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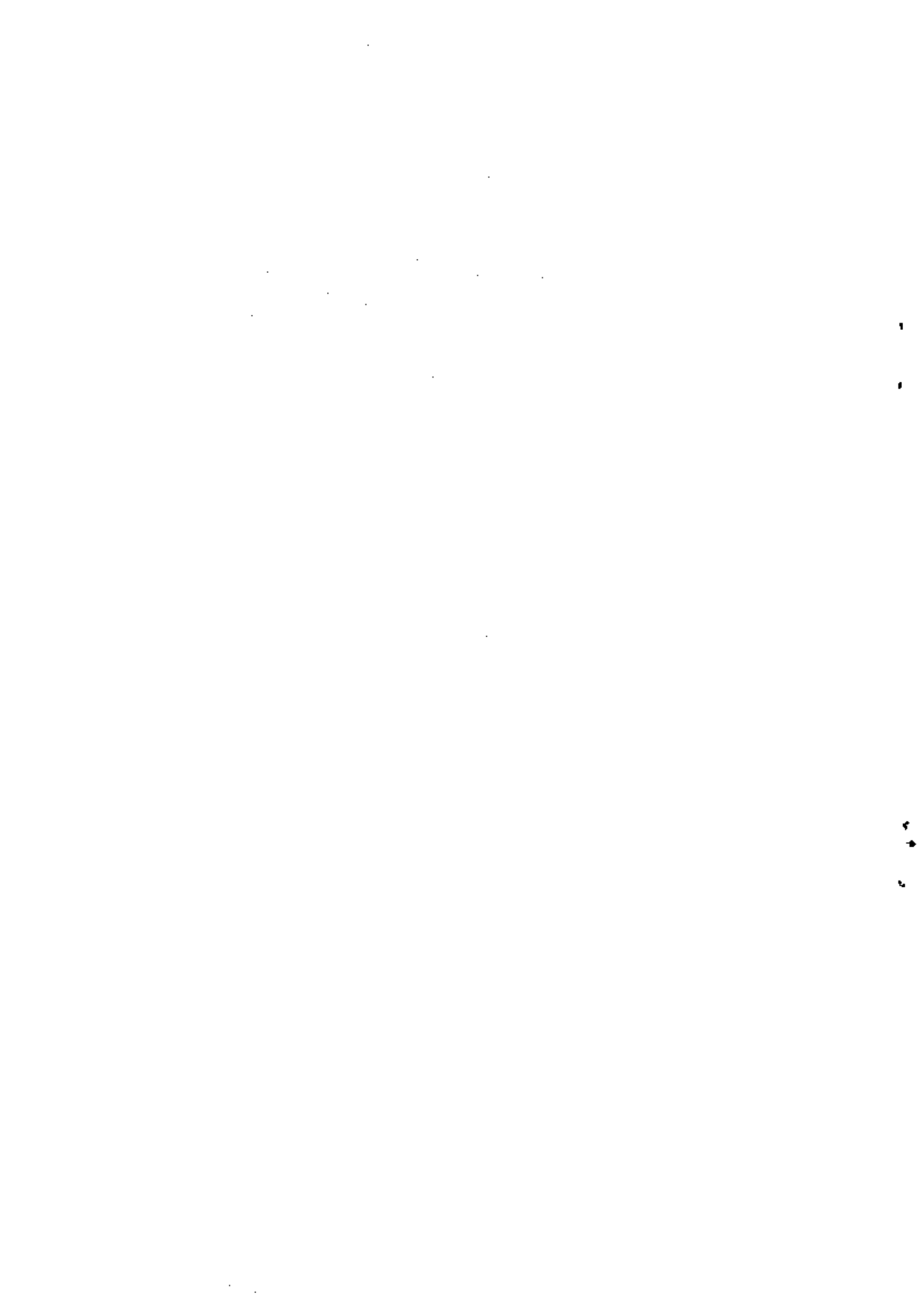
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Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Development and Cooperation

on the results of the ninth annual meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the
EEC-AASM Association

Rapporteur: Mr L. HARMEGNIES



On 15 March 1973, the European Parliament instructed the Committee on Development and Cooperation to prepare a report on the results of the meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association which was to be held at Kinshasa.

