The Committee also adopted 3 opinions on areas covered by the Euratom Treaty. It approved the aims of a Commission proposal to modify Chapter VI 'Supplies' of the Euratom Treaty, but took issue with the Commission on some of the additional powers which would be vested in the Supply Agency. The Committee generally regretted that, in the absence of an alternative solution, it had for practical reasons to go along with the Commission's proposals on the controversial issue of whether or not the Supply Agency be authorized in the Treaty to discriminate between Member States that use nuclear fuels for the production of weapons, as well as for civil uses.

The Committee also approved in broad terms the contents of the Commission's latest proposal for revising basic safety standards for the general public and for workers in industry who come up against the dangers of ionizing radiation.

Research and development

A considerable proportion of the Committee's work in this area has been devoted to proposals whose purpose is the creation of a new approach to Community level science and technology. Thus the Committee's work on FAST (long-term forecasting), the stimulation of efficiency of the EC's scientific and technical potential, the framework programme and the new structures and procedures that accompany it, reflect Commission proposals both to increase the resources devoted to research as well as the development of an integrated strategy.

The Committee approved the draft FAST II programme for 1983–87. FAST I (1978–83) was the first attempt at European level to evaluate long-term R&D prospects. It provided some of the input for the framework programme and in particular the idea for Esprit. In view of the success and the quality of the FAST I papers, the Committee approved the draft FAST II programme (1983–87). It noted, however, the need for a clearly defined procedure to ensure that the findings of FAST II are fully and rapidly exploited.

The Committee also approved the proposal for a European scientific and technical strategy framework programme which aims to facilitate decisions as to the resources to be allocated to Community level science and technology activities as well as serve as a means for medium-term financial forecasting. The Committee felt that the increase in the proportion of Community resources for science and technology implied in the framework would still result in a budget that was relatively small and that some reallocation of resources within the proposed level of activities would have been desirable. But the proposed new approach was seen as capable of making a significant contribution to the creation of a European scientific and technical strategy geared to meeting present and future economic and industrial challenges.

In view of the new approach proposed for R & D Strategy, the Committee felt that the Commission proposals on new structures and procedures in the field of science and technology and for the management of R & D were timely. The Committee in the main endorsed these proposals and in particular supported the establishment of a Higher Policy Committee for Science and Technology (HCST), the setting up of management and consultative committees (CGCs) and the dissolution of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST).

An integral part of the new strategy is the optimum use of the results of Community sponsored R & D. The Committee in its opinion on the communication on promoting the utilization of the results of Community R & D broadly endorsed the Commission's approach. This approach proposes protection and exploitation of the results of research which are useful to industry, and the dissemination to other potential users of any results not exploitable by industry. The Committee believes that patent protection is not adequately covered in the Commission proposal and urges the Commission to make proposals as soon as possible to cover the gap. The Committee also believes a fund should be set up to promote Member State nationals with assistance towards taking out and maintaining a European patent.

The Committee also approved the 1984–87 research programme for the Joint Research Centre (JRC). It welcomed in particular the integration of the JRC into the Community's overall research strategy and felt that its role as a catalyst and coordinator would be enhanced. The concentration of work on safety and protection of the environment and standardization was endorsed but the failure to increase the resources devoted to non-nuclear energy was felt to be regrettable. The Committee agreed with the setting up of a Council of Administration which would, *inter alia*, control 5% of JRC funds set aside for flexibility. Indeed a theme running through the Committee's opinions on research program-

mes submitted to it this year has been the need to ensure flexibility. On staff, the Committee saw the proposal as appropriate to the JRC's current difficulties, which are typical of large research centres, but noted the absence of any real long-term policy.

In 1983 the Committee approved, subject to certain general and specific comments, research programmes on:

1. Biomolecular engineering (1984–86);
2. Non-nuclear energy (1983–87);
3. Radiation protection (1985–89);
4. Nuclear fission (1984–87);
5. Development of indigenous scientific and technical research capacities in the developing countries (1984–87).

These programmes all derive from the framework programme.

9. PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT – CONSUMERS – PUBLIC HEALTH

Environment policy

In its opinion on the third environmental programme 1982-86 the Committee had supported proposals that funds should be earmarked in the Community budget to finance pollution control measures, and accordingly welcomed the Commission's proposal that certain specific projects be given financial support under the so-called ACE (Action Communautaire Environnement) programme.

In a unanimous opinion the Committee upheld the Commission's proposals for the financing of projects relating to the development of clean technologies and environmental conservation in specific areas, but observed that the limited funds available should be used for sectors for which there is proof of a particularly strong need, e. g. metalworking, tanning, textile dying and finishing, foodstuffs and agro-industry. However, care should be taken to avoid any overlapping with existing Community programmes.

The Committee reiterated its support for the concept of Community financial backing for specific environmental projects, in its own-initiative opinion on the linking of environmental policy with job creation – and made a number of concrete suggestions.

The Committee also dealt with a number of more specific matters of environmental concern which arose out of the ongoing implementation of the Community's environmental action programmes.

An important concept developed in these programmes is the use or re-use of waste in the economy, and a good example of this in practice is shown by the proposal for a directive on the use in agriculture of sewage sludge obtained from urban, industrial and commercial waste water.

This proposal lays down limit values for harmful elements in sludge, and prohibits its use on certain crops, woodlands, parks and playgrounds.

The Committee in its opinion recognizing the value of the proposal, nevertheless felt that it should clearly state that the use of sludge must not jeopardize the production of uncontaminated food and fodder, maintenance of soil fertility and the protection of ground and surface water. It also held that users of sludge should receive better guidance.

A subject of considerable topical interest was a Commission proposal on the supervision and control of transfrontier shipments of hazardous wastes, which had direct relevance to the disposal of the waste (dioxin) from the Seveso disaster.

The Committee in fact, in the preparatory work for its opinion, included a hearing of representatives of the two firms involved in the Seveso case, and in the opinion itself, of course approved the Commission's aim to ensure the strict supervision of hazardous waste during its journey from its place of production to its place of disposal in another Member State.

However, the Committee said that such waste should normally be disposed of in its country of origin and only shipped abroad exceptionally. Accordingly, encouragement should be given to Member States to maintain adequate facilities for hazardous waste disposal within their own frontiers.

The Committee is somewhat concerned however about the lack of progress in the implementation of measures to control discharges of the dangerous waste titanium dioxide (a pigmentation element used in the manufacture of paint and which causes the phenomenon known as 'red mud').

A basic directive adopted in 1978 set a timetable for the phased reduction and eventual elimination of titanium dioxide waste and for the harmonization by 1987 of the national programmes for the Member States. Due to delays by the Member States in submitting the relevant information, however, the original schedule could not be adhered to and the Commission was obliged to put forward a proposal extending the harmonization deadline from 1987 to 1993.

The Committee in its opinion said that the target date was originally set to allow Community firms adequate time to take the necessary steps. It therefore did not agree that the deadline be extended to 1993, and asked that the proposed extension be reconsidered and the original timetable retained. The Committee pointed out that an extension of the deadline would be contrary to the principle of fair competition, favouring firms which had taken little or no action and penalizing those which had acted.

On the subject of the control of dangerous substances which appear on the Community's 'Black List' the Committee adopted an opinion supporting a follow-up directive on limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges from industries other than that of chlor-alkali electrolysis (which produces for example caustic soda and chlorine for purifying water). This in practice means extending controls to discharges from dental establishments and analytical laboratories. The Committee insisted on strict adherence to the deadline for the implementation of the directive given that it was some years ahead (1988).

A matter which is causing increasing concern at national Community and international level is the control of air pollution. This involves in practice the stabilization of total emissions of pollutants in the first phase followed by a progressive reduction and where appropriate the establishment of emission standards.

During the year the Committee was consulted on the combating of air pollution from industrial plants and basically endorsed the Commission's proposal in this matter and on the need to undertake timely and effective action.

The Committee believes there is a danger threshold for air pollution which must not be exceeded whatever the economic cost; thus there must be control of both air quality and emissions.

Below this danger threshold total air purity is unattainable, so a value judgment has to be made on the economic and social costs involved. A supplementary opinion on the costs for industry was also submitted in the ESC's Industry Section.

The Committee, while recognizing that the proposal aims at harmonization of competition, pointed out certain problems, and urged the Commission to ensure adequate research, and to seek international harmonization with non-EEC countries.

Related to this was the Committee's opinion on the protection of forests against fire and acid rain.

The Committee welcomed the proposed EC measures in this matter as the damage to forests has reached alarming proportions: several hundred thousand hectares of forest have already been destroyed.

In the opinion the Committee deplored the fact that the lack of a common forestry policy left the Commission with few means at its disposal for tackling the cause of the problem and eliminating the damage.

The proposed measures which form part of the general drive to deal with damage to forests caused by air pollution, should be implemented without delay. The acute danger threatening European forests has been recognized and immediate action is required in all Member States.

The Committee considers that the term 'acid rain' widely used to describe the very varied direct effects and side effects – which are not yet fully understood – of airborne pollutants on forests and forest floors, is very inadequate. There is still a tremendous need for research into the actual mechanisms involved in the new types of forest damage.

Consumer affairs and public health

In the field of consumer affairs the Committee, concerned at the relatively slow progress in the adoption of proposals under the consumer action programmes, decided to take up the suggestion contained in the second programme on the desirability of a producer-consumer dialogue and draw up an own-initiative opinion in the matter. Work on this was still in progress at the end of the year.

As far as concerns specific aspects of consumer protection from the point of view of public health and safety, the Committee issued three opinions: on toys, alcoholic beverage labelling and the nutritive value of food.

In the case of toys, the Committee had previously issued an opinion in 1981 on an earlier Commission proposal on toy safety, suggesting a number of changes and simplifications. As a result of this and other criticisms the Commission withdrew the original proposal but issued during 1983 a revised series of proposals on toy safety.

This of course was also referred to the Committee which endorsed it, particularly as it had incorporated the main alterations proposed by the ESC in its 1981 opinion. The Committee reaffirmed its view that the educational and psychological aspects of toys cannot be completely divorced from the safety aspects, and that more safety provisions did not discharge parents and teachers from their responsibilities.

