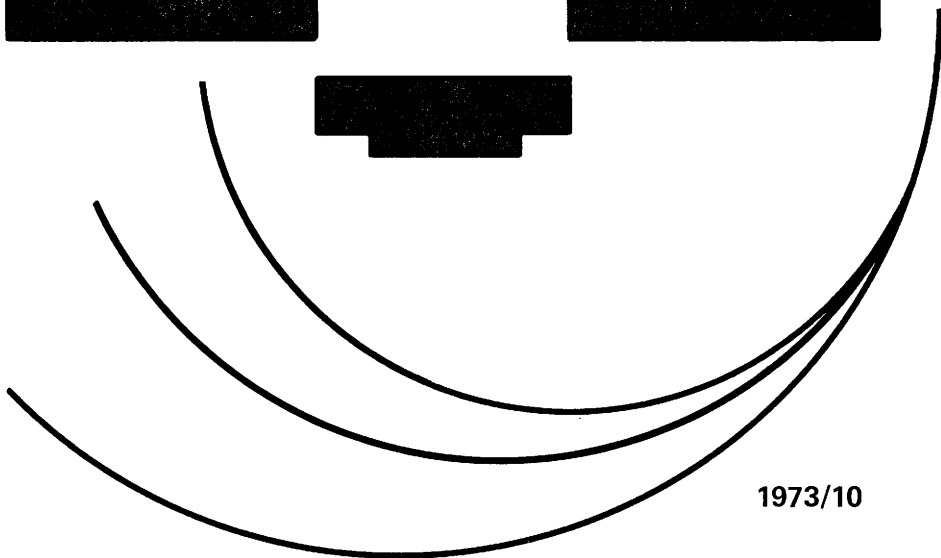


european parliament

information

PARLIAMENT IN SESSION



1973/10

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PARLIAMENT IN SESSION

The European Parliament met in plenary session in Strasbourg from Monday, 10 December to Friday, 14 December 1973.

The energy policy debate was among the most important and concluded with the Commission's five point plan for 'managing the crisis'.

The social action programme was debated and Dr Patrick Hillery stated: 'what we are doing is totally changing the spirit, outlook and thinking of the European Communities'.

The other focal points were the list of regions, the resolution on the summit conference, the budget for 1974 and economic and monetary union.

The House debated the Sahel. It was noteworthy that pressure from Parliament had led to the appropriation of a further 40m u.a. to help this area.

Finally, Greece was debated. The Commission was quite firm. There could be no progress with the Association until democracy was restored.

Energy Policy

Mr Gerd Springorum (German, Christian Democrat) introduced a motion on immediate action needed to deal with the energy crisis (Doc. 266/73). He did so for the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology. The motion was debated at length and a number of amendments were tabled. In the resolution finally agreed to, Parliament was critical both of the Council and the Commission, the Council for failing to meet as planned on 25 and 26 November to try and resolve the issue and the Commission for failing to come up with any really promising proposals.

Available supplies could, as a last resort, be fairly rationed but energy had first to be directed to sectors where there were no alternative power sources. This might be prejudicial to free market principles so care would be needed to safeguard private firms.

Parliament called for an energy plan that would attract investors and then made these specific proposals:

- (1) making full use of refinery capacities
- (2) using coal instead of oil at power stations, steelworks etc.
- (3) switching bulk transport from road to rail
- (4) using public transport for passenger traffic
- (5) cutting waiting time at take-off and landing at airports
- (6) boosting coal output
- (7) helping those worst hit by the rise in fuel oil prices
- (8) giving the Community the power to coordinate all these measures in the Member States.

There were speeches on behalf of the Political Groups and several from the floor.

In reply, Mr Henry Simonet, Vice-President of the Commission, outlined a five-point plan for dealing with the crisis:

1. To share supplies fairly and set up a body to manage the crisis.
2. To obtain data on oil flows.
3. To analyse how oil could be replaced by other products.
4. To check consumption either voluntarily or by constraint; ration cards were a possibility.
5. To bring prices into line and give the Community bodies the power to regularise and possibly limit oil product exports from one country to another.

Sitting of Thursday, 13 December 1973

List of regions

Debate on the report (Doc. 276/73) for the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport by Mr Fernand Delmotte (Belgian, Socialist) on the Commission's proposals for a list of regions.

The Commission has submitted two proposals, one for a regulation on the list of priority agricultural regions under the EAGGF and one for a regulation on the list of regions coming under the Regional Development Fund.

Parliament's reaction to these proposals was that aid should be concentrated in a few areas. It found the list very general. There had to be priorities. The regions had to be classified according to the relative seriousness of imbalances in relation to the Community average. Those with the most serious imbalances and the lowest relative intervention capacity should get the bulk of the funds. This was the substance of the motion laid before the House.

There were speeches on behalf of all the Political Groups and several from the floor — Mr Mario Vetrone (Italian, Christian Democrat) for example was surprised to find Lombardy, the capital of the 'green Europe' on the list. The funds, he said, should be kept for the poorest regions.

Mr Karl Mitterdorfer (German, Christian Democrat) agreed with the broad emphasis of the list. He noted the Council would have to be unanimous in deciding on the list of agricultural regions and felt this was a case where a qualified majority vote would be preferable.

Mr Russell Johnston (British, Liberal) said it was vital for recognisable criteria to be applied to both agricultural and industrial areas in need. Someone living on unemployment benefit in the North-East of England might be relatively poorer than someone in Sicily or Ireland.

Mr James Hill (British, European Conservative) found the two lists inadequate as a start towards regional development. Over 50 % of the Community land mass seemed to be eligible for aid, although the large size of eligible areas was due to the sparseness of population in agricultural areas. But if the framework were too large, it meant the Commission recognised that every Member State had a different regional problem. So although he was asking for priorities this was not to suggest the funds to be set aside were adequate. Regional policy must have a realistic budget.

Mr Albert Liogier (French, European Progressive Democrat) said that outward migration from rural areas must be prevented and suggested supplementary incomes for farmers.

Mr Fazio Fabbrini (Italian, Communist) said his Group supported the motions which held out a reasonable prospect of solving the problems.

Mr Wolfgang Schwabe (German, Socialist) said there must be no suspicion that the Council, Commission or Parliament were allowing personal preferences to

affect the allocation of aid. Another point he made was that regional aid should not be a 'soup kitchen' policy. It had to be a social policy.