On 19 March 1973, the Committee on Development and Cooperation appointed Mr Harmegnies as rapporteur on this subject.

During its meeting of 4 June, the Committee examined Mr Harmegnies' report and, at the same time, unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement, with two abstentions.

The following were present:

Mr Achenbach, Chairman, Mr Dewulf and Mr Laudrin, Vice-Chairmen,
Mr Harmegnies, rapporteur, Mr Antoniozzi, Mr Briot, Mr Corona, Miss Flesch,
Mr Kollwelter, Mr Reay, Mr Romualdi and Mr Spenalé.

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION	5
B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	7
ANNEX I -	
Resolution on the eighth annual report on the activities of the Association Council	14
ANNEX II -	
Resolution on the memorandum by the Commission of the European Communities on a Community policy for development cooperation	17
ANNEX III -	
Resolution on coordination of the activities of the 24 partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development, pursuant in particular to Protocol No. 5 to the Second Yaoundé Convention	19

The Committee on Development and Cooperation hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the results of the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association

The European Parliament,

- referring to its resolutions of 20 January 1965¹, 11 March 1966², 15 March 1967³, 22 January 1968⁴, 4 March 1969⁵, 12 March 1970⁶, 17 May 1971⁷ and 17 March 1972⁸;
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and Cooperation (Doc. 87/73);
1. Endorses the conclusions reached by the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association in its resolutions adopted on 31 March 1973 at Kinshasa;
 2. Intends to follow closely the fulfilment of the commitment entered into by the Paris Summit conference confirming the importance attached by the Community to the association policy, the cornerstone of an overall policy of world-wide cooperation on development;
 3. Supports the Commission's endeavours to work out for the future new methods of adapting the commercial sector of the Association to current development needs of the Associated States;
 4. Invites the Committee on Budgets to consider the proposal to include the European Development Fund in the budget, and if possible to increase the funds available to it as from 1975, by allocations from the Community's own resources.

¹ See OJ No. 20, 6.2.1965, p.281

² See OJ No. 59, 24.3.1966, p.773

³ See OJ No. 63, 3.4.1967, p.975

⁴ See OJ No. C 10, 14.2.1968, p.5

⁵ See OJ No. C 41, 1.4.1969

⁶ See OJ No. C 40, 3.4.1970, p.33

⁷ See OJ No. C 35, 3.6.1971, p.5.

⁸ See OJ No. C 36, 12.4.1972

5. Invites Community authorities and Member States to take account of the interests of Associated States and to hold the necessary consultations in good time on the action to be taken by common agreement in international monetary institutions and during multilateral trade negotiations in GATT;
6. Stresses the importance it attaches to active preparation of negotiations on the renewal and enlargement of the Association;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of the appropriate committee to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the Presidents of the Parliaments of the Associated African States and Madagascar and to the members of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The Parliamentary Conference of the EEC - AASM Association held its Ninth Annual Meeting from 29 to 31 March 1973 at Kinshasa.

The work of the conference was prepared by the Joint Committee at its meetings from 29 May to 1st June 1973 in Luxembourg, from 24 to 26 October 1972 in Ouagadougou and from 26 to 28 March 1973 in Kinshasa.

2. As is the custom, the Conference opened with a formal inaugural sitting attended by the President of the Association Council, the President of the Council of the Community, the representative of the committee responsible for development aid policy, and of distinguished political figures of the Republic of Zaïre. This reflects the importance attached in political circles to this Euro-African parliamentary meeting.

For the first time, members of the European Parliament representing the three new Member States of the European Economic Community were welcomed to the Conference.

3. In addition, pursuant to Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, representatives of the following Member States of the East African Community attended as observers: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania as well as representatives of Mauritius, also as observers pending ratification by all States party to the Port-Louis Agreement of the accession of Mauritius to the Yaoundé Convention which would permit representatives of that country to become full members of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association.

