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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE



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I

108th PLENARY SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE,
HELD ON 24 AND 25 JANUARY 1973

The Economic and Social Committee held its 108th plenary session in the Grande Salle of the Palais d'Egmont on 24 and 25 January 1973. The Session was presided over by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. A. Lappas.

This full Committee meeting was in two parts, the first part being given over to a formal sitting to install the new members in office, the second part to the election of additional members of the Bureau and the appointment of members of the Sections.

The formal sitting was attended by Mr. Harmel, President in office of the Council of the European Communities, Mr. Ortoli, President of the Commission of the European Communities, Mr. Warner, Advocate-General, representing the President of the Court of Justice, and also by the Permanent Representatives of the Member States, the Secretary-General of the Council, Mr. Calmes, and the Secretary-General of the Commission, Mr. Noel.

At this meeting speeches were made by Mr. Lappas, the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Harmel and Mr. Ortoli, and by Mr. Henniker-Heaton, Mr. Nielsen and Mr. Roseingrave on behalf of the new members. The text of the speeches follows below :

Speech delivered by Mr. A. Lappas, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, at the formal sitting at which the new members of the Committee were installed in office.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This morning saw the formal installation in office of the new members of the Economic and Social Committee, who have been proposed by the governments of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom, and nominated by the Council of Ministers. I would like to take this as an opportunity to welcome you, our new colleagues, on behalf of the Economic and Social Committee, and express our best wishes for the success of our work together. You can rest assured that your colleagues from the founding Member States will give you every assistance you need to enable you to get to grips with the multifarious problems of our work.

As you know, in its opinions, the Economic and Social Committee has always spoken out strongly in favour of enlarging the European Community. We look forward to working together and are convinced that, as leading representatives of economic and social categories, and coming as you do from countries with time-honoured democratic traditions, you will enhance our discussions and increase the influence of the Economic and Social Committee.

Up to now there have been 101 members of the Economic and Social Committee. The Treaties of Accession provide for an enlargement to 144 members of which Denmark is to have 9, Ireland 9, and the United Kingdom 24 members, Luxembourg, who up to now has sent 5 members, is to have their representation increased by one.

Unfortunately, the 9 representatives from Norway, who were provided for in the Treaty of Accession, will be missing. I have already expressed our regret at the outcome of the referendum in Norway, which we must respect as a democratic decision, in my inauguration speech in September 1972. We in the Community have asked ourselves anxiously what sins of omission might account for our failure to prevent a negative vote. Today, three months after the Summit Conference in Paris which mapped out a social and socio-political perspective for the Community, we know that the discussion in Norway is not yet closed. For the governments of the Member States and the Community institutions, that should give sufficient opportunity to do everything to achieve favourable conditions for a Treaty of Association which will pave the way for Norwegian entry at a later date.

It is with great regret, too, that we must announce the failure so far of attempts to persuade the British trade unions to take up from the outset, the seats allotted to them on the Economic and Social Committee. While it is not for us to meddle in the internal affairs of a Member State, one must be permitted the observation that this decision not only weakens the representation of the United Kingdom but, in addition to that, deprives the Economic and Social Committee, especially the Workers' Group, of a decisive voice in their decision-making. At this juncture, an effective representation of British workers is all the more important since the implications of the Summit Conference's wide-ranging decisions will make it necessary for the two sides of industry to take an increasingly active role in the economic and social decisions of the Community. We can only hope that the work of the Economic and Social Committee and our personal contribution will contribute towards ending this unfortunate state of affairs as soon as possible.

Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to welcome the representatives of the Community institutions, the governments, and the European associations taking part in our formal sitting.

Mr. Harmel, the present President of the Council of the European Communities, and Mr. Ortoli, the President of the European Commission will speak after I have terminated.

Representatives of the acceding countries will also speak during the afternoon.

Their presence here shows the significance which they attach to the Economic and Social Committee as a representative advisory body of the economic and social categories in the Community. I would therefore like to take the opportunity offered by the installation of our new colleagues to put forward some ideas about the function and structure of the Economic and Social Committee in the Community machinery, all the more so because the role of the Economic and Social Committee, and what we hope from its reform, are widely misunderstood.

Under the general approach adopted by the Treaties of Rome the Economic and Social Committee has been given a status which is clearly marked off from that of the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers, the Commission and the Court of Justice. Its terms of reference cannot be compared either with those laid down for economic and social Councils in the Constitutions or laws of some countries of the Community.

This has not prevented the Economic and Social Committee from achieving a certain influence in the Community's decision-making process in the course of time - a development which was inevitable since the members of this Committee, who as leading representatives of their organisations have a decisive influence on the shaping of economic and social life in their own countries, cannot simply duck out of their responsibility for European policy.

And this in spite of the fact that they frequently work under difficult conditions quite out of keeping with the significance of their tasks.

The Economic and Social Committee has been repeatedly criticised for the ponderousness of its procedures and the long periods of time it sometimes requires to prepare opinions. This criticism may be partly justified, but we must not forget that most members of the Committee face a difficult task in having to marry their European obligations with the national duties which they cannot neglect.

Other contributing factors are the inadequate staffing of the Secretariat and the Rules of Procedure, which cannot be changed by the Economic and Social Committee on its own. Fortunately we can now state that some of these difficulties have been resolved. As regards the first year of the enlarged Community, the Bureau's staffing proposals have been adequately allowed for by the Council of Ministers. The work on the revision of the Rules of Procedure which takes into account the long experience of present members and should ease the integration of the new members of the Economic and Social Committee, was brought to a close last year. The revised version has been submitted to the Council of Ministers for its approval. I should like therefore to request the Council of Ministers to endorse it as soon as possible.

We have noted with great satisfaction that the Heads of State or of Government consider it essential that the two sides of industry take an increasingly active role in Community economic and social decision-making. This realisation has among other things led to the Summit Conference in Paris granting the Economic and Social Committee the right to deliver, on its own initiative, opinions on all questions concerning the Community. This new right of initiative will do much to increase the Economic and Social Committee's authority. It is up to it to use this instrument to help forward the decision-making process in the Community.

However, this presupposes the readiness of the Commission and the Council of Ministers to take into account the proposals set out in our opinions. The granting of a right of initiative in no way compels the Community institutions to take our proposals seriously. May I remind you in this connection that in 1971 the Commission, in an exchange of letters, agreed to give special statements of grounds for all decisions deviating from the opinions of the European Parliament. There is nothing to stop the Commission concluding a similar agreement with the Economic and Social Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen, fears are constantly expressed that an enlargement of the Economic and Social Committee's powers might erode the role and rights of the European Parliament. Let me say quite frankly that these fears are totally groundless. There is absolutely no question of either replacing the democratic authority of the European Parliament, which we hope will soon derive from free and direct elections, by a cooperative representation or of restricting its all-embracing responsibility. The aim is rather to bring into the open the influence exercised by the various categories of economic and social activity on policy decisions. The constitutional history of our countries shows us that the powers of Parliament are being steadily eroded more and more by the uncontrolled collaboration of State bureaucracies and pluralist interest groups.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the question at issue is not whether the categories of economic and social activity influence the decisions of the Community. The question is how they do so - by secret or public pressure, or by open argument. If Parliaments are ever again to control the executive's arm, any outside pressure must be as public and open as possible, and the various interest groups, some of whom have conflicting views, must be compelled to discuss rationally both fundamental questions and concrete problems.

If we are serious about the idea of a European union, which according to the Heads of State or of Government should be based on democracy, freedom of expression, freedom of movement of people and of ideas, as well as the collective responsibility of the peoples through their freely elected representatives, our first priority must be the transformation of the European Parliament into a real legislature, fully controlling the budget of the Community and with the sovereign right of legislation. In this matter the members of the European Parliament can rely on the unconditional support of the Economic and Social Committee.

At the same time we could begin thinking about the establishment of a system of appropriately graded economic and social councils with a regional and national structure, capable of dealing adequately with the many economic and social problems with which we shall be faced in the future. This system could culminate in the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities, equipped with commensurate powers.

Ladies and Gentlemen, at an appropriate moment - when our new colleagues whose countries have not yet set up economic and social councils have sufficient experience of their new task - the Economic and Social Committee should use its powers of initiative to examine these problems and formulate objectives, which the Member States should take into consideration when developing their political systems. I feel that this is all the more important, since deep-rooted differences of opinion between the Heads of State or of Government at the summit Conference, made it impossible for them to establish clear guidelines for the institutional development of the Community. We are all aware that the foundation of the Economic and Monetary Union will involve a radical transformation of the constitutional structure of our countries and the Community. This makes it increasingly more urgent that this problem be solved. The foundation of such a union is unthinkable without a far-reaching transfer of economic and socio-political powers of decision at

Community level. This initiative would not require any special justification. If it is true that the people in our countries are directly affected by the economic and social decisions of the Community it is equally true that their representatives are just as directly affected by the institutional decisions of the Governments or by the holding-up of such decisions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would not like to let this occasion of the formal installation of our new colleagues pass without mentioning the special responsibility of the enlarged Community. With 250 million people it is already one of the biggest economic powers, and its political importance will undoubtedly increase. The Community must accept its share of responsibility for peace and security, for economic and social progress, and for the improvement of the quality of life in Europe and in the world.

The enlargement of the European Economic Community will undoubtedly give it a greater role in international affairs. This is true of its trading and monetary relations with the most important industrial nations, in particular the United States of America, which require a speedy clarification. This is also true of the Community's relations with the associated countries in Europe, in the Mediterranean basin and in the Third World. The clarification of the Community's relations with non-associated Third World countries will be particularly important, as the latter have great hopes, and also not unjustified fears, of the future policy of the Community. On this matter the Summit Conference did not fulfil our expectations. Ignoring the precise recommendations of the Commission, the Heads of State or of Government only succeeded in agreeing on a few vague declarations of intent, which leaves one of the most urgent problems of the world unsolved.

On the other hand, the determination of Member States to promote a policy of mutual cooperation with East European States is a positive step. There is indeed room for improvement in this field. The Community's policy, which is closely linked to the preparation and outcome of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, can only be successfully pursued if Member States play a coordinated role.

However, the success of this policy also depends in part on the internal development of the Community. The Heads of State or of Government have not rejected this idea which has often been expressed in the Economic and Social Committee.

The Council of Ministers decided to found the Economic and Monetary Union over two years ago. The participation of the new Member States justifies the confirmation of this decision at the first Summit Conference of the enlarged Community. The declaration giving priority to the fight which presupposes an effective coordination of short and medium-term economic policy is very important. However, the first endeavours to draw concrete policy conclusions from this declaration show the difficulty of finding a common denominator which meets the interests of all Member States.

The most important step towards a smooth development of the Community is the Paris Summit Conference's decision that the institutions of the Community should adopt a programme of social action. The Heads of State or of Government stressed the equal importance of economic and social policy. This must be regarded as a milestone in European politics. The guidelines developed at the Summit Conference for the coordination of employment policy, the improvement of working and living conditions, the protection of consumers, coincide to a large extent with what the Economic and Social Committee has been demanding for years. We welcome the fact that the institutions of the Community have already set to work on developing the very necessary programme of social action along the lines which some Governments and the Commission suggested during the Summit Conference.