In the matter of alcoholic beverages, the Commission took follow-up action to the 1978 directive on foodstuffs, with a proposal to determine the labelling rules for beverages containing more than 1.2% of alcohol, and more particularly for beer, ciders and perry.

The Committee in its opinion agreeing the proposal, asked however that beverages containing less than 1.2% of alcohol should also be covered, or that the minimum percentage be lowered to 0.5%. It also considered it essential that the provisions for all alcoholic beverages in this category (mostly various kinds of wines) be brought into force at the same time.

On a different aspect of foodstuffs the Committee considered a proposal for an R&D programme into the nutritive value of food and specifically on (a) short duration thermal processing, (b) the properties of food obtained by means of biotechnology, and (c) chilling and refrigerated storage.

The Committee thought that before being launched this proposal should be re-examined to see if matters of more practical significance should be included,

and suggested that future research should concentrate on hormonal residues in foods, trace elements, irradiation and 'natural' foods.

In addition to the foregoing the Committee unanimously adopted a detailed opinion on a new and specialized aspect of consumer affairs – the initial guidelines for a Community policy on tourism.

In its opinion the Committee approved the proposed Community tourism policy, on the grounds that continued expenditure on tourism could give a real boost to the EEC economy, and serve as a catalyst to spark off action in many fields where progress is currently blocked.

The Committee went beyond mere approval of the proposed policy, however, and put forward a number of new ideas.

Bearing in mind that tourism is about people, the Committee proposed that a specific social tourism policy be devised to enable as many people as possible to take holidays, particularly dependent categories – the young and the aged, and the disadvantaged, the unemployed, the handicapped and immigrants.

The Committee was also concerned with both the inadequacy of insurance coverage for tourists, and at the other end of the scale with the problem of over-insurance. Specifically, it recommended that Member States should provide automatic medical coverage for insured EEC tourists, and that a system of standard minimum insurance be introduced to cover other obvious risks.

The Committee expressed particular concern about coach and bus safety, a topical issue, and asked that it be studied.

On the protection of the tourist as a consumer, the Committee recommended the setting up of simple complaints procedures at national level and their harmonization at Community level; but it also agreed that the tourist operators themselves might also need protection against cancellations, strikes, bankruptcies and bad weather. The Committee therefore proposed the harmonization of national tourism guarantee fund legislation.

The Committee also favoured new standard hotel and travel contracts, and the harmonization of regulations covering travel agencies to prevent growth of bucket-shops.

Other proposals included the harmonization of tourist statistics, the grading of hotels, the simplification of regional aid procedures, and the study of the effects of mass tourism on the environment.

Finally, the Committee pointed out that tourism is withstanding the present recession fairly well, already provides over 4 million jobs, and will be among the world's largest industries by the year 2000, and for these reasons merits particular attention.

In the field of pure public health, the Committee considered a proposal for a directive to protect renal dialysis patients from the toxic effects of aluminium absorption.

The Committee felt that this area of health care should be given much greater attention, in particular by taking preventive action and by the provision of haemodialysis treatment for new categories of persons suffering from renal insufficiency.

Account taken of opinions

In the environment field, the Council adopted the third Community action programme on the environment which incorporated a number of suggestions by the ESC which were referred to in detail in the 1982 *Annual Report*.

Two pieces of legislation on wildlife protection were also adopted during the year – the Council regulation on the application within the ESC of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora. The final text incorporates several of the Committee's observations, notably on export documentation, on certain derogations for pets and domestic animals, and on the coordination of research on wild birds.

A regulation adopted by the Council imposing a ban on the importation into the Community of seal-pup skins, took into account the Committee's recommendation that the Commission should continue discussions with Norway and Canada, the two countries mainly affected, with a view to finding a solution to the problem.

In the field of consumer affairs the Council adopted a Directive on regenerated cellulose film in contact with foodstuffs, which took some account of the Committee's recommendations.

Relations with the press and outside reaction

In a year that has seen an increase in unemployment throughout the Community and no end to the recession, the general tendency of governments in favouring national, rather than common, solutions to problems, has been reflected in the press of the Member States. The fashion for ministers to present to the press decisions at the Council only in terms of short-term national advantage or otherwise has conditioned the press to do likewise and to encourage the reader in this sense to the exclusion of other considerations. As a result, the overall cost of the national approach to Europe and, in the long term, to the European economy and the well-being of its citizens is rarely explained in the media. It must be remembered that almost all newspapers, radio and television programmes are nationally or regionally orientated and, apart from the publications of the Community institutions, which reach only a microscopic fraction of the public, the European idea has few champions who might obtain a response from the media.

As a result, the press has shown a much more critical attitude towards the European Community than has been the case in the past, even in countries where it has a generally favourable rating such as the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Press response

This attitude has in all likelihood also had its effect on reporting on the activities of the Economic and Social Committee. Judging from the number of newspaper clippings received at the Secretariat, which is far from complete and only indicative, there has been a minimal drop in the Committee's press response, compared to last year. Some of the causes for the decline may be ascribed to the fact that there were many fewer meetings held outside Brussels and only two official visits, one to London, and one to Bonn. It should be noted that while the Committee's activities in Brussels are drowned among those of the other Community institutions, they invariably attract press attention outside. This is particularly noticeable for TV and radio.

Even so, the fact that the opening conference of the Small and Medium-sized Undertakings Year was held in the Committee's own building and that the Committee's contribution towards it was so considerable, helped to gain

attention in the press. Among all press cuttings received, this event had the biggest share.

Another activity which received good publicity was the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Committee, as it brought together the top representatives of the Community institutions to honour the Committee and its past achievements.

Among the many Committee opinions which received good coverage in the press should be mentioned those concerned with the problem of unemployment, on the opening-up of the internal market, on the employment of young people, on the disposal of toxic waste, on temporary work, on relations between the EEC and the USA, on the Irish border areas, on baby seals and on farm prices. The President's activities, his interviews and, in particular, his speeches on the economic situation of the Community and on the dangers of protectionism were well publicized.

As far as coverage by countries was concerned, Belgium was once more far in the lead, followed by the news agencies, the UK, Italy, France, Ireland and Germany. Cuttings received from the other four Member States are lagging well behind.

Visiting groups

The number of visitors to the Committee, or those who heard lectures on its role and its activity, rose during the period under review to 5 110, a high mark, topped only in 1979, the year of the first elections to the European Parliament. We received a total of 151 groups, which included farmers, politicians, journalists, trade unionists, lawyers, managers, students and teachers. The biggest contingent came from Germany, followed by those from the UK, the Netherlands, France, Denmark, Ireland, Belgium and Italy. Many (20% of the total) also came from non-member countries such as Spain, Portugal, the USA, Austria and Sweden as well as from Africa and the Caribbean.

Publications

The two major public events in whose organization the Committee had the chief role – the opening conference of the European Year of the Small and Medium-sized Undertakings and the 25th anniversary celebrations – were highlighted by two brochures each. The full list of titles brought out in the year is as follows:

1. The Other European Assembly
2. The Celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the ESC
3. Opening Conference of the European Year of the SMU
4. Report on the Conference of the SMU (in English, French and German only)
5. Socio-professional organizations of Spain (in French and Spanish)

6. Index (list of members)
7. Le CES. Carrefour d'influences (in French only)
8. Employment of Young People
9. The Economic and Social Situation
10. Relations between the EEC and the USA
11. The Right of Initiative of the ESC (Dutch and Greek edition)
12. Brochure on the ESC (in Portuguese)
13. Ten editions of the Bulletin
14. Annual Report 1982

Members' Press and Public Relations Group

A Members' Press and Public Relations Group, to provide ideas and suggestions for developing the Committee's image with the mass-media, was set up and held four meetings in the year. The members appointed were: Messrs Staratzke and Law from Group I; Bonety and Kirschen from Group II; Roseingrave and Burnel from Group III.

Mrs Rangoni-Macchiavelli, a member who is also a journalist, was co-opted by the Group in the course of the year. Its recommendations, which were approved by the Bureau, include the proposal to add a second title, or subtitle, to the Committee's official one, in order to make the Committee's real task and role more intelligible to the public. The second title, 'European Economic and Social Consultative Assembly', should soon appear on the Committee's publications and other documents. Other recommendations of the Group urge the members to act as the Committee's spokesmen in their own countries and to give publicity to its opinions in their organizations' journals, and propose more frequent press conferences, the introduction of selective targeting of material, more incisive and forceful press releases, modern technical equipment for disseminating information and funds for information visits by journalists.

The Groups

GROUP I – EMPLOYERS

The 42 members of the Employers Group are representative of public and private enterprise, commercial interests, transport, banking and insurance, wholesale and retail trade and agriculture. There have been four changes in the membership in addition to the 15 new members elected a year ago.

In the course of this year the Group has given particular attention to the growing difficulties faced by the European Community. While insisting that levels of production and the competitiveness of European industry must be maintained, the Group has continued to work on long-term measures to combat unemployment and create permanent jobs.

An information report (Rapporteur: Mr. Evain (F)) followed by an opinion on relations between the USA and the EEC (Rapporteur: Mr. Staratzke (D)) have opened important lines of communication between the Committee and American interests.

Important as these are for 'big business', they are proving at least equally so for small and medium-sized enterprises. During this European Year of the SMU the Community has formally recognized the vital contribution small business can make in ameliorating the economic and social crisis. Many Group I members have given a great deal of time to advising all kinds of national business groupings of the EEC initiatives. Progress made at successive national conferences towards achieving a Community policy has been helped by information from the US Small Business Administration and Japan. Proof of US interest is a message from President Reagan transmitted to Mr Poeton (UK) for the 10 Member States at the closing conference in Strasbourg offering any assistance they may wish in developing this policy.

The annual encounter in Geneva between a delegation from the joint Committee of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly and representatives of ACP and EEC economic and social interests was particularly well attended by employers interested in the promotion of vocational training in ACP countries. Group I hopes that means will be found to strengthen and institutionalize this important dialogue.