4. The Conference agenda included the following reports by the Joint Committee:

- Report by Mr BOUDA on the management accounts of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association for the 1972 financial year and on the estimates for the 1973 financial year (Doc. 43, 31.1.1973);
- Report and supplementary report by Mr François PERRET on the Eighth Annual Report on the activities of the Association Council (Doc. 45, 20.2.1973 and Doc. 46, 28.3.1973);
- Report by Mr Heinrich AIGNER on the Memorandum of the Commission of European Communities on a Community policy for development cooperation (Doc. 47, 28.3.1973);
- Report by Mr Ernest GLINNE on coordination of the activities of the 24 partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development, pursuant in particular to Protocol No. 5 to the Yaoundé Convention (Doc. 41, 31.1.1973)
- Working Document by Mr Louis BRIOT on the development of tourism in Africa (Doc. 44, 20.2.1973).

5. The report by Mr BOUDA on the Conference management accounts for the 1972 financial year and on the draft estimates for the 1973 financial year was unanimously approved.

After satisfying itself that its affairs had been soundly managed and noting that expenditure had fallen by about 10%, the Conference gave a discharge to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament in respect of his management of its affairs.

The estimates of expenditure charged to all the Associated States for 1973 amounted to 216,000 French francs, so that contributions from the Associated States could be maintained unchanged at 12,000 F.F. per country.

6. The main aspect of the work of the Conference was a discussion of the report by Mr PERRET on the Eighth General Report. This was preceded by a report from the retiring President-in-office of the Association Council on the Association's activities. The rapporteur, Mr PERRET, then dwelt on the essential and positive aspects of the Association, while emphasizing the difficulties that had been experienced in EEC - AASM relations, particularly in the trade sector during the year under review.

7. A wide-ranging debate developed on both the Annual Report and the Commission Memorandum on an overall policy for development aid. The debate, in which many speakers took part, served to clarify the key position of the Association in the general context of development aid policy in the Community. It showed how the Yaoundé Association had been evolving in a rapidly changing politico-economic situation; the year under review had seen numerous developments which, in varying degrees, had influenced relations between the Community and African countries:

- enlargement of the Community, foreshadowing the enlargement of the Association itself, insofar as Commonwealth countries felt it wise to accede to the Convention of Association;
- the Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the enlarged Community which had endorsed the continuation of the association policy while safeguarding its achievements and fundamental principles and at the same time extending Community development aid measures on a scale reflecting the growing responsibilities devolving on Europe;
- the accession of Mauritius through the Port-Louis Agreement of 12 May 1972, which demonstrated to other Commonwealth countries the vitality of the Association and its outward-looking character;

It would nevertheless be desirable for the ratification procedure in some Member States to be speeded up so as to permit Mauritius to become a full member of the Association and in particular to enjoy the benefits of financial and technical cooperation;

- the UNCTAD conference at Santiago (Chile) in the spring of 1972 which, despite occasional sharp confrontations between the participating countries, had served to strengthen the solidarity between Community Member States and their African associates. The results of the UNCTAD

conference, too meagre for some, contrasted with some of the certainly more practical initiatives being taken within the framework of the Yaoundé Convention.

Among the positive achievements of the Santiago conference, all the speakers had emphasized the importance of the resolution on the special measures to be taken in favour of less developed countries which would apply to 25 countries, among them 10 of the Associated States. This resolution had in fact echoed the Community's resolve to do more for the least advanced of the developing countries.

On the African side, one of the most important events for the Association had been the creation of the Economic Community of West African States by the agreement signed in Bamako on 3 June 1972 which marked another step towards one of the aims of the Association - regional economic integration.

8. Against this general background favouring the policy of association between the EEC and the African States, the Association's activities had proceeded without major setbacks. At the institutional level, the Council and its subsidiary organ, the Association Committee, had as always met at regular intervals, but a political dialogue between the Community and the Associated States had not really been established, despite the repeatedly expressed wishes of the Parliamentary Conference.

9. The President of the Conference, Mr YACE, made a point of dwelling once again on the spirit and the aims of the Association: 'The significance of our Association is essentially political. It represents a deliberate choice on the part of each African signatory that wished to enter into partnership with the EEC as such, in full respect of the sovereignty of each of our States. This choice is based on affinities and on cultural, historical and geographical links, but, also on an appreciation of mutual economic interests'.