The decision of the Heads of State or of Government to initiate concrete steps towards the development of a common regional policy is of great importance. A common regional policy for the protection of under-developed peripheral regions and structurally weak regions of the Community from economic decline should have been introduced long ago. An effective regional policy will soon be a matter of life or death for the Community, since there are serious regional imbalances in the three new member countries. We therefore welcome the fact that even Governments who earlier opposed the idea now support the establishment of a European regional development fund.

Ladies and Gentlemen, May I repeat on this spot what I have said on other occasions. The European Community's survival depends on the development of a uniform social policy and a democratic structure. People and particularly young people will only be interested in developing a Community which offers them effective protection and lasting security, social progress and a better quality of life, including simple things such as the abolition of border-checks. In these days of mass tourism how can people be expected to believe in the reality of a European Community when even today, 15 years after the foundation of the European Economic Community, we still have apparently senseless time-wasting internal border checks.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, all change requires understanding and adaptability. Many here have belonged to the Economic and Social Committee since its foundation. In the past much valuable work has been done for the Community. The Economic and Social Committee has always been willing at all levels to respect opposing opinions, which are often expressed even in its plenary sessions. Therefore I ask our colleagues from the old Member States to ease the accession of new members, by showing the same considerations for other points of view as they have shown in the past. I know that the first meetings of the Sections will particularly require a great deal of understanding.

I would appeal to our colleagues from the new Member States to be patient, if initially many things seem complicated and incomprehensible. The Economic and Social Committee and the Community reflect various interests, which we must all try to respect.

Therefore - on behalf of all present - I look forward to a successful collaboration and cooperation.

Thank you.

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Speech given by Mr. P. Harmel, President in Office of the Council of the European Communities

Those who are well acquainted with the history of the Communities know what their birth and their development owe to European personalities representing the broad categories of economic and social life.

As early as 1948 at the Hague, on the occasion of the historic Congress of the European Movement, Europe had many of its most ardent pioneers in your ranks. The existence of the Economic and Social Committee has only institutionalised a natural movement and has shown down the years the support of ideas and opinions resulting from co-operation with all the professional and social circles in Europe.

Now, in its turn, in this beginning of 1973, your Committee is holding a solemn session to celebrate a three-fold stage of growth.

- (1) the Committee is welcoming the representatives of the three new Member States
- (2) following the Paris summit, the Community intends to develop with you the economic and social side of its activities
- (3) your Committee is preparing to participate more actively than ever in the preparation of new policies, the implementation of which will impose great pressures of work on it.

First of all, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, I greet the arrival in this circle of members coming from Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom. You are already well known here, Gentlemen, for your personal qualities and for the part which you play in our own countries. Nominated on a personal basis, without any binding terms of reference,

appointed by a Community institution, that is the Council, we know that you will bring all your energy and the fruit of your experience to the work of this Committee which, for the last 15 years, has devoted itself to one single cause, that of a Europe anxious to make good use of its prosperity, which is aware that it is already the most progressive human grouping in the social field, and which intends to remain so.

My second observation will confirm my first. As decided by our Heads of State or of Government meeting at the Paris Summit, 1973 is the year in which the Community intends to press on at one and the same time with the implementation of the Economic and Monetary Union and with vigorous activity in the social field, both of which it regards as having the same importance.

The Paris Summit clearly stated two propositions in this connection :

- (1) it considered it to be indispensable to obtain increasing participation of both sides of industry in the Communities' economic and social decisions; and
- (2) the Summit invited the Community institutions to give the Economic and Social Committee the right to give its opinion, on its own initiative, on every question affecting the Communities' work.

This of course implies an enlargement of the field of your activities, and I would like to say on behalf of the Council that we are delighted with this.

Finally, and this is my third observation, if your Committee is to participate actively in the preparation of the new policies demanded by the Paris Summit, and laid down in a demanding timetable, it will also be subjected to a greatly increased pressure of work. The amount of work entrusted to the institutions of the Community has already been set out in detail before the Council, on 15 January. I would simply like to recall here that during the twelve months of this year, and sometimes within still shorter time limits, a number of activities must be completed on which no doubt the Economic and Social Committee will take up a position. Some of these are :

- (i) the transition to the second stage of the Economic and Monetary Union;
- (ii) the introduction of a common commercial policy with respect to the countries of Eastern Europe;
- (iii) the setting-up of the European Monetary Co-operation Fund;
- (iv) the establishment of a Regional Development Fund endowed from the Community's own resources.

Also to be adopted in 1973 are :

- (i) the Community social programme;
- (ii) the industrial, scientific and technological programme;
- (iii) the environmental policy programme;
- (iv) the general development co-operation policy programme;
- (v) definition of a joint position for new GATT negotiations.

At the same time, it will be the Council's task from the beginning of 1973 to prepare :

- (1) the formulation of a common attitude capable of influencing the international Monetary Fund reform,
- (2) an energy policy programme
- (3) and, last but not least, the Institutions of the Community must start preparing the documents or Treaties which will change the general relations between the nine States into a European Union before 31 December 1980.

It is safe to say that at no time in its history has the Community been faced with a series of creative tasks so vital for the future, nor with so many problems which have to be tackled in common because the Member States can no longer resolve them individually. These are great tasks with which you are faced, just as we are. You are indeed fortunate to be centrally involved in this way at such a decisive period for Europe.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I shall evoke one last idea : I know that you share it I take it from the message delivered 24 years ago by the Congress of Europe at the Hague :

"The supreme conquest of Europe is called man's dignity and his true strength is in his freedom". This remains, more than ever, our common credo and is still the guiding line for our thoughts and decisions.

We shall remember this, you and we alike, during the intensive contacts between your Committee, the Council and the Commission, which are to be greatly increased in 1973. Gentlemen, the Council wishes you success in your work.

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Speech given by Mr. F. Ortoli, President of the Commission of the European Communities

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would first of all like to thank Mr. Harmel, your Chairman, for letting me speak before him in view of the pressing personal obligation which I had to set aside in order to be able to attend this special session, but this is a time when the Commission has to prepare its work programme and proposals as quickly as possible. On Wednesdays and Thursdays we work practically non-stop, particularly after meetings of the Agricultural Council which sometimes last till 7 in the morning and which do not always leave us feeling very fresh and fit.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I appreciate the honour you have accorded me in inviting me to attend this session and speak on behalf of the Commission.

By choosing as the venue for this first meeting of the enlarged Economic and Social Committee the solemn setting of the Palais d'Egmont where exactly a year ago, the negotiations with the countries applying for membership were concluded with the signing of the Treaty and other texts established by the conference, you have emphasised the importance and significance of today's session. By inviting representatives of the institutions, you have also shown the spirit of collaboration inspiring all those who are carrying on with the grand design first begun some 20 years ago. My predecessors have on many occasions informed the eminent personalities at this Assembly of the importance the Commission attaches to an increasingly close, and sustained collaboration with the Economic and Social Committee, which it considers to be a privileged speaker on such matters since it places the expertise and opinions of all the sectors of economic and social life in the Community at the service of the common cause.

As far as I am concerned I do not want to lose this opportunity of underlining once again the importance the Commission places on the work of the Committee which, by virtue of its nature, composition and role, represents the very life blood of the Community.

Having increased in size, this same Community is now entering a new phase in its existence. Its new dimensions have endowed it not only with increased resources but also with increased responsibilities. The Economic and Social Committee will have an important part to play within the enlarged Community, and in this respect I welcome the news that the Heads of State or of Government at the Summit Conference in October last year invited the institutions to recognise the Committee's right (from now on) to give an opinion on its own initiative on any matters which concern the Community. Your Chairman mentioned this point. He has also explained all the problems which might confront

the Economic and Social Committee, and I do not need to assure him that as far as the Commission and myself are concerned, we will examine very carefully the suggestions he has kindly made to us. When I consider what work the Committee has done over the years I am firmly convinced that it will be able to take advantage of the new prospect for action which is being offered. The Commission for its part will give it all the collaboration it requires.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not believe that today is the right time to describe what the activity of the Commission will be over the next few months. As I have already said we are very well aware that we have a formidable task ahead of us. It is barely a fortnight since we started work and we have tried to act quickly on all matters before us. I have mentioned that we are getting down to the problem of the work programme which we have already begun with the Council. We draw up our order of priorities and consider how we can most usefully and at the earliest moment put our best proposals before the Community institutions. But in spite of this we need the time to study in depth documents as varied as those mentioned just now by the Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee and which one could say call into question every aspect of the economic and social life of our countries. We are a new enlarged Community : As a result of the summit we have tasks before us now which we never had before. We are now a new Commission with much work ahead of us. We have to do this work as quickly as possible. You will appreciate that on 23 January a large part of our task still remained to be done.

What I want to say to you, quite simply, is that we are tackling this task with tremendous resolve. I cannot talk to you today about the Commission's activities in the coming months because it still has to decide on the details of its work programme, and its first proposals. My colleagues will certainly have the opportunity to talk to you as the Commission intends to carry on the tradition of coming before you to present the major problems facing it this year. I also mentioned that we should not suffer from any shortage of work. Having listened to you, Mr. Chairman I realise that in such important fields as external relations, for example, our task is enormous. I do not speak for the Commission alone of course but also for the Council since within the institutions preparatory work cannot be separated from the actual decision-making. I can also quote particular instances concerning you and which you have referred to already, such as the immense matter of Economic and Monetary Union, the regional policy and of course the social policy which has always rightly been one of the main concerns of your Committee. Considerable progress has already been made in these vital sectors, but we are perfectly aware, as you Mr. Chairman said, that new efforts must be made to ensure that the objectives which our 9 countries defined and which they enthusiastically confirmed at the Summit conference are achieved utterly and completely.

All this means that your collaboration with us will be indispensable. The expertise you bring reflects the feeling of the Community as a whole, because you are people who express the living strength of our Community. For these reasons we hope that we will continue to have a fruitful dialogue with you since your opinions are a valuable aid to us in achieving those objectives which are so vital to the Community's future.

The role of both sides of industry is of crucial importance. The Commission has always emphasised the need for them to be closely connected with the construction of the Community. The Economic and Social Committee has long experience in this field and I am sure that its principal aim is to use this experience for the benefit of the European cause and thus of the European peoples. I have only to read the resolutions made at the Summit conference last October to realise the magnitude of the tasks awaiting us. I think one could say that on looking back, as regards what you have contributed, and the collaboration which can be established, it is enough merely to refer to the work carried out by your Committee in the last 15 years to ascertain the role you will have in this new stage which we enter today with so much resolution and confidence.

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Speech given by Mr. Henniker-Heaton on behalf of the British members

Herr Präsident Lappas and other distinguished Speakers :

Thank you for your kind words of welcome and for your interesting statements - thank you also Ladies and Gentlemen, who are fellow members, for showing your approval of what has been said regarding our entry.

