II. Draft of second medium-term economic policy programme submitted by the Commission to the Council

On 20 March 1968, the Commission submitted to the Council of the European Communities the draft of the second medium-term economic policy programme. The text of the Commission's letter sent with this document is given below:

"Mr. President,

In accordance with the Council decision of 15 April 1964, I have the honour to submit to you herewith the draft of the second medium-term economic policy programme, with a view to its adoption by the Council and by the Governments of the Member States.

Article 2 of the above decision lays down that the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee shall prepare the preliminary draft on the basis of which the Commission shall establish the draft medium-term economic policy programme. The text of the draft is, in this case, identical with that of the preliminary draft. The Commission, which through its representatives on the Committee was at all stages in the elaboration of this document able to make its views known, endorses its contents. It considers that this document gives a sound analysis of several of the fundamental problems facing the Member States and the Community in the field of economic policy, and constitutes a satisfactory basis for joint or co-ordinated action. For this reason, the Commission has decided to endorse it: it will use it as a basis for any proposals it may later decide to submit to the Council.

His Excellency Monsieur Maurice COUVE de MURVILLE, President of the Council of the European Communities, 2, rue Ravenstein, BRUSSELS.

The draft second programme follows the general line of the first programme, which was adopted by the Council and the Governments of the Member States on 11 April 1967 and published in the official gazette of the European Communities (No. 79, 25 April 1967). Being intended to supplement the first programme, it does not include any new projections and for the period between now and 1970 it does no more than make some corrections to the initial projections.

It would of course have been desirable to give at this point quantitative forecasts showing the principal trends of general economic development beyond 1970, if only to provide information useful to those who have to take long-term decisions. But it seemed preferable at this initial stage, to ask the Panel of Experts, whose

resources have hitherto been relatively limited, to concentrate on improving the techniques and methods of projection and, in particular, to give priority to the work on projections at current prices, which is of prime importance in a context of international competition. With the close collaboration that has developed between its own staff and the relevant departments in the various countries, the Commission hopes that fuller and more accurate projections, which ought to be established before the third programme is worked out, will in particular make it possible to see in what directions foreign trade on the one hand, and saving and investment on the other, will in future influence the development of the Community.

Projections are useful in that they enable the authorities concerned to detect, and often to measure, the constraints with which they will be confronted. But the future is never wholly determined in advance and, in their efforts to forecast it, contemporary societies are gradually providing themselves with instruments which enable them to be better prepared for dealing with it. Every extension of the forecast in space and time means that the margin left open for choices and even for ambitions is less narrow. For the Member States, the act of joint thinking about the types of structure they intend to acquire is likely to reduce the uncertainties besetting each one of them, because of the greater severity of international competition and the increasing rapidity of technical progress; it could even enable them to produce a broad picture of the possible place and role of the European economy in the world of the future. The gradual clarification of these qualitative objectives is no less important then the assessment of future growth rates. The one conditions the other, inasmuch as any action must be inspired by the will towards an end. Moreover, the Community would be ill equipped to face international competition if, unlike its main competitors, it thought it could save itself the trouble of working out a model for its own development.

This is, broadly, the context into which the draft second programme fits. The Commission wishes to stress the ideas which it considers to be the basic inspiration of the draft, and to underline the principal lessons that it offers.

The second programme is centred round a coherent concept of the principles which should underlie a general policy on structure.

In the past, the way in which the public authorities have dealt with problems of structure has not always been satisfactory. Insufficiently aware of the risks involved in the development of this or that industry, their approach was piecemeal and unplanned, usually reflecting a laudable desire to safeguard the workers against a threat of redundancy; what such intervention measures had in common was that they provided enterprises which were not very competitive with protection against competition and against the sanctions imposed by such competition. Increasingly frequent intervention of this kind often ensured the survival of outdated organizations, techniques and management methods; ultimately, it slowed down the adaptation of whole industries to the demands of technical progress, thus impairing the growth of overall productivity and the possible improvement of average living standards. In many cases, too, the workers for whom the State had demonstrated its concern had to make do with a modest pay packet, and still were not covered against the risk of dismissal in the long run. Lastly, the public funds used for such intervention were not available for other more productive purposes.