The Associated States in particular reaffirmed their interest in a type of association - proposed by the Community and confirmed in its Memorandum - founded on the desire for world-wide cooperation, technical and financial cooperation and a preferential trade policy based on free-trade agreements. This framework of cooperation, which had been described as 'exemplary in every respect', had enabled a group of developing countries and a group of developed countries to make a start on solving the problem of development in the Third World. The entry of the United Kingdom into the Community had opened the way into the enlarged Europe to twenty Commonwealth States by offering them different modes of association.

10. Some very outspoken statements were made on the Association's preference policy, which had been called into question by some third countries, particularly as regard 'reverse preferences'.

Various African representatives pointed out, quoting the words of President SENHOR, that 'in African civilization reciprocity or barter is the basis of all association. We intend to continue granting Europe preferential access to our markets, as much for commercial and legal reasons as from considerations relating to our own dignity and sovereignty; as much for what we are worth as for what we are.'

This meant that it was for each of the Associated States itself to decide whether or not to grant preferences to Member States of the European Community. This followed in any case from the principle of tariff autonomy of each member of the Yaoundé Convention.

11. In the realm of trade, all the partners agreed that, after real growth in previous years, the value of imports from the Associated States had shown a marked drop in 1971. This had been due to market trends, and in particular to the easing of the price of cocoa and of copper, of both of which the AASM countries were suppliers. In addition these countries had again become aware of the rigidity of the common agricultural policy and of the consequent difficulties in exporting to the Community agricultural products similar to and competing with European products, especially fruit and vegetables.

12. The AASM were concerned at the problem of generalized preferences, for they had found that after losing their exclusive preferential access to Community markets, they were not benefiting from the compensation they might have expected from preferential access of their manufactures to the markets of other industrialized countries, particularly the United States.

Besides, the AASM did not want the Community to extend the benefits of general preferences to countries other than those in the 'Group of 77'.

13. In the field of financial and technical cooperation the situation was satisfactory, with a fairly high rate of commitments and general guidelines on financial and technical cooperation laid down by the Council, in accordance with the Associated States' expressed wish, confirming that priority should be given to directly productive sectors. Once again, some Associated States raised the thorny question of the distribution of the financial aid of the European Development Fund and requested that, in the spirit of Article 23 of the Convention, the allocation of funds should take into account the stage of development of each Associated State and that more should be done for the 'less advanced' countries. The possibility of setting up a special

section of the EDF for regional cooperation aid should also be considered.

14. After reviewing the activities of the Association, the Conference tried to trace out some guidelines for the future, and three new and important ideas were put forward.

15. During discussion of the Memorandum on Community development aid policy, the rapporteur, Mr AIGNER, proposed an increase in Community aid, on the ground that despite the efforts of industrialized countries, the results aimed at had not been achieved because the terms of trade had continued to deteriorate to the detriment of developing countries.

The rapporteur therefore proposed that the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets should study the possibility of allocating to the Associated States from the Community's own resources, from 1975 onwards, part of the expected increase in its revenue deriving from VAT. If the amount were fixed at between 0.25 and 0.30 %, for instance, an additional sum of some 400 million u.a. would become available annually both for overall development aid and for pursuing an active policy of regional development within the Community itself.

16. This suggestion, which received favourable comment, was rounded off by another, put forward both by parliamentarians and by the Commission's representative, for budgeting the European Development Fund. This would make it possible not only for EDF funds to grow progressively with the increase in Community revenue but also to avoid any discontinuity in the transfer of EDF appropriations on the expiry of each Association agreement, pending ratification - often a lengthy process - of a new agreement at the end of each 5-year term.