Perhaps I should explain the organization of our UK delegation. As regards the UK Employers in Group I, we have no leader - or perhaps we have a number of leaders, as each of us will lead on his or her particular subject. As regards our independent representatives in Group III, each is responsible for himself or herself. In the two Groups we have three formidable lady members - I hope that the word formidable can be translated correctly into other languages so as to make it clear that it expresses my respect and admiration for them. In neither Group do we accept any mandate from anyone. We will listen to you and learn from you who already have so much experience. We will contribute all we can ourselves. We will then make our decisions in the light of economic and social facts as good Britishers and, I hope, as good Europeans.

I have been asked to coordinate the work of UK members in Group I - and to arrange for close liaison with Group III. That does not mean that we shall always agree with them or they with us. I am also to act as spokesman for UK employers on formal occasions while in no way precluding further contributions from my colleagues. I am doing this work firstly because I have retired and am independent of any particular sector in the UK; secondly, because I have a small office in London and secretarial assistance almost entirely devoted to ESC work; thirdly, because I can ensure, with the help of the Confederation of British Industry, that the views of British industry as a whole are made available to Group I and, within certain limits, to those who desire it in Groups II and III.

I have spoken mainly of Groups I and III. Here I must say how much we regret that our UK trade unions friends are not with us in Group II. At home and abroad we have worked closely with them and I believe that they have much to contribute. I hope that they will soon join us here in Brussels. But that is their responsibility and their decision. You may have heard much about strikes and labour difficulties in England. I would like to remind you that there are a great many firms, big and small, and whole industries, such as the textile industry from which I come, where we have had practically no strikes and have had excellent labour relations during the past twenty or thirty years. I believe that British commonsense will overcome our present industrial difficulties.

Our team has a very wide range of experience and competence. Territorially we come from widely scattered areas, from all parts of England, from Scotland, from Wales and from Northern Ireland. We hope to play a full part in the work of the Specialized Sections, of Study Groups, and here in the Plenary. We understand the temporary difficulties of the ESC over such questions as translation and documentation. We hope that they will soon be overcome. We welcome the work already initiated by the Bureau of this Committee to make our proceedings more effective and more speedy. We believe that it is of basic importance that procedure and administration should be streamlined, that we should have dates, programmes, documents, minutes and reports well in advance before meetings - not merely as soon as possible. These words 'as soon as possible' can cover many excuses. What is claimed to be 'as soon as possible' may be too late to permit useful work to be done. I stress therefore again, we want and must have these papers well in advance before meetings.

We are convinced Europeans because we believe that a strong and prosperous Europe can contribute to the world as a whole. Strength and prosperity here must be our first priority, but we must also promote closer links and exchanges throughout the world. It is this long-term conviction which has enabled us to join Europe despite the special and long-standing ties with our Commonwealth.

We also believe that different political systems do not preclude peoples in various countries, whether with liberal or with state-managed economies, working together to improve their common prosperity. We shall, therefore, be glad to see an improvement

in East/West relations in Europe and a growing understanding with the great trading blocs in North, Central and South America, in the Middle and Far East, in Africa and in the Pacific. On the other hand, this does not imply an immediate and reckless destruction of those reasonable and necessary measures which safeguard standards of living and working conditions in Europe.

We in the UK are glad to have joined the EEC together with Denmark and Ireland, both countries of great individuality and which at the same time have shown very considerable industrial and agricultural achievement. I am looking forward to hearing the contributions from spokesmen of these countries.

Finally, we are happy to know that this Committee will have its powers extended so as to include initiation of discussions and of proposals. Wise use of this right will greatly increase the effectiveness and the prestige of the Committee. We must exercise this right in a constructive and forward-looking manner and not use it to press narrow sectional interests.

Mr. President, I have said enough. We can assure you personally of our full support and we can promise the Committee that we will join wholeheartedly in its work.

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Speech given by Mr. Th. Nielsen, on behalf of the Danish Members

Mr. Chairman,

This, the first meeting of the enlarged membership of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities is a prelude to the participation of the Danish trade union movement in the practical cooperation of the Communities at European level.

In joining in this cooperation within the European Communities, the Danish trade union movement is fully aware that the numerous crucial problems which all Western European nations face today can only be solved effectively by a closer cooperation between European States.

But we also recognise the necessity for closer cooperation between the European trade unions. This is essential if the living conditions of the working population are to be guaranteed and improved and this is what Danish trade union leaders had in mind when, after a long and hard campaign, 66 % of the population voted in favour of European cooperation in the referendum held on 2 October 1972.

Furthermore I note with great satisfaction that a new trade union organisation, consisting of 17 national organisations from 14 European countries and representing about 30 million wage-earners, will be set up on 8 and 9 February this year.

In addition to this, the cooperation which had been going on for many years between the trade unions of the five Northern Countries was further strengthened by the setting up of a Northern Trade Union Secretariat. The Danish trade unions regard their cooperation in the European Community as a connecting link with the 5 Northern Countries.

Mr. Chairman, I mention this important strengthening of trade union cooperation because, as will become evident, European trade unions have recognised the necessity for a broad cooperation, which is not limited to the 9 Member States of the Community but which includes most West European trade union organizations as equal partners.

I trust that this broad trade union cooperation will be a forerunner of a further enlargement of the European Communities in the not too distant future.

Mr. Chairman, in embarking on this cooperation the Danish trade union movement has great expectations. Let me summarize these expectations as two essential requirements for future cooperation inside the European Communities.

I hope that our attitude to cooperation with non-member countries will be broad and outward-looking, particularly in the field of trading policy. The working population is very concerned that present-day efforts for the removal of custom barriers and other obstacles to trade will be successfully continued in the coming new GATT negotiations. The European Communities will have a decisive part to play in these negotiations in that they will make a constructive contribution towards a successful outcome of them. We will also play our part in this.

In particular I am thinking of the developing countries, those needy areas outside Europe and North America. The importance of the European Economic Community in the economic and commercial field gives it a special responsibility for the solution of the economic and social problems of the Third World.

I would also like to stress the importance of increasing trade with the Eastern bloc countries. We will be able to assist in the removal of trade barriers, which help no-one but, on the contrary, harm everyone.

Every peaceful means must be used to achieve a genuinely better understanding.

I sincerely hope that the Communities will make a conscious and progressive social effort to improve the position of the individual in society, both as regards his working life and his leisure hours.

Here I have in mind the objectives to which the European trade unions wish to give priority in the framework of future cooperation. Top priority must be given to the achievement of a greater degree of industrial democracy and a greater degree of social and economic equality between the various groups in society.

On this matter Denmark is about to embark on wideranging reforms. As a result of determined action by the trade union movement, we can very soon expect the introduction into our Parliament of Bills which will constitute the first steps towards a real democratisation of the right of ownership of industries and towards direct participation of wage earners in industrial decision-making. I hope that these Danish reforms will be an inspiration to future efforts towards effective democratisation of industrial life at both national and European level.

In this broad field of industrial and socio-political cooperation, I would like to stress the necessity of securing full employment with better working conditions for the whole European Community. It is with some satisfaction therefore, that we note that the European Social Fund has been reformed and we hope that a new European Regional Policy Fund will be set up in the near future.

With regard to the freedom of movement for workers may I stress that we in the Danish trade unions consider this regulation as an offer to each individual worker. At the same time we are of the opinion that the long-term objective must be the establishment of an employment situation in which workers are integrated into a balanced regional policy for the development of the whole European Community.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to mention another important problem common to all industrial nations : the pollution of our environment. I hope that the Community will contribute towards solving this problem common to us all.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, may I on behalf of the trade union movement, express my regret that the British trade unions are not present at our meeting today.

We hope soon to be able to welcome our British colleagues as active members of the Community's Economic and Social Committee.

Mr. Chairman, I take office today as a member of the Economic and Social Committee with the firm conviction that the development of mankind can be achieved by determined cooperation between the members of the European Communities.

Thank you.

Speech made by Mr. Roseingrave on behalf of the Irish Members

Mr. Chairman,

It is a great privilege to speak on this ceremonial occasion before all the leading figures who have wished to show, by their presence, the importance they attach to the installation of the new members.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you, personally and on behalf of my Irish colleagues, for your excellent welcome and for all the kind comments you have made about us.

We would also like to thank the Secretary-General for the excellent manner in which we have been received by his staff.

You will allow me as an Irishman, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, to stress the great importance for us of the accession of our country to the EEC. Membership of the Community will, we hope, lead to many economic and social advantages for our country, but we are also ready to do everything in our power for the formation of a closer and closer European unity capable of ensuring and enduring entente between nations and thus being a force for peace in Europe and the rest of the world.

I cannot omit a reference to the special importance we attach to the representation on the Economic and Social Committee for Irish business, agriculture, trade and social associations. We are confident that in the Committee we will meet partners who are sincere and devoted to the cause which they represent. But we also intend to contribute what we have learnt from our own specific experience of the dialogue at all levels between the various interests in society.

In my capacity as a member of the Group of representatives of various interests, it will be relatively easy for me to speak on behalf of all my colleagues in that Group, who are newcomers to the Economic and Social Committee. For who can deny the importance in our countries of agriculture, the first organised form of subsistence, and it continues to be so especially in the spearhead of the development of our regional economies, away from the major industrialised urban centres. Man is currently rediscovering the land and, in general, values more genuine than those which machine civilisation has attempted to impose.

Of relevance here is the great importance being assumed by craft industries for man, who wants the objects with which he is surrounded to have a personal touch and not to be anonymous. Again, there is the importance of small and medium-sized businesses, whether industrial or commercial, insofar as the contacts which they establish between individuals are more human. Finally, the importance of services as the intermediary between the major interest groups and the individual.

All this, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, is very topical not only from the economic angle but also from the more specific viewpoint of conservation of the environment and protection of consumers' rights.

We intend to debate all these issues in the Committee. And we hope to act in harmony with the majority in solving the very important issues which will come before us.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I am not only Irish and a member of the Third Group but also, and above all, a member of the Economic and Social Committee. So I hope you will allow me to express the best wishes of my colleagues for our Committee. A new era is beginning for the Committee and it is very well placed to discharge its duties properly : following the renewal of the membership of its Bureau in September, the Committee adopted amendments to its Rules of Procedure in November and today it proposes to put a reorganization of its Sections into effect.

Furthermore, the final declaration of the Paris Summit Conference gives the Committee a right of initiative. We consider that this is a major step forward as regards the operation of a democratic system.

May all these developments ensure that the Committee functions with maximum efficiency, so that the Council and Commission receive authoritative opinions.

We trust that the dialogue between the institutions and the Committee will be genuine and continuous, and serve the interests of all the categories of economic and social activity represented here for the best.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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Election of the members of the Bureau

At this plenary session the Economic and Social Committee next proceeded to elect six members of its Bureau :

<u>Group I</u>	<u>Group II</u>	<u>Group III</u>
Mr. Carstens Mr. Henniker	Mr. Carroll Mr. N. Nielsen	Mrs. Evans Mr. Roseingrave

From now on the members of the Bureau of the Committee were :

<u>Chairman</u> :	Mr. A. Lappas (D)
<u>Vice-President</u> :	Mr. H. Canonge (F) A. Masprone (I)
<u>Members</u> :	Mr. L. Ameye (B) M. Berns (L) J. F. Carroll (IRE) E. Carstens (DA) Mrs. J. Evans (UK) Mr. B. Fassina (I) J.M.W. van Greunsven (N) C.A.C. Henniker-Heaton (UK) J. Houthuys (B) J. Illerhaus (D) H.L. Jansen (N) W. Jonker (N) H.O.R. Kramer (D) C. Mourgues (F) T. Nielsen (DA) R. Purpura (I) E. Renaud (F) T. Roseingrave (IRE)

II

109th PLENARY SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE,
HELD ON 21 AND 22 FEBRUARY 1973

The Economic and Social Committee held its 109th plenary session in the Grande Salle of the Palais d'Egmont in Brussels on 21 and 22 February 1973. It was chaired respectively by Mr. A. Lappas, its Chairman, and Mr. Canonge, its Vice-Chairman, and held in the presence of Mr. Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, and Council and Commission officials.