Replying to the debate, Mr George Thomson, the Commissioner responsible, said there was no disagreement between Commission and Parliament on the principles of concentration and priorities. What was at issue was a judgement about the degree of concentration and priority it was politically possible to achieve.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 13 December 1973

Resolution on the Summit Conference

Debate on the report (Doc. 259/73) for the Political Affairs Committee by Mr Giovanni Giraudo (Italian, Christian Democrat) on the Copenhagen Summit of 14 and 15 December.

Parliament called for

- (1) a Community decision-taking centre to assume the functions of true European Government, backed by a directly elected Parliament
- (2) joint action in defence and external affairs
- (3) regional, social, industrial, scientific and technological policies to be put into effect at once
- (4) a common energy policy to secure a better supply position
- (5) joint action deal with inflation
- (6) urgent measures to streamline the Community, particularly as regards decision-taking and places of work.

A resolution summing up these points was agreed to.

Sitting of Wednesday, 12 December 1973

Social Action Programme

Debate on the report (Doc. 256/73) for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment by Mr Luigi Girardin (Italian, Christian Democrat) on the Commission's social action programme.

Introducing his report, Mr Girardin reminded the House of the Summit dictum that economics were not everything. The Community had to assume a human dimension; the aim was to build a society made-to-measure for the human beings in it. The programme itself was a first step. He was disappointed there had been no meeting with trade unions and employers and hoped that a tripartite conference would be held soon.

Mr Karl-Heinz Walkhoff (German, Socialist) took up a similar point. The aim should be to extend the scope of the Community beyond economics into the social field. But, he said, the action programme, as submitted, brought the Community no nearer to this goal. He had hoped that the guidelines for operational safety would have been followed by action.

Mr Erling Dinesen (President-in-Office of the Council) appreciated the views expressed and the report submitted. The social action programme had to be a turning point in the Community's history. Its aims were full employment and better employment, a better quality of life and better conditions at work. The social factor had to be borne in mind in economic and regional policy as well. Working conditions had to be humanized.

Dr Patrick Hillery (Vice-President of the Commission) said that the Commission's programme was a good programme. The 14 measures suggested to give effect to the Paris Summit over the period 1974-1976 were realistic. These were being submitted in the form of a resolution and some of the proposals would not call for a decision until about 1974. The Council would consult the European Parliament in due course. The Commission's aims were to secure employment which was now under threat because of inflation, a threat aggravated by the energy supply crisis. The trouble was that it was the weaker sections of the population which suffered at times like this. The Standing Committee on Employment should meet early next year to assess the effects of inflation and the energy supply crisis. These problems added to the urgency of changing the Community's social structure and its thinking. He noted Mr Girardin's disappointment but the programme was the result of twelve months' work. The trade unions had said that it was the answer to the policial needs of

our time. Sometimes people saw the Community programme purely in terms of their own needs. After the Summit, everybody felt that the Community would become more human and that people would be in the centre of things. This was the intention and this was happening. But work had to be divided up and all programmes coming before the Commission were examined with social affairs in mind (and the relevant directorate-general was closely involved in their elaboration). If the programme did not cover everything, the Commission had prepared a document showing the social content of the other programmes.

'We are', he said, 'totally changing the spirit and the thinking and the outlook of the European Communities'.

Mr Alfred Bertrand (Belgian, Christian Democrat) said that the outline programme was incomplete and as regards consulting the trade unions he pointed out that the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment had organized a hearing for the social partners and many people had been present. Dr Hillery was wrong to suggest that the programme had their full endorsement. They approved of it as a start on a social policy. There had been much talk about solidarity but everything depended on the funds available. He criticised the lack of any financial regulation and felt the Council might argue that no agreement would be possible because no one knew how much the programme would cost. He criticised the unanimity rule on the Council.

Mr René Pêtre (Belgian, Christian Democrat) was glad that a deadline was being kept. The programme was the minimum acceptable. He asked the Council for a clear and positive statement on its social intentions for if the decisions were not in line with the Paris Summit the programme could quickly lose all interest. The Christian Democrats greatly appreciated the idea that social progress was a first phase in European union. His Group was greatly interested in the ratification of the European social character. He referred to the difficult situation anticipated in the labour market. He said it would be very harmful if social legislation failed to keep pace with the problems. Social policy had failed to grow at the same rate as economic expansion. Progress had been in slow motion.

Mr Egbert Wielddraaijer (Dutch, Socialist) was disturbed by the argument that social policy was a matter for the Member States and the feeling that the time was not yet right for a social policy. He asked what had been done to give effect to the Treaty's three social policy principles: free movement, equal pay and the Social Fund.

(1) Free movement had been implemented but there was still the problem of migrant workers;

- (2) 15 years after the signature of the Treaty the equal pay principle had still not been implemented;
- (3) The social fund had not been inactive but its scope was limited. There had not been a fair sharing and there were still regional disparities.

There should be a careful look at the conditions of migrants and the whole question of job opportunities. The Community must be more than a rule-making machine in Brussels and the profits of production must be fairly divided. The aim of full employment presupposed an investment policy directed by reference to social considerations. Migrant workers from third countries must not be treated as a reserve of spare labour.

Mr Jean Durieux (French, Liberal) said that the general disappointment about social policy had prompted the Summit's injunction that something must be done. Social policy was not there to repair the social damage of other policies. There was a need to stop outward emigration through a sound regional policy. He expressed regret at the Council's decision to reduce the funds available. The Communities' image must not be allowed to suffer for they were being regarded simply as the happy hunting ground of the multi-nations; but authority and finance were the real problems. He stressed the importance of social housing for migrant workers and added that the problems of the young and the aged had to be tackled. Turning to Mr Girardin he said that he had been too inclined towards the desirable rather than the possible.

Lady Elles (British, European Conservative) was highly critical of the working methods of the institutions. The guidelines for this social programme had been issued in April but it had not been until November 12 that Members had had the final programme. The final document had only been available on that day.

'This', she said, 'is why we are only a consultative body'. Turning to the subject of women, Lady Elles hoped Dr Hillery would succeed where the ILO, the UN and the Council of Europe had failed. She hoped that UN instruments as well as the UN Social Charter would be ratified. Lady Elles said that one had to identify the poverty groups which were changing all the time and she stressed the need for flexibility. She asked the Community to concentrate now on the real problem areas.

