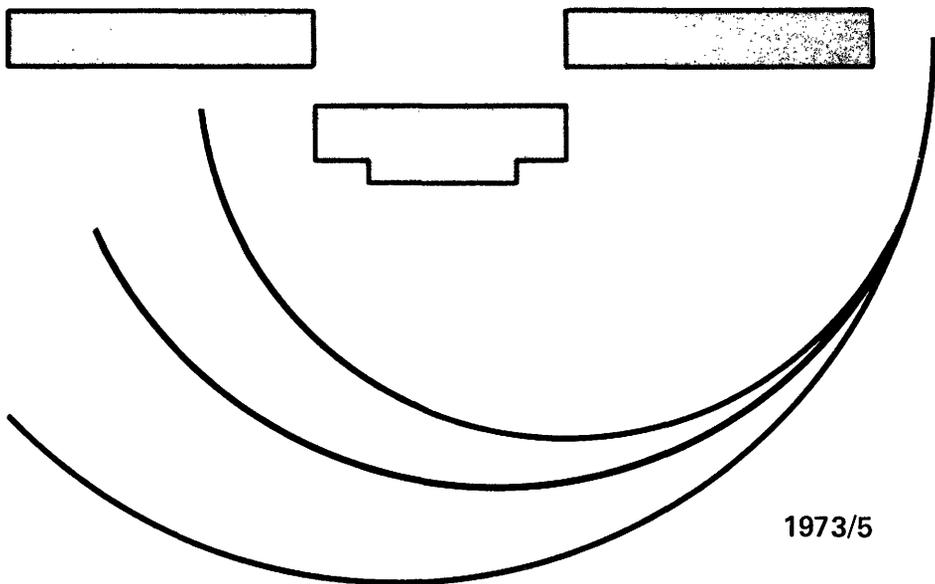


*european parliament*

# information

PARLIAMENT IN SESSION



1973/5

## PARLIAMENT IN SESSION

is an attempt to give the essence of the sittings in as few words as possible. Any comments, criticisms and suggestions will be appreciated.



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## **Parliament in Session June 1973**

The European Parliament was in plenary session in Strasbourg from 4 to 7 June 1973. The main focal points were an emergency debate on Greece, a further debate on agricultural surpluses and a debate on the drought in the Sahelian region. Priorities in occupational training were discussed and there were several transport reports.

One interesting feature was the introduction of questions following Commission statements. Parliament also passed its estimates for the coming financial year and gave a discharge in respect of the ECSC auditor's report.

### **Announcements**

The President informed the House of certain decisions taken by the enlarged Bureau at its meeting in Rome on 24 May 1973. The Political Affairs Committee had been asked to draw up a fresh report on direct general elections to the European Parliament. This committee had also been asked to report on the adaptation of the institutional structures of the Community and on strengthening the powers of the European Parliament.

The Political Affairs Committee would also be reporting on the document drawn up by the Committee on Budgets on broader supervisory and budgetary powers for the Parliament.

Sitting of Monday, 4 June 1973.

## **New Members**

The President welcomed Mr C. Laban, Mr H. Notenboom, Mr S. Patijn, Mr E.R. Wioldraaijer, Mr A. Van der Hek, and Mr P. Van der Sanden, appointed members of the European Parliament by the States-General of the Netherlands, and Mr Donal Creed, Mr Liam Kavanagh and Mr David Thornley appointed by Seanad Eireann (Irish Senate) and Dáil Eireann (House of Representatives) of the Irish Republic.

## **Resignations**

The President announced that Mr Tieman Brouwer, Mr Henk Vredeling, Mr Joseph Mommersteeg, Mr Max Van der Stoel and Mr Jan Pronk had resigned from the European Parliament on taking office in the Dutch Government.

Mr Justin Keating, Mr Richie Ryan and Mr Conor Cruise-O'Brien had also resigned on taking office in the Irish Government.

He wished them every success for the future.

Sitting of Monday, 4 June 1973.

## **Rules of Procedure amended**

Mr Léon Jozeau-Marigné (French Independent Republican) presented two reports on behalf of the Legal Affairs Committee amending Rules 37(1) and 48 of the Rules of Procedure. The effect of these amendments is to increase the number of vice-chairmen in the committees from 2 to 3 and to improve arrangements for dealing with petitions.

The motions amending the rules were agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

## Question Time

At Question Time on Wednesday 6 June, Mr Van Elslande replied on behalf of the Council and Mr Dahrendorf, Mr Lardinois, Sir Christopher Soames, Mr Scarascia Mugnozza and Mr Borschette on behalf of the Commission.

When the question of Greece was raised, the Socialist Group moved an emergency debate under Rule 47A of the Rules of Procedure.

The motion was agreed to.

### *Questions put to the Council*

Three questions were put to the Council for answer at Question Time and there were several supplementary questions.

Mr John Brewis (British Conservative) asked about the powers of Parliament under the 1970 Treaty of Luxembourg.

Mr Van Elslande, President of the Council, replied that as from 1975 Parliament has the final say on all expenditure not necessarily resulting from the treaties.

Mr Brewis asked him if the Council would be ready to take part in an important policy debates.

Mr Van Elslande said the Council would deal with all questions put on social policy.

Mr Poul Christian Dalsager (Danish Social Democrat) asked how the arrest of Professor Pasmazoglou would affect relations between the Community and Greece.

Mr Van Elslande said the Association was in suspense and that the position would be reviewed when circumstances became more favourable. Pressed for a more precise commitment, Mr Van Elslande said the matter would be raised at the next meeting of the Council. Further questions put by Mr Cifarelli, Mr Fellermaier and Mr Corona illustrated the strong feelings of the House.

Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian Christian Democrat) asked how the Council intended to speed up its decision-taking.

Mr Van Elslande said the Committee of Permanent Representatives had been asked for suggestions.

Mr Dewulf asked about the use of the veto under the Luxembourg Agreement of January 1966. Mr Van Elslande said Belgium would like the original Treaty clause re-established.

Mr Peter Kirk (British Conservative) asked whether improvements would embrace the Davignon Procedure. Mr Van Elslande said procedural changes would need the approval of each of the Member States.

Sir Derek Walker-Smith (British Conservative) asked if the Council would meet in public and was told the point was under consideration.

Lord Gladwyn (British Liberal) wanted a clearer definition of 'vital interests'. Mr Van Elslande replied that the Luxembourg Agreement had said nothing on this point.