These considerations highlight the importance of the chapter on agricultural policy. No other sector has benefited so much and so long from public aid and intervention; at the same time, however, no other sector offers the majority of its workers

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such unsatisfactory living conditions and incomes. Of course, the immense amount of work done by the Community in order to achieve free movement of agricultural products by standardizing the rules governing price support and the working of the markets has produced good results; but it has already become clear that, despite its substantial and steadily rising cost, this policy of price support is not by itself enough to improve the living conditions of the great mass of farmers to the extent necessary. It must therefore be supplemented by a policy on structure designed to increase the profitability of the farms that could achieve a high level of technical development and to improve the quality of the produce offered on the market and relate it to changes in demand. Price support must also be combined with a large number of activities whose ultimate aim is a social one: for example, to make it less difficult for farmers to leave the land if they wish; to organize vocational training for young people and adults in the light of the needs of the economy as a whole; and, by means of personal grants, to offer decent living conditions to any farmers unable to adapt themselves to current developments in agriculture. Attempts to improve incomes solely by price support could soon get out of hand because of the cost involved and in the long run they would be found to conflict with the economic and social objectives of the agricultural policy itself.

The new draft programme contains proposals for action by which the Community could deal with vicious circles such as these.

In view of this aim, the draft programme brings out the need for a real employment policy, the fundamental importance of adapting enterprises to the present conditions of economic life, and the role of a modern policy on the structure of particular industries.

There can be no progress without change, and it is inconceivable that economies can be changed unless there is mobility of labour. But today this necessary mobility constitutes a major risk for the workers, which must be eliminated by suitable measures. If in the past the Member States have all too often helped enterprises in order to protect their staffs, this is partly because there was no adequate insurance to cover unemployment risks and because the various components of a policy on conversion had not been worked out. Efforts in this direction have recently been made by several Member States along the lines suggested in the first programme. These efforts must be continued, and they must serve not only to extend unemployment insurance, and to improve national and regional policies on education, vocational training and housing, but also to promote industrial development in such a way that new jobs are created in those parts of the Community where large reserves of manpower are available. In this way it will be possible to combine maintenance of full employment with effective action to make better use of each worker

Just as it is important to give workers better protection against the risks inherent in economic development, so it is also necessary to restore to enterprises the responsibility that is really theirs. They, and not the public authorities, should be free to take the decisions needed if they are not only to adapt themselves to the demands of competition but also to be able to gain a footing in new, expanding markets thanks to the flexibility of their organization, to reductions in their production costs, to the quality of their products, and to their capacity for innovation. In an increasing number of industries, such adaptation cannot be carried out unless European enterprises are sufficiently specialized or concentrated to be able to cover the whole

Common Market, or even to make their mark abroad because their strategy is conceived on a world scale. A dynamic approach of this sort will itself increase the number of enterprises working on a multinational basis within the Community.

Like the Committee, the Commission wishes to stress the importance of the legal and fiscal obstacles that still operate against such adaptation. It urges the Council and the Member States to bear in mind the very heavy economic cost of the delays that have occurred in elaborating a charter for the European company, adopting a European patent, harmonizing taxes on company profits, interests and dividends, and establishing a European capital market. The first duty of the public authorities in their relations with industry is to create a general climate which favours the continuous adaptation of enterprises; even today, the Community is far from complete success in this.

The chapter on the expansion of saving and the financing of investment is particularly important in this connection. Neither the adaptation of enterprises nor the achievement of greater flexibility in the structure of particular industries is possible unless the financing conditions are right. A striking feature of the Community is however the still almost complete fragmentation of national markets that are too small; this is due, in particular, to the maintenance of priorities - often for the benefit of enterprises with low returns — and detracts from the investments offered to savers; at the same time it makes it more difficult to meet the needs of manufacturers in new, fast-growing industries. If European enterprises are to be able to play the major role that should be theirs in improving the structure of the economy it will be necessary to limit the amount taken by governments and local authorities out of the savings available, to increase these savings by an increased "transformation" and by suitable incentives to boost private saving, to end the fragmentation of markets, to make it easier for companies to raise additional capital and to encourage a greater degree of self-financing without, however, freezing industrial structures. This progressive integration of capital markets, which is an important condition for the future monetary union, itself calls for increasingly close co-ordination of credit policies and public finances.