17. The third suggestion was put forward by the Commission's representative, Mr DENIAU: financial development aid presupposes a basis for development basis: if this does not exist, financial aid is granted under conditions of permanent instability and takes the form of somewhat belated compensation. More should be done, therefore, in the trade sector, and a remedy should be sought for the fundamental problem of instability and of the prices of the main primary commodities. For a number of essential exports of the AASM, a minimum yearly revenue should be guaranteed through a kind of insurance scheme which would makeup from year to year, on the basis of the average export tonnage to the Community, the receipts of those countries. Such a guarantee, which would imply a financial commitment on the part of the Community, would be additional to present EDF credits. The suggestion is in fact a revival of an idea dear to the hearts of the Parliamentary Conference and embodied in several reports which have enjoyed some publicity.¹

¹ Notably the ARMENGAUD report on ways and means of promoting the marketing within the Community of AASM products at stable and remunerative prices (Doc. 20/CPA/CP, November 1967).

18. The retiring President-in-office of the Council, Mrs PETRY, had dwelt in more general terms on the Community's responsibility towards the whole Third World and on the need to preserve, renew and extend the Association's achievements. Without anticipating the outcome of discussions in the Council, which was likely to be known in May, she expressed her conviction that the next Convention would be improved and modified, particularly as regards the terms of trade and technical and financial cooperation.

Mrs PETRY added that an Association enlarged to cover more African countries should stabilize the situation by weaving a network of closer links both between African countries and between Africa and Europe.

19. At the conclusion of this debate the Conference unanimously adopted a resolution on the Eighth Annual Report on the activities of the Association presented by Mr PERRET (See Annex I) and a second resolution, following a report by Mr AIGNER (see Annex II), on the Memorandum by the Commission on a Community policy for development and cooperation.

20. The Conference referred to the Joint Committee the working document by Mr Louis BRIOT on the development of tourism in African and making the most of the tourist resources of the AASM. A debate had earlier taken place on this theme. The rapporteur had listed all the problems arising in connection with the growth of the African tourist trade, pointing out that the use made of existing resources in this area was in the first place a matter for the Africans themselves.

Tourism was a means of exploiting the cultural and artistic heritage of a country in which the small craft industry could play an important part, but it could also be a factor in the development of tertiary activities of value to the economies of the AASM. While taking care to preserve the natural environment and safeguard the cultural heritage, it was necessary to set up infrastructures capable of satisfying foreign visitors' needs. To this end steps would have to be taken to provide adequate training to hotel staff and to acquaint the public with the real purpose of tourism.

21. Finally, the Conference adopted a resolution following the report by Mr GLINNE on the coordination of the activities of the 24 Partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development.

In this connection, the Conference felt that Partner States should make a greater effort to concert their attempts to achieve a true political dialogue in various areas between Member States and the AASM.

In keeping with the letter and the spirit of Protocol No. 5 to the

Yaoundé Convention the Signatory States should hold consultations within the Association Council in order jointly to determine what action should be taken in their mutual interests and to help each other, particularly in finding outlets for and marketing tropical products. Such coordination, required under the Convention, did not rule out consultation or exchanges of information among the Association partners on questions of common interest in areas not specified by the Convention but concerning, for example, the action to be taken in international monetary institutions or during the multilateral trade negotiations in GATT.

CONCLUSIONS

Like its predecessors, the Kinshasa Conference took place in an atmosphere of mutual confidence. The various Partner States reaffirmed their attachment to the fundamental principles of the Association which they wanted to see continued. They also expressed the hope that steps would be taken, while preserving what the Association had achieved to date, to improve the means of action proposed by the Community to strengthen the commercial aspect of the Association and adapt it more closely to the new realities facing the Associated States.

Similarly, new measures in the field of financial cooperation should provide the Community with ample resources not only to cater for the needs of the 18 AASM but also to face the Community's growing responsibilities in view of the prospect of a larger Association embracing those Commonwealth countries that wanted to join it.

RESOLUTION

on the eighth annual report on the activities of the Association Council

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association.