Mr Hervé Laudrin (French, European Progressive Democrat) spoke of the problem of handicapped workers and especially the migrant workers whom he described as being 'socially handicapped'. He took issue with other Members on

women at work and asked whether the Community should not help mothers to go back home to look after children in large families.

Mr Luigi Marras (Italian, Communist) was glad that at last social problems were being discussed. He said that profits knew no frontiers but the social aims of the Treaty had not been achieved. He drew the attention of the House to the young people who had to wait for years before finding jobs. He was sad that the European Social Charter had been ignored in the Commission's programme and asked that inflation and price stability be taken into account. He noted that there was no reference to the multi-nationals.

Mr E. Glinne (Belgian, Minister of Labour) (Council) said 'we need a decision not a resolution'. With reference to the tripartite conference he said that he had been President of Council at the time. The dispute had centred on the seats to be allocated to the unions.

Lord O'Hagan (British, non-attached) welcomed the new human emphasis. He said that it should be recognized that there were different classes of migrant workers. He wanted to know how the Social Fund would work in their case. This was a tenth nation in the Common Market but their problem could not be shrugged off as a consequence of economic policy.

Miss Astrid Lulling (Luxembourg, Socialist) wanted the Council to enter into commitments especially regarding equal pay.

Mr Giovanni Bersani (Italian, Christian Democrat) said that the social partners must play a real part in European integration. There was a gap between the political design and the range of measures taken so far. He pointed out that the women constituted 52 % of the Community's work force. He was concerned about accidents at work and wanted better arrangements for dealing with accident prevention. There were, he said, 100,000 deaths or accidents at work in the Community every year and there was no effective policy for dealing with them.

Mr McDonald (Irish, Christian Democrat) was disappointed at the failure to provide increased funds to finance a Social Fund commensurate with the Paris Summit's intention. The programme was no more than a modest series of worthwhile measures which were quite inadequate to the needs of Europe today.

Mr Alessandro Bermani (Italian, Socialist) pointed out that the Summit had called for vigorous action. He thought that this would explain some of the disappointment felt.

Mr Thomas Dunne (Irish, Christian Democrat) spoke of the Community's obligation to handicapped people. The action programme was to be welcomed because it would place the concern about these people at Community level.

Mr Michael Yeats (Irish, European Progressive Democrat) said the social action programme was one of the most important milestones in the history of the Community. There had been great economic growth but this was no solution to the redistribution of wealth. There was the new and intractable problem of migrant workers. The programme could do a lot to improve the image of the European Community and he thought the programme a realistic one.

For the Council, Mr Erling Dinesen (Danish, Minister of Labour) said that any resolution passed by the House would go before the Council first thing the following morning.

Mr Kurt Harzschel (German, Christian Democrat) said that full employment was a sine qua non for the social policy to be successful. This policy should be a preventative one. He hoped the financial requirements of the policy would be spelt out as soon as possible.

Mr Liam Kavanagh (Irish, Socialist) said that social policy should embrace all citizens and not only those in the work force. He had misgivings because of the Council's cut in the Social Fund's appropriations. The cost of the social programme would have to be met. The Commission's task now was to begin on the next stage. The programme fell far short of the Summit's intentions.

There were 13 amendments tabled to Parliament's original motion and the House spent some time discussing them in detail. The motion welcomed the Paris Summit's commitment to social action but found the Commission's proposals fell short of the original intention. It was regretted that the planned tripartite talks had not taken place and Parliament trusted that both sides of industry would in future be more closely involved in policy-making. It was felt that the social programme had provided an opportunity of drawing attention to the social aspect of the Community and pledged its support for the Community's social aim.

Parliament fully approved the proposed action in regard to imigrant workers and considered it vital to coordinate the immigration policies applied by Member States to those from third countries. An effort should be made through regional policy to stem emigration from the less prosperous regions. It was however pointed out that a whole range of policies had to be brought in simultaneously for social policy to be a success.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Monday, 10 December 1973

Economic and Monetary Union

Debate on motion tabled by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs on the Commission's five proposals for Economic and Monetary Union.

Introducing the motion, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (British, European Conservative) commented that the five proposals had been received too late for the Committee to consider them in detail. This was the Commission's fault. Sir Brandon said he had often been critical of Commission proposals but these five were much more to the point.

The first, on stage two of Economic and Monetary Union, (to run from 1 January 1974 to 31 December 1976) would hinge on (i) inflation control, (ii) balanced and sustained expansion with as high a level of employment as possible and (iii) a fair distribution of the benefits of expansion, improvement in the quality of life, phasing down of social and regional imbalances within the Community.

The second proposal concerned stability, growth and full employment in the Community. To achieve these aims, the basic approach would be to bring the economic and financial policies of the Member States more closely into line.

The third proposal concerned achieving a high degree of convergence of the economic policies pursued by the Member States. It basically set out the practical arrangements for this purpose.

The fourth proposal was to set up a European Monetary Cooperation Fund with a capital of 500m u.a. (or old dollars) contributed as follows:

Bundesbank	22.02	o/o i.e.	110.1m u.a.
Bank of England	22.02	o/o i.e.	110.1m u.a.
Banque de France	22.02	o/o i.e.	110.1m u.a.
Banca d'Italia	14.68	o/o i.e.	73.4m u.a.
Banque nationale de Belgique	7.34	o/o i.e.	36.7m u.a.
Nederlandsche Bank	7.34	o/o i.e.	36.7m u.a.
Danmarks National Bank	3.30	o/o i.e.	16.5m u.a.
Central Bank of Ireland	1.28	o/o i.e.	6.4m u.a.

The final proposal was to set up an Economic Policy Committee. This would in fact merge the Budgetary Policy Committee, the Short-term Economic Policy Committee and the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee with a single committee.

Sir Brandon analysed the economic situation the proposals were designed to deal with. It was virtually the opposite of 1931. Then there was plenty of spare capacity and the problem was that people did not have the purchasing power to keep industry going. Now the purchasing power was all too abundant, not only within the Community but in the world outside and the problem was our difficulty in getting goods produced because of the energy crisis. There was too much money chasing too few goods. The answer, he concluded, was investment: 'We must invest our way out of inflation'.