Mr Staratzke's report on 'Cooperation between EFTA and the EC in strengthening the internal market and taking measures to deal with unfair trading practices' led to an urgent request from the EFTA delegation for their countries to be closely associated with all such measures in future.

To ensure the success of both these exercises Group I stresses the importance of a careful choice of subject matter and the best possible preparation well in advance.

Welcoming the Commission's recent change of direction towards gradual liberalization of transport policy, the Employers Group, which includes representatives of both transporters and transport users, has been working to agree a common position based on the need to protect the interest of industry as a whole, so that Committee opinions may, as far as possible, consistently support the Commission.

In relation to environmental protection, the Group favours careful progress towards the reduction of pollution but stresses the need for EC measures to be founded on adequate research. If the benefits of reducing pollution cannot be weighed objectively against job loss and increased costs to industry and consumers, the results will only aggravate economic and social difficulties.

Employers Group rapporteurs have made important contributions throughout the year, drafting the following opinions:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Future financing of the Community | Mr Van Der Mensbrugge (B) |
| 2. Internal market | Mr Broicher (D) |
| 3. Social situation, 1982 | Mr Noordwal (NL) |
| 4. Tariffs for scheduled air transport | Mr Kenna (IRL) |
| 5. Use of hired vehicles for carriage of goods | Mr Masprone (I) |
| 6. Exclusive distribution and purchasing agreements | Mr Bagliano (I) |
| 7. Motor vehicle distribution agreements | Mr Eelsen (F) |
| 8. Aid for the financing of innovation in SMUs | Mr Poeton (UK) |
| 9. Promotion of the use of R&D findings | Mr Pearson (IRL) |
| 10. 5-year nuclear research programme | Mr Fortuyn (NL) |
| 11. Protection of forests against fire and acid rain | Mr Schnieders (D) |
| 12. Atmospheric pollution from industrial plant | Mr de Normann (UK) |
- and many others too numerous to list.

The Group acknowledges the support it has received from the European professional organizations, UNICE (Union des Industries de la Communauté Européenne), the CEEP (Centre Européen de l'Entreprise Publique), the Permanent Conference of Chambers of Commerce and the wholesale and retail trade organizations. On specific questions cooperation with many sectoral organizations at European and national level has been most valuable.

Inside the Committee, Group I strongly supports the recent recommendations to improve press and public relations activities.

There have been two changes among the official posts held by Group I members within the Committee. At the end of the first year of Mr Ceyrac's presidency of the Committee the Group I Bureau members are Messrs Broicher (D), Breitenstein (DK), Dracos (GR), Loughrey (IRL), Masprone (I), Noordwal (NL) and Poeton (UK).

Mr Zinkin has become Chairman of the External Relations Section, joining his colleagues Mr Romoli, Chairman, Energy Section, and Mr de Wit, Chairman, Industry Section.

The Group Chairman is Mr Staratzke; his two Vice-Chairmen are Messrs Masprone and Zinkin.

GROUP II – WORKERS

The Workers Group in the Economic and Social Committee comprises representatives of the trade unions in the Member States.

The Group Chairman is Mr van Greunsven and the Vice-Chairmen are Mr Bonety and Mr Vercellino.

The Group's interest in all socio-economic aspects of the Community is evident from the subjects for which a member of the Group was appointed rapporteur in 1983. These comprised *inter alia*:

1. Economic situation in the Community
2. New Community Instrument
3. Reduction of working time – temporary work
4. Reform of the European Social Fund
5. Migrant workers
6. Vocational training

7. Information technology
8. Job-creating environmental measures
9. Protection of workers against noise
10. Health and safety at work
11. Protection against ionizing radiation
12. Pisani memorandum
13. Esprit programme
14. FAST programme
15. Integrated Mediterranean programmes
16. Competition in sea transport.

In view of the importance attached by members of the Group to industrial medicine, the Group asked the Committee to make use of its right of initiative to draw up an opinion on this subject. The Committee responded favourably.

In connection with these activities there has been an increasing degree of prior consultation (at the Group's initiative) in preparing both section and study group meetings with very important subjects on the agenda.

The members of Group II repeatedly concerned themselves with the problems relating to the external role of the Committee (for example, relations with Coreper, the Commission and the European Parliament, press policy) and also considered the internal functioning of the Committee (e.g. the rotation of offices in the Committee, plenary session declarations on topical events, statements by the Committee Chairman, the various categories represented in the Committee).

Group II also examined what contribution it – and the Committee as a whole – could make to the ETUC employment campaign.

It is obvious to Group II that, if workers are to continue to take the Community seriously, the Community, too, must make a substantial contribution, through its policy, to the reduction of unemployment.

In the present crisis the high and continually rising unemployment is the main worry of workers. Unfortunately there are not at present any growth strategies which by themselves could bring about and maintain a sufficient level of employment. In addition to measures to promote investment and growth, it is therefore necessary to adopt specific employment measures, including the reduction of working time, if results are to be achieved in the fight against unemployment.

In a wider European context the Group attaches importance to the annual meeting with representatives from the EFTA countries; this year, particular attention was devoted to economic recovery as one of the ways of improving the employment situation.

The Workers Group also has a keen interest in Community problems, particularly in conjunction with the enlargement of the Community and Mediterranean policy. But this does not mean that it loses sight of the major issues at world level which have an impact above all on the developing countries. The latest meetings between ACP and EEC representatives, in which members of Group II played an active part, have shown that it is desirable to involve the two sides of industry more closely in the operation of the convention and in dealing with any problems that arise.

Finally, the Group notes that, despite all the efforts, no progress has been made so far on the problem of the future financing of the Community and that this is having a paralysing effect on Community policy. The Group expresses the hope that this problem will be solved before the year is out, so that the Community can turn its attention again to other subjects that are perhaps of even more fundamental importance for the future of the Community.

GROUP III – VARIOUS INTERESTS

The Various Interests Group comprises representatives of agriculture, smaller businesses and the crafts sector, the professions, families, consumers, environmental protection bodies, regional interests and the arts and sciences.

Intellectual consistency is assured by the members' keen awareness of their role as a mirror of the diversity of the general public, alongside the representatives of big industrial and trading firms.

Half of the Group's members were only appointed in 1982. This led the Group Bureau to organize an information seminar for new members on 12 January 1983. Three speeches were given, covering the institutions and functioning of the Community, the Community budget, the role of Group III and the concept of an Economic and Social Committee based on the French Economic and Social Council. A special Group Bureau meeting on 19 September led to measures being taken to improve internal debating at Group meetings.

Members of Group III have made an effective contribution to the Committee's work. Many complex or politically delicate subjects have been entrusted to rapporteurs from Group III, such as youth employment, ways of making young people aware of Europe through education and teaching, transport infrastructures and the common transport policy, the safety of toys, dangerous waste, the dialogue between producers and consumers, tourism, energy research, the enlargement of the Community, integrated Mediterranean programmes, and vocational training in the ACP countries.

Outside the Committee, the Group has tried to build up contacts with European groups having similar interests to its own. These groups were very pleased to be asked for their views when the Committee was doing its work on youth employment. The papers which were sent in were brought to the attention of Group III members before the adoption of the opinion by the Section for Social Questions and widely circulated. In September, the Group Bureau decided to bring out *Europe III*, a monthly newsletter for European interest groups. In the two days following a plenary session, these interest groups receive a detailed summary of information enabling them to keep abreast of the Committee's work. *Europe III* also publishes news about organizations and gives a list of their publications.

The Group Chairman since October 1982 has been Mrs Käte Strobel and the Vice-Chairmen Mr Jacques De Bruyn and Mr Pietro Morselli. The Secretariat is run by Mr François Brunagel.

Participation in certain events

This year the Committee received a flood of invitations to attend various conferences, seminars and meetings of one sort or another arranged by European organizations. It was not possible to accept them all, but the Chairman, other members and representatives of the Secretariat between them did manage to attend the following:

Consumer's forum organized by the European Bureau of Consumers' Unions and the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Verbraucher (consumers' association), on 'The irradiation of foodstuffs as a method of preservation'	26 January in Berlin
Seminar organized by the Wirtschafts- und Sozialakademie der Angestelltenkammer Bremen, Bremerhaven, on '25 years EC – what now?'	10 and 11 February in Bad Zwischenahn (FR of Germany)
Trade union day organized by the ETUC, Brussels	11 February in Brussels
Meeting of the Executive Committee of CEPFAR (European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life), Brussels	24 February in Brussels
Lunch debate organized by the Maison de l'Europe and the Foyer de Rencontres Internationales, Paris, on 'Europe of the social partners: how can the paralysis be overcome?'	28 February in Paris
Inauguration of the 35th international craft trades fair, Munich	5 March in Munich
Annual meeting of the Association for European Cooperation, Berlin, on 'Peace through security and cooperation in Europe'	17 to 20 March in Berlin

European seminar organized by the Regional Assembly of Campania on 'Information, innovation and exchanges in programmes of action against poverty'	24 to 26 March in Naples and Vallo di Diano
Colloquium of European towns and regions with an interest in the car industry on 'The car industry and the social consequences of the crisis'	25 and 26 March in Turin
Meeting in preparation for 21st Congress in December 1983 of the Conseil National des Economies Régionales et de la Productivité (CNERP)	30 March in Paris
115th Annual Congress of the TUC	5 April in Blackpool
Seminar on poverty organized by the Groupe d'étude pour les Problèmes de la Pauvreté ASBL	7 to 9 April in Walferdange (Luxembourg)
Hanover Fair	13 to 20 April, Hanover
Colloquium organized by the Fédération Belge des Coopératives	16 April in Brussels
Seminar organized by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung	18 to 22 April in Nairobi
Colloquium organized by the Fédération Belge des Coopératives (FEBECOOP)	19 April in Brussels
General meeting of the Secrétariat Européen des Professions Liberales, Indépendantes et Sociales	20 April in Brussels
Seminar organized by the Institut Italo-Africain on 'Reflections on the position of women in current development policies for the Sahel – prospects for the future'	29 and 30 April in Rome
Colloquium organized by the Confederation of German Industry on 'Main points of emphasis in German and European policy on small firms'	2 May in Cologne
Meeting of the Executive Committee of CEPFAR (European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life)	5 May in Brussels
European conference organized by the ETUC, Brussels, on 'New technologies and working conditions'	9 to 11 May in Paris