Lord Reay (British Conservative) asked about the countries to be invited to a conference in Brussels on 25 and 26 July.

Mr Van Elslande said that the independent Commonwealth Countries had not been invited but if they showed interest they would be. He was however unable to give definite replies to questions from Sir Tufton Beamish (British Conservative) and Sir Arthur Dodds-Parker (British Conservative).

He told Mr Dewulf the Commission would have a broad mandate for the negotiations.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### *Questions put to the Commission*

Seven questions were put to the Commission for answer at Question Time and there were also a number of supplementary questions.

Lord O'Hagan (British Independent) asked the Commission what steps it was taking to improve statistics on migrant workers from third countries.

Mr Ralf Dahrendorf, Member of the Commission, said the Commission shared Parliament's concern on this point. There were an estimated 7 million foreign workers in the Community. And Member States kept a fairly accurate check on incoming workers. But they did not have any figures for outgoing workers. Hence they had no statistics on the employment of foreign workers. Pressed by Lord O'Hagan he said current Commission proposals would, if accepted by the Council, allow for the collecting and possibly the distribution of statistics.

Lady Elles (British Conservative) also stressed the difficulties of keeping track of workers moving from one state to another. This raised problems for those under 16 years of age. Mr Ludwig Fellermaier (German Socialist) asked whether there were difficulties between Commission and Council. Mr Dahrendorf said not.

Sir Tufton Beamish (British Conservative) asked about sea fisheries. Mr Lardinois said the Commission had considered and accepted the Report of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. Further proposals would follow if success were achieved in the study of the North Sea problems.

Sir Tufton asked him to give careful consideration not only to the size and horse-power of vessels and to limitation of catches but to the damage done by heavy-beam trawlers.

Mr Lardinois said the Commission would look into this.

Mr Michele Cifarelli (Italian Republican), who was also speaking for Mr Silvio Leonardi (Italian Communist), asked whether the Commission would be considering other sea areas in the Community. Mr Lardinois promised him a written reply.

Mr Erwin Lange (German Social Democrat) asked if the Commission was ready to negotiate acceptance by third countries of the same conservation principles.

Mr Lardinois said he would look into this.

Mrs Tullia Caretoni Romagnoli (Italian Independent Left) asked if the Commission intended to take any action over the imprisonment of Professor Pasmazoglou.

Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, said he had expressed to the Greek Ambassador to the Community the Commission's grave

concern over this matter. On his return from Greece the ambassador was unable to give a real reply. Sir Christopher said he would reserve further comment for the emergency debate that was to follow.

Mr Per Dich (Danish Socialist) asked about the harmonization of tax legislation on holding companies.

Mr Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, replying for Mr Henri Simonet, agreed this was a suitable area for harmonization. In reply to Mr Silvio Leonardi (Italian Communist), who asked about the financial concerns, he said details would be given in a report to be published at the end of June.

Miss Astrid Lulling (Luxembourg Social Democrat) drew the Commission's attention here to Lichtenstein and the Canton of Glarus, as well as Luxembourg.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza replied that the problems were being looked into by national experts.

Asked by Mr Luigi Noè (Italian Christian Democrat) about contacts with the INSEAD business school at Fontainebleau, Mr Dahrendorf said these were being stepped up. He agreed with Mr Tom Normanton about the emphasis that should be placed on European studies.

Mr Russel Johnston (British Liberal) asked if the present policy of designating peripheral and central areas could be reviewed.

Mr Albert Borschette, Member of the Commission, said current policy was in pursuance of Article 154 of the Treaty of Accession. But a more graduated approach would be considered later.

Lord Gladwyn (British Liberal), speaking for Mr Russel Johnston, asked for an assurance about peripheral areas subject to re-designation. Mr Borschette was quite willing to give this.

Mr John Brewis (British Conservative) asked about re-siting service industries so as to keep intellectual manpower in the regions. Mr James Hill wanted to know when the Commission would be able to comment on talks between Member States on reducing demographic congestion.

Mr Borschette said the Commission's aim was demographic stability by creating job opportunities in declining regions. He also answered questions from Mr Cifarelli, Mr Gerlach and Mr Vetrone.

Mr Jan Broeks (Dutch Labour) asked about the Coöperatieve Vereniging Suikerunie's plans to take over Centrale Suikermaatschappij and thus obtain complete control of the Dutch sugar market.

Mr Borschette said the Commission was checking whether the take-over was in line with the Treaty. He agreed that prior control was desirable.

In reply to Mr John Hill's question about protecting the consumer's interest, he said the Commission had defended the public in its decisions on sugar refining. A working party on sugar had been set up.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### *Emergency debate on Greece*

For the Socialist Group, Mr Poul Christian Dalsager (Danish Social Democrat) said Professor Pasmazoglou had been responsible for the Community's association with Greece. His imprisonment was a matter for the Commission on Human Rights. He took the United States to task for its support of the Greek Government. Parliament should come out in support of democracy in Greece. Hence the importance of the Commission's opinion.

Mrs Tullia Caretoni Romagnoli (Italian Independent Left) said recent events had undermined hopes of progress in Greece.

The Commission, she said, could do a great deal if it wished and it should do so because the underlying principles of the Community were a respect for democracy and human rights. It ought to bring its influence to bear on Greece, Spain and Portugal.

Mr Peter Michael Kirk (British Conservative) said the European Conservative Group took a very simple view of the Greek situation. It was tyrannical and they were against it. He trusted the suspension of the Association would continue.

Sir John Peel (British Conservative) said it was the Greek people that Parliament should be trying to help. Mr Hans-August Lücker (German Christian Democrat) agreed. But he suggested a public protest so that the Greek Government knew what Europeans thought. Mr Achille Corona (Italian Socialists) felt the Greek people should know that the European Parliament was concerned about the fate of their country.

Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, wound up 'this sad debate' by saying that twelve years ago the Community had had high hopes that Greece would in due course become a full member.

The core of the debate was 'where do we go from here?' There could be no deviating from the policy laid down in 1967. He noted with regret that Greece's full membership was today perhaps more remote than before.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### *Overhauling the world monetary system*

Mr Klaus Dieter Arndt (German Social Democrat) presented a report on the reform of the world monetary system on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs.