- meeting at Kinshasa from 29 to 31 March 1973, pursuant to Article 52 of the Convention of Association between the European Economic Community and the African and Malagasy States associated with that Community, signed at Yaounde on 29 July 1969;
- having noted the eighth annual report on the activities of the Association Council (Doc 42-I/II) and the report of the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on the administration of financial and technical cooperation in 1971 (Doc 42/III);
- having heard statements by the Presidents of the Association Council and Council of the Communities and by the representative of the Commission of the European Communities;
- having regard to the report and supplementary report submitted by Mr Perret on behalf of the Joint Committee (Doc 45 and 46),

1. Present problems of the Association

(a) Enlargement of the Community

1. Welcomes the enlargement of the European Community which will enable Community development aid to be consolidated and expanded to match Europe's growing responsibilities throughout the world;
2. Notes that the present Association arrangements will remain unchanged until January 1975;
3. Notes with satisfaction that the Treaty of Accession confirmed once again that the aim of the enlarged Community in its Association policy remains to preserve the achievements and basic principles of the Association and recognized that any extension of this policy must not be allowed to weaken relations between the Community and the AASM;
4. Is well satisfied with the commitments entered into by the Paris Summit Conference,
 - confirming the vital importance which the enlarged Community attaches to the association policy,
 - inviting the institutions of the enlarged Community and the Member States to progressively adopt an overall policy of development cooperation on a worldwide scale;
5. Hopes that the enlarged Community, as the third world's largest trading partner, will take resolute steps to implement solutions capable of giving a more satisfactory and better balanced structure to international economic relations, in particular by regulating and improving the export revenue of the developing countries and giving increased support for the diversification of the economies of these countries, especially the least advanced among them;

(b) Accession of Mauritius

6. Recommends that all necessary steps be taken to ensure the entry into force at the earliest possible date of the agreement on the Accession of Mauritius to the Yaounde Convention which emphasizes the outward-looking and dynamic character of the Association;

(c) Activities of the institutions

7. Draws attention to its attachment to the joint institutions of the Association and notes that their activities have continued to be fruitful;
8. Welcomes the fact that, as a result of the enlargement, the three new Member States of the Community, while not having the same terms of reference as the six Member States which are partners in the present association convention, will in future be represented in the institutions of the Association;

(d) *Trade*

9. Notes with regret that while total European imports from all the developing countries increased, imports from the associated States showed a sharp decline in value in 1971;
10. Accepts that these results are essentially due on the one hand to the rise in price of petroleum products which the AASM do not supply in substantial quantities, and on the other to a fall in the price of cocoa and copper;
11. Expresses its serious concern over the present international trade difficulties, stemming in particular from fluctuations in primary commodity prices;
12. Deplores the repercussions of the prolonged closure of the Suez Canal on the economies of certain associated States, in particular on banana exports from Somalia, and hopes that a peaceful settlement will soon allow the reopening of this waterway which is of world interest;
13. Is also disturbed by the negative consequences of recent monetary events for the international economy;
14. Hopes that the forthcoming worldwide multilateral negotiations in GATT and the IMF — in which the developing countries will all be participating for the first time — will result in a more equitable organization of world trade and international monetary relations and that concertation between the partners of the Association will be continued and intensified during these negotiations;
15. Expects the European Community to play an active part in the inter-governmental consultations which the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has begun pursuant to Resolution 73 (X), and to contribute to the search for and implementation of effective solutions for the products in respect of which consultations could be envisaged with a view to an international agreement or arrangement;
16. Notes with satisfaction that the multilateral negotiations with a view to the conclusion of an international cocoa agreement have finally been completed, while regretting that the largest consumer country has not become a party to it, and recommends that the necessary steps be taken to ensure that the agreement comes into force as scheduled on 1 July 1973;
17. Hopes that all necessary steps will be taken to break the present deadlock on the International Coffee Agreement and enable it to be renegotiated in the near future;
18. Urges the Community to participate actively in the renegotiation of the International Sugar Agreement;
19. Stresses the importance to the AASM of an international agreement or arrangement on oleaginous products and accordingly expects the European Community to give priority to the search for solutions in this area;
20. Notes with concern that under the EEC's system of generalized preferences which has been extended from 1 January 1973, the AASM, after forfeiting their exclusive right of preferential access to the Community market, have not obtained in return preferential access to the markets of other industrialized countries, particularly the United States;
21. Regrets that the Council of the European Communities has departed from the principle of duty-free imports of fruit and vegetables from the AASM, while noting that the latest interim decisions of the EEC allow a satisfactory outlet on the European market for the products of the associated States in the off-season;
22. Asks for the duty exemption to be restored when this matter is next considered by the Council of the European Communities;
23. Recommends that appropriate measures be taken at an early date by the EEC to facilitate, through harmonization of legislation on health protection, plant health controls and protection of natural food products, the marketing in Europe of certain agricultural products (such as beef and veal, fresh pineapples, vanilla, oil cakes ...) which are of particular interest to the associated States;
24. Invites the EEC to pursue and intensify efforts to promote the sale of exports from the associated States and improve the commercial structures of these States;