Meeting of ACP/EEC trade union representatives organized by the ETUC, Brussels	12 to 14 May in Dakar (Senegal)
12th Congress of the International Confederation of Commercial Representation in the European Community, Paris	13 and 14 May in Liège
11th Franco-German meeting of chambers of crafts organized by the Zentralverband des Deutschen Handwerks, Bonn	16 to 18 May in Koblenz
65th Congress of the Confédération Nationale de la Mutualité, de la Coopération et du Crédit Agricoles, Paris on 'French farming in the face of the world economic disorder'	17 to 19 May in Bordeaux
European colloquium organized by the Italian coordination committee for the European Year of SMUs, Milan on 'Financing of innovation in SMUs'	27 and 28 May in Milan
Working meeting organized by Sir David Nicolson on 'EEC/Trust industriel'	27 May in Brussels
Annual general meeting of the Confédération des Industries Agro-Alimentaires de la CEE	27 May in Brussels
33rd Congress of the Spanish General Workers' Union	1 to 5 June in Madrid
Annual meeting of the European Proprietary Medicines Association, Paris on 'Health care in the future and the role of self-medication'	8 to 10 June in Stockholm
General meeting of CEPFAR (European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life)	9 June in Brussels
6th European/Latin American Interparliamentary Conference	13 to 16 June in Brussels
Annual colloquium of the College of Europa	16 to 18 June in Bruges
4th European training seminar for consular staff organized by the Permanent Conference of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the EEC	25 to 30 June in Bruges
General meeting of CONFARTIGIANATO	5 July in Rome

Seminar organized by the European-Atlantic Movement	1 to 6 August in Oxford
27th Internationaler Berufswettbewerb 1983 organized by the Chamber of Commerce of Upper Austria	15 to 29 August in Linz (Austria)
Opening ceremony, European Fair, Strasbourg	1 September in Strasbourg
National French colloquium organized by the European patronage Committee and the French national Committee for the European Year of SMUs on 'The financing of SMUs'	1 and 2 September in Nice
Meeting of the Committee on regional problems and physical planning of the Permanent Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe on the Europe project	6 and 7 September in Strasbourg
5th European meeting of the Savings Bank Group of the EEC, Brussels	8 and 9 September in Luxembourg
Seminar on the role of the parties involved in the planning and implementation of new forms of work organization, organized by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions	22 and 23 September in Dublin
Colloquium organized by Inter-Environnement-Wallonie ASBL on 'Environment and Europe of the regions'	22 to 24 September in Liège
European colloquium on the problems of sea pollution, organized by the Council of European Municipalities in cooperation with the city of Rotterdam	26 and 27 September in Rotterdam
10th anniversary of the peripheral maritime regions of the Community	4 to 6 October in Saint-Malo
International colloquium organized by the Trans-European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) in cooperation with the Association Française d'Études pour l'Union Européenne (AFEUR) and the Association 'Echange & Projets', Paris, on 'Towards a social Europe'	6 to 8 October in Paris
Seminar organized by the Maison de l'Europe, Brussels, in cooperation with the International Federation of Europe Houses, on 'Youth employment – preparing the future of Europe'	7 and 8 October in Brussels

National conference of Muintir na Tire (Irish Community Development Movement)	8 and 9 October in Wexford (Ireland)
Fourth symposium on economic and social forecasting applied to business, organized by the Institut de Gestion Sociale, on 'Your firm in 1984: economic stringency and social cohesion'	12 October in Paris
Seminar on 'The impact of technological development on the bank and insurance sector' organized by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions	20 and 21 October in Dublin
5th conference of the Sahel Club organized by the European Commission in cooperation with the Inter- state Permanent Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel	26 to 28 October in Brussels
Conference on 'Age and activity' organized by the European Centre for Work and Society	27 and 28 October in Maastricht
Meeting of the Executive Committee of CEPFAR (Euro- pean Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life)	3 November in Brussels
Congress organized by the Economic Faculty of the Catholic University of Tilburg, under the auspices of the Netherlands national Committee and the European Commission, on 'SMUs and their environment'	9 and 10 November in Tilburg (Netherlands)
Inter-regional seminar on small and mediumsized retail enterprises, organized by the European Centre of Retail Trade	9 and 10 November in Aachen
Commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the farm- ers' union movement organized by the Fédération Nationale des Syndicats d'Exploitants Agricoles (FNSEA)	15 November in Paris
Symposium organized by the Committee of Family Organizations in the European Communities on 'Families - demography - crisis in the European Community'	16 and 17 November in Brussels
General meeting of the European Federation of Build- ing and Wood-Workers in the EEC	17 and 18 November in Brussels
Seminar organized by the European Liaison Commit- tee for Agro-Alimentary Trades (CELCAA)	18 November in Brussels

Public seminar organized by the ETUC on 'The European Council in Athens and the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal'	21 to 23 November in Bari
Conference organized by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Verbraucher (consumers' association) on 'Qualitative growth – qualitative consumption'	25 November in Bonn
Seminar organized by the American-European Community Association on 'Relations between the European Community and the United States'	1 December in Brussels
Sub-regional seminar of the Employers' Organizations of West African States belonging to the West African Economic Community (CEAO) and the Council of the Entente on 'The strengthening of cooperation between employers' organizations PME/PMI in the EEC and ACP countries'	3 to 6 December in Nouakchott (Islamic Republic of Mauritania)
Congress of the Greek National Confederation of Labour	9 to 11 December in Athens

Chapter VI

Appointments and resignations

During 1983 the Council appointed the following new members to replace Mr Evain, Mr Debunne, Mr Friedrichs, Mr Miller and Mr Gallacher:

Mr Pelletier
Mr Van den Broucke
Mr Flum
Mr Swift
Mr Tamlin

The Council will shortly be appointing replacements for Mr Mills (deceased) and for Mr Drain and Mr Chapple, who have both resigned.

Internal affairs of the General Secretariat

1. STAFF

In 1983 permanent staff at the ESC totalled 391. This represents a 3.4% increase over the 1982 figure. The increase was mainly due to the establishment of local staff and partly due to the creation of new posts.

2. BUDGET

Financial appropriations for 1983 totalled 23 669 000 ECU, 1% up on the 1982 figure of 23 339 000 ECU.

This modest increase reflects the budget authorities' response to the particularly tight economic situation within the Community, and the impact of the 8% devaluation of the Belgian franc against the ECU in 1982.

3. MEETINGS

Ten plenary sessions and 11 Bureau meetings were held in 1983.

Other meetings break down as follows:

Sections	92
Study Groups	327
Groups I, II and III	104
Other meetings	251
Meetings of sub-groups sponsored by Groups I, II or III	156

Many groups also visited the ESC.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT (1983)

Chairman

- Private office
- Group Secretariats
- Financial control

Secretary-General

- Secretariat
- Adviser
- Division for the Registry, the Assembly and the Bureau
- Press, information, publications division
- Studies and research division
- Mail/records/library/documentation

Directorate A – Consultative work

Section Secretariats

- Economic and Financial Questions
- Social Questions
- Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs

Directorate B – Consultative work

Section Secretariats

- Regional Development
- Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services
- Transport and Communications

Directorate C – Consultative work

Section Secretariats

- Energy and Nuclear Questions
- Agriculture
- External Relations

General Directorate for Administration, Translation and General Affairs

- Secretariat
- Personnel division
- Specialized financial service
- Translation
- Division for document production, coordination and internal affairs

Annex A

**List of opinions,
studies and information reports
issued during 1983**

204th PLENARY SESSION ON 26 AND 27 JANUARY 1983

- Application of Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty (rules on competition applying to undertakings) to air transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Bos) (CES 74/83)
- Detailed rules for the application of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty to maritime transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Bonety) (CES 73/83)
- Tariffs for scheduled air transport between Member States
(Rapporteur: Mr Kenna) (CES 75/83)
- Loans under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Rouzier) (CES 72/83)
- Vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983-87
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 71/83)
- Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles and their trailers (Amendment, Directive 76/756/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 67/83)
- Application of the ECU to legal acts adopted in the customs sphere (Amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 2779/78)
(Rapporteur: Mr Regaldo) (CES 68/83)
- Measures for the control of foot-and-mouth disease
(Rapporteur: Mr Wick) (CES 70/83)
- Supplementary Community measure for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle; temporary financial aid from the Community to Ireland for pre-movement tuberculin testing and brucellosis blood sampling of cattle; Community financial measures for the eradication of classical swine fever and for the eradication of African swine fever in Sardinia (Amendment of Directive 82/400/EEC amending Directive 77/391/EEC; Amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 1055/81; Amendment, Decision 80/1096/EEC and Decision 80/1097/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Caffarelli) (CES 69/83)

205th PLENARY SESSION ON 23 AND 24 FEBRUARY 1983

- Strengthening of the internal market; easing of frontier controls; simplification of customs formalities in trade within the Community; amendment, Coun-

cil Regulation (EEC) No 2102/77 introducing a Community export declaration form; amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 222/77 on Community transit (Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 204/83)