At this plenary session the Committee prepared the following opinions :

1. 'Proposal for a Council decision setting up a European Monetary Co-operation Fund'

The Committee based its opinion on the opinion of the Section for Economic and Financial Questions (Chairman : Mr. Rollinger - Luxembourg - Various Interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. Cammann - Germany - Employers

In its opinion the Committee considered that the setting-up of a European Monetary Co-operation Fund had to be looked upon not as an isolated instrument of monetary policy but as an integral part of the measures for the establishment of economic and monetary union.

It considered that the European Monetary Co-operation Fund should not be set up merely with the intention of re-grouping the various machinery existing for the settlement of monthly accounts and for short-term financial assistance. This scheme should be considered as a preliminary stage which should ultimately lead to the establishment of a Community Central Bank. The present scope of a Central Bank, both in home and in foreign dealings should be transferred to the Fund and the necessary adaptations to be made incorporated in the Decision.

The Fund should encourage an approximation of policies in credit matters and of the instruments necessary for the implementation of a common monetary policy. At this stage the instruments should be integrated and be the same for the Community as a whole. Elsewhere, in the terms of the Statutes, the Fund had a free hand, provided that its measures conformed to the guidelines of economic policy laid down by the Community authorities.

As the tasks entrusted to it gradually increased, the Board of Directors of the Fund should take over the responsibilities now exercised by the Committee of the Governors of the Central Banks.

The recent trend of the currency markets had shown once more how urgent it was to have closer co-operation within the Community on monetary matters. For this reason, a common and constructive European monetary policy based on fixed parities between Community currencies which could only be altered by Community consultations had to be mapped out and put into effect without delay. The setting-up of new instruments - including a European Monetary Co-operation Fund - would not in itself be sufficient, if Member States remained unwilling, politically speaking, to follow common European monetary policy and, as a result, give up a certain measure of their autonomy.

Finally it was indispensable to increase the Fund's responsibilities considerably in the near future, so that it could become the driving force in European integration.

Mr. W. Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, thanked the Committee for its swift preparation of the opinion. He emphasized that the Opinion did not only cover the

technical aspects involved. The setting-up of the Fund was an important step towards the establishment of economic and monetary union. If the European Parliament could also deliver its Opinion on time, the deadline of 1 April 1973 could be met.

The recent monetary crisis had once again shown that there was a real need for closer monetary co-operation. Certain individual Member States had been forced by circumstances to take a divergent course which in no way called their intention to pursue common actions into question.

Of course, the setting up of the Fund had to be viewed in the context of the general economic and monetary policies which should aim at remedying the remaining economic, structural and regional imbalances in the Community.

Mr. Haferkamp went on to say, with reference to the latest Council Decision to accelerate the process of economic and monetary union, that the Commission's report on short-term financial assistance, due out on 30 September, and the planned report on the conditions for the pooling of the Community's monetary reserves, due at the end of the year, would both be ready at the end of June. The progress made so far would shortly be summed up in a report provided for in the Decisions on the establishment of economic and monetary union. The report would also go into further developments and would propose institutions to be considered in the second Study since the Statute and legal status of the Fund made it possible to develop further. It was however, important that the Member States' policy on the Central Banks first be made an integral part of the Community's institutions.

The Committee adopted its opinion by 80 votes in favour, 2 against and 19 abstentions.

2. 'Proposal for a 4th directive under Article 54 (3g) coordinating the guarantees required from firms and companies in the Member States in order to protect the interests of members and third parties, as regards the structure and content of the annual accounts and the management report, the methods of evaluation and the publication of these documents'.
1. The coordination of the guarantees required from firms and companies under the meaning of Article 58 (2) of the Treaty was continued by this proposal for a directive from the Commission, which was intended to harmonize the provisions with regard to the structure and content of the annual accounts. This proposal also regulated the actual publication of these accounts.

Coordination in this sector had been begun by the First Directive of 9 March 1968 (No. 68/151), and the Economic and Social Committee had delivered the relevant Opinion on 28 October 1964. This first step towards harmonizing company law was intended to standardize the requirements concerning publication, the validity of commitments entered into and the nullity of companies, in other words the publication required by law, for three types of company (public and private limited liability companies and companies limited by shares).

Under Directive No. 68/151 public limited liability companies and companies limited by shares were already required to publish their annual accounts. This same Directive also recognised the principle of private limited liability companies publishing their annual accounts but postponed the application of this provision until the implementation of the present proposed directive, which was to regulate the extent of such publication.

On 9 March 1970 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a second directive whose aim was to coordinate the guarantees required for forming a public limited liability company together with the maintenance of and modifications to its capital. A proposal for a third directive aimed at coordinating the guarantees required for mergers between public limited liability companies covered by the laws of a single Member State was submitted to the Council on 6 June 1970.

2. The essential thing was to proceed with the harmonization of national legal systems laid down in the Treaty, which was to cover also the legal provisions guaranteeing the protection of the interests of members and third parties. However, such harmonization could not in itself satisfy the demands of economic and monetary union. For this reason, at the same time as it put forward its proposals for directives concerning the harmonization of company law, the Commission submitted a proposed statute for the European Company which contained a chapter on the preparation of accounts. This chapter had already been examined by the Committee.

- (a) In accordance with Article 1, the coordination measures laid down in the proposal for a directive were to be applied not only to public limited liability companies but also to companies limited by shares and to private limited liability companies.
- (b) The provisions of the proposal for a directive concerned annual accounts which had been drawn up in accordance with commercial law. This proposal had no effect on the special taxation rules determining the financial and economic particulars to be given to the tax authorities.
- (c) Until guarantees required from credit institutions and insurance companies were coordinated at a later date Member States would be allowed not to apply the provisions of the present proposal for a directive to these undertakings.

Some of the provisions of the proposal for a directive were very similar to provisions contained in the proposed statute for the European Company :

- (i) the provisions relating to valuation provided for the possibility of applying the replacement cost method of valuation (Article 181 SE) instead of the purchase price principle (Article 182 SE);
- (ii) in drawing up the profit and loss account a choice could be made between breaking down expenditure either according to kind (Article 168 SE) or according to the operations in respect of which it was incurred (Article 170 SE).

It was to be noted that the difference with respect to the statute of the European Company was simply due to the fact that the possibility of choice was given in the first instance to the Member State, while the undertakings could only profit from it if the Member State concerned included this possibility of choice in its own national legislation on company law. Unlike the statute, the proposal for a directive did not allow the replacement cost method to be applied to intangible assets.

The Committee adopted its opinion by 46 votes in favour, 30 against and 25 abstentions.

The Committee based its Opinion on the Opinion of the Specialized Section for Economic Questions (Chairman, Mr de Précigout - France - Employers), whose work was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Gerritse.

Rapporteur : Mr. Lecuyer - France - Various Interest

In its Opinion the Committee welcomed the markedly progressive thinking behind the proposal of the Commission regarding the approximation of rules governing the drafting of accounts and their publication by public and private limited liability and by companies limited by shares. Steps should be taken to speed up the harmonization of company law and encourage the improvement of this law as such an integration was in the interests of the economy.

The Committee approved the objectives of the proposed directive : - to improve the transparency of annual accounts and ensure that they were intercomparable at Community level.

The Committee believed that the publication measures which the present directive would make obligatory should fulfil the need to inform and protect members and third parties, while having due regard to the needs of the various industries and without prejudicing such needs.

The numerous references to national legislation in the proposed directive, were a weakness. This solution certainly had the advantage of flexibility but it contained the seeds of numerous future discordancies. The Committee regretted that the proposed directive allowed the States to authorise or refuse the application of such derogations or methods to firms and companies governed by substantive law. The Committee trusted that this freedom would be granted uniformly by national legislation to the firms and companies themselves in certain specific cases.

The provisions of the proposed directive under discussion and those under Title VI of the proposed regulation embodying a statute for the European Company were comparable in many respects. The Committee emphasised once more the need to ensure that the two texts were homogeneous, with the simple exception of the provisions specifically regarding the European Company.

3. 'Proposals for Council directives concerning excise duties and similar taxes'.

The Commission's proposals comprised :

'Proposal for a Council directive on the matter of excise duties and indirect taxes, apart from VAT, which directly or indirectly affect consumption (outline-directive)';

'Proposal for a Council directive on the harmonisation of excise duties on alcohol';

'Proposal for a Council directive on a harmonised excise duty on wine';

'Proposal for a Council directive on the harmonisation of excise duties on beer';

'Proposal for a Council directive on the system of excise duties for mixed beverages';

'Proposal for a Council directive setting up on Excise Duty Committee';

These proposals were part of the Resolution made by the Council and representatives of the Governments of the Member States on 22 March 1971 concerning the achievement by stages of economic and monetary union.

In particular, this Resolution laid down that the Council should give rulings on measures concerning the structure of excise duties, i.e. the harmonisation of their scope, the basic rate and the methods of collecting the excise duties, especially those which had a noticeable influence on trade.

The Commission used the following criteria to decide which excise duties were to be retained :

- (i) the tax yield;
- (ii) the interests of the developing countries;
- (iii) putting the brake on the consumption of products prejudicial to health;
- (iv) the vital importance of some products which were at present subject to excise duties;
- (v) the use of some products as raw materials, as means of production or as aids to production;
- (vi) equal conditions of competition for similar products.

The following excise duties would have to be abolished by the various Member States :

- (i) in Italy : sugar, sweetening agents, coffee, cocoa, margarine, matches, methane gas, olive oil, bananas, seed oils, other oils and animal and vegetable fats, gas, lighting, coffee substitutes, yarn, playing cards, gramophone records, salt and cigarette paper;

- (ii) in Germany : sugar, coffee, tea, salt, lighting, matches, playing cards, acetic acid;
- (iii) in France : coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, spa waters and lemonade;
- (iv) in Belgium : sugar, spa waters and lemonade;
- (v) in the Netherlands : sugar;
- (vi) in Luxembourg : sugar.

The following excise duties would be kept and harmonized for the Community as a whole :

- (i) mineral oils;
- (ii) manufactured tobacco;
- (iii) alcohol;
- (iv) beer;
- (v) wine.

However, provision was made in Article 8 of the outline directive that, if it proved necessary, the Council could establish other excise duties for the Community as a whole, for instance in the sphere of environment protection policy.