The crises of February and March 1973, following the crisis of 1972 and the three crises of 1971, had completely undermined the Bretton Woods Agreement. At the same time, however, this succession of crises had swept away taboos like fixed exchange rates and had brought in a climate of flexibility. Parities had to be easier to change and Europe had learned that a national currency could no longer be the kingpin of the world monetary system. Europe had evolved a policy, with six currencies floating together, and a European Monetary Fund had been set up.

The United States had, in the meantime, become more competitive. It was to be hoped this would help the US balance of trade and balance of payments. It would certainly affect the investment policies of the major companies.

Presenting the motion, Mr Arndt argued that monetary policy needed to be backed up by an economic policy geared to stability. There had to be fixed but variable exchange rates, monetary reserves had to be built up and international capital flows had to be controlled.

The great difficulty was in speeding things up: bringing Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom into the joint float, strengthening the European Monetary Fund and abolishing intra-Community restrictions on capital investments.

Speaking for the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Friedrich Burgbacher (German) welcomed the report. Monetary policy and economic policy were interdependent.

Analysing the causes of monetary instability, he asked whether the price of gold to which special drawing rights were still subject, should not be brought closer to the free market price. He asked if the SDR had a stabilising or an inflationary effect.

He thought the major obstacles to reform were (i) the balance of payments deficit of the United States, (ii) the monetary power of the multinationals, (iii) the dollar inflows into oil-producing countries and (iv) the circulation of capital between banks which was increasing by 20 o/o at a time when the gross national product was only increasing by 10 o/o.

He concluded in favour of joint action.

For his Group, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (British Conservative) said the reform of the International Monetary Fund had now become one of the main preoccupations of world policies. It was vital to retain a vision of a united world system as opposed to a dollar area, a Community area, and perhaps a rouble area and a yen area.

He agreed with Mr Arndt that gold should not re-emerge as the dominating factor. One also needed to avoid the reinstatement of any single dominating currency. The future depended on the extent to which the International Monetary Fund re-emerged and was accepted as the world central bank with the power to control the growth of liquidity.

He suggested the issue of SDRs be on a population basis instead of the old quotas. He hoped, moreover, that all the Community countries would soon be joining in the joint float.

While the world hesitated, he said, it was for Europe to show the way.

For Mr Raymond Bousquet (French Gaullist) there were three tasks to be tackled: organising a new monetary system, updating the world's trading rules and helping the third world. Three principles should determine Europe's approach to them: stability, equal rights as between rich and poor in the world and within individual countries, and cooperation.

Mr Silvio Leonardi (Italian Communist) argued that money served the economy and not the reverse. For him, reforming the monetary system depended on the dollar being treated in the same way as other currencies. His Communist colleagues would be voting against the motion.

Mr Eric Blumenfeld (German Christian Democrat) wanted more emphasis on the regional aspect of monetary reform.

Mr Michele Cifarelli (Italian Republican) underlined the need for consultations between the Nine to lead to the way to coordination between the Group of Twenty.

Mr Helmut Karl Artzinger (German Christian Democrat) said Europe's contribution to solving the world's problems could only be a political one.

Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian Christian Democrat) considered the answer should be based on the SDRs system, although this could be prejudicial to the developing countries.

As the main partner in the Group of Twenty, the Community had to devise a system to govern the link between SDRs and development aid. He felt the European Parliament should take the initiative in making proposals.

His personal view was that there should be an organic link to allow reserves to be made available to the developing countries.

Mr Lange, Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, said that the Community's progress ought to give it a say in overhauling the IMF. It ought to be possible to help the developing countries without recourse to the special drawing rights.

In reply, Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the Commissioner responsible, said progress had been made. He hoped the three currencies floating independently would soon join in a joint float.

By 30 June the Commission would be putting forward proposals on aid in the medium term. He now looked forward to seeing the commitments entered into at the Summit Conferences being followed by political decisions.

The Commission relied on the support of the European Parliament.

In the motion tabled the European Parliament made the following main points: that exchange rate adjustments provided a good basis for reforming the world monetary system and that lasting results could only be achieved if the Member States of the International Monetary Fund geared their economic policies to stability. It called on the Commission and Council to be guided by the following principles:

- (a) fixed but slightly adjustable exchange rates;
- (b) parity changes when balance of payments showed a large surplus or deficit;
- (c) foreign exchange reserves must be reduced to the level of working balances;
- (d) special drawing rights should replace foreign exchange and gold in the currency reserves;
- (e) special drawing rights must be issued solely in the interests of the world monetary system.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 5 June 1973.

*Questions now allowed after Commission statements*

The President announced a new departure. In future the chairman of the relevant committee would have the floor for five minutes after Commission statements and Members would be able to put questions to the Commissioner for not more than fifteen minutes. The total time set aside after a statement would not exceed twenty minutes.

### **Commission statement on transport**

This came into effect for the first time when Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, made a statement on transport policy.

The House had frequently deplored the time taken for the common policy to take shape. The Commission wished to deal with this. There had been discussions with transport ministers in most of the Member States as well as with senior civil servants. And the Commission had asked for a meeting of the Council on transport policy at the end of June. For this purpose a working document was presented to the Council on 30 May. Political will was needed to solve the difficulties: state railways running at a loss, the special problems of waterway transport and the low profit margins of road haulers. The Community's transport network was a juxtaposition of the national networks and needed harmonizing to meet the requirements of European integration. The most striking example of this was the lack of common rules on weight and measures. Free movement under the Community quota involved less than 3 o/o of road transport.

Treaty stipulations had not been met and enlargement raised further problem. But the Commission was discussing the problems with the Council and progress towards Economic and Monetary Union should broaden the scope of the transport policy.

There had been an improvement in road safety but an annual toll of 60,000 deaths and 1,650,000 injuries made improvement a standing commitment.

The Council had received proposals from the Commission and working groups would, he hoped, be drawing up a list of priorities by the end of the year.

Mr James Hill (British Conservative) said bilateral arrangements were far too limited. He saw a common transport policy as a condition of Economic and Monetary Union. He hoped agreement would be reached on axle weights and all-up weights. He wanted to know what progress the Commission had made in discussions with national governments on weights and loads and heavy lorries and whether this point had been included in the Commission's document.

In reply Mr Scarascia Mugnozza did not feel any decisions or initiatives were called for. The Commission was endeavouring to facilitate contacts but this was a matter for the Council.