The guidelines that should be followed in an endeavour to improve the conditions for the financing of investments are quite rightly followed by a detailed analysis of the problems connected with incomes policy. While this policy is primarily intended to increase the rate at which average living standards can rise at the same time as the living conditions of the various social categories are brought closer together, their attainment depends on all sections of the population being able to help, through their savings, in the financing of the requisite investments — both public and private — as the growth rate of these investments will still be much faster than that of the overall Community product. Past experiments with incomes policies have not, of course, always come up to expectations. Moreover, the questions and procedures concerned are in this case very deeply rooted in the national history of each member country. It is, however, essential — and this is what the draft programme proposes — that the general conception and broad objectives of incomes policy should be settled by common consent. Such consent has been obtained on several vital points: the policy in question must concern not only direct income but also supplementary benefits, must cover the yield of capital in the same way as earned income, must avoid restricting the autonomy of either side of industry and, even more important perhaps, must be backed up by a broad distribution of private property among the several strata of the population.

The various measures to promote both the security of the workers and their full participation in the fruits of growth, and to establish financial conditions and a

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general climate favourable to innovation among enterprises, will be easier to carry out and more successful as a result of the thorough recasting which is recommended for policy on the structure of particular industries.

There is an unimpeachable logic in the idea of opening the economies of the Community countries to the outside world: since they increasingly have to take part in the international division of labour, they are obliged — like the enterprises themselves - to concentrate their efforts as regards development on such rapidly expanding activities as offer the best chance of success. This means that, instead of trying to preserve the past, the policies for particular industries must henceforth look to the future, facilitating the advance of the most competitive enterprises and ensuring that, as a matter of priority, the available resources are used to support those initiatives which are most promising in terms of expansion and profitability. The need for policy on structure to be recast on these lines is the more urgent because this has already been done with success by some of the Community's main competitors on the world market. In this connection, no industry is of more consequence than the electronics industry. For this reason, the Commission wishes to emphasize the importance of the proposals on this subject put forward in the But it is in duty bound to draw the Council's attention to draft programme. the urgency and scope of the action that should be taken in this field, and to the fact that the efforts made would prove worthless, or even ruinous, if they did not ensure the competitiveness of the Community's producers.

From this point of view, the chapter on scientific and technical research policy gives a good example of the general conception of policy on the structure of particular industries. If, as is stated in the first programme, the Community wishes to escape the perilous prospects with which it is confronted because of its growing inferiority where scientific and technical matters are concerned, it will not be enough just to ensure a rapid increase in the funds and manpower devoted to research; their efficiency will also have to be improved — particularly by eliminating wasteful duplication of effort between the member countries — and the transfer of technical knowledge to the productive process integrated in such a way as to make European enterprises better able to withstand international competition. The new draft programme thus defines one of the essential tasks to which the Community will henceforth have to devote its endeavours.

These are, Mr. President, the remarks that the Commission wished to make to the Council when submitting the draft of the second medium-term economic policy programme. The Commission hopes that this letter will be published in the official gazette of the European Communities, together with the second programme itself. Please accept, Mr. President, the assurance of my highest consideration."

Content of the draft second programme

A brief summary of the content of the draft second programme is given below, particularly where it concerns industrial and general economic matters. The part on agriculture will be dealt with in Bulletin No. 5-1968.

In essence, the draft second programme supplements the first and develops it in greater detail; it deals mainly with problems for which the first programme gave only very general guidelines.

Need for a policy on structure in the Community

The draft emphasizes that the process of structural change will probably become more rapid as tariff barriers between the six member countries fall and as international competition from outside the Community's frontiers grows sharper with the liberalization of world trade and the considerable efforts being made by enterprises in some member countries to sell more on both Community and world markets.

In view of these new elements in the situation, the process of structural adaptation in the Community has not yet gone far enough either at the level of enterprises or at the level of industries, and lags well behind the progress made with the customs union and the liberalization of international trade. This relative backwardness is most evident in the lack of drive in many enterprises and the low level of their profits; it is also to be seen in the fact that the industries which are at present contending with considerable difficulties occupy a relatively important place in the Community's economy, whereas those whose future seems particularly bright are generally insufficiently represented and, moreover, often have to face considerable difficulties themselves where adaptation is concerned. Last but not least, it is visible in the emphasis laid by the Member States on measures to keep old industries going rather than on measures which would accelerate structural adaptation and encourage new techniques and products.