The Committee adopted its Opinions unanimously

The Committee based its Opinions on the Opinions of the Specialised Section for Economic Questions (Chairman : Mr. de Précigout - France - Employers), whose work was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Visocchi.

Rapporteur : Mr. Dohrendorf - Germany - Various Interests

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinions on the :

'Proposals for Council directives concerning excise duties and similar taxes'

In its Opinions the Committee approved the choice of the excise duties to be abolished decided on by the Commission, and approved also the general terms of the proposal for a directive concerning the excise duty on alcohol. On the other hand, regarding the proposals for directives on the excise duties on wine and beer, the Committee considered that the introduction of excise duties on wine in Italy and Germany would give rise to collection costs which would be unjustified by the financial returns. In this case, one was faced with the following alternatives :

- (i) Either harmonization would be accomplished by abolishing the excise duties on wine and beer, which would create financial problems in certain countries.
- (ii) Or harmonization would only be achieved all at once, by a date fixed by the mutual agreement of the Member States and with the same agreed rate. It was clear that until then the present measures would remain in force, which was not satisfactory for the Community as a whole.

The Committee considered that, should one of these solutions be found wanting, any initial step towards harmonization should lay down as its guiding principle that Member States be obliged not to widen the gap that exists at present between the excise duties on the two beverages. This implied that those States which have no excise duty on wine at present would not immediately be obliged to introduce one.

However, each Member State wishing to modify the existing rates would have to follow Community procedure, the aim of which would be to study the problem with regard to a harmonization of rates, both for countries which already had harmonization of rates, both for countries which already had an excise duty and for those which did not.

4. 'Draft Recommendation of the Council to the signatory Member States of the Berne Convention establishing the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution'.

After noting the disturbing level of pollution reached in the Rhine, the Commission noted that the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, set up in 1950, had been stripped of any powers of intervention which would have enabled it to fight effectively against the pollution of the Rhine.

The Commission also noted that in spite of the studies and research carried out within the International Commission the water in the Rhine had continued to deteriorate in quality, which was causing growing concern among those using and living alongside the river.

To try and remedy this situation the Commission was now proposing that the signatory Member States of the Berne Convention should instruct the International Commission to work out an emergency cleaning programme for the Rhine, which would be based mainly on the studies carried out since 1950 and would include :

- (a) the definition of the quality to be achieved in the network of watercourses making up the Rhine basin;
- (b) the procedure to be set up and the organization required so that the measures needed to achieve these objectives within a period of 3 to 5 years might be laid down clearly. (In particular the limits to be respected by the public and private authorities with regard to the quantity and composition of domestic and industrial refuse);
- (c) an estimate of the amount of credit needed to achieve these objectives (the Section was to plan a budget with receipts and expenditure).

Also, in the explanatory memorandum to its draft recommendation, the Commission contemplated setting up a European agency for the Rhine basin which would have the powers of a public law institution and would be responsible for the implementation of the cleaning programme for the Rhine to be worked out by the International Commission. This agency, which was to aim at easing the way generally for the various measures of general interest to the Rhine basin, could be authorised to collect fees from authorities, businesses etc. using the Rhine and its tributaries or contributing towards pollution of them.

The Committee adopted its Opinion, there were 9 abstentions.

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on the work of the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs, chaired by Mr. Ramaekers (Belgium - Group III - General Interests Group). This work had been prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Noddings

Rapporteur : Mr. Balke - Germany - Employers

In its Opinion the Committee approved the draft recommendation but made a number of suggestions about the implementation of the cleaning programme and the setting-up of a European agency for the Rhine basin.

The Committee approved the Commission's initiative to instruct the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution to work out an emergency cleaning programme for the Rhine. It also approved the plan for this programme proposed by the Commission and emphasized that the preparation of this programme should not be used as a pretext by the Member States to dispense with current or planned national action, and that the International Commission should start its work as soon as possible.

The Committee approved the Commission's proposal to set up a European agency for the Rhine basin which would be responsible for the implementation of a cleaning-up programme to be worked out by the International Commission. It regretted however, that this proposal was only set out in the Commission's explanatory memorandum to the document and not in the draft recommendation itself.

The Committee requested the Commission to propose the immediate setting-up of such a European agency without awaiting the Council's decision on the granting of joint undertaking status. It considered that the agency could be temporarily invested with a different legal status until the Council had given a ruling on this matter, which dealt with other and wider issues than the pollution of the Rhine.

The Committee, finally stressed that the setting-up of a European executive authority need not always imply a limitation of the power of Member States of the Community to fulfil their commitments and obligations.

5. Proposal for a Council regulation on the granting of joint undertaking status for the activities of the hydrocarbon industry.

This proposal for a regulation constituted Annex II of the communication from the Commission to the Council on the 'First Guidelines for a Community energy policy' and looked at the possibilities of increasing the Community's influence over the conditions governing its hydrocarbon supply from the two following angles :

The admission to the joint undertaking scheme (a legal framework consisting of benefits and obligations) of certain activities connected with hydrocarbons and of particular importance to the security of the Community's supplies. This was mainly a question of prospecting for and the turning to account of deposits, transport and the building up of stocks. The decision to recognise a joint undertaking would be made on a case-by-case basis.

The Commission's proposal was intended to encourage cooperation between undertakings and the pooling of their resources, so as to enable them to carry out large-scale investments and carry the risks inherent in this type of activity, which at times were quite high. To create favourable conditions for such cooperation the Commission proposed to use rules similar to those found in the Treaty establishing the EAEC, under the title 'Joint Undertakings' (Chapter V, Articles 45 to 51).

According to the Commission's proposal, undertakings carrying out activities of vital importance to the Community's hydrocarbon supply could have recourse to the joint undertaking scheme, subject to the undertakings involved being covered by the laws of at least two Member States. Every plan to form a joint undertaking was examined by the Commission, who forwarded a detailed report and a reasoned opinion to the Council. If the opinion was favourable the Commission submitted to the Council proposals for the articles of the joint undertaking, procedures whereby the Community might participate in the financing of it, possibly the granting of the whole or a part of the advantages listed in the annex to the regulation and also the conditions for these advantages being granted.

In every case, the formation of a joint undertaking required a decision from the Council acting by a qualified majority; however, a unanimous decision was required for the Community's participation in the financing of the undertaking and for the granting of the advantages, among which were certain tax advantages, guarantees for loans, loans at reduced interest rates or non-repayable loans in cases where exploration work came to nothing.

The Commission's proposal also laid down that joint undertakings would forward an annual report on their activities to the Commission, who would inform the Council.

The Committee adopted its Opinion, there were 2 votes against and 25 abstentions

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on the work of the former Specialized Section for Energy Questions, chaired by Mr. Ameye (Belgium - Employers) and Mr. Kuipers (Netherlands - Employers). This work had been prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Bornard

Rapporteur : Mr. Aschoff - Germany - Various Interests, deceased :
Opinion presented by Mr. Bonomi - Italy - Employers

The Committee agreed with the objectives pursued by the Commission, in particular as regards the safety of Community energy supplies. However, the Committee at the same time made numerous reservations concerning the vagueness of the legal aspects of the scheme proposed and its effectiveness in helping to achieve the objectives formulated. The Commission was therefore asked to re-examine its proposal in the light of the various observations on the need to strengthen the competitive position of Community undertakings, to clarify the criteria admitting an undertaking to the joint undertaking scheme - a phrase which the Committee considered preferable to 'joint undertaking status' - and to specify the nature and scope of the advantages and obligations arising from such admission.

The Committee further asked for the omission of the provision under which a joint undertaking could only be set up if undertakings coming under the legislation of at least two Member States took part in its formation. It also commented on the guarantees to be given to undertakings in the admission procedure of the scheme, the powers of the Community institutions, and the rights of workers.

The Committee adopted its opinion by a large majority.

6. 'Proposal for a Council directive setting up a common organization of the market in live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like, out flowers and ornamental foliage'

Taking as its reference on the one hand Article 41 of the Treaty (joint measures to promote consumption of certain products), and on the other the experience gained in this field by two of the Member States (Belgium and the Netherlands), the Commission considered that it would be desirable to plan the setting-up in the six Member States of standardized official national bodies responsible for organizing and running publicity campaigns on the territory of the Community and promoting horticultural products without referring to any specific brand name.

To finance these publicity campaigns the Commission proposed to place at the disposal of these bodies a sort of mandatory levy collected from undertakings working in the horticultural sector who had an annual turnover of more than 2,500 u.a., which would mean about 60 % of the undertakings currently in existence in the Community.

The Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority.

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on the work carried out by the Section for Agriculture chaired by Mr. Visocchi (Italy - Various Interests). This work was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Costantini.

Rapporteur : Mr. Canonge - France - Various Interests

In its Opinion the Committee stated that the Commission's proposal touched on a certain number of fundamental principles which went well beyond the ambit of the sector concerned and even of agriculture in general.

The Committee regretted that the Commission did not think it appropriate to precede its proposal with an explanatory memorandum which would have made clear its intentions, particularly as regarded making public funds available to trade and inter-trade bodies for the purpose of financing certain of their activities.

Accordingly, whilst agreeing that certain forms of Community action should be taken to expand outlets for certain agricultural products which were difficult to sell, the Committee believed that it could not give a valid opinion on the proposed directive as insufficient justification was given for according priority to the sector of live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like, cut flowers and ornamental foliage. The Committee therefore requested the Commission to re-examine the reasons which led to submitting its proposal, taking into consideration the above comments and those contained in the report submitted by Mr. Canonge.

7. 'Proposal for a Council directive on the harmonization of laws, regulations and administrative provisions concerning arrangements for outward processing traffic'.

The object of this proposal for a directive was the harmonization of laws, regulations and administrative provisions concerning arrangements for outward processing traffic.

The aim of outward processing is to export goods of all types and from any origin outside the territory of the Community for a temporary period with a view to reimporting them after they have been processed. Outward processing is carried out on goods fulfilling the conditions of Articles 9 and 10 of the Treaty and on products which, after being submitted to arrangements for inward processing have to undergo further processing in a third country.

The aim of the arrangements was to allow partial or total exemption from customs duties and similar taxes and from agricultural levies applied to processed products when they were reimported.

The proposal for a directive laid down a whole set of provisions dealing in particular with the granting of arrangements for outward processing, the treatments for which goods were exported under these same arrangements, the rules generally followed in the Member States when granting authorization, the possibility of disposing of goods covered by outward processing arrangements and the taxation of reimported products once they had been processed.

The Committee adopted its Opinion, there were 23 abstentions.

The Committee based its Opinion on the Opinion of the Specialised Section for Economic Questions (Chairman : Mr. de Précigout - France - Employers), the groundwork for which was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Renaud.

Rapporteur : Mr. de Grave - Belgium - Workers

In its Opinion, the Committee approved the proposal for a directive and merely made some specific comments on the Articles of the directive which dealt particularly with the disposal of goods during outward processing (Article 9 paragraph 1) and with cases where processing took place in countries which had preferential arrangements with the Community (Article 10, paragraph 3).

8. 'Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1463/70 of the Council of 20 July 1970 on the introduction of recording equipment in road transport'.

The Committee adopted its Opinion, there were 6 abstentions.