Mr Horst Seefeld (German Social Democrat) asked Mr Scarascia Mugnozza how he envisaged cooperation with the Council; were the measures planned pre-agreed with the national governments or was the Commission putting forward proposals that had little prospect of being adopted?

He also asked if Mr Scarascia Mugnozza had had any reactions to plans for bringing air traffic and ports within the scope of the common policy on transport.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza replied that the Commission was independent and free from any pressure. On ports and airports, the opinion of experts was being sought and proposals would be put forward when possible.

Mr K. Heinz Mursch (German Christian Democrat) said shipping was particularly important in the context of the common transport policy because competition was being undermined and because of flag discrimination. Would shipping be included in agreements negotiated with third countries?

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza replied that the emphasis had to be on intra-Community transport but Europe's relations with the world at large had to be borne in mind.

Mr James Scott-Hopkins (British Conservative) asked the Commissioner what had gone wrong. He understood there was now no question of further progress on heavy lorries for example. When did he expect to make proposals as a result of the studies being undertaken?

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza said there had been great difficulties which he now hoped to overcome. This was the point of his reference to a paper which would be giving details of Commission proposals accepted and rejected by the Council. This he hoped would throw light on hold-ups and on what proposals were now feasible.

Mr Ove Guldborg (Danish Liberal) asked in the Commission had considered common rules on axle weights, particularly in relation to striking a balance between road and rail traffic.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza said this was now a matter for the Council. An agreement had been reached between the Six in 1972 but the Commission was awaiting developments and would make proposals in due course.

Mr Nicolas Kollwelter (Luxembourg Christian Socialist) was glad to note that the Commission was reviewing all proposals made and that it was drawing up a list of priorities.

Sitting of Tuesday, 5 June 1973.

### **Easing Alps traffic throughput**

Speaking for the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport, Mr Luigi Noè (Italian Christian Democrat) outlined his report on improving trans-alpine traffic infrastructures in some detail.

The aim here was to co-ordinate tunnel building in the Alps. Pipelines had to be allowed for and more rapid rail links created.

Most of the rail tunnels has been built before 1913. New tunnels would take ten years or more. Hence few would be drilled before the year 2000. The new tunnels would be 45 kms long and very expensive. It would then be possible to travel from Scandinavia to Sicily almost on one level. And it would help offset the sharp rise in road traffic which was a source of concern to Switzerland. Of the five options, he suggested the Splügen tunnel would hold out the greatest promise. This would cut the journey between Germany and the Po valley by more than 100 kms.

New tunnels would bring great benefits to several regions in Switzerland and Italy. He called on the Commission to study the problem in depth. But greater emphasis on rail tunnels, allowing speeds of up to 200 km/ph, would be desirable.

For the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Mr Karl Mitterdorfer (Italian Christian Democrat) asked the Commission to bear in mind that East–West links would be needed as well as North–South links.

Speaking for the Socialist Group, Mr Horst Seefeld (German) spoke of the traffic congestion on the Brenner in the Summer months. The situation had become impossible there.

Mr Augusto Premoli (Italian Liberal) was sceptical about Mr Noè's emphasis on rail tunnels. The Florence–Rome motorway, for example, was taking

500 passengers a day away from the railways. Planning was needed before giving priority to rail traffic and he asked for costs of the work involved.

Mr Tom Normanton (British Conservative) saw communications as the key to regional problems throughout Europe. He stressed man-made, political frontiers which had a distorting effect on communication patterns.

Referring to the motion, Mr Erwin Lange (German Social Democrat) said the emphasis should be on creating new job opportunities in areas where there was structural unemployment.

Mr Doeke Eisma (Dutch Democrat) said railway traffic was less space-consuming and it caused less pollution.

Speaking for the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport, Mr Fazio Fabbrini (Italian Communist) felt rail should have priority over road.

Speaking as Chairman of the Committee, Mr James Hill (British Conservative) said the Community had a number of problems to solve: the Channel tunnel, a tunnel or bridge between Denmark and Sweden, bridges across the Great Belt to link the Danish islands and a bridge from Italy to Sicily. He hoped his Committee would be able to report on these great new projects.

In reply, Mr Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, agreed rail should have priority. He trusted the House would agree to the motion.

Answering Mr Premoli, Mr Noè said 45 km tunnels could not be used by cars although of course cars could be carried by rail. Tolls could cover costs.

Mr Erhard Jakobsen (Danish Socialist) referred to the latest plans under discussion in Copenhagen.

In the motion tabled the European Parliament, inter alia, expressed concern at the traffic congestion in the Alps. It asked that these infrastructures be treated as a European priority. It called for negotiations with Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia on common priorities and joint financing and it asked that priority be given to the railway projects.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 5 June 1973.

## Rules for mopeds

To promote road safety Member States have laid down that mopeds must comply with international specifications. When exported the relevant checks have to be repeated and this is an obstacle to trade. The Commission has drawn up proposals to overcome this through reciprocal recognition of checks effected.

In presenting his report on behalf of the Legal Affairs Committee, Mr Alessandro Bermani (Italian Socialist) said this was a completely straightforward proposal which was more than justified. He thought that the scope of the Commission's proposal should be extended to mopeds powered by electric motors because they were less noisy and did not pollute the atmosphere. He said nobody could dispute the value of the proposed directive and it would be desirable for it to be effected as soon as possible.

Speaking for the Christian Democratic Group, Mr Hermann Schwörer (German) welcomed the proposals. They were a further step towards improved road safety in the EEC. He felt that the Commission had taken a lot of trouble over the technical details. On one point, however, their efforts had fallen short of the mark and that was a safeguard against noise from mopeds. He said that there were something like 1,300,000 mopeds on the roads and every effort made so far had failed to deal with the noise problem. Clear instruction should be given to industry to manufacture mopeds in such a way that they could not be tampered with to make more noise. He also drew attention to the problem of exhaust fumes. He felt that this was once again a matter for the manufacturers.

Mr Bermani said that he would like the Commission to step up its work as regards the maximum permissible level of atmospheric pollution caused by mopeds.

In reply Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, thanked the rapporteur and Mr Bermani. Dealing with the various points in the motion he said that he would be drawing up proposals for mopeds powered by electric motors. The Commission had laid down a maximum period of six months during which mopeds could be refused registration for failing to comply with road safety requirements. Noting that Parliament wished to delete the time restriction, he said that the Commission had included the six months period to allow for contacts with manufacturers to deal with risk factors prior to mopeds being put on the roads. But he accepted Parliament's amendment.