- Fixing of prices for certain agricultural products; certain related measures (Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 201/83)
- New guidelines for closer cooperation between the ACP countries and the Community (Rapporteur: Mr van Rens) (CES 200/83)
- European Regional Development Fund – Seventh annual report (Own-initiative opinion) (Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 198/83)
- Facilitation of formalities and inspections in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States (Rapporteur: Mr Morselli) (CES 206/83)
- Fourteenth Council directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes – Deferred payment of the tax payable on importation by taxable persons (Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 205/83)
- Standardization of certain rules relating to authorizations for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (Amendment, Directive 65/269/EEC) (Rapporteur: Mr Binnenbruck) (CES 195/83)
- Loans for projects covered by exploration programmes for non-energy mineral raw materials within the territories of the Member States (Rapporteur: Mr Arena) (CES 196/83)
- Use of sewage sludge in agriculture (Rapporteur: Mr Kölble) (CES 207/83)
- Experimental Community action to stimulate the efficacy of the European Economic Community's scientific and technical potential (Rapporteur: Mr Bordes-Pages) (CES 197/83)
- Import duties applicable to fish fillets obtained on board Community vessels from fish originating in third countries (Rapporteur: Mr Milne) (CES 199/83)
- Application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to their families moving within the Community (Amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 and Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71) (Rapporteur: Mr Bornard) (CES 208/83)

206th PLENARY SESSION ON 23 AND 24 MARCH 1983

- Fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and certain related measures (1983/84) (Supplementary opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 322/83)
- Review of the European Social Fund and implementation of a Council decision on the tasks of the European Social Fund
(Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) (CES 317/83)
- Second series of specific Community regional development measures under Article 13 of the Fund Regulation (Non-quota section)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) (CES 316/83)
- Vocational training policies in the European Communities in the 1980s
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 318/83)
- Exemption for certain categories of
 - exclusive distribution agreements
 - exclusive purchasing agreements(Draft Commission Regulations)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bagliano) (CES 319/83)
- Labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer
(Amendment, Directive 79/112/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Antonsen) (CES 321/83)
- General rules on the definition, description and presentation of spirituous beverages and of vermouths and other wines of fresh grapes flavoured with plants or other aromatic substances
(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) (CES 320/83)
- Collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards
(Amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 458/80)
(Rapporteur: Mr Paggi) (CES 315/83)
- Intervention prices for butter, skimmed-milk powder and Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses
(Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 323/83)
- Amounts of aid to be granted for seeds for the 1984/85 and 1985/86 marketing years
(Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) (CES 324/83)
- Common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables
(Amendment, Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Schnieders) (CES 325/83)

207th PLENARY SESSION ON 27 AND 28 APRIL 1983

- Supervision and control of transfrontier shipment of hazardous wastes within the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Kölble) (CES 438/83)
- Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)
(Rapporteur: Mr Kölble) (CES 437/83)
- Temporary work
(Rapporteur: Mr Muhr) (CES 439/83)
- Second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work
(Draft resolution)
(Rapporteur: Mr Vercillino) (CES 440/83)
- Thirteenth Council directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes – Arrangements for the refund of value-added tax to taxable persons not established in Community territory
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 441/83)

208th PLENARY SESSION ON 1 AND 2 JUNE 1983

- Youth employment
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Burnel) (CES 544/83)
- Young people and their role in the development of the European Community
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) (CES 545/83)
- Preparation for the sixth session of Unctad
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Elkan) (CES 550/83)
- Implementation of decision empowering the Commission to borrow under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Rouzier) (CES 551/83)
- Indication of the origin of certain textile products imported from third countries
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) (CES 552/83)
- Declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 538/83)

- Determining the persons liable for payment of a customs debt
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 537/83)
- Security to be given to ensure payment of a customs debt
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 553/83)
- Conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate certain national transport services within a Member State
(Rapporteur: Mr Binnenbruck) (CES 549/83)
- Commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic
(Rapporteur: Mr Querleux) (CES 540/83)
- Implementation, in stages, of a series of measures in the field of the common policy for inland transport and communication from the Commission to the Council on progress towards a common transport policy – inland transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Bos) (CES 548/83)
- Strengthening of the common commercial policy with regard in particular to protection against unfair commercial practices
(Rapporteur: Mr Vercellino) (CES 546/83)
- Standardization and simplification of statistics of trade between Member States
(Rapporteur: Mr Regaldo) (CES 539/83)
- EEC research programme (1983–87) – Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology (FAST)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bordes-Pages) (CES 541/83)
- European scientific and technical strategy: Framework programme 1984–87
(Rapporteur: Mr Drago) (CES 547/83)
- Joint research programmes and programmes for coordinating agricultural research
(Rapporteur: Mr Rainero) (CES 542/83)
- Specific measure to promote urban renewal in Northern Ireland (Belfast)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bornard) (CES 543/83)
- Revision of the ERDF Regulation
(Amending Regulation (EEC) No 724/75)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Milne) (CES 555/83)
- Framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984–87
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Drago) (CES 554/83)

209th PLENARY SESSION ON 6 AND 7 JULY 1983

- Social developments in the Community in 1982
(Rapporteur: Mr Noordwal) (CES 664/83)
- Economic situation in the Community (mid-1983)
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) (CES 663/83)
- Relations between the European Community and the United States
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Stratzke) (CES 666/83)
- Basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation
(Amendment, Annexes I and III to Directive 80/836/Euratom)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nielsen) (CES 665/83)
- Limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges by sectors other than the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) (CES 661/83)
- Roll-over protection structures (rear-mounted rollbar, frame or cab type) of narrow-track wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 662/83)

210th PLENARY SESSION ON 28 and 29 SEPTEMBER 1983

- Implementation of environmental job-creating measures
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) (CES 855/83)
- 12th report of the European Communities on competition policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Mourgues) (CES 852/83)
- Motor vehicle distribution and servicing agreements
(Rapporteur: Mr Eelsen) (CES 848/83)
- Interest subsidies for certain loans granted under the European Monetary System
(Rapporteur: Mr Rouzier) (CES 846/83)
- Adoption of the first European strategic programme for research and development in information technologies (Esprit)
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 853/83)

- Structures and procedures for the common policy in the field of science and technology
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr de Normann) (CES 856/83)
- Adoption of the second stage (January 1984–March 1986) of the multiannual research and training programme in the field of biomolecular engineering
(Rapporteur: Mr Löw) (CES 850/83)
- Research and development programme in the field of non-nuclear energy (1983–87)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Roseingrave) (CES 851/83)
- New provisions relating to Chapter VI 'Supplies' of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community
(Rapporteur: Mr von der Decken) (CES 849/83)
- Research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community and for the European Economic Community (1984–87)
(Rapporteur: Mr von der Decken) (CES 845/83)
- Approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement
(Amendment to Directive 80/181/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Breitenstein) (CES 842/83)
- Common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables and guarantee thresholds for certain products processed from fruit and vegetables
(Amendments to Regulation (EEC) No 516/77 and Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff)
(Rapporteur: Mr Wick) (CES 847/83)
- Approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors and their protection
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 843/83)
- Transport infrastructure experimental programme
(Rapporteur: Mr Plank) (CES 844/83)
- Formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States
(Rapporteur: Mr Bos) (CES 854/83)

211th PLENARY SESSION ON 26 AND 27 OCTOBER 1983

- The future financing of the Community – Draft decision on new own resources
(Rapporteur: Mr Van der Mensbrugge) (CES 978/83)

- Initial guidelines for a Community policy on tourism
(Rapporteur: Mr Brassier) (CES 984/83)
- Fixing of the generalized tariff preferences scheme for 1984
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) (CES 985/83)
- Community policy on oils and fats
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) (CES 980/83)
- Financing of innovation in the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Poeton) (CES 975/83)
- Multiannual research and development programmes in the fields of basic technological research and the applications of new technologies
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 970/83)
- Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States
(Amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bonety) (CES 977/83)
- New system for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry in the Community
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bornard) (CES 974/83)
- Financial support for a multannual transport infrastructure programme
(Rapporteur: Mr Plank) (CES 973/82)
- Memorandum on the Community's development policy
(Non-ACP aspects) (Additional opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr van Rens) (CES 976/83)
- Procedures for harmonizing the programmes for the reduction and eventual elimination of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry
(Rapporteur: Mr d'Elia) (CES 979/83)
- Conclusion and implementation of the Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the European Economic Community concerning direct insurance other than life assurance
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) (CES 972/83)
- Sparkling wines produced in the Community and defined in Item 13 of Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 (Amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 358/79) and general rules for the description and presentation of sparkling wines and aerated sparkling wines
(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) (CES 986/83)

- Community scheme to provide forests in the Community with increased protection against fire and acid rain
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Schnieders) (CES 982/83)
- Permissible sound level and the exhaust system of motor vehicles
(Amendment to Directive 70/157/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 971/83)

212th PLENARY SESSION 23 AND 24 NOVEMBER 1983

- Commission's Annual Economic Report 1983-84
(Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) (CES 1095/83)
- Enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and Spain
(Own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel) (CES 1100/83)
- Reduction and reorganization of working time
(Draft Council recommendation)
(Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) (CES 1102/83)
- Protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work: noise
(Rapporteur: Mr Etty) (CES 1096/83)
- Combating of air pollution from industrial plants
(Rapporteur: Mr de Normann) (CES 1094/83)
- Integrated Mediterranean programmes (Parts I and II)
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) (CES 1101/83)
- Research action programme on the development of nuclear fission energy (1984-87) and research programmes on reactor safety (1984-87) and the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-87)
(Rapporteur: Mr von der Decken) (CES 1086/83)
- Communication from the Commission on energy and energy research in the Community: a five-year programme of action and its financing
(Rapporteur: Mr Fortuyn) (CES 1097/83)
- Promoting the utilization of the results of Community R & D (Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) (CES 1088/83)
- Research and development programme (1982-85) in the raw materials sector
(Amendment to Decision 82/402/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Preben Nielsen) (CES 1089/83)