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on material provided by its Section for Transport and Communications (Chairman : Mr. Hoffmann - Germany - Workers)

Rapporteur : Mr. Mourgues - France - Workers

The Committee considered that, in the interests of road safety, vehicles transporting dangerous goods should, as soon as possible, be fitted with mechanical recording equipment capable of recording the following information : distance travelled by the vehicle, speed of the vehicle, driving time, other work periods and presence at work of the driver or drivers, stoppages of work, and rest periods during a day's work.

However the Committee recognized that equipment meeting the Community's requirements would not be on the market before 1 January 1975.

This is why the Committee approved the Commission's proposal to delay the introduction of 'Community' equipment, with the express recommendation however that all vehicles transporting dangerous substances at least be fitted with 'national' mechanical recording equipment by 1975 at the latest.

9. 'Proposal for a Council directive amending the Directive of 23 November 1970 on additives in animal feeding-stuffs'

In its Opinion, the Committee approved in principle the Commission's proposal, since it would make it easier to adapt Community rules to the development of scientific and technical knowledge.

The Committee called upon the Council to urge the appropriate national authorities to take, where necessary, appropriate steps for a swift and complete harmonization of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions on animal feeding-stuffs.

The Committee adopted its Opinion; there were 4 abstentions.

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on the material produced by its Specialised Section for Agriculture presided over by Mr. Visocchi (Italy - Group III - Various Interests), which had been prepared by the Rapporteur, Mr. Wick.

Rapporteur : Mr. Wick - Germany - Employers

10. 'Proposal for a Council directive regarding statistical surveys of bovine stock, forecasts on the availability of bovine animals for slaughter and the slaughter and the slaughter statistics on bovine animals to be carried out or complied by Member States'.

This proposal for a directive, which was presented to the Council on 16 May 1972, was based mainly on Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No. 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal. This Article laid down that 'In order to encourage action by trade on joint trade organizations to facilitate the adjustment of supply to market requirements, measures may be taken ... to permit the establishment of short - and long-term forecasts on the basis of the means of production used'.

The proposal was to fix statistical rules at Community level which would allow precise data to be obtained on trends in bovine stock and in beef and veal production, and on forecasts to be made as to the supply of beef and veal.

The Committee adopted its Opinion; there were 3 abstentions.

The Economic and Social Committee based its Opinion on material provided by its Specialized Section for agriculture, presided over by Mr. Visocchi (Italy - Various Interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. Flandre - France - Various Interests

In its Opinion the Committee approved the proposal for a directive, subject to some comments.

The Committee considered that the proposal should contain provisions enabling the Permanent Committee for Agricultural Statistics set up by the Council on 31 July 1972 to fulfil its task and in particular to contribute to better co-ordination of agricultural statistical operations between Member States and the Commission. The Committee stressed that the results of national surveys should be sent to the Commission in good time.

As regarded the definition of areas, the Committee suggested that the provisions envisaged by the Committee should be coordinated as far as possible with the directive on statistical methods for milk and milk products.

The Committee considered that precise data on external trade should be available in addition to the statistics suggested by the Commission.

Finally the Committee requested that the results of statistical surveys and forecasts in agricultural sector should, as a general rule, be included in the Annual Report on the Situation of Agriculture in the Community, so as to throw more light on the trend in the sector concerned in relation to the other agricultural sectors of the Community.

11. (a) 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment'.

(b) 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on fluorescent lights'

The object of these proposals for directives was the approximation of Member States' legislation on radio interference. In particular they were to fix maximum permissible limits for radio interference and also the methods of measuring such interference.

The solution adopted was that known as 'total harmonization', which consisted of replacing the technical provisions and control procedures in force in each Member State by those laid down in the proposed directive.

With 3 abstentions the Committee adopted its Opinion on the

(a) 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment'.

The Committee based its Opinion on the Opinion of the Specialized Section for Economic Questions, (Chairman : Mr. de Précigout - France - Employers), the groundwork for which was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Chabrol

Rapporteur : Mr. Lecuyer - France - Various Interests

In its Opinion the Committee requested in particular that as soon as possible a start should be made on the problem of the emission of certain types of waves, especially electromagnetic waves capable of affecting normal broadcasting.

Concerning the conforming of appliances to the requirements of the directive, the Committee considered that such conformity should in principle apply throughout the normal life of equipment and that the interference - suppressing equipment should carry the same guarantee as that which normally covered the appliance.

With 2 abstentions the Committee adopted its Opinion on the

(b) 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on fluorescent lights'

The Committee based its Opinion of the Specialized Section for Economic Questions (Chairman Mr. de Précigout - France - Employers), the groundwork for which was prepared by a Study Group chaired by Mr. Chabrol.

Rapporteur : Mr. Lecuyer - France - Various Interests

The Committee approved the proposal for a directive. As regarded the French version, the Committee proposed that the term 'lampe pour éclairage à fluorescence' be replaced by 'luminaires pour lampes à fluorescence'.

It was in fact impossible by definition to use a 'lampe pour éclairage à fluorescence' as such. It could only be used as a component of a given 'luminaire'. The suppression of interference, therefore was only applicable to the 'luminaires'.

III

110th PLENARY SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 28 AND 29 MARCH 1973

The Economic and Social Committee held its 110th plenary session on 28 and 29 March 1973. It was chaired in turn by Mr. Lappas, the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Canonge and Mr. Masprone, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, and was held in the presence of Council and Commission officials.

At this plenary session the Committee prepared the following Opinions :

1. 'Economic Situation in the Community'

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Economic and Financial Questions (Chairman : Mr. Rollinger - Luxembourg - Various Interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. Malterre - France - Various Interests

In its Opinion on the Economic Situation in the Community the Economic and Social Committee emphasised three points : firstly the conditions for maintaining growth, secondly the fight against inflation and thirdly monetary problems.

Concerning the first point, it was likely that economic growth would accelerate in the enlarged Community, but would the growth of the gross national product in real terms be between 4.5 % and 5.5 % as the Commission had forecast in its report of 16 January? This would depend to a large extent on what solution was found to the monetary problems which were still far from being settled by the change in parities which had just come about, and by the decisions taken on 12 and 16 March regarding the fluctuation of the European currencies against each other and in relation to the dollar. However, taking into account this accelerating growth an improvement in the employment situation in the Member States could be expected although it was not known whether this would be sufficient to restore full employment.

Secondly, the development of prices and costs remained the major concern of all those responsible for economic policy. 1972 had seen a very pronounced rise in prices in all countries and the first few months of 1973 showed few signs of this situation changing. On the contrary, the indexes already known for January and February showed a continuing rapid increase in prices. In order to check this rise in prices the Member States had declared that they would try to cut back the rate of increase in consumer prices to 4 % between December 1972 and the end of 1973. In order to attain this goal, measures had been taken in the following spheres :

- (i) monetary policy and credit;
- (ii) budgetary policy;
- (iii) control of prices and competition.

This set of measures showed that in all the Member States the fight against inflation has been given the priority indicated by the Community authorities. The time necessary for these measures to take effect was however uncertain. For the moment there had been no slowing down in the rise of prices during the first two months of 1973. Accordingly the aim of pegging back the rise on consumer prices to 4 % seemed rather unrealistic. In fact it was likely that in most of the Member States the expected rise in prices would be more than 5 to 5.5 %.

Finally, in relation to the monetary problems, the Economic and Social Committee reiterated its approval of fixed exchange parities and stressed the necessity of Governments showing greater political determination to pursue a common European economic and monetary policy. Assuming that the return to fixed parities between the Member States would not take place for several months, measures should be taken to protect the common agricultural policy. Apart from this prime interest, floating should be strictly limited by compensatory mechanism to be devised or by reference to a new monetary standard which would have to be accepted by all industrialised countries. Security of trade and guarantees of payments were conditional on this. The Committee hoped above all that the monetary crisis would be quickly overcome, mainly by closer co-operation between the nine EEC countries. It was by achieving an economic and monetary union that Europe would draw the authority needed to make her interests prevail be it now with regard to the monetary crisis or tomorrow in the great world trade confrontation.

The discussion on this Opinion was mainly about the need to fight inflation without jeopardising full employment which, along with meeting Community needs, was still the aim to which Governments had to attach the greatest importance.

To help find a solution to the problems raised by the constant rise in prices some members considered that it was advisable to set up at European level a consultative Prices Commission whose membership and terms of reference would be decided later.

With regard to trade relations with third countries, the EEC should be outward-looking especially with regard to developing countries.

On the other hand, some members felt that the present economic situation tended to aggravate the structural and regional imbalances within the Community. They emphasised the need for a common economic policy and regretted that the Opinion did not take up any standpoint regarding the trade confrontation between the EEC and the United States.

The Committee adopted its Opinion by 84 votes in favour, 6 votes against and 9 abstentions.

2. 'Commission proposal to the Council relating to the fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and certain related measures'

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Agriculture (Chairman : Mr. Visocchi - Italy - Various Interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. Clavel - France - Various Interests

The Opinion approved the system proposed by the Commission on the reconversion of the agricultural u.a. which allowed the single market to be preserved and as a result the common agricultural policy but stressed that this system might seriously affect farm incomes in some countries and the situation of consumers in other countries.

The Economic and Social Committee noted that the price proposals did not take into account certain economic elements, which if they had been taken into consideration would have led to a general level of prices which was fairer to agricultural producers in the Community.

Consequently, it considered that these proposals were unacceptable unless they were accompanied by immediate measures to offset their adverse effects on the worst-off categories of producers and consumers, including employees ('hired workers') in agriculture.

Quite apart from its Opinion on agricultural prices, the Committee deemed it essential to begin at once a detailed overall study of the medium-term prospects for agriculture in the Community so as to provide a properly thought-out basis for the measures to be taken to attain the general objectives of the common agricultural policy.

Furthermore, it called on the Commission to produce a study on the tie-up between the common agricultural policy and consumer food prices.

In an address to the Economic and Social Committee Mr. Lardinois, Member of the Commission, first of all expressed his gratitude for the swift preparation of the Opinion by the forwarded sooner because of the recent monetary problems. After taking note of the pessimistic tone of the Committee's Opinion on the proposed agricultural prices, Mr. Lardinois explained the approach adopted in the Commission's proposals. The modernization and agricultural productivity had risen considerably. The policy on structures was an indispensable supplement to the prices policy and should lead to a satisfactory situation being achieved by 1980. Encouragement of beef and veal production was a longer-term measure whose final results would in all circumstances benefit the consumer.

Disparities between farm incomes and incomes in the other sectors of the economy had diminished especially during the past few years, but had persisted between the various types of farms. The reform of structures therefore still remained a priority and the guidance section of the EAGGF would have an important role to play in that respect.

Mr. Lardinois stressed in particular that the Commission's proposals had been drawn up with the main aim of safeguarding the common agricultural policy, an important part of European integration. As he was well aware that these proposals were not of a kind to resolve all problems concerning farm incomes Mr. Lardinois mentioned certain supplementary aspects of them such as hill farming and aid to backward regions. He concluded by expressing his hopes for a return to greater monetary stability and consequently to a normal functioning of the common agricultural market.