As regards the point in the motion calling on the Commission to expedite its efforts to regulate maximum permissible levels of noise and air pollution, he was in complete agreement. It was, however, impossible to stop all noise caused by owners. He thanked Parliament for drawing the attention of the Commission to this problem. This was, however, an area where the help of the public could be very valuable.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Monday, 4 June 1973.

**Council to negotiate agreement with non-member countries  
on coach and bus travel**

With the increase in travel between Member States and non-member countries, the Council has felt the need to broaden the scope of its own traffic rules to cover these non-member countries too. Parliament's report on the details of this decision was drawn up by Mr Frans G. van der Gun (Dutch Christian Democrat) on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport. He explained his committee's motion to the House: the advisability of adoption standard rules to apply over the entire distances travelled and the advisability of extending the scope of Community rules for passenger travel.

As Chairman of the committee, Mr James Hill thanked Mr van der Gun for his report. He informed the House that the non-member countries concerned were Austria, Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Norway and Sweden. He felt that any means by which frontier formalities and bureaucratic delays could be reduced in travel to and transit through these countries would be particularly welcome.

Replying for the Commission, Mr Scarascia Mugnozza said that there were coaches going from the United Kingdom to Greece, Spain and other non-member countries. Hence the need for the common rules. But the negotiations would neither be easy nor of short duration. He thanked the House for the reception given to the Commission proposals.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Monday, 4 June 1973.

## **Amended road haulage quotas**

The Commission's road haulage quota proposals were the subject of a report drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport by Mr Pierre Giraud (French Socialist). Mr Giraud said that the Community's policy on road transport had been taking a long time to materialize and an attempt was now being made to devise appropriate arrangements at Community level. The original quotas for 1969 to 1972 amounted to 1,200 authorizations. This had been increased by 15 o/o in 1973 and would go up by 15 o/o for 1974. The aim at present was to integrate the new Member States within the Community transport system. He described the Commission's proposals as satisfactory.

Speaking for the European Democratic Union, Mr Pierre-Bernard Cousté (French Gaullist) underlined the need for the final arrangements to come into operation on 1 January 1975. At the same time he expressed sympathy and understanding for the difficulties experienced by the Commission at this stage.

Speaking as Chairman of the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport, Mr James Hill (British Conservative) pointed out to the House that the Commission had used four criteria in fixing authorizations:

- (i) the growth in demand for transport between Member States;
- (ii) use of existing capacity;
- (iii) trends in transport rates;
- (iv) growth of transport other than that covered by the Community quota.

He said the reasons for the quota were obvious. Their aim was to prevent cut-throat competition between Member States and, to some extent, to protect nationalised railways. He felt the Commission had not allowed enough authorizations but accepted that these were interim figures. He hoped the Council would review them every three months.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, replied to the various points in the motion which the committee was to lay before the House. On the point expressing regret that the number of Community authorizations was not fixed by 31 March, he said that it had not been possible to convene the Council at that time. He hoped that they would meet in the near future. On the point

calling on the Council to review the number of authorizations in the light of experience, he agreed that this was desirable.

In reply to Mr Cousté he agreed that the final arrangements must come into operation on 1 January 1975. He indicated to Mr Hill that the Commission had made an appreciable effort on behalf of the new Member States. It was, he felt, worth pointing out that at present the quotas covered barely 3 0/0 of road traffic.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Monday, 4 June 1973.

### **Occupational training priorities**

Mr Ferruccio Pisoni (Italian Christian Democrat) presented a report for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the Commission's communication on a common occupational training policy and on projects to have priority in 1973.

Occupational training was important because unemployment could not be discussed as affecting only young people or other groups. A man today was liable to change his job at least three times in his career.

It was not enough to teach a skill; one had also to train the man. The individual today wanted to be more than a part in a machine. He looked for a broad-based education in school and European recognition of diplomas.

For the Socialist Group, Mr Alessandro Bermani (Italian) said too little had been done. He agreed with Mr Pisoni about the training of the individual. 330,000 u.a. was an insufficient allocation and more trained personnel were needed. He thought the adoption of 13 out of 30 projects was too few.

Lady Elles (British Conservative) welcomed the motion. The experience of the United States in occupational training deserved attention. Fewer youths were going into industry because of the decline in the birthrate in Western Europe and because the school-leaving age had been raised. But there was proportionately more unemployment within these age groups.

In reply, Dr Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, said the Commission would be submitting a broader programme. Setting up a European Centre for occupational training would be difficult but other centres could be set up, especially in those countries with many migrant workers. He thanked Parliament for its criticisms and encouragement.

Among the points made in the motion were that the European Parliament considered that the general principles approved by the Council of Ministers in 1963 were still valid and that adequate financing resources and staff must be made available. It noted with regret that experimental centres had not been created, or job profiles prepared. It urged the Commission to devise training programmes for migrant workers in their country of origin or in those areas where they were heavily concentrated.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 5 June 1973.

### **Directive on modernising agricultural structures**

Mr Heinz Frehsee (German Social Democrat) presented a report on the Commission's proposals to give more time for Member States to implement Council directives on modernising agricultural structures.

The Community had had great difficulty in laying down a common policy on structures. There had been delays, however, in implementing it. In the motion laid before the House, Parliament noted with regret it had been consulted very late in the day. It asked the Commission for a report explaining the effects of measures to modernise structures pursuant to the Council's directives.

Lord St. Oswald (British Conservative) hoped the trend would continue. Mr Nicola Cipolla (Italian Communist) suggested Parliament wait until receiving the Commission's report before commenting.

Mr Lardinois said that the time necessary to implement the directives had been underestimated. He said the Commission's report, which would be presented by 1 August, would throw more light on the whole question of structural modernisation.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

## Oral question with debate on agricultural surpluses

On behalf of the Socialist Group Mr Ludwig Fellemaier (German) asked the Commission if its proposals to the Council were designed to preclude subsidies, especially in dairy products. He asked if the Commission agreed that the burden on the taxpayer was no longer justified and he asked when the Commission would announce its proposals to the European public.

Mr Fellermaier said that agricultural surpluses had become a bottomless pit for European taxpayers. In the emergency debate in Parliament in May, the Commission had tried to throw a cloak of Christian charity over the butter deal with Russia but there had been no change on the fats market and this had left a bitter taste.