Replying to the debate, Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, said Economic and Monetary Union could be achieved by 1980, the deadline laid down by the Paris Summit. But the decisive step was for the Council to accept the five proposals.

In the motion tabled, Parliament looked to the Council to take decisions facilitating transition to a further phase of Economic and Monetary Union and requested the Council to consider the Commission's resolutions of 5 July, 16 October, 19 October and 13 November 1973.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 13 December 1973

Budget for 1974

Dr Garret Fitzgerald, President-in-Office of the Council, made a statement to the House on the Communities' budget for 1974. The Council, he said, had given great attention to the modifications proposed by Parliament. The Council had accepted those on behalf of the Sahel and other disaster-stricken countries in Africa. 35m u.a. would be appropriated for this purpose.

The Council had entered 266m u.a. for the reformed Social Fund. This was 20 o/o higher than the 222m u.a. for 1973.

Mr Rafton Pounder (British, European Conservative) said considerable progress had still to be made before there was a meaningful dialogue between Council and Parliament. He was disappointed there had been no appropriation for the regional development fund. The social fund also presented a problem. Mr Pounder was sorry there would inevitably be four if not five supplementary funds in 1974. It makes absolute nonsense of financial management to determine appropriations knowing as one did so that they would have to be materially adjusted.

Mr Georges Spénale (French, Socialist) hoped there would be a supplementary budget for the Social Fund. He asked what decision had been taken by the Council further to Parliament's resolution of 5 October calling for closer cooperation between the two institutions.

Mr Henrich Aigner (German, Christian Democrat) urged the Council to tackle the supplementary budgets issue so that Members were not taken to task for them in their national Parliaments.

Mr Claude Cheysson, Commissioner, shared the concern expressed about the Social Fund and the hopes for closer cooperation. Concertation, he said, did not mean a hearing of Members of Parliament followed by a long silence. A real dialogue was needed.

Replying to the debate, Dr Fitzgerald told Mr Spénale a letter had now been sent to the President of Parliament. He thanked Members for their comments and said many of his colleagues were anxious for the dialogue to continue.

Sitting of Wednesday, 12 December 1973

Generalized preferences

Debate on the report (Doc. 272/73) for the Committee on Development and Cooperation by Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian, Christian Democrat) on generalized preferences in favour of the developing countries.

The Community introduced generalized preferences on 1 July 1971 and has improved the system every year. For 1974, 70 products were listed instead of 50 and Rumania was added to the list of countries to benefit from preferences. Preferences had been improved for products already included.

New items included: pineapples, mineral water and beer, margarine and tobacco goods, and tea in packs of 4 kg or less.

This report was taken with Oral Question No. 134/73 by Mr Schelto Patijn (Dutch, Socialist) and colleagues on extending the generalized preferences system to East European countries.

Introducing his report, Mr Dewulf was critical of the way Parliament had been consulted. He held the Commission responsible. Why, he asked, when the Council was improving its procedures for consulting the developing countries, could it not improve its procedures for consulting the European Parliament?

Lord St. Oswald (British, European Conservative) noted that the list of 'seventy-seven' developing countries had grown almost unnoticed to 111. The latest available roll of the United Nations was 142 which seemed to mean that only 31 nations were as yet developed.

He pointed out that Kuwait's GNP per capita was 4,189 dollars or twice that of the European Community as a whole. Libya with 1,920 dollars was slightly better off than the Irish Republic.

'For the sake of the donors whom we represent and the recipients whose lot we seek to improve, we must make our own judgement as to where our help is best and most valuably extended', he said.

Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker (British, European Conservative) pointed out how Commonwealth Preference had been reduced to negligible proportions by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He was therefore delighted by the new system designed as it was to help the most deserving. He pointed out that

commodity price increases were hurting the developing countries more than the developed ones.

Mr Yvon Bourges (French, European Progressive Democrat) said that after the conferences in New Delhi and Santiago, the Community had made strenuous efforts to implement a policy of generalized preferences but the same progressive principle had not been followed by either Japan or the United States. Mr Bourges stressed that our relations with the developing countries had to be based on a new approach.

Lord Reay (British, European Conservative) drew attention to the fact that the three countries benefiting most under the scheme were Hong Kong, Iran and Yugoslavia which between them accounted for over 40 % of the total volume of exports benefiting from generalized preferences. Could processed agricultural products from the poorest countries be brought within the scheme?

Mr Schelto Patijn then spoke to his question. Extending preferences to Rumania did not mean all the Comecon countries would benefit.

In reply, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, said efforts had been made to improve the scheme of generalized preferences further to the Paris Summit. But it was complex and still open to technical improvements. The Community had to pursue two policies here: a policy of association and a general development one. The Community had to bear in mind the fears of some African States about the scheme being extended to some of the Asian countries. Every case, however, had to be judged on its merits. The technical improvements included sending teams of Commission officials to developing countries in Latin America and South-East Asia in particular to explain to them how they could work the system to the best advantage. 'We are only too glad to receive constructive criticism from them', he said.

Referring to Mr Patijn's question he said the economic benefit to Rumania would be substantial without loss of benefit to the other developing countries. 34 % of Rumania's exports to the Community would be covered by these arrangements.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Thursday, 13 December 1973

Greece

Further to points raised during Question Time, Mr Francis Vals (French, Socialist) called for an immediate debate on Greece. All speakers expressed their concern about recent events and the debate hinged on what action was possible or desirable.

Mr Ludwig Fellermaier (German, Socialist) asked how the Community could stand as defender of the rights of man while maintaining relations with a country which had been trampling on democracy since 1967. The speeches by Mr Francis Vals (French, Socialist), Mrs Tullia Caretoni Romagnoli (Italian, Communist), Mr Peter Kirk (British, European Conservative), Mr Heinrich Aigner (German, Christian Democrat), Mr Jan Broeks (Dutch, Socialist), Mr Alessandro Bermani (Italian, Socialist), Mr Giovanni Bersani (Italian, Christian Democrat), Mr Peter Corterier (German, Socialist), Mr Klaus-Peter Schulz (German, Christian Democrat), and Mr Schelto Patijn (Dutch, Socialist), illustrated the depth of Parliament's feelings on this subject.

The underlying tone of Sir Christopher Soames' reply was equally committed. The Commission deplored the fact that there were still too many areas in the world where democracy, human rights and the freedom and liberties of the individual were not given their full weight and emphasis by the Governments concerned. 'We are', he said, 'particularly sad this should apply to Greece'.