- Establishment of a common organization of the market in oils and fats and special measures in respect of olive oil producer organizations for the 1982/83 marketing year
(Amendments to Regulations Nos 136/66/EEC and 2598/82/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Ognibene) (CES 1091/83)
- Extending the common measure provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 1975/82 on the acceleration of agricultural development in certain regions of Greece
(Rapporteur: Mr Bazianas) (CES 1090/83)
- Special measures to help Greece in the social field
(Rapporteur: Mr Van Melckenbeke) (CES 1093/83)
- Concerted action research project of the European Economic Community on the effects of processing and distribution on the quality and nutritive value of food
(Rapporteur: Mrs Williams) (CES 1083/83)
- International company for piggyback transport
(Rapporteur: Mr Querleux) (CES 1099/83)
- Railway tariffs for international transport by container and piggyback techniques
(Rapporteur: Mr Querleux) (CES 1084/83)
- Establishment of common rules for certain types of carriage of goods by road between Member States
(Amendments to the First Council Directive of 23 July 1962)
(Rapporteur: Mrs Bredima) (CES 1085/83)
- Multiannual research and training programme for the European Atomic Energy Community in the field of radiation protection (1985–89)
(Rapporteur: Mr Preben Nielsen) (CES 1087/83)
- Brucellosis and the buffered brucella antigen test, the micro-agglutination test and the milk ring test as applied to samples of milk from bulk tanks
(Amendment to Directive 64/432/EEC)
(Rapporteur: Mr Storie-Pugh) (CES 1092/83)
- Contribution to the European Coal and Steel Community from the general budget of the European Communities
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Flum) (CES 1103/83)

213th PLENARY SESSION ON 14 AND 15 DECEMBER 1983

- Implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes
(Rapporteur: Mr Roycroft) (CES 1196/83)

- Safety of toys
(Three directives)
(Rapporteur: Mr Strobel (CES 1199/83))
- Use of hired vehicles for the carriage of goods by road; Own-account carriage of goods by road between Member States (amendment of proposal for a directive); Abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions, in implementation of Article 79 (3) of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (Amending Regulation No 11)
(Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) (CES 1200/83)
- Turnover taxes – Deferment of the introduction of the common system of value-added tax in the Hellenic Republic
(Fifteenth Council directive)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Dassoulas) (CES 1201/83)
- Comparability of vocational training qualifications between Member States of the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Nierhaus) (CES 1198/83)
- Protection of dialysis patients by minimizing the exposure to aluminium
(Rapporteur: Mr Monier) (CES 1193/83)
- Conclusion of the international convention on the harmonization of frontier controls of goods of 21 October 1982
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) (CES 1194/83)
- Adoption of a programme for the development of indigenous scientific and technical research capacities in the developing countries (1984–87)
(Rapporteur: Mr Beretta) (CES 1195/83)
- Communication on proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy and for a regulation concerning financial support of the Community in favour of industries producing solid fuels
(Rapporteur: Mr Delourme) (CES 1203/83)
- Council recommendation to the national railway companies of the Member States on strengthening their cooperation in the commercial management of international passenger and goods transport by rail
(Rapporteur: Mr Querleux) (CES 1102/83)
- Development programme for the Irish border area
(Information report)
(Rapporteur: Mr Bornard) (CES 450/83 fin)

**List of opinions
drawn up by the
Economic and Social Committee
on its own initiative
(1973-83)**

- Multilateral GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur: Mr de Précigout) May 1973
- Industrial and technological policy programme
(Rapporteur: Mr Kley) November 1973
- Progress achieved in the first stage of economic and
monetary union and measures to be taken in the
second stage December 1973
- Commission memorandum on the improvement of the
common agricultural policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Bourel) February 1974
- Agricultural aspects of the GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur: Mr Rømer) February 1974
- Role of the ESC in the institutional machinery of the
Communities
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) March 1974
- Employment and the changed situation in the ECC
(Rapporteur: Mr Debunne) May 1974
- EEC negotiations with African States, the East Indies
and the countries of the Pacific
(Rapporteur: Mr Bodart) June 1974
- Situation in the EEC
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) July 1974
- Energy for Europe – research and development
(Rapporteur: Mr Schlitt) January 1975
- EEC Mediterranean policy
(Rapporteur: Mrs Baduel Glorioso) January 1975
- Developing countries and the GATT negotiations
(Rapporteur: Mr Rømer) January 1975
- EEC data-processing policy
(Rapporteur: Mr de Ferranti) April 1975
- Education in the EEC
(Rapporteur: Mr Sloman) April 1975
- European Union
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) July 1975

- Telecommunications
(Rapporteur: Mr Roseingrave)

September 1975
- The economic and social situation of women in the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mrs Evans)

February 1976
- Unemployment in the EEC
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Basnett)

February 1976
- Regional development in the Community in 1975-77 and establishment of an EEC regional policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Maher)

March 1976
- Coordination of national employment policy instruments
(Rapporteur: Mr Laval)

March 1976
- Possibilities of developing advanced technology sectors in the EEC through a policy of liberalizing public purchasing
(Rapporteur: Mr de Ferranti)

May 1976
- Specific measures to relieve unemployment among the elderly, young people and women returning to gainful employment
(Rapporteur: Mr Carroll)

November 1976
- The common agricultural policy in the international context (possible consequences and improvements)
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Berns)

January 1977
- How regional development helps solve unemployment and inflation by making for a more balanced distribution of the working population
(Rapporteur: Mr Bornard)

March 1977
- The GATT multilateral trade negotiations (additional own-initiative opinion)
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain)

April 1977
- The implementation and development of the Community's consumer protection and information programme
(Rapporteur: Mr Ramaekers)

May 1977
- Transport problems in relations with Eastern bloc countries
(Rapporteur: Mr Henning)

June 1977

- Direct cooperation between the bodies designated by Member States to verify compliance with Community and national provisions in the wine sector (Rapporteur: Mr Guillaume) June 1977
- Industrial change and employment – A review of the Community's industrial policy and future prospects (Rapporteur: Mr Carstens) September 1977
- European Regional Development Fund (Second Annual Report 1976) (Rapporteur: Mr Loughrey) September 1977
- Small- and medium-sized enterprises in the Community context (Rapporteur: Mr Kolbensschlag) November 1977
- Transport problems in relations with Eastern bloc countries (Additional own-initiative opinion) (Rapporteur: Mr Hennig) November 1977
- Communication on the amendment of the common organization of the market in beef and veal, report on the merits of premiums and intervention measures in the beef and veal sector (Rapporteur: Mr Schnieders) December 1977
- Community regional policy guidelines (Rapporteur: Mr Laval) January 1978
- Common principles to be adopted in export credit insurance system for medium and long-term transactions with public and private buyers (Rapporteur: Mr Miller) February/March 1978
- Report on starch products in the Community and the starch production refund (Rapporteur: Mr Masprone) February/March 1978
- State of the customs union of the European Economic Community (Rapporteur: Mr Marvier) End March 1978
- Education and vocational training for young workers (Rapporteur: Mr Sloman) End March 1978
- Part-time work (Rapporteur: Mr van Rens) May 1978

- Draft Council decision on the activities of certain State-trading countries in cargo liner shipping
(Rapporteur: Mr Hoffmann) May 1978
- Community stand in the face of international monetary disorder
(Rapporteur: Mr Charpentie) June 1978
- Progress made in implementing the Lomé Convention in view of the opening of negotiations for a new convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Soulat) July 1978
- The future of forestry in the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Maher) July 1978
- Means of communication in the Londonderry/Donegal frontier area
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) July 1978
- Greek application for membership of the European Community
(Rapporteur-General: Mr De Ridder) November 1978
- Problems of frontier workers
(Rapporteur: Mr Delourme) January 1979
- Third ERDF Annual Report
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson) February 1979
- New shipping nations, flags of convenience and flag discrimination
(Rapporteur: Mr Rouzier) April 1979
- Energy objectives for 1990 and Member States' programmes
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) May 1979
- Greater economic policy convergence
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) May 1979
- Community enlargement – Requests for membership from Greece, Spain and Portugal
(Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) June 1979
- Role and influence of local and regional authorities in framing the common regional policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Ventejol) October 1979

- Industrial restructuring in the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr van Campen)

October 1979
- Multiannual programme for achieving the customs union
(Rapporteur: Mr Marvier)

October 1979
- ERDF Funds for 1980
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Milne)

October 1979
- The European Regional Development Fund (Fourth Annual Report 1978)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pearson)

November 1979
- The problems of trade barriers and the alignment of laws in this area
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain)

November 1979
- Report on some structural aspects of growth
(Rapporteur: Mr Querini)

February 1980
- Regional programmes
(Rapporteur: Mr Hall)

April 1980
- Use of medicine and its effects on public health
(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave)

April 1980
- The report on European institutions
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Friedrichs)

May 1980
- Development cooperation policy and the economic and social consequences of the application of certain international standards governing working conditions
(Rapporteur: Mr Soulat)

July 1980
- Distribution of the total catch possibilities of stocks or groups of stocks occurring in the Community fishing zone
(Rapporteur: Mr Leo)

November 1980
- Community accession to the European Convention on Human Rights
(Rapporteur: Mr Williams)

December 1980
- Protection of investment in less-developed countries
(Rapporteur: Mr Breitenstein)

December 1980

- European Regional Development Fund (Fifth Annual Report 1979)
(Rapporteur: Mr Curlis) December 1980
- The Community competition policy in the light of the current economic and social situation
(Rapporteur: Mr Bagliano) April 1981
- Revision of the ERDF Regulation
(Rapporteur: Mr Hall) April 1981
- Implementation of the Second Lomé Convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Clavel) May 1981
- Economic and commercial relations between the Community and Japan
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) July 1981
- The automobile sector
(Rapporteur: Mr Laval) July 1981
- The present situation in the Community's construction sector and the most appropriate measures by which the EEC can promote growth and employment in this sector
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) July 1981
- The situation and problems of the handicapped
(Rapporteur: Mr Davies) July 1981
- The Community's food aid policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Williams) September 1981
- The agricultural aspects of the enlargement of the Community to include Spain
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) September 1981
- Review of energy policy objectives for 1990 and Member States' investment programmes
(Communication from the Commission)
(Rapporteur: Mr Margot) September 1981
- Prospects for the Communities' policies in the 1980s
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) October 1981
- Reform of the common agricultural policy
(Rapporteur: Mr Zinkin) November 1981