The Committee adopted its Opinion by 62 votes in favour, 1 vote against and 13 abstentions.

3. 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the device providing protection against non-authorized usage of motor vehicles'

'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the internal equipment of motor vehicles (protection of the driver from the steering wheel in the case of impact)'

1. Non-authorized usage of motor vehicles

The purpose of this proposed directive was to approximate the laws of the Member States on devices for protection against non-authorized usage of motor vehicles.

The directive covered vehicles with at least 4 wheels and a maximum design speed of over 25 km/hour.

The proposed directive had notably an Annex on existence, definitions, applications for Community type-approval and on the general and particular specifications for protection devices.

2. Protection against impacts

The behaviour of the steering wheel on impact had been the subject of detailed studies by the Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva). The Commission had based its proposal on these studies.

In particular, in a trial crash against a barrier at 50 km/hour the upper part of the steering column and its shaft should not move backwards by more than 12 cm in relation to a part of the car not affected by the impact.

The proposed directive only covered category M1 motor vehicles (those used for the carriage of passengers and having not more than 8 seats in addition to the driver's seat).

The Committee adopted its Opinions unanimously.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinions on the work of the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services (Chairman : Mr. Hipp - Germany - Employers)

Rapporteur : Mr. Renaud - France - Employers

The Economic and Social Committee approved the proposed directives

4. 'Proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to safety glass destined to be fitted in motor vehicles'

This proposed directive came under the programme for harmonizing motor vehicle characteristics, the purpose of which was to eliminate technical barriers to trade and improve road safety.

An examination of the types of safety glass currently on the market had led the Commission to make a comparison of the safety aspects of the two main types of windscreens which dominate the market - those made of toughened glass and those made of laminated glass.

This comparison showed that laminated glass windscreens offered a greater degree of safety than toughened glass windscreens.

These different aspects taken together and the economic consequence for the industries concerned led the Commission to propose that it should be compulsory for windscreens to be made of laminated glass in order to have EEC type-approval. From 1 October 1976, all vehicles would have to have this type of windscreen but during the transitory period, beginning on 1 October 1974, they would only be compulsory for the fastest vehicles, those capable of more than 130 km/hour.

The Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services (Chairman : Mr. Hipp - Germany - Employers)

Rapporteur : Mr. Renaud - France - Employers

The Committee approved the proposal for a directive. It felt however that the solution of total harmonization had to be imposed by 1 October 1976, the date by which according to the Commission, the glass and motor industries would be in a position to satisfy the requirements of the directive.

As for the comparison between toughened and laminated windscreens from the safety point of view, the Committee shared the conclusion reached by the Commission that laminated windscreens assured a higher degree of safety than toughened glass windscreens.

5. 'Proposal for a Council regulation on the exemption from customs duties within the enlarged Community for Community goods despatched in small non-commercial postal packages'

As a supplement to its proposal for a directive on the duty-free allowance for goods sent in small packages to individuals, the Commission proposed the exemption from customs duties of small non-commercial packages carried between the new Member States or between these and the Member States of the old Community of Six.

These small packages were already exempt from taxes pursuant to the proposal for a directive previously discussed by the Committee. Under the Act of Accession customs duties would not be abolished until 1 July 1977; this exemption from taxes should therefore be accompanied by a customs franchise privilege.

The second paragraph of Article 1 of the proposal for a regulation referred to the preliminary provisions of the common customs tariff, whereas the tax exemption directive had established an ad hoc definition.

The Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services (Chairman : Mr. Hipp - Germany - Employers)

Rapporteur : Mr. de Grave - Belgium - Workers

The Economic and Social Committee approved the proposed regulation.

It pointed out however that in its Opinion on the proposal for a directive on exemptions from tax applicable to the import of goods it had wished the overall value per package to be raised to 120 u.a.

The Committee also emphasised that the desired effect of the proposed regulation could not be entirely attained unless the customs clearance tax deducted by the postal authorities was done away with in trade within the Community

'Proposal for a Council regulation on the arrangements for the processing of goods in bond before they are marketed'

The proposal for a regulation aimed to set up a special system for the processing of goods in bond to replace the national customs rules or practices which differed from one Member State to another. In fact this divergence ran the risk of turning away trade in goods which would be subject to customs duties which were too high, even if the goods were destined to be worked or processed.

The proposal for a regulation laid down the goods and persons who should benefit from the system of processing and stated the conditions under which the benefit to be derived from the system could be granted along with the methods of checking to which processing in bond was subjected.

The Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services (Chairman : Mr. Hipp - Germany - Employers)

Rapporteur : Mr. de Grave - Belgium - Workers

The Economic and Social Committee approved the proposal for a regulation. It nevertheless feared that the freedom left to the Member States in the first paragraph of Article 12 might weaken the scope of the regulation.

It hoped that the Commission might eventually make proposals for extending the annex to the proposal for a regulation.

'Proposal for a Council directive on mutual assistance for the recovery of sums paid in error in connection with the common agricultural policy, and of agricultural levies and customs duties'

This directive was based on the principle that a claim for repayment taken out in one Member State should, on an application from this Member State, be made enforceable in another Member State by the appropriate authorities there. Among other things it specified the conditions which had to be fulfilled for an application to be acceptable, together

with the obligations of the receiving authority, the procedures for commencing proceedings to contest the claim for repayment and the enforceable claim held by the person concerned, the possibility of taking protective measures and the conditions under which the receiving authority could refuse to grant its assistance.

The Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Agriculture (Chairman : Mr. Visocchi - Italy - Various Interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. de Grave - Belgium - Workers

In its Opinion the Committee proposed the enlargement of the scope of the directive to include all public debts, and in particular those relating to V.A.T. and other taxes on consumption.

8. 'Proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) on the establishment of homogenous statistics on foreign workers'

This proposal for a regulation followed the discovery that the Community's statistical apparatus was particularly weak with regard to running an effective employment policy.

The survey which had been carried out in 1960 did not achieve the results hoped for. Surveys were held again in 1968 and 1969 but several countries defaulted. The Council took up this question and decided to replace the 1972 survey by a survey to be held in 1973 and 1975. However several countries pointed out that they could not quickly undertake such a heavy task.

2. More than one million workers were found to move inside the Community, to which there was to be added nearly three million workers who came from outside the Community.

Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1612/68 laid down the rules governing these workers. One of its major objectives was to implement arrangements capable of ensuring transparency of the employment market within the Community.

Employment was the major concern of social policy. The Community bodies - whether the Standing Committee on Employment or the Council - were paying special attention to the matter, while the recent Paris Summit Conference had confirmed that employment was at the top of the list of priorities.

It was clear that in order to conduct a Community policy on employment one had to have at one's disposal statistical information which was at least :

- (a) homogenous
- (b) frequent
- (c) accurate
- (d) available within a reasonable period
- (e) and which provided data on
 - (i) nationality
 - (ii) sex
 - (iii) industry
 - (iv) occupation
 - (v) age
 - (vi) region
 - (v) family situation

The Committee adopted its Opinion, with 5 members voting against and 15 abstentions.

The Committee based the preparation of its Opinion on the work of the Section for Social Questions (Chairman : Mr. Bouladoux - France - Workers)

Rapporteur : Mr. Bodart - Belgium - Various Interests

The Committee adopted the Commission's proposal and congratulated the Commission for its efforts in setting in motion an indispensable harmonization programme. It nevertheless emphasised that the proposal for a regulation merely required the Member States to establish statistics concerning the arrivals, departures and numbers of the labour force, based on information supplied by the national social security authorities, without, however, indicating the measures to be taken.

Until now statistics supplied as derived from the administrative operations of the social security schemes had often been inadequate. The Committee felt that there was too definite an obligation to use these statistics exclusively; it suggested that other sources could be used if they supplied information which was at least as valid and as homogenous.

The Committee felt that a list had to be drawn up, without delay of the practical problems arising from the use of new statistical instruments which were more precise and more complete and if necessary indications made as to the improvements which could be made to them. In this respect it was necessary, in the Committee's view, to promote a pilot-study which would identify concrete guidelines and which would bring to the surface the difficulties to be resolved.

The Economic and Social Committee also took note of a study prepared by the Section for Agriculture (Chairman : Mr. Visocchi - Italy - Various interests)

Rapporteur : Mr. Clavel - France - Various Interests

on

- the Annual Report for 1972 on the agricultural situation
- the Report on farm incomes.

The Committee first of all analysed the Annual Report, seeking to bring out the agricultural situation in relation to the economic and social developments in the Community. To do this, it had to emphasise certain shortcomings in the Commission document, particularly with regard to whether statistical data was up-to-date, certain definitions of statistical concepts and to the methods of calculation employed. The Committee could not get away from the fact that insofar as this report on the agricultural situation was meant to guide the decisions to be made regarding prices for the next year, the document as it had been submitted was hardly satisfactory.

The Committee made a number of comments on the different sections of the Commission document.

Having discussed the Annual Report, the Committee analysed the Commission document of farm incomes; it sought to bring out points for discussion in preparation for the study of proposals for farm prices for the year 1973-74.

As far as the Committee was concerned, the publication by the Commission of this first document on farm incomes was an important step towards improving the management of the common agricultural policy, for this first attempt, although not yet perfect, enabled a much closer approach to be made to the realities of the Community agriculture.

Nevertheless, however interesting it might be, the Commission document was to be treated with caution, for the analysis of farm incomes was a very complex task. If only because the whole concept of farmers' incomes posed definition difficulties which had not yet been overcome in any of the Member States.

After having made a number of suggestions aimed at improving the document's lay-out and the type of information to be included, the Committee called upon the Commission to ensure in its future documents that the analysis of the past situation, which had been the subject of annual reports presented up to now, was complemented by exploratory studies, which were indispensable in highlighting the choice of objectives of the common agricultural policy.

The Committee felt in this respect that the production objectives and adaptation of the common agricultural policy to regional aptitudes could supply farmers with the means for orientating their investments and work so as to achieve maximum profits.

The Committee adopted its study unanimously.

IV

APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

At its meeting of 19 and 20 February 1973 the Council of the European Communities appointed Mr. D. Delfini Secretary-General of the Economic and Social Committee.

Mr. Delfini, in accordance with Article 56 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, made a solemn undertaking to the Bureau of the Committee to discharge his duties impartially and conscientiously.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECTIONS

A. SECTION FOR AGRICULTURE

(Chairman : Mr. Visocchi - Italy - Various Interests)

The Section met on :

- 8 February 1973 - 133rd meeting
- 26 and 27 March 1973 - 134th meeting

(a) Meeting of 8 February 1973

During its first meeting since the enlargement of the Committee the Section :

1. Elected its new Bureau (cf. Chapter IX);
2. Adopted by 27 votes to 3, with 8 abstentions, the draft Opinion on the :
'Proposal for a Council directive on financing publicity campaigns for live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like, cut flowers and ornamental foliage.'
3. Decided to refer the draft Opinion on alcohol to an enlarged Study Group open to the new Committee members and therefore composed of 18 members;
4. Also decided to expand the Study Group for the Annual Report-Prices and Incomes to bring it up to 18 members;
5. Finally decided to form three Study Groups for the preparation of work relating to the new referrals.