Measures to facilitate structural adaptation of enterprises

If the task of structural adaptation of enterprises is primarily one for the enterprises themselves, economic policy must nevertheless ensure that the requisite background conditions exist and that obstacles to adaptation are eliminated. It must, in particular, create an atmosphere that encourages enterprises to take the necessary decisions and makes it easier for them to put these decisions through. It will succeed in doing this if it guarantees vigorous, constant and balanced growth and systematically promotes mobility in the factors of production. This calls not only for an appropriate competition policy, but also for appropriate policies on the structure of industry, on scientific and technical research and on employment and vocational training that will encourage the development of the most promising industries and at the same time favour the enterprises that are most dynamic.

In addition, general economic policy should be such that the competitive climate needed for the structural adaptation of enterprises is not impaired by the behaviour of the enterprises themselves. For this purpose, it is important that the scope of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty of Rome, which concern cartels and the abuse of dominant positions, should be clarified as quickly as possible but without inhibiting such associations between enterprises as contribute to economic progress, whether these associations be in the form of agreements to co-operate or in the form of mergers.

Company law ought to be adapted at Community level to the conditions that are necessary for the functioning of a real common market. In particular, obstacles to the free establishment of enterprises and the functioning of multinational companies in the Community should be eliminated. In this connection, the draft second programme urges that work on the European company should be rapidly completed.

Where tax law is concerned, steps must be taken to remove the obstacles which, within the framework of domestic law and particularly within that of international law, still impede industrial concentration. One important problem to be tackled

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here is that of the taxes levied on undisclosed reserves brought to light and on capital gains made as the result of a merger; in addition, double taxation on the profits of parent companies and subsidiaries must be abolished. In this connection, the problem of establishing Community legislation on mergers is also touched on.

Other measures are advocated which would make it easier for enterprises to raise more share capital and allow them to establish their financing structure on a multinational basis. Obstacles to certain modern financing techniques such as factoring, leasing, etc., must also be eliminated.

Furthermore, enterprises that are trying to modernize their management methods should be supported in their efforts by measures connected with management training and the dissemination of knowledge. The chances for the adaptation of small and medium-sized enterprises should be improved by encouraging specialization, subcontracting, co-operation between enterprises, and easier access to external sources of finance.

The aim of forward studies should be to increase the guarantees given to workers involved in the process of structural change. For this purpose, enterprises should be required to consult the workers' representatives about adaptation measures in good time and to do everything possible to reintegrate workers in the production process and train them for other work; in addition, collective wage agreements should include safeguard measures designed to increase the protection given to workers against any detrimental effects of adaptation. Lastly, an appropriate solution must be found to the problem of how the workers can be represented in the organs of the European company.

Policy on the structure of industry

The main aim of policy on the structure of industry should be to improve the basic conditions in which enterprises will be able to adjust themselves as efficiently and quickly as possible to the new structural conditions. This should facilitate the expansion, in the industrial and the services sectors, of those industries where prospects are bright in view both of technological developments and of the probable trend in demand on the Community's domestic markets and on the world market. The industries thus promoted ought to be those which are of particular importance for the future of industrial expansion in the Community. Steps should also be taken to facilitate the adaptation of industries where sales prospects are poor or where there is little chance of improving their competitive position by rapid increases in productivity.

The draft programme therefore recommends that studies of particular branches be carried out in order to provide a clearer picture of the market, that mobility of labour between one industry and another be encouraged, and that steps be taken to make the measures taken as part of regional policy and those taken as part of policy on industrial structure more consistent.

Public support for individual industries should be given only as a complement to the above measures, and only in exceptional cases. Aid from the public authorities should go, firstly, to a small number of particularly promising growth industries where independent and purposive development is, particularly in view of the high cost of research, beyond the means of and too risky for the enterprises on their

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own; secondly, public support should be used to help certain industries that are having to cope with considerable structural difficulties and might be the source of serious economic and social damage if left to their own devices.

The aim of particular measures to promote development should always be clearly defined. They should only supplement what is being done by the enterprises themselves, and should benefit only such enterprises as are likely to be able to compete effectively without further aid within a reasonable time and without disproportionately heavy costs.

From the outset, aids to promote the development of whole industries ought to be given only for a limited period, and ought where possible to be degressive. Care should be taken to avoid costs being passed on to other industries. Where appropriate, enterprises should repay some or all of the subsidies they have received once they attain a reasonable level of profitability.