(c) Financial and technical cooperation

25. Welcomes the fruitful activities of the Third European Development Fund;
26. Endorses the guidelines adopted by the Association Council on the objectives of financial and technical cooperation, with particular reference to the training of supervisory staff to handle development operations and also of trade officials;
27. Again recommends that steps be taken to ensure that parity changes do not affect the overall capacity of the Fund to provide assistance;
28. Hopes that, in the spirit of Article 23 of the Yaounde Convention, the guidelines approved at the Third Session of UNCTAD in Santiago on the treatment to be accorded to the least advanced countries will be borne in mind when the Fund's resources are allocated;
29. Stresses the need for effective coordination between the African countries at the level of viable economic areas as an essential prerequisite for the industrial development of the AASM;
30. Hopes that in the context of the financial assistance provided by the EEC, greater efforts will be made to develop the tourist potential of the associated States, bearing in mind at all times the need for the States concerned to safeguard the quality of the environment and of the tourist centres;

II. The future of the Association

31. Is opposed to any move to deprive the Association of its partnership content and transform it into a mere aid agreement;
32. Points out that the Heads of State or Government of the EEC Member States have formally stated their political resolve to maintain special links between the enlarged Community and the African and Malagasy States;
33. Notes with satisfaction that with a view to the renewal and extension of the Association, the African States have already begun efforts to seek common positions vis-a-vis the enlarged Community;
34. Points out that the results achieved by the Third Session of UNCTAD in Santiago, which appear modest in comparison with the practical achievements of the Yaounde Convention, confirm the need for the efforts undertaken in the Association to be continued, until comparable results can be obtained on a worldwide scale;
35. Notes that the Yaounde Association alone is based on an arrangement which simultaneously mobilizes three instruments of cooperation in the legal framework of free trade areas and therefore strongly emphasizes the need to leave the present structures and bases of the Association unimpaired;
36. Recalls, in regard to the future content of the Association policy, the position it adopted in its Resolution of 13 January 1972 on the seventh annual report on the activities of the Association Council (1);
37. Welcomes in this connection the fact that under Protocol No 22 annexed to the Association Treaty, the Community has undertaken to safeguard the interests of those countries whose economies depend substantially on exports of primary commodities and that, by analogy with the existing arrangements for Commonwealth sugar, the principle of regional agreements on raw materials has accordingly been adopted;
38. Calls for resolute action by the European Community on regional agreements of this kind, in the spirit of the solutions proposed for several years by the Parliamentary Conference of the Association;
39. Recommends that the negotiations provided for in Article 62 of the Yaounde Convention should be opened as scheduled on 1 August 1973 and brought to a conclusion early enough for the ratification procedures to be completed in time for the future association arrangements to enter into force on 1 February 1975, when the present agreement expires;
40. Accordingly invites all the parties concerned to take timely measures to ensure strict compliance with those deadlines;
41. Instructs its President to forward this Resolution and the accompanying report to the Association Council, the European Parliament and the Parliaments of the associated States, the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the European Investment Bank and to the Governments of the countries referred to in Article 109 of the Treaty on the enlargement of the Communities.

(1) OJ No C 11, 7. 2. 1972, p. 9, para. 23.

RESOLUTION

on the memorandum by the Commission of the European Communities on a Community policy for development cooperation

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association.