But he believed it would not be right for the Community to abrogate the Treaty she had signed. On the other hand, he spoke for all his colleagues in looking forward to the day when democratic institutions had been re-established and the Association could grow to the point where Greece could take her full place within the Community.

Sitting of Wednesday, 12 December 1973

Sahel

Debate on the Report (Doc. 271/73) for the Committee on Development and Cooperation by Mr Georges Spénale (French, Socialist) on aid for the Sahel countries.

Introducing his report, Mr Spénale said the six Sahel countries had been very badly hit by the drought of the last five years and the matter would again have to be raised in 1974. Despite the effort made, the problem was still there.

Mr Spénale moved a motion noting that because of the seed shortage and lack of rain, the gap between supply and demand might be even greater in 1974. A new food aid programme should be adopted at once to send cereals, powdered milk and butter oil before the rainy season began. A transport plan was needed and stockpiles had to be built. The Sahel had to be opened up and roads and tracks built or repaired for this purpose. The areas concerned should be helped to derive greater benefit from the Voltas so that more people could settle the irrigable land and produce a food surplus. Medical research should be encouraged too as to wipe out onchocercosis (eye disease). The motion expressed the hope that the richer states of Africa and the Middle East would help too and that the Community would cooperate with FAO and other bodies in launching a world food plan. Finally, additional appropriations worth 40m u.a. were called for.

Mr Claude Cheysson, Commissioner, stressed the cyclical nature of the droughts afflicting the Sahel and its 8 to 9 million inhabitants. A great many projects were needed and they must be coordinated, including improved sanitation and installing hydraulic equipment and wells.

75m u.a. had been spent over twelve years on hydro-agricultural and sanitation projects apart from constant improvement of road communications.

The Algiers Summit, he said, had decided to set up an Arab-African bank to help African countries. 40m u.a. in the budget would mean Ethiopia could receive help as well as the six countries of the Sahel.

Mr Cheysson pointed out that in 1973, the Community had supplied 112,000 tons of cereals and 13,000 tons of powdered milk to the Sahel. The total financial aid was 46.5m. In 1974, it would amount to 83.5m u.a. He was not sure this would be enough.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

Question Time

Questions to the Council

Public sessions of the Council when acting as **Legislature**. No. 154/73 by Lord O'hagan (British, non-attached)

'What progress has the Council made towards agreeing to meet in public when acting in a legislative capacity?'

Dr Garret Fitzgerald, President-in-Office of the Council said the Council still considered its deliberations must remain confidential.

Contacts with COMECON No. 158/73 by Mr Hans Edgar Jahn (German, Christian Democrat)

'If, following the visit by Mr Fadeyev, Secretary-General of COMECON, to the President of the Council, further talks are held with COMECON, does the Council not feel that they should be conducted by the Commission?'

Dr Garret Fitzgerald replied that if COMECON wished to approach the Community, the appropriate body to receive all relevant communications and to approach was the Commission.

Second Ministerial Conference of States represented on the International Commission for the Protection of the Waters of the Rhine No. 153/73 by Mr Willi Müller (German, Socialist)

'Does the Commission feel that the second Ministerial Conference of States represented on the International Commission for the Protection of the Waters of the Rhine, held in Bonn on 15 and 16 November, has produced encouraging results, as far as improving the quality of the waters of the Rhine in the near future is concerned, or does it itself intend to take action, as it has so often contemplated and as its Environmental Programme recommends?'

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, said the Conference, which he had attended, had adopted a series of measures to deal with the pollution of the Rhine and these were now being closely considered by the

Commission. Further to this, it would decide whether to submit proposals. He reminded the House that the programme on the environment approved by Council would include proposals on this point. They would be coming in by 31 March 1974.

Aid to Member States of the Andean Group No. 159/73 by Mr Francescopaolo D'Angelosante (Italian, Communist)

'Would the Commission intimate to the ambassadors of the Andean Group countries accredited to the Communities that there can be no question of Europe granting to the Andean Group the tariff preferences or the financial and economic aid it is asking for so long as the Nazi brute, Klaus Barbie, whom impunity is an insult to the European Resistance, has not been extradited by Bolivia, a Member State of the Andean Group, and been handed over to the French people to stand trial?'

In reply, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, said, 'There is no need for me to make clear to the House what my colleagues and I feel about the events during the Second World War which underlie the honourable Member's question. Our feelings on that score can be taken for granted. But that is not the issue.'

The honourable Member has asked a precise question and I shall give him a precise reply. Problems of extradition do not fall within the competence of the Commission, and the Commission does not take the view that aid to the Third World or tariff preferences to help its development should be made conditional on such considerations.'

Setting up of a Consumers' Consultative Committee No. 161/73 by Mr Jan Broeks (Dutch, Socialist)

'Why has not the Commission engaged in any form of consultation at all with the European Parliament or with its responsible committees about the recently established Consumers' Consultative Committee or about the tasks, composition and working methods of such a committee?'

This question was taken with the following one:

Tasks of the Consumers' Consultative Committee No. 167/73 by Mr Cornelis Laban (Dutch, Socialist)

'Why has the Commission cramped the potential of the recently established Consumers' Consultative Committee by limiting its task to drawing up advisory reports on the protection of the provision of information to consumers, so that it is to be feared that the committee will be unable to give its opinion on certain other areas of policy such as the common agricultural policy and the common competition policy?'

In reply, Mr Scarascia Mugnozza said that the Commission had borne the wishes of Parliament in mind when setting up the Consumers' Consultative Committee. Its terms of reference would not be limited.

Abolition of passports within the Community No. 163/73 by Lord Reay (British, European Conservative)

'Is the Commission yet in a position to make any proposals for abolishing the need for passports to be shown by persons travelling between Member States of the Community, and if not, what does it identify as the main obstacles to achieving progress in this direction?'

In reply, Mr Thomson, Member of the Commission of the European Communities, said, 'The Commission has always attached great importance to the abolition of controls of all types at the Community's internal frontiers which affect the free circulation of persons and goods. I would remind the noble Lord of the recommendations to this effect in the Council's second report of July this year. Controls have been appreciably eased over recent years.