One of the most important ways by which the development of particular growth industries can be assisted is by awarding public orders and research contracts and by making the results of the research done by public institutes available to enterprises in the branches concerned.

The draft programme then deals concretely with two branches of industry: ship-building and the electronics industry.

For shipbuilding, it is proposed that the Community should press for the elimination of distortions of competition on the world market and that, until this is achieved, it should maintain the competitiveness of the shipbuilding industry by offsetting such distortions. At the same time, the Community should seek to promote radical structural change in the industry and, in so doing, to encourage such initiatives by shipbuilding firms as will improve their chances of profiting from the expansion of world demand for shipping. In addition, the Community must seek a solution to the social and regional problems that may arise when measures are taken to promote structural change.

With regard to electronics, it is pointed out that the Community cannot afford to neglect this vital industry. It seems, therefore, that Member States should develop a policy which will provide the necessary stimuli and aids for this industry, particularly in the early stage of its development. Where possible, the action taken should be concerted. In this connection, the draft programme contains proposals designed to make it possible for the structure of enterprises to be improved, training for their staffs to be provided, uniform standards and types established, national research and development programmes compared and co-operation between research institutes in the member countries developed.

Scientific and technical research policy

The draft programme emphasizes that action to adjust Europe's economy to the new technological and marketing situation must be accompanied by substantial efforts on the part of enterprises and public authorities in the field of research and development. In the years ahead the efficiency of Europe's economy will depend more than ever on the results of scientific and technical research and their rapid conversion into new products and new production techniques.

It is therefore proposed that the general arrangements for promoting research and the economically productive utilization of its results be improved rapidly. The proposals put forward in this connection cover, among other things, measures in the fields of tax law, industrial property (creation of a "European patent", generalization of a system of patent registration in which examination is made only after registration, solution of the problems connected with the granting of licences) and competition (positive assessment of research agreements between enterprises).

The university system is to be strengthened further. This should include efforts to bring the training offered more into line with changes in the needs of trade and industry, to improve the conditions of work of research workers, to promote research embracing several disciplines, to establish closer relations between university institutions and enterprises, to promote the mobility of research workers particularly within the countries of Europe, and to favour specialization by research institutes and the concentration of research in certain fields at certain places within a country and subsequently at certain places within Europe.

The draft programme is based on the assumption that selective government measures to promote research will be needed if research activity is to reach a satisfactory level in the countries of the Community. It is pointed out that these measures must be as internally consistent as possible. This should be ensured through agencies which would co-ordinate and concert them and through programmes that would cover for several years the total current and capital expenditure made available by the public authorities for research purposes and decide on its breakdown between the several schemes and sectors. Priorities would need to be established, and should be based on both technological and economic criteria.

The draft programme emphasizes that research policy should not stop at the frontiers of the individual member countries, as in this field the possibilities open to each of these countries are limited. It is expected that co-operation among the member countries in the form of joint or co-ordinated action will provide the main stimulus to a common research policy. Thanks mainly to its institutional framework and its economic cohesion, the Community offers an unparalleled starting point for efforts to stimulate or take joint technological action, but it must never be looked upon as something cut off from the rest of the world; on the contrary, co-operation with non-member countries on as broad a basis as possible is regarded as indispensable.

Co-operation should in each case begin with a confrontation of the national programmes and budgets and, where applicable, of the schemes planned or jointly undertaken together with other Member States.

When the objects of joint action are being determined, it is essential that procedures and methods should be drawn up which offer satisfactory scope for efficiency and an adequate return to the participating countries. These efforts could be based on the principle that wherever possible programmes in fields or on projects which are of interest to all member countries should be drawn up and put in hand jointly, and that for those fields or projects in which only certain Member States want to play a direct part ways and means should be found by which the interests of the remaining Member States and the development of the Community as a whole would be safeguarded.

The draft programme then recalls the Council Resolution of 31 October 1967.