- European Regional Development Fund (Sixth Annual Report 1980)
(Rapporteur: Mr Zoli) December 1981
- The situation and prospects of the textile and clothing industries in the Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Masucci) January 1982
- The coordination of labour market instruments
(Rapporteur: Mr Vanni) February 1982
- The development of the European Monetary System (EMS)
(Rapporteur: Mr Évain) April 1982
- The 1982 programme for the attainment of the customs union
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) April 1982
- The promotion of the small and medium-sized enterprises sector in the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr Kolbenschlag) May 1982
- Communication from the Commission to the Council on the development of an energy strategy for the Community and energy pricing – policy and transparency
(Rapporteur: Mr Zünkler) May 1982
- The economic situation in the Community (mid-1982)
(Rapporteur: Mr Loccufier) July 1982
- Commission report to the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers on the administration of financial and technical cooperation in 1980 under the Lomé Convention
(Rapporteur: Mr Cremer) July 1982
- Transport policy of the European Community in the 1980s
(Rapporteur-General: Mr Rouzier) October 1982
- European Regional Development Fund – Seventh Annual Report (1981)
(Rapporteur: Mr Broicher) February 1983
- Youth employment
(Rapporteur: Mr Burnel) June 1983

- Young people and their role in the development of the European Community
(Rapporteur: Mr De Bruyn) June 1983
- Preparation for the 6th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad)
(Rapporteur: Mr Elkan) June 1983
- Economic situation in the Community
(First half of 1983)
(Rapporteur: Mr Pfeiffer) July 1983
- Relations between the European Community and the USA
(Rapporteur: Mr Staratzke) July 1983
- Implementation of environmental job-creating measures
(Rapporteur: Mr De Grave) September 1983
- Community policy on oils and fats
(Rapporteur: Mr Lauga) October 1983
- Enlargement of the Community to include Portugal and Spain
(Rapporteur: Mrs Strobel) November 1983

**Tables indicating the extent
to which opinions led to proposals
being amended**

These tables, which cover more than the year under review, update the follow-up given to the Committee opinions. In view of the fact that there is a certain time-lag between the adoption of an opinion and the Council decision, the present tables are meant to complete the Committee's previous annual reports.

Subject	Referral	By	ESC opinion	Publication of decision	Extent to which ESC opinion was taken into account			EP opinion
					little	some	a lot	
Basic safety standards for the health protection of the general public and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation (Amendment to Annexes I and III of Directive 80/838/Euratom)	13. 12. 1982	Commission	7. 7. 1983 OJ C 286 of 24. 10. 1983		X			
Review of the European Social Fund (Tasks of the European Social Fund) (Implementation of Decision 83/516/EEC)	11. 11. 1982	Council	23. 3. 1983 OJ C 124 of 9. 5. 1983	OJ L 289 of 22. 10. 1983	X		OJ C 161 of 20. 6. 1983	
Vocational training policies in the 1980s (Draft resolution)	11. 11. 1982	Council	23. 3. 1983 OJ C 124 of 9. 5. 1983		X			
Social security schemes for employed persons, self-employed persons and their families moving within the Community (Amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 and Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71)	17. 1. 1983	Council	24. 2. 1983 OJ C 90 of 5. 4. 1983	OJ L 230 of 22. 8. 1983	X		OJ C 96 of 11. 4. 1983	
Vocational training and new information technologies: new Community initiatives during the period 1983 to 1987	22. 6. 1982	Council	26. 1. 1983 OJ C 77 of 21. 3. 1983			X		
Harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of inward processing (Implementation of Article 18 of Directive 69/73/EEC)	20. 7. 1982	Council	16. 12. 1982 OJ C 33 of 7. 2. 1983	OJ L 59 of 5. 3. 1983	X		OJ C 200 of 4. 8. 1982	
Waste from the titanium dioxide industry (Amendment to Directive 78/176/EEC)	23. 7. 1982	Council	27. 10. 1982 OJ C 326 of 13. 12. 1982	OJ L 32 of 3. 2. 1983	X		OJ C 292 of 8. 11. 1982	

Granting of financial support for demonstration projects relating to the exploitation of alternative energy sources, energy-saving and the substitution of hydrocarbons and pilot industrial projects and demonstration projects relating to the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels (two proposals for a regulation)	18. 8. 1982	Council	28. 10. 1982 OJ C 326 of 13. 12. 1982	OJ L 195 of 19. 7. 1983	X	OJ C 304 of 22. 11. 1982
Principles of a Community policy with regard to retirement age (Draft recommendation)	12. 1. 1982	Council	28. 4. 1982 OJ C 178 of 15. 7. 1982	OJ L 357 of 18. 12. 1982	X	OJ 267 of 11. 10. 1982
Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors (Directive amending 17 directives)	21. 12. 1981	Council	27. 1. 1982 OJ C 77 of 29. 3. 1982	OJ L 378 of 31. 12. 1982	ESC opinion endorsed draft directive	OJ C 182 of 19. 7. 1982
The effect of processing on the physical properties of foodstuffs (COST project 90 bis)	2. 10. 1981	Council	15. 12. 1981 OJ C 64 of 15. 3. 1982	OJ L 353 of 15. 12. 1982	X	OJ C 125 of 17. 5. 1982
Consolidation of precautionary measures concerning chlorofluorocarbons in the environment	9. 10. 1981	Council	25. 11. 1981 OJ C 348 of 31. 12. 1981	OJ L 329 of 25. 11. 1982	ESC opinion endorsed draft directive	OJ C 125 of 17. 5. 1982
Setting up a Community inter-institutional information system and use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports (Two decisions)	28. 7. 1981	Council	28. 10. 1981 OJ C 343 of 31. 12. 1981	OJ L 388 of 28. 12. 1982 OJ L 247 of 23. 8. 1983	X	OJ C 125 of 17. 5. 1982
Limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment	11. 3. 1981	Council	2. 7. 1981 OJ C 230 of 10. 9. 1981	OJ L 291 of 24. 10. 1983	Annex I (7) was amended by the Com- mission in the light of the ESC opinion	OJ C 334 of 20. 12. 1982
Methods for the surveillance and monitoring of the environments affected by wastes from the titanium dioxide industry	15. 1. 1981	Council	2. 7. 1981 OJ C 230 of 10. 9. 1981	OJ L 378 of 31. 12. 1982	X	OJ C 149 of 14. 6. 1982

Subject	Referral	By	ESC opinion	Publication of decision	Extent to which ESC opinion was taken into account			EP opinion
					little	some	a lot	
Measuring instruments and methods of metrological control (Four directives amending Council Directive 71/316/EEC and 76/764/EEC) clinical mercury-in-glass, maximum-reading thermometers (amendment to Directive 76/74/EEC)	15. 1. 1981	Council	26. 5. 1981 OJ C 189 of 30. 7. 1981					
Community transit (Third amendment to Regulation (EEC) No 222/77)	19. 2. 1981	Council	26. 5. 1981 OJ C 189 of 30. 7. 1981	OJ L 382 of 31. 12. 1982	ESC opinion endorsed of Commission proposal		OJ C 287 of 9. 11. 1981	
Harmonization of procedures for the release of goods for free circulation	23. 3. 1981	Council	26. 5. 1981 OJ C 189 of 30. 7. 1981	OJ L 319 of 7. 11. 1981	ESC opinion endorsed of Commission proposal		OJ C 260 of 12. 10. 1981	
Tax free allowances applied in international travel and to imports of goods in small consignments of a non-commercial character: third countries and the Community (Two proposals amending Directives 69/169/EEC, 78/1035/EEC and 74/651/EEC)	13. 1. 1981	Council	25. 3. 1981 OJ C 159 of 29. 6. 1981	OJ L 338 of 25. 11. 1981	ESC opinion endorsed of Commission proposal		OJ C 144 of 15. 6. 1981	
Procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations	19. 9. 1980	Council	25. 3. 1981 OJ C 159 of 29. 6. 1981	OJ L 109 of 26. 4. 1983		X	OJ C 144 of 15. 6. 1981	
Implementation of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora	12. 8. 1980	Council	26. 2. 1981 OJ C 138 of 9. 6. 1981	OJ L 384 of 31. 12. 1982			OJ C 327 of 14. 12. 1981	X

Tariff treatment applicable to goods contained in travellers' personal luggage or sent in small consignments to private individuals (Amendments to Regulations (EEC) Nos 1544/69, 2780/78 and 3060/78)	5. 2. 1981	Council	26. 2. 1981 OJ C 138 of 9. 6. 1981	OJ L 334 of 21. 11. 1981	ESC opinion endorsed Commission proposal	OJ C 144 of 15. 6. 1981
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (benzene) (Second amendment to Directive 76/769/EEC)	24. 10. 1980	Council	11. 12. 1980 OJ C 353 of 31. 12. 1980	OJ L 339 of 1. 12. 1982	ESC opinion endorsed Commission proposal	OJ C 346 of 31. 12. 1980
Antioxidants authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption (amendment to Directive 70/357/EEC)	11. 8. 1980	Council	20. 11. 1980 OJ C 348 of 31. 12. 1980	OJ L 354 of 9. 12. 1981	X	OJ C 327 of 15. 12. 1980
Recovery and re-use of waste paper and board (Council recommendation)	28. 5. 1980	Council	30. 10. 1980 OJ C 331 of 17. 12. 1980	OJ C 331 of 17. 12. 1980 OJ C 355 of 10. 12. 1981	X	OJ C 26 of 9. 2. 1981
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (fifth amendment to Directive 76/769/EEC)	19. 5. 1980	Council	30. 10. 1980 OJ C 331 of 17. 12. 1980	Amend.	X	
Exemption from value-added tax on the final importation of certain goods (Determination of the scope of Article 14 (1) (d) of Directive 77/388/EEC)	30. 6. 1980	Council	25. 9. 1980 OJ C 300 of 18. 11. 1980	OJ L 105 of 23. 4. 1983	X	OJ C 50 of 9. 3. 1981
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (Third amendment to Directive 76/769/EEC)	4. 2. 1980	Council	27. 3. 1980 OJ C 182 of 21. 7. 1980	OJ L 350 of 10. 12. 1982	X	OJ C 175 of 14. 7. 1980
Rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products	21. 2. 1979	Council	27. 3. 1980 OJ C 182 of 21. 7. 1980		Art. 4 amended by Commission in light of ESC opinion	