- meeting at Kinshasa from 29 to 31 March 1973, pursuant to Article 52 of the Convention of Association between the European Economic Community and the African and Malagasy States associated with that Community, signed at Yaounde on 29 July 1969,
- having regard to the Commission's memorandum on a Community policy for development cooperation and to the programme for a first series of measures attached thereto,
- having regard to the report of the Joint Committee (Doc 47);

1. Welcomes the initiative taken by the Commission of the European Communities and signifies its agreement to the structural review of the Community policy for development, as proposed in the memorandum;
2. Expects the Community and the Member States to be accordingly better able than in the past to meet their growing responsibilities to all the developing countries;
3. Draws attention to the constant responsibility which the European Community and the associated African States and Madagascar have for the success of the FEC/AASM Association;
4. Stresses in particular that the EEC/AASM Association is demonstrably an original form of cooperation between the developed and less developed countries which has proved justified from the commercial, financial, technical and institutional as well as political angles;
5. Considers therefore that the new dimension which the Community intends to give to its development policy must not be substituted for the Association with the AASM but could be a most welcome addition to the latter;
6. Hopes that the forthcoming negotiations on a new Association Convention will lead to the enlargement and strengthening of the Association, not only in terms of the number of States which are associated but also in respect of the content of the Convention;
7. Requests the parties involved in the negotiations to give particular attention to the social requirements and cultural structures of the countries concerned;
8. Believes that the Community will only be able to fully implement its development policy to the extent that it succeeds in adapting its own economic aims accordingly;
9. Considers it necessary for this to be done in concertation with the other important commercial powers, since the Community cannot on its own support the consequences of such a policy;
10. Considers that the developing countries must, to a greater extent than in the past, move beyond the national framework to achieve regional cooperation;

11. Stresses once again the value of international agreements on primary commodities for the improved functioning of the world markets and a more equitable distribution of earnings between the industrialized countries and the less developed countries, and emphasizes the responsibility of the Community and its Member States in respect of the international agreements which have still not been concluded;
12. Urges the Commission -- in working out its concepts on the expansion of trade with the developing countries -- to take into account the experience it has acquired in this area in its relations with the AASM, and if necessary to broaden the existing programme with this end in view;
13. Believes that the Member States must gradually harmonize excise duties on tropical products;
14. Urges the European Commission to make proposals for the protection of designations and indications of origin of tropical food products and to give technical assistance to the countries concerned which so request to enable them to guarantee the authenticity of such products;
15. Shares the European Commission's view of the need for a continuous flow of funds to enable the internal development of the developing countries to be programmed, and stresses specifically in this context that it is essential for the technical and financial aid given by the Community under the Association with the AASM to be increased;
16. Considers that the coordination of bilateral aid given by the Member States and the Community must not be confined to an exchange of information but must gradually be extended to the instruments used and aims pursued;
17. Instructs its President to forward this Resolution and the Joint Committee's report to the Association Council, the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the Parliaments of the associated States and European Parliament.

RESOLUTION

on coordination of the activities of the 24 partner States of the Association in international organizations for economic cooperation and development, pursuant in particular to Protocol No 5 to the Second Yaounde Convention

The Parliamentary Conference of the Association,

- meeting at Kinshasa from 29 to 31 March 1973, pursuant to Article 52 of the Convention of Association between the European Economic Community and the African and Malagasy States, signed at Yaounde on 29 July 1969,
 - recalling its Resolution of 13 January 1972, and in particular section 2⁽¹⁾ thereof,
 - having regard to the report presented by Mr Glinne on behalf of the Joint Committee (Doc 41),
1. Believes that more energetic efforts should be made by the partners in the Association in order to work actively towards a constructive political dialogue between the EEC and AASM;
 2. Invites the Council of the Communities to take all necessary steps to prevent the consultation of the AASM, for which provision is made in Protocol No 5, from becoming purely formal, in particular by organizing a constructive dialogue between the partners, involving detailed examination of relevant issues;
 3. Believes that closer consultation between the partners in the Association — especially after the enlargement of the EEC — should result in common international action with a view to the conclusion of world agreements on primary commodities;
 4. Stresses the importance of the procedure for consultation and information on commercial policy and calls upon the Council of Association to devote greater space in its activity report to the implementation of Decision No 35/71 on this procedure;
 5. Invites its President to forward this Resolution and the accompanying report to the Council of Association, the European Parliament and the Parliaments of the Associated States and also to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 11, 7. 2. 1972, p. 7.