He asked Commissioner Lardinois (i) what were present stock levels (ii) what was the cost per kg of butter to the taxpayers and (iii) how much did it cost to store and transport this mountain of butter.

He said there was also a cereals surplus and that the Commission should tackle the problem broadly and not try to cover it up.

Mr Lardinois said the best thing we could do was to give Europe's best product – milk – the place it deserved. Surplus was a relative term. This was an economic problem. This hinged on consumption as well as production. A trade policy was needed to balance supply and demand. He agreed the public was dissatisfied. But there was a scarcity rather than a surplus of other products. He was glad that the butter price had gone down this year but felt it would take time before the changerover from dairy farming to meat production would make itself felt.

He agreed the butter problem had to be solved.

For the Socialist Group Mr Heinz Freehsee (German) pointed out that the surpluses cost 3,000 m u.a. All that was needed was a policy to bring down the prices of surplus products. Some success had been achieved in Germany with slaughtering beef.

Mr James Scott-Hopkins (British Conservative) wished the Socialists had expressed the same anxiety about surpluses during the agricultural debate in Luxembourg in April. The basic problem was the price structure. It should be

tackled in the annual reviews and by structural change. He added that encouragement should be given to harmonisation of cereals throughout the Community so that those grown were the ones required.

Mr Raymond Triboulet (French Gaullist) said Europe needed an agricultural policy. Surpluses cost money but they were built up to feed human beings. Europe should produce all that it could, even if this meant sacrifices.

Mr Thomas Nolan (Irish Fianna Fail) said that in Ireland farmers were turning to milk production because there was no sheep policy. He asked Mr Lardinois if there would be an outline sheep policy by July.

Mr Nicola Cipolla (Italian Communist) was glad to note Mr Lardinois shared his concern about the common agricultural policy. It was not only a matter of production. Human beings were involved too.

Mr Mario Vetrone (Italian Christian Democrat) suggested this matter be referred back to the committee.

In reply Mr Lardinois said he did not expect much of a powdered milk surplus and, in Germany at least, the cereals problem was being tackled.

The motion was agreed to,

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Increase in Parliament's budget from 25 to 29 million units of account**

Presenting the European Parliament's estimates for 1974 Mr Horst Gerlach (German Social Democrat) said that these showed the financial consequences for the European Parliament of the enlargement of the Communities. There would be an increase in expenditure of 17 o/o. This was spread over the whole budget although the main increases were in the establishment plan and in the rent for new buildings. The actual figure for 1973 was 25,564,625 u.a. and the figure for 1974 would be 29,779,775, two-thirds of which was staff salaries. He said that these estimates had been accepted with some reluctance and he was in favour of reducing the amounts requested. The Committee on Budgets, for whom he was speaking, would try to see whether savings could be made.

Speaking for the Christian Democratic Group, Mr Heinrich Aigner (President) said that the estimates would be reviewed in detail when the whole budgetary systems of the other institutions were available. He noted that for the first time the principle was coming into operation whereby staff problems would only be discussed every other year. It was impossible, he said, to provide new staff for each new task arising. Hence, staff mobility was desirable. He said one should take advantage of every opportunity to remind the Council of what it meant in terms of the European taxpayers' money for the question of the seat to remain unsettled. His committee attached special importance to the documentation division being developed. Parliament had to have its priorities and by necessary corrections could be made in the final estimates.

Speaking for the European Conservative Group, Mr Rafton Pounder praised the care taken in presenting the budget. He noted the degree of detail into which the estimates had been broken down. He said there was bound to be concern at the considerable increase and although there were good reasons for it he felt that Parliament must be most careful in scrutinizing expenditure as it is incurred. There was a danger that once money had been allocated it would be spent. One of the difficulties in forecasting, and in this case two years ahead was that there were no figures showing the actual expenditure in 1973 as compared with the forecast for this year.

Speaking for the Socialist Group, Mr Manfred Schmidt noted that the allocation for scholarships had been discontinued, and that the relevant funds were to be used in the organization of a European Symposium. He wished to know exactly how this money would be spent and he tabled an amendment that it should not be released until this explanation were given.

Mr Pierre Beylot (French) said that the European Democratic Union Group accepted the budget. He noted, however, that by comparison with 1972 the increase in the budget had been 90 o/o and here he endorsed the comments made by Mr Gerlach and Mr Pounder. Staff and buildings were, of course, the main sources of the increase but he thought that the rent for the new building in Luxembourg deserved special attention. He welcomed the rapporteur's proposal to introduce checks whereby real expenditure in previous years would be used in working out specific allocations. He said that the European operations should not be an amalgam of the clumsier features of national administrations. One had to start from scratch.

Mr Fazio Fabbrini (Italian Communist) said all his colleagues would abstain from voting. Although he agreed with most of what Mr Gerlach had said in his report he could not accept the inclusion in the budget of 30,000 u.a. for the expenses of the Joint Committee for the Association with Greece. The political reasons for this were comprehensible to all.

Lord O'Hagan (British Independent) asked that it be made clear that money given for secretarial expenses is not allocated to all members on the same basis. There were three classes: (i) those who got no money at all; (ii) those like Mr Fabbrini and his colleagues; (iii) and the main groups. He said the position should be made more explicit.

As Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr Georges Spénale (French Socialist) was glad to note that the budget had the approval of most of the House. The increase of 17 o/o appeared small, bearing in mind that there were still 250 posts to be filled. It was true that there had been a 90 o/o increase by comparison with 1972. But this was not extraordinary when changing from four to six official languages. The problems of translating into five instead of three were almost tripled. No other institution was affected by having six working languages to quite the same extent as Parliament. The political groups had asked for their members to be given greater assistance and the new documentation service deserved to be enlarged. In reply to Lord O'Hagan, he said that the political groups received money to cover group expenses. It was reasonable for the amount allocated to be proportionate to their numbers. But he agreed that non-attached members also had travel expenses and they should be taken into consideration.

As from 1975, budget increases would be noted by a number of statistical co-efficients and it would be much more difficult then to develop the means of action of Parliament. Care would have to be taken but in view of Parliament's special difficulties: its nomadism, the lack of a seat, the double mandate of its members, etc., the resources had to be available to enable Parliament to carry out its task.

In the motion tabled the European Parliament, inter alia, resolved to postpone any changes in its establishment plan until the draft budget of the Communities was considered and instructed its Committee on Budgets to keep the implementation of the estimates under review.