Subject	Referral	By	ESC opinion	Publication of decision	Extent to which ESC opinion was taken into account			EP opinion
					little	some	a lot	
Setting up of a system of reliefs from customs duty	28. 3. 1979	Council	21. 11. 1979 OJ C 72 of 24. 3. 1980	OJ L 105 of 23. 4. 1983		X		OJ C 4 of 7. 1. 1980
Conclusion of the Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats	7. 8. 1979	Council	25. 10. 1979 OJ C 53 of 3. 3. 1980	OJ L 36 of 10. 2. 1982		ESC opinion endorsed Commission proposal		OJ C 175 of 14. 7. 1980
Edible caseins and caseinates	12. 2. 1979	Council	28. 6. 1979 OJ C 247 of 1. 10. 1979	OJ L 237 of 26. 8. 1983		X		OJ C 140 of 5. 6. 1979
Plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	14. 6. 1978	Council	23. 5. 1979 OJ C 227 of 10. 9. 1979	OJ L 297 of 23. 10. 1982	X			OJ C 140 of 5. 6. 1979
Temporary importation arrangements	18. 7. 1978	Council	22. 2. 1979 OJ C 133 of 28. 5. 1979	Amend. OJ L 376 of 31. 12. 1982	X			OJ C 296 of 11. 12. 1978
Personal property of individuals permanently imported	12. 11. 1975	Council	31. 3. 1976 OJ C 131 of 12. 6. 1976	OJ L 105 of 23. 4. 1983		X		OJ C 53 of 8. 3. 1976
Certain means of transport temporarily imported	12. 11. 1975	Council	31. 3. 1976 OJ C 131 of 12. 6. 1976	OJ L 105 of 23. 4. 1983		ESC opinion endorsed Commission proposal		OJ C 53 of 8. 3. 1976

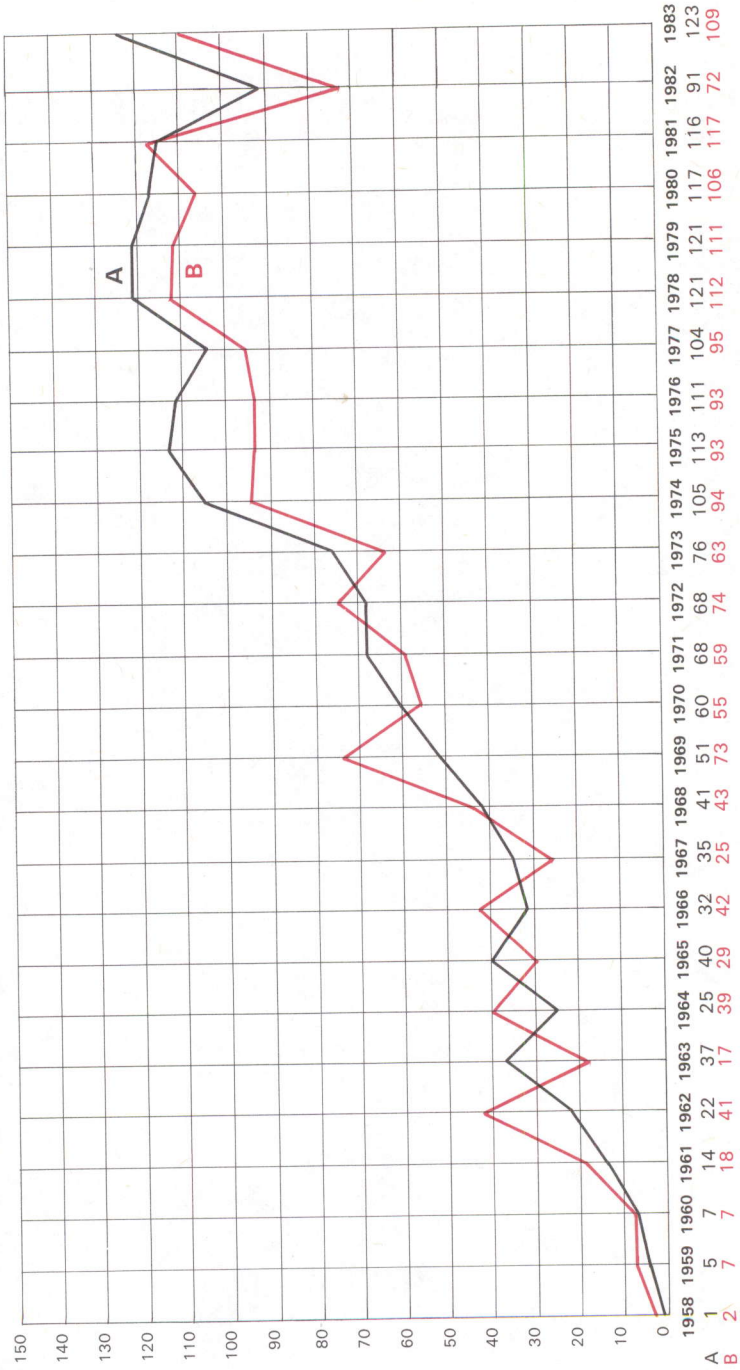
Splitting of public companies (Sixth Directive pursuant to Treaty, Article 54 (3) (g))	27. 5. 1971	Council	OJ C 88 of 6. 9. 1971	OJ L 378 of 31. 12. 1982	X	OJ C 129 of 11. 12. 1972 OJ C 95 of 28. 4. 1975
--	-------------	---------	-----------------------------	--------------------------------	---	--

Annex D

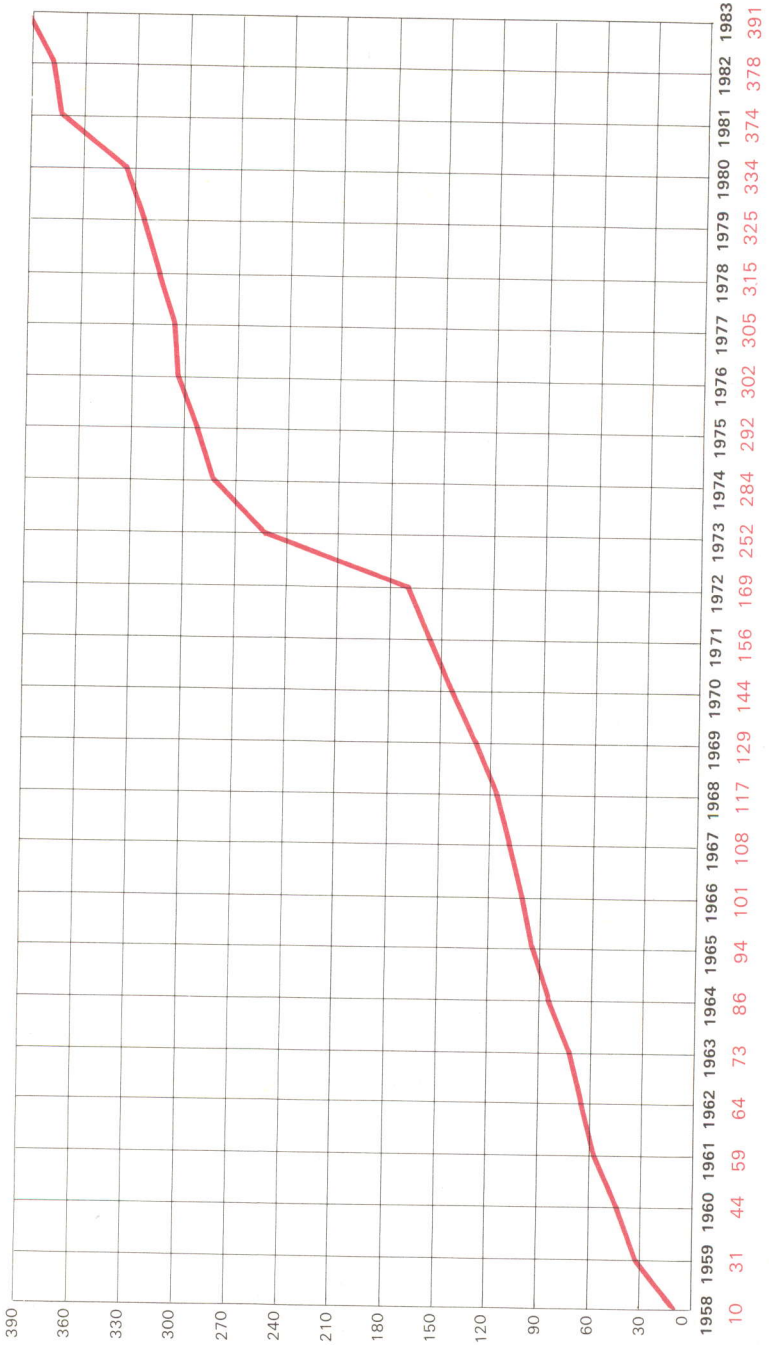
Graphs

A - TEXTS PRODUCED (Opinions, information reports, studies)

B - REFERRALS



NUMBER OF STAFF



MEETINGS



European Communities – Economic and Social Committee

Annual Report 1983

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

1984 – 106 pp., 3 graphs – 14.8 x 21.0 cm

DA, DE, GR, EN, FR, IT, NL

ISBN 92-830-0037-4

Catalogue number: EX-38-83-653-EN-C

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg

ECU 3.93 BFR 180 IRL 2.90 UKL 2.30 USD 3.50

This annual report covers the Economic and Social Committee's work in 1983. It looks in particular at the Committee's influence within the Community's decision-making process, the Committee's image in the media and the role played by the groups represented on the Economic and Social Committee. A table showing the work carried out on various Community policies is also included. The report concludes with a number of lists, graphs and tables.

ISBN 92-830-0037-4

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg
ECU 3.93 BFR 180 IRL 2.90 UKL 2.30 USD 3.50



OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

L-2985 Luxembourg



9 789283 000372