In order to go further and to arrive at the abolition of such controls by law, the Commission would have to make appropriate proposals to the Council for the revision of the Council directive of 1964 which sought the coordination of control measures at frontiers on grounds of public order, security and health. Such a revision is envisaged by the Commission after an initial experience of the application of the directive by the new Member States.

No attempt must, however, be made to conceal the difficulties of such an exercise. On the one hand, there are the disparities which exist between national legislation, some of which requires individuals to carry an identity card constantly on their person. On the other hand, there are problems of the arrangements at the external frontiers of the Community, such as the Danish situation where special arrangements exist with non-Member Nordic States. The Commission, however, regards none of these difficulties as insuperable and attaches importance to enabling Community citizens to travel and drive freely within the Community frontiers.'

Three questions on Greece were then taken together:

No. 164/73 by Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli (Italian, Communist)

'Does the Commission not feel it should adopt a clear position on the recent serious events in Greece?'

No. 166/73 by Mr Francis Vals (French, Socialist)

'What measures does the Commission intend to take following the recent events in Greece, which once again demonstrate the anti-democratic nature of the Athens regime and prove that now more than ever the EEC-Greece Association Agreement should be 'frozen'?''

No. 167/73 by Mr Ludwig Fellermaier (German, Socialist)

'Does the Commission share the view that the activities of the Council of the EEC-Greece Association, which last met on 13 November 1973, should be reduced to an absolute minimum or suspended altogether?'

In reply, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, said, 'The House will recall my statements here in March and in June. On both occasions I emphasized that all violations of human rights and democratic freedoms, wherever they occur, are abhorrent to my colleagues and to myself. I made it abundantly clear in June on behalf of the Commission that there could be no question in present circumstances of the Association progressing any further along the road that had been mapped out in 1961. I said then, and I repeat now, that the Commission does not intend to steer either way from the course which

it laid down for itself in 1967 after serious consideration of the political and legal realities. That seems to me to answer squarely the questions by Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli and by Mr Vals. The Commission's attitude has in no way changed.

Where Mr Fellermaier's question is concerned, the implications of the Community's policy for meetings of the Council of Association are simple. As the Chairman of the Council said in this House on 6 June, the Association Agreement exists. It contains no suspension clause. That is why the Council has decided to freeze the execution of the Association Agreement.

Therefore, in so far as the administration of current business requires it, meetings of the Association Council continue to be held; but these are held at official and not ministerial level, and they deal with nothing other than the current administration of the Association.

As to recent events in Greece, I would tell the House that I saw the Greek Ambassador on 26 November and I expressed to him the Commission's preoccupation at the situation as it had evolved in the preceding weeks. I made it clear to him that the Commission's view remained what it had been ever since 1967 – that there can be no question of developing the EEC-Greece Association Agreement any further until such time as genuinely democratic institutions have been re-established in Greece, a time for which all of us in this Assembly, I know, continue sincerely to hope.

One final word, Mr President, it is sometimes suggested that the Community is sheltering behind the present political situation in Greece in order for some reason to avoid developing the Association towards its proclaimed objective of eventual Greek membership of the Community.

Any such suggestion is totally untrue. My colleagues and I remain firmly committed to the objective of developing this association to the full as soon as Greece returns to that framework of democratic institutions which is the essential prerequisite of such progress.'

Action taken on Parliament's advice

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, made a statement on action taken by the Commission further to opinions delivered by Parliament. The Commission had made a series of proposals to the Council arising from opinions delivered by Parliament.

Oral questions with debate

Oral Question No. 152/73: rights of seasonal workers from the Community of Switzerland.

Mr Libero Della Briotta (Italian, Socialist) pressed the Commission for comment on the situation arising on the Swiss labour market as the result of a recent Swiss law. The effect of this was that seasonal workers were allowed to remain in Switzerland for only 8 months and 20 days so that they could not qualify, by working for 36 months out of 4 years, for permanent status. Mr Della Briotta said that there were some 30,000 seasonal workers who did not enjoy their normal rights because of this law.

In reply, Dr Patrick Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, said that the Commission had been informed and hoped that direct contacts between the Swiss and Italian governments would resolve this problem. The Commission was now assessing the significance of the Swiss decree especially in the light of the Swiss declaration to the Free Trade Agreement it had signed with the Community. If any doubts arose, the Community would make proposals for contacts. It had not learned enough to give an opinion and the present position was that the bilateral project seemed to be the option taken by the Italian government.

Sitting of Monday, 10 December 1973

Oral Question No. 117/73 on publicity given to certain suspected infringements of Articles 85 and 86 prior to the Commission's handing down its decision, speaking for the Liberal and Allies Group, Mr Norbert Hougardy (Belgium) asked:

'With all due respect to the text of Article 89 of the EEC Treaty which makes the Commission the body empowered to investigate cases of infringements of Articles 85 and 86, said infringements to be recorded in a reasoned decision.

- will the Commission state whether it does not consider that, as the body empowered to conduct investigations and deliver judgement in the first instance, it should refrain from giving any publicity to investigations in progress before delivering its judgement?'

In reply, Mr Albert Borschette, Commissioner, said that the Commission had no option; it was its duty to inform both public and Parliament about competition

policy. But, he added, the interests of the parties concerned were safeguarded. There was always a hearing with the firms involved with their lawyers; sometimes there were two or three hearings. It was usually the firms concerned that took appropriate action so that the Commission was able to drop the case.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

Oral Question No. 99/73 put down by Mr Gustave Ansart and colleagues on the social conference

A social conference was to have been held in June and Mr Ansart and his colleagues took the Council to task for the lack of any common social policy. Hundreds of thousands of young people were unemployed before ever even having a job. As the Council was drawing up a social action programme for the end of 1973, an immediate social conference was indicated. They asked the Council when it would be held.

In reply, Dr Garret Fitzgerald, President-in-Office of the Council said, 'The conference of the Heads of State or Government held in Paris on 19 and 20 October 1972 invited the Community institutions, after consulting labour and management, to draw up before 1 January 1974 a Social Action Programme providing for concrete measures and the means of carrying it out.

On several occasions – the meetings of 9 November 1972, 26 February and 21 March 1973 – the Council stressed the importance of consulting both sides of industry with a view to preparing a Social Action Programme, and for this purpose it had proposed to call a conference of the representatives of organizations on both sides of industry, the representatives of the governments of the Member States, the Council and the Commission. The conference was planned for June, and the intention was to invite a delegation from the European Parliament to follow the conference proceedings.