The motion was agreed to on Thursday, 7 June 1973.

Sitting of Tuesday, 5 June 1973.

### **Transfer of funds to cover research and investment in 1973**

For the Committee on Budgets Mr Raymond Offroy (French Gaullist) said the draft supplementary budget had not reached his committee. He favoured more flexible arrangements but believed the consultation procedure should be maintained for all supplementary budgets.

Mr Georges Spénale (French Socialist) agreed. He thought Parliament could however simply return an opinion on straightforward transfers.

Mr Claude Cheysson agreed that the procedure needed simplifying.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### **ECSC auditor's report for 1970**

For the Committee on Budgets Mr Raymond Offroy (French Gaullist) stressed that reports ought to be drawn up more quickly.

Mr. Georges Spénale (French Socialist) said the Socialist Group would support the motion.

In reply Mr Claude Cheysson said the Commission favoured on-the-spot checks. It would look into how the presentation could be improved.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### **Agreement with non-applicant Efta States and Associates**

Presenting an Oral Question with debate for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Mr. Corstiaan Bos (Dutch Christian Historical Union) said that some experience was needed before changes could be envisaged. The agreement was in five phases and for some products duties would be phased out over from seven to eleven years.

As regards the paper trade it looked as though there would be more competition from Canada and the United States than from Finland.

Parliament, he said, should press the Commission to take advantage of the 'development clauses' in the Agreement especially for states in difficulty.

Mr Scarascia-Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission said that by 1977 there would be an industrial free trade area embracing 16 countries. The Commission's guiding principle here was a desire to cooperate.

Sir Tufton Beamish (British Conservative) referred to the Icelandic fishing situation. He hoped the Commission would comment on Protocol 6 and keep an eye on the sensitive pulp, paper and board issue. He noted with regret that Parliament was informed rather than consulted under the Luns procedure, particularly over the Norwegian agreement.

Sir Arthur Dodd-Parker (British Conservative) agreed. He hoped too that the Efta counties would one day be part of the enlarged Community.

Mr Tom Normanton (British Conservative) also referred to the paper trade and asked the Commission to keep an eye on Efta rules of origin.

Mr Erwin Lange (German Social Democrat) reminded the House that the question hinged on the effects on the EEC. He felt the Community had to disown protectionism and asked the Commission how far individual sectors were threatened. The Community ought to be generous in promoting free trade.

In replu Mr Scarascia Mugnozza said the Commission's aim was to try and ensure no new barriers were imposed.

He hoped the difficulty with Iceland would be resolved. The Commission hoped to improve working relations with Parliament. On the final point, he thought the rules of origin were satisfactory.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

### **Commission statement on drought and famine in the Sahel**

The western sub-Sahara, known as the Sahel has become news for the most depressing of reasons: the terrible suffering of its peoples because of a lack of water.

Mr Claude Cheysson, Member of the Commission, said the Sahel comprised 5 million square kilometres, including more than 1 million square kilometres of

desert. The population of 8 million was entirely dependent on rain. No rain meant poverty and even starvation if the water supply failed. This is what had happened.

The Sahel which embraced six countries had been suffering from drought since 1969 when the Community began to send aid: 45,000 tons in the first year. In the second year 8,000 tons were sent to Mali alone. In 1972 45,000 tons were sent and 49,000 in 1973. At the same time 105,000 tons were sent on a bilateral basis. The Community gave 15 m u.a. towards the transport of these cereals.

Under Article 20 of the Second Yaoundé Convention emergency aid has been provided in the form of vaccines, seed to replace that eaten by the men and women there who had nothing else left to eat, foodstuffs or vaccines for cattle and even the payment of taxes. This emergency aid amounted to 11.5 m u.a. in 1971-1972 and 19 m u.a. in 1972-1973. On 14 May the Council decided to send 13,000 tons mild powder, 400 tons being sent by air forthwith.

The United States, the USSR and UN Agencies had helped too. At the moment 400,000 tons of cereals were available and if they could be brought to the 6 million people of the Sahel who needed them, would represent four to five months food.

The difficulty was distance. Getting food to people over an area of 3.5 million square kilometres was no small problem. Belgium had made 6 heavy freight aircraft available, France 6, Germany 4 and Ireland 1 Boeing 707.

He added that the sovereignty of the African States was respected. They decide on how cereals were to be carried. The situation was aggravated by a refugee problem. Extra supplies of milk powder would be sent to Upper Volta which had been invaded by refugees from the North.

The statistics available on these countries went back to 1931 and data on the droughts in the Sahel went back to 1829. The present drought was the ninth in 144 years. The previous ones had lasted 2 to 5 years. Nobody could forecast when a drought was coming.

Mr Cheysson said that in the long-term food resources had to be built up and action taken against land becoming desert. The EDF had allocated 75 m u.a. for this purpose. 2,230 wells, for example, had been sunk. New cattle stocks had to be built up again.

The Ministers of the Sahel met in Ouagadougou on 26 March and set up a standing committee on drought to coordinate measures to deal with it. Mr Cheysson concluded by stressing the size of the problem and quoting the rainfall figures: from 50 to 500 mm per annum.

Mr Georges Spénale (French Socialist) said that of the 17 aircraft made available some were withdrawn when the people there had no more than five days food left. Cotton seed was being fed to goats, sheep and cows and dromedaries were being left to die. Had there been war in the Sahel the resources made available would have been 100 times greater.

Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian Christian Democrat) asked what links were established between the Commission and the FAO Member States. He trusted the Commission would set up a stand-by service, with logistic support, to deal with such crises.

Sir Arthur Dodds-Parker (British Conservative) asked the Commission about joint consultation with WEU.

Mr Raymond Offroy (French Gaullist) agreed with Mr Spénale. He asked how these goods were being transported and if any attempt had been made to cooperate with the three states to the south of the Sahel.

In reply Mr Cheysson said most of the food supplies were already in the Sahel. As regards transports full use had been made of the Dakar and Abidjan port facilities. But Cotonou, Lomé and Jéna could be used too. Within the Sahelian region, the aircraft had been useful. But they could only carry small quantities and there were few places where they could land. Such airports as there were could not supply fuel.

The Ivory Coast, Dahomey and Senegal had helped with gifts in cash and kind. The President of Senegal had called in all available lorries in order to help.