Expansion of savings and the financing of investments

The draft programme lays stress on the fact that the structural adaptation of enterprises is largely a question of improving their financial organization and their ability to obtain finance for the productive investments needed for rapid economic The public authorities, too, will in the next few years have to bear a heavier burden in order to finance the rapidly growing investments in the field of economic and social infrastructure. Enterprises and the public authorities will therefore in most member countries have to build up more funds through saving. It is furthermore indispensable that the contribution made to the financing of investments by personal savings should be increased. The measures taken to promote savings should in future follow lines which do not give preference to any specific type of investment; the only criteria for selective measures of promotion should be the life of the loans so that long-term saving is encouraged systematically. At the same time efforts should be made to ensure that a sufficient proportion of savings flows into the capital market and that long-term savings are available to finance private investments — as far as possible in the form of risk capital. Since at present savers show little inclination to commit their funds in such a way, this objective will be attained only if certain forms of saving are developed which In this connection the programme stresses the importance of instiattract savers. tutional investors (insurance companies, savings banks, investment companies) and among other things advocates an easing of the rules which prevent insurance companies and savings banks from acquiring shares. The efficiency of the bond market should at the same time be improved through greater consideration for the wishes of the private saver (avoidance of excessively long maturities, sufficiently small denominations, no provision for repurchasing before maturity, etc.) when loans are floated; in this connection, the public authorities should set the pace. programme points out that there will still have to be a great deal of "transformation". To ensure keener competition on the capital market efforts should also be made to eliminate fragmentation of the system of credit supply and the privileges enjoyed by certain borrowers. The draft programme also discusses in this connection various financial instruments currently used to attain objectives considered to rank high on the list of priorities.

In view of the heavy calls which both public and private borrowers will make on the capital markets in the years ahead, the organization of the capital markets should be improved so that overall demand can be kept within the limits consistent with the supply available. This calls for great self-restraint on the part of the bodies floating loans, particularly public borrowers.

As the narrowness of the capital markets in the individual countries is not among the least of the reasons why there is a gap between the supply of and the demand for capital, the broadening of financial transactions within the Community and the gradual development of a European capital market will make a major contribution to the improvement of existing fund-raising mechanisms. This calls, among other things, for the revision of various rules governing operations by institutional investors in other member countries, a review of the foreign exchange rules, steps to harmonize taxation which will include elimination of double taxation, the adjustment at European level of the tax incentives granted to purchasers of securities in the individual countries, and the removal of unduly wide differences in the way income from capital is taxed.

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Incomes policy

Optimum economic development in the years ahead can be ensured only if an incomes and wealth policy is pursued which contributes to reconciling the highest possible overall growth rate and a high level of employment with the required stability of the general price level and the necessary external equilibrium; at the same time, the distribution of incomes is to be improved for the benefit of the less-favoured population groups and encouragement given to the formation of wealth in broad layers of the population. It is considered that no lasting solution can be found to the structural problems to be coped with in the years ahead unless economic equilibrium is secure from threats due to developments in the incomes sector.

The draft programme stresses that structural and institutional conditions in the field of incomes policy vary greatly from one member country to another, and that the main task will be to align the aims and the results of incomes policy — which does not necessarily mean that the same methods should be applied in all countries.

Incomes policy must on principle cover all primary and secondary incomes. To make it easier for those responsible for incomes policy (governments, both sides of industry, managements) to take independent decisions, the draft programme recommends the use of target figures which would indicate the development that was desirable in incomes. As far as possible these figures should be elaborated as part of a general view of the economy which took account of government plans in the other spheres of the economic and social policy. Alternative assumptions might have to be taken into account. Later on, the target figures will have to be compared with actual developments, so that discrepancies between the actual and the desired trend can subsequently be adjusted.

The draft programme advocates closely concerted action by governments and both sides of industry, in which these target figures can play a major role. Regular confrontation, at Community level, of the views of the member countries on incomes policy is also considered desirable.

The draft programme then deals with policy on the various types of income, particularly wages policy in the private sector, policy on primary incomes from sources other than wages, and policy on the transfer of incomes. The programme also discusses in great detail policy on wealth, through which the use made of incomes is influenced in terms of the economic and social objectives and through which, in the opinion of the authors of the draft programme, the chances of success of incomes policy could be improved substantially. Prominent among the points made in this section of the programme is the encouragement given to voluntary personal saving, to wage systems providing for investment of part of the wages, and to profit-sharing systems.

A number of special studies are annexed to the draft programme. In particular, these include analyses of the problems connected with shipbuilding and the electronics industry, and the report already submitted to the Council by the Working Party on Scientific and Technical Research Policy; the latter report was important as a basis for the Council's resolution of 31 October 1967 on problems of scientific and technical research in the Communities.

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