Certain organizations, however, refused to accept the Council's proposals concerning the composition of the conference and the allocation of seats, and the conference could not therefore be called as planned. All subsequent efforts by the President to reach an agreement with the organizations in question have proved fruitless. The Council regrets this state of affairs and has decided to consult both sides of industry, inviting them to state their opinions on the content of the Social Action Programme proposed by the Commission.'

Oral Question No. 140/73 by Mr Alain Terrenoire for the European Progressive Democratic Group to the Council on the implementation of the decisions taken by the Heads of State or Government on 19-20 October 1972

'Will the Council inform the Parliament how far the decisions set down in the communiqué issued by the Heads of State or Government of the enlarged Community after their first meeting in Paris on 19-20 October 1972 have been implemented?'

This was taken with:

Oral Question No. 139/73 by Mr Alain Terrenoire for the European Progressive Democrat Group to the Commission on the same subject

In reply, Dr Garret Fitzgerald said most of the Summit deadlines were in 1973 and important decisions had to be taken by 31 December. The Council had, for this reason, discussed anti-inflation measures on 30 and 31 October 1972. These lead to the resolution of 5 December 1972 and to further measures on 28 June 1973.

In the economic field, a European Monetary Cooperation Fund was set up on 3 April 1973. Similarly a programme of action to safeguard the environment was adopted in July. The most important decision, however, was the global approach to the GATT negotiations. As a result, the Community had been able to participate fully at the Tokyo Conference.

On development cooperation, the Council reached a consensus on a number of points on 5 November. Dr. Fitzgerald regretted that the Council had not been able to complete its consideration of the institutional question by the deadline set. Measures had been taken to improve decision-taking and the matter would be taken up again in January.

Finally, the Council had agreed to a resolution on the main aims of the Social Action Programme. Important decisions were still to be taken on the regional fund, the second stage of Economic and Monetary Union and action programmes for industrial, scientific and technological policies. The Community institutions had proved equal to their tasks despite their difficulties and huge workload.

Sitting of Wednesday, 12 December 1973

Oral Question No. 141/73 by Mr James Martin Gibbons (Irish, European Progressive Democrat) for the Group of Progressive European Democrats to the Commission on the Common Agricultural Policy

‘When is it intended to extend the Common Agricultural Policy to cover sheep and lamb products?’

In reply, Mr Petrus Lardinois (Commissioner) stated the Commission would be submitting its first report early in 1974. He hoped then to have a preliminary discussion with Parliament’s committees. If a regulation were introduced it would of course affect the free circulation of mutton.

Sitting of Wednesday, 12 December 1973

Other matters

Farm product prices in Italy

Debate on the report (Doc. 275/73) for Committee on Agriculture by Mr Charles Héger (Belgian Christian Democrat) on Italian farm product prices after floating of lira.

The Commission had proposed using a representative rate for lira. As the lira was being converted at a lower rate, common prices expressed in lira would be higher and compensatory amounts lower. This was intended to offset the effects of the flowing of the lira and help towards maintaining the stability of the common agricultural market. A resolution approving the Commission’s proposal was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973.

Mutual assistance (customs)

Debate on the report (Doc. 265/73) for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs by Mr Helmut Artzinger (German, Christian Democrat) on mutual assistance to ensure correct applications of regulations on customs and agriculture.

The Commission’s proposal would help tackle agricultural frauds. Parliament regarded this as a minimum first step and trusted the Council would not tone it down.

A resolution approving the Commission’s proposal was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

New rule for censure motions

Debate on the report (Doc. 178/73) for the Legal Affairs Committee by Mr Linus Memmel (German, Christian Democrat) on a new rule for censure motions.

Under the Rules of Procedure any Member was able to table a motion of censure on the Commission. The proposal was that this be changed to 'one-tenth of Parliament's current Members'. (Under Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure a motion of censure requires 'a two-thirds majority of the votes cast representing a majority of the Members').

Lord O'Hagan was surprised at the introduction of this change. As far as he could see the Political Groups were gradually gaining more and more power to the detriment of the individual Members. He and Mr Maurice Dewulf (Belgian, Christian Democrat) voted against the new rule but a resolution embodying the change was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

Estimates for 1974 to 1976

Debate on the report (Doc. 270/73) for the Committee on Budgets by Mr André Rossi (French, Liberal) on budget estimates for 1974 to 1976.

Parliament considered that long-range estimates were vital if it were to assess the budget properly. The estimates as such were welcomed. Mr Rossi questioned the estimates for social policy, the social action programme, the regional development fund, and EAGGF (Guidance and Guarantee Sections) and the European Development Fund.

The Commission's estimates did not translate into budgetary terms all the projected Community programmes for the period under consideration.

In reply to Parliament's debate on this report, Mr Claude Cheysson (Commissioner) agreed that much better forecasts were needed and these had to be much more binding. The Commission, he said, would be glad to have confirmation of the budget figures for regional policy and the social fund. He again made the point that the EAGGF Guarantee Section figures were difficult to forecast.

Parliament's opinion in the form of a resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

ECSC levy

Debate on the report (Doc. 269/73) for the Committee on Budgets by Mr Ferruccio Pisoni (Italian, Christian Democrat) on the ECSC levy for 1974.

Parliament considered present levy rate of 0.29 0/o should be retained for 1974.

A resolution to this effect was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December, 1973

ECSC Auditor's reports for 1971 and 1972

Debate on the report (Doc. 209/73) for the Committee on Budgets by Mr André Rossi (French, Liberal) on the reports of the ECSC Auditor for the financial years 1971 and 1972

Mr Rossi moved that the ECSC accounts for financial years 1971 and 1972 be approved.

A resolution to this effect was agreed to.

Sitting of Tuesday, 11 December 1973

Dangerous substances

Debate on the report (Doc. 214/73) for the Committee on Public Health and the Environment by Mr Augusto Premoli (Italian, Liberal) on Commission proposals concerning dangerous substances.

Parliament requested the Commission to review the proposal to ensure greater safety for uses of these substances, particularly by making it compulsory to print labels in the local language or languages. It should also be compulsory to comply with international rules (which came in on 1 July 1973) on shapes and colours for labelling.