As a result, distribution in Mauritania was good. There were links with FAO and WEU but the main support had to focus on the Sahel itself. In the long-term water conservation had to be studied. Finally the Member States should decide on what part the production of foodstuffs for relief purposes should play in Community agriculture.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

## Meeting of the EEC–AASM Parliamentary Conference

Mr Lucien Harmegnies (Belgian Socialist) presented a report, on behalf of the Committee on Development and Cooperation, on the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC–AASM Association in Kinshasa.

He said there had been no general debate on political issues.

The Council was to organise a conference to exchange information so that the actual negotiations could begin as soon as possible. This was an example of the Community's open-mindedness in its relations with the third world. Among the points raised at Kinshasa, he quoted (i) giving Associates some of the revenue from VAT, (ii) budgeting the European Development Funds and (iii) a guaranteed minimum revenue from exports, through a sort of insurance fund. He hoped the House would endorse these proposals.

Lord Reay (British Conservative) drew attention to a somewhat exaggerated, even artificial enthusiasm for the Association. He pointed out that of the 25 least developed countries adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1971 no fewer than 16 were in Africa and all but one were either in the Association, among the Commonwealth countries listed in Protocol 22 or interested in having special links with the EEC. It was on these that limited aid-giving possibilities should be concentrated. He was extremely sceptical about continuing the Conference in its present form.

For Mr Georges Spénale (French Socialist) the many contacts established at Kinshasa were of great value. He asked if the Commission was in favour of budgeting the EDF. He liked the idea but felt it was only possible if the same principle were applied in Europe. Some of the VAT could be set aside for the EDF if a proportion also went to a fund for regional development.

Sir Arthur Dodds-Parker (British Conservative) referred to Mr Deniau's speech about a guaranteed income for eight commodities and the success of the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. Parliament's aim here was trade, not aid. This, he felt, pointed the way to the future.

Mr Charles McDonald (Irish Fine Gael) had been impressed by the gulf between 'haves' and 'have nots'. Ways had to be found of fostering development through cooperation, especially in agriculture. He suggested a European type of Peace Corps to enable young people to help Africa personally.

Mr Tom Normanton (British Conservative) was doubtful about aid. Only trade activated the individual and society and generated something worthwhile and permanent. But it must be mutually advantageous. At the same time the developing countries wanted to expand in and into manufactures and semi-manufactures. Europe should not produce goods it had no aptitude to specialise in.

For the Christian Democratic Group Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian) felt one had to remember the real aim of the Association. It was a commercial institution, an institution for financial and technical assistance and one devoted to cooperation.

He noted with regret that the Community's policy on associations was defensive, when it should have a world-wide basis.

Mr Claude Cheysson took issue with Lord Reay. The generalisation of free access was fundamental. In seeking to stabilise receipts from a number of products, Europe had taken the lead. He said the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was a valuable guide.

The European Development Fund had to be substantially increased. But this could not be done in relation to VAT. On the forthcoming conference to promote an exchange of information, this would not go into the basic issues. Its aim was to ensure understanding of the Commission's proposals. They contained new features it would be unwise to reject out of hand.

The Governments now had to consider these proposals. He hoped Parliament would come out in favour of generous arrangements for the Caribbean and the Pacific countries.

Sitting of Wednesday, 6 June 1973.

#### **Oral question without debate on cruelty to animals**

Mr Tom Normanton (British Conservative) said that the EEC would be judged by its ethics. These applied to animal treatment too. He asked the Commissioner to submit a report on how unacceptable practices were to be dealt with.

Mr Lardinois, Member of the Commission, said he would do so.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Regulation on intervention prices for raw beet sugar and beet**

Mr Charles Héger (Belgian Christian Democrat) presented a report from the Committee on Agriculture on the Commission's proposals for raw beet sugar and beet prices. He said that pursuant to Article 52 of the Accession Treaty the Council could, for one marketing year, set prices without consulting Parliament. The only way to respond to this courteous gesture to the House was by not opening the debate on these prices.

The motion was agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Approximating laws on fertilizers**

Miss Astrid Lulling (Luxembourg Social Democrat) presented a report for the Committee on Agriculture on the Commission's proposals to approximate fertilizer laws.

The directive would mean higher quality ammonium nitrate could be freely traded although national measures on explosives would need harmonising.

Mr James Scott-Hopkins (British Conservative) regretted there was no time to deal with the proposals in detail. Mr Charles McDonald (Irish Fine Gael) agreed. Mr Mario Vetrone (Italian Christian Democrat) said that the standards of tolerance had been worked over by experts for about ten years.

Mr Lardinois said that the Commission would be proposing a directive on ammonium nitrate which was classified with fertilizers. It would do so when it began its studies of liquid fertilizers.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Regulation on cattle and beef imports from Yugoslavia**

Mr Mario Vetrone (Italian Christian Democrat) presented a report for the Committee on Agriculture on the Commission's proposals on beef and cattle imports from Yugoslavia. This was a technical regulation and Mr Vetrone moved its approval after a brief explanation.

Mr James Scott-Hopkins (British Conservative) referred to the foot-and-mouth disease in Greece, Albania and Yugoslavia and asked the Commissioner if adequate precautions were being taken.

Mr Lardinois said he had no information on this point. But he had the fullest confidence in the Italian veterinary authorities.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Regulation on oilseeds**

The motion on the Commission's proposals setting the main intervention centres for oilseeds was agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Motions agreed to without debate**

Motions agreed to without debate on Commission proposals for:

- (a) Regulation on introduction of monitoring equipment in road traffic.
- (b) Decision to set up two research programmes in the field of new technologies and recycling raw materials.

With reference to the Commission proposal for a regulation providing for special measures in respect of colza and rape seed for sowing, Mr James Scott-Hopkins (British Conservative) asked for an assurance that any duplication of recommendations could be avoided.

Mr Lardinois gave the assurance requested.

On the Commission's proposal for a regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous duties in the Common Customs Tariff on a number of agricultural products, Mr Scott-Hopkins asked about imports of certain kinds of fish from Iceland.

Mr Lardinois replied that if difficulties arose the position would be reviewed.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Regulations on wines from Portugal**

The motion on the Commission's proposals for regulations opening, allocating and providing for administration of Community tariff quotas for various Portuguese wines was agreed to without debate.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.

### **Additional protocols to the Community's Association Agreements with Tunisia and Morocco**

The motion on the Commission's proposals was agreed to without debate.

Sitting of Thursday, 7 June 1973.