In reply, Mr Finn Gundelach (Commissioner) agreed about warnings on labels but thought the insistence on the local language was too strict.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 December 1973

Cold-water meters

Debate on the report (Doc. 235/73) for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs by Mr Lothar Krall (German, Liberal) on Commission proposals concerning cold-water meters.

Parliament was critical of time being taken to remove barriers to trade. The Commission was urged to submit proposals for full harmonization. The Council was asked to adopt directives on this subject.

Mr Finn Gundelach (Commissioner) said the matter would be debated early in 1974. The point was to ensure the directive was not so general as to be useless.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 Dezember 1973

Minimum prices

The report (Doc. 273/73) for the Committee on Agriculture by Mr Jean Durieux moved the system be extended until 31 December 1974.

This resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 December 1973

Frozen beef

Debate on the report (Doc. 257/73) for the Committee on Agriculture by Mr Mario Vetrone (Italian, Christian Democrat) on the Community's beef quota.

Mr Pierre Bourdellès (French, Liberal) drew attention to the chaos in the meat market. Imports from the Argentine were increasing at a time when French producers were having difficulties.

Mr Finn Gundelach (Commissioner) said the Commission had already recommended a series of measures to deal with this situation.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 Dezember 1973

Agricultural Products from Turkey

Debate on the report (Doc. 294/73) for the Committee on External Economic Relations by Mr Giovanni Boano (Italian, Christian Democrat) on suspending the common customs tariff on some agricultural imports from Turkey.

Mr Erwin Lange (German, Socialist) regretted the committee had received the relevant document so late.

Mr Finn Gundelach (Commissioner) agreed conditions were bordering on the intolerable but the Commission was doing its best.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 December 1973

Bread

Debate on the report (Doc. 108/73) for the Committee on Public Health and the Environment by Mr Karl-Heinz Walkhoff (German, Socialist) on the Commission's proposals for a directive approximating the laws of the Member States on bread.

Mr Finn Gundelach (Commissioner) said the directive would preserve the highly individual character of domestic products and widen the choice available to people in the Community as a whole.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sitting of Friday, 14 December 1973

Reports adopted without debate

The following reports incorporated resolutions that were agreed to without debate at the sitting of Friday, 14 December 1973:

- Report by Mr Lucien Martens (Belgian, Christian Democrat) for the proposal from the Commission to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1411/71 on the fat content of whole milk (Doc. 296/73).

- Report by Mr Lucien Martens (Belgian, Christian Democrat) for the Committee on Public Health and the Environment, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 280/73) for a Council regulation on the participation of the European Economic Community in negotiations on the conclusion of a Convention for the prevention of sea pollution from land-based sources (Doc. 284/73).
- Report by Mr Helmut Kater (German, Socialist) for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 101/73) on continuous totalising weighing machines.
- Report by Mr Knud Bro (Danish, European Conservative) for the Committee on Public Health and the Environment, on the proposals from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 293/72) for:
 - I. a directive with a view to harmonizing the legislation on common measures of the Member States with regard to pressure vessels and methods of control of vessels.
 - II. a directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to seamless steel gas cylinders.
(Doc. 221/73).
- Report by Mr Francis Vals (French, Socialist) for the Committee on Agriculture, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 111/73 – II) for a directive modifying the Directive of 9 April 1968 concerning the marketing of vegetative propagation material of the vine (Doc. 248/73).
- Report by Miss Astrid Lulling (Luxembourg, Socialist) for the Committee on Agriculture, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 100/71) for a regulation on the granting of special aid for certain tobaccos used for wrapping cigars (Doc. 258/73).
- Report by Mr Knud Thomsen (Danish, European Conservative) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 240/73) for a regulation on customs treatment to be applied to certain fishery products originating in Norway (Doc. 291/73).
- Report by Mr Jan de Koning (Dutch, Christian Democrat) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposals from the

Commission to the Council (Doc. 223/73) for three regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community Tariff quotas for port wines, Madeira wines and Setubal muscatel wines falling within subheading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal (Doc. 287/73).

- Report by Mr David Thornley (Irish, Socialist) for the Committee on External Economic Relations on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 174/73) for a regulation increasing the Community tariff quota for certain eels falling within subheading ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff (Doc. 289/73).

- Report by Mr David Thornley (Irish, Socialist) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 204/73) for a regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain eels falling within subheadings ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff (Doc. 290/73).

- Report by Mr Jan Baas (Dutch, Liberal) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 224/73) for a regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for dried grapes falling within subheading 08.04 B I of the Common Customs Tariff, in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kg or less (Doc. 288/73).

- Report by Mr Christian de la Malène (French, European Progressive Democrat) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on
 - I. a regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending Article 5 of Annex I to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco.
 - II. a regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending Article 5 of Annex I to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and the Tunisian Republic.(Doc. 254/73).

- Report by Mr Christian de la Malène (French, European Progressive Democrat) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 146/73) for
 - I. a regulation on imports of olive oil from Morocco
 - II. a regulation on imports of olive oil from Tunisia (Doc. 255/73).
- Report by Mr Giosuè Ligios (Italian, Christian Democrat) for the Committee on Agriculture, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 250/73) for a regulation temporarily and partially suspending the autonomous duties in the Common Customs Tariff on bitter or Seville oranges of subheading ex 08.02 A II a) and b) and saffron, neither crushed nor ground, of subheading 09.10 C I (Doc. 279/73).
- Report by Mr Georges Spénale (French, Socialist) for the Committee on Budgets, on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 253/73) for a regulation concerning the rate of import charges levied on small non-commercial consignments of agricultural products and products coming under Regulation (EEC) No. 1059/69 (Doc. 285/73).
- Report by Sir Tufton Beamish (British, European Conservative) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 274/73) for a regulation in imports of olive oil from Turkey (Doc. 293/73).
- Report by Sir Tufton Beamish (British, European Conservative) for the Committee on External Economic Relations, on a Council regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending Article 7 of Annex 6 to the Additional Protocol to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and Turkey (Doc. 292/73).
- Report by Mr Egon Klepsch (German, Christian Democrat) for the Committee on External Economic Relations on the proposal from the Commission to the Council (Doc. 282/73) for a regulation extending the period of application of Regulation (EEC) No. 1253/73 on imports of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus sherry', originating in and coming from Cyprus, and the introduction of subsidies for similar wine products produced in the Community as originally constituted and exported to Ireland and the United Kingdom (Doc. 295/73).