These Study Groups would be made up respectively as follows :

Bread

9 members, among them a Chairman and a Rapporteur; the Rapporteur would select an Expert.

Agricultural Research

9 members, among them a Chairman and a Rapporteur; and 4 Experts.

Remaining Balance of Annex II

9 members, among them a Chairman and a Rapporteur and an Expert selected by the Rapporteur.

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x x

The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

16 January and 13 February 1973, Study Group for the Annual Report-Prices and Incomes.

(b) Meeting of 26 and 27 March 1973

The Section :

1. Adopted its study on
 - the Annual Report for 1972
 - the Report on farm incomes;
2. Adopted its Opinion on the proposals for agricultural prices for the 1973/74 marketing year;
3. Adopted its Opinion on the 'Proposal for a Council directive on mutual assistance for the recovery of sums paid in error in connection with the common agricultural policy, and of agricultural levies and customs duties';
4. Set up a Study Group to prepare an Opinion on the 'Proposal for a Directive on agriculture in mountain areas and in certain other poorer farming areas'. Experts were also appointed to take part in the proceedings of this Study Group.

The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

20 February	: Study Group for Alcohol
26 February	
8 and 15 March	: Drafting Committee for Alcohol
28 February	: Study Group for the Annual Report on Agricultural Prices and Incomes
12 and 13 March	: Study Group for the Annual Report on Agricultural Prices and Incomes
22 March	: Restricted Study Group for the Annual Report on Agricultural Prices and Incomes
1 and 13 March	: Restricted Study Group for the Annual Report on Agricultural Prices and Incomes
1 and 19 March	: Study Group for Bread
9 March	: Study Group for the Remaining Balance of Annex II
11 March	: Drafting Committee for Sums paid in error.
4 and 11 April	: Study Group for Bread
5 April	: Study Group for Agricultural Research
9 April	: Study Group for Hill Farming
10 April	: Drafting Committee for Alcohol

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B. SECTION FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

(Chairman : Mr. Rollinger - Luxembourg - Various Interests)

The Section met on :

- 7 February 1973 - 1st meeting
- 21 February 1973 - 2nd meeting
- 22 March 1973 - 3rd meeting

(a) Meeting of 7 February 1973

1. During this meeting the Section elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX).
2. Entrusted the preparation of an Opinion on the European Monetary Cooperation Fund to a Drafting Committee (Mr. Cammann, Rapporteur, Mr. De Bruyn, Mr. Merli Brandini and experts).
3. Entrusted the preparation of an Opinion on the economic situation to a 21 member Study Group (Chairman Mrs. Hesse, Rapporteur, Mr. Malterre).
4. Entrusted the preparation of an Opinion on stock exchange quotations to a 3 man Drafting Committee (Rapporteur, Mr. Camman).

(b) Meeting of 21 February 1973

The Section :

Adopted its Opinion on the European Monetary Co-operation Fund by 18 votes in favour, 2 against and 5 abstentions.

(c) Meeting of 22 March 1973

The Section :

Adopted unanimously its Opinion on the Economic Situation in the Community.

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The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

Study Group for Short-term Economic Policy

23 February 1973 : 1st meeting
9 March 1973 : 2nd meeting
16 March 1973 : 3rd meeting

Study Group for Stock Exchange Quotations

26 March 1973

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C. SECTION FOR SOCIAL QUESTIONS

(Chairman : Mr. Bouladoux - France - Workers)

The Section met on :

- 7 February 1973 - 73rd meeting
- 7 March 1973 - 74th meeting
- 3 April 1973 - 75th meeting

(a) Meeting of 7 February 1973

1. The Section elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX)
2. Social Situation in 1972
Mr. De Bruyn and Mr. Henniker-Heaton, were appointed Rapporteur and Co-Rapporteur respectively of an 18-member Study Group under the chairmanship of Mr. Fassina.
3. The Section heard a statement from a representative of the Commission on the 'Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1972' and a statement from Mr. Vidali, Director for Industrial Safety and Medicine at the Commission, on the activities of the Community in this field.
4. The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work.

Mass Dismissals

- 9 January 1973 - 1st meeting Study Group
- 7 February 1973 - 2nd meeting Study Group
- 26 January 1973 - 1st meeting Drafting Committee

Homogenous Statistics

- 30 January 1973 - 3rd meeting Study Group
- 13 February 1973 - 4th meeting Study Group
- 5 February 1973 - 1st meeting Drafting Committee

Vocational Training

- 30 January 1973 - 5th meeting Study Group
- 19 February 1973 - 6th meeting Drafting Committee

(b) Meeting of 7 March 1973

1. The Section adopted its Opinion on the 'Proposal for a Council regulation on the establishment of homogenous statistics on foreign workers' by 26 votes in favour, 1 against and 8 abstentions.
2. The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

Mass Dismissals

- 7 March 1973 - 3rd meeting Study Group
- 20 March 1973 - 2nd meeting Drafting Committee

Social Situation

- 8 March 1973 - 30th meeting Study Group
- 19 March 1973 - 1st meeting Drafting Committee

(c) Meeting of 3 April 1973

1. The Section heard a statement by Dr. Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, on the guidelines of social policy.

2. The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

Mass Dismissals

5 April 1973 - 4th meeting Study Group

Social Situation

3 April 1973 - 31st meeting Study Group

18 April 1973 - 2nd meeting Drafting Committee

At this meeting, Dr. Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission and Commissioner in charge of social affairs, entered into a thorough exchange of views with some members of the Committee, representing employers, workers and the professions.

Dr. Hillery emphasized the need for developing effective consultatory channels between the institutions of the European Community and the 'social partners' of each member country. He stressed at the same time the need for a more effective cooperation and communication with the Economic and Social Committee and for a dialogue with the 'social partners' already present there. In his outline of the time-table which now had to be met within the area of European social policy, Dr. Hillery, stated that between May 21 (the date on which the Council of Ministers would discuss Commission proposals) and early autumn (when decisions would be taken on the social action programme) there would be an opportunity to have further consultations with the Economic and Social Committee, to draw up new priorities and strengthen others. The Committee was supposed to be invited by the Council of Ministers to be present at the Luxembourg Conference of June 27, which would be attended by representatives of all the 'social partners', in the Community.

Dr. Hillery made a strong plea for the rights of women, stressing that the legal implementation of Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome (equal pay) was not enough in itself. Not only had women to be allowed to take the same jobs as men, but they had to have the same educational, vocational, and promotion opportunities as well. As more and more married women looked for employment one of the problems which needed attention was that of childcare.

Dr. Hillery next presented his ideas on the Commission's projected social action programme which should include special measures for what he described as certain groups with particular problems - namely women, young people, older and migrant workers, and those who were handicapped.

Dr. Hillery also called for a strong European trade union movement so that the worker might be able to make his voice heard in his firm and in European social affairs. Just as economic and monetary policy was affecting social conditions and vice-versa, so also regional policy was closely related to social affairs. To achieve full and better employment, sufficient progress had to be made in the regional sector, for example by re-training, resettling and bringing work to the workers.

Mr. Bouladoux, Chairman of the Section for Social Questions, stressed the dual notion of technological progress - in one sense its emancipatory effects, and in the other its adverse influence on the labour market. Many workers had suffered due to the nature of technological progress and had been unable to adjust to the new conditions.

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D. SECTION FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

(Chairman : Mr. Hoffmann - Germany - Workers)

The Section met on :

- 14 February 1973 - 80th meeting
- 11 April 1973 - 81st meeting

(a) Meeting of 14 February 1973

1. The Section elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX)
2. Under the urgent procedure (Articles 46 and 47 of the Rules of Procedure) the Section prepared its Opinion and report on the proposal for a regulation on the :
 - Tachygraph

This opinion was adopted unanimously

3. The Section then heard preliminary statements from Representatives of the Commission and organized the work to be carried out on :
 - (i) Oil pipelines
 - (ii) Amendment to 1st Directive (own account)
 - (iii) Amendment to Regulation No. 1191/69 (public service)
 - (iv) Amendment to Regulation No. 1192/69 (normalisation of accounts)
 - (v) Negotiations with third countries, buses, coaches.

These statements were followed by a general discussion.

4. Finally, the section enlarged the existing Study Groups for the work in hand on :
 - (i) Aviation policy
 - (ii) 2nd Social Regulation
 - (iii) Driving Licences Technical Control

The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 10 January 1973 | : 1st meeting - 2nd Social Regulation |
| 19 January 1973 | : 5th meeting - Control of Capacity |
| 1st March 1973 | : 1st meeting - Oil Pipelines |
| 13 March 1973 | : 1st meeting of Rapporteur - Normalization of Accounts/
Public Service |
| 14 March 1973 | : 2nd meeting - 2nd Social Regulation |
| 15 March 1973 | : 2nd meeting - Aviation Policy
: 3rd meeting - Driving Licences/Technical Control |
| 22 March 1973 | : 2nd meeting - Oil Pipelines |

(b) Meeting of 11 April 1973

The Section prepared its Opinions and reports on the proposals for regulations on the Community Quota, Oil Pipelines, Normalization of Accounts/Public Service and on the proposals for directives on Driving Licences/Technical Control and Transport on own account.

The Opinions were adopted as follows :

- (i) Community Quota : by 15 votes to 3 and 6 abstentions
- (ii) Oil Pipelines (supplementary Opinion) : by 19 votes and 2 abstentions

- (iii) Normalization of Accounts/Public Service : by 14 votes and 2 abstentions
- (iv) Driving Licences/Technical Control : by 19 votes and 2 abstentions
- (v) Transport on own account : by 14 votes to 4 and 2 abstentions

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The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

- 11 April 1973 : 3rd meeting - Study Group for the 2nd Social Regulation
- 18 April 1973 : 3rd meeting - Study Group for Aviation Policy

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E. SECTION FOR INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, CRAFTS AND SERVICES

(Chairman : Mr. Hipp - Germany - Employers)

This Section met on :

- 11 January 1973
- 15 February 1973 - 1st meeting
- 21 March 1973 - 2nd meeting

(a) Meeting of 11 January 1973

The former specialized Section for Economic Questions :

1. Adopted unanimously its Opinions and reports on three proposals for directives :
 - (i) radio interference,
 - (ii) fluorescent lights,
 - (iii) outward processing traffic.
2. Adopted its Opinions on the proposals for a directive on excise duties and similar taxes. The results of the voting were as follows :
 - (i) General directive
21 votes in favour 9 abstentions;
 - (ii) Alcohol directive
23 votes in favour 2 votes against and 6 abstentions;
 - (iii) Wine directive
23 votes in favour 5 votes against and 4 abstentions;
 - (iv) Beer directive
25 votes in favour and 4 abstentions;
 - (v) Mixed Beverages
unanimously;
 - (vi) Excise Committee
unanimously;
3. Adopted its Opinion on the 4th company law directive by 12 votes in favour, 4 votes against and 4 abstentions.

4. Entrusted to the Study Group for Technical Barriers the preparation of a preliminary draft Opinion and preliminary draft report on the proposal for a directive on cosmetics and appointed Mr. Lecuyer as Rapporteur.
5. With regards to the 5th company law directive, confirmed the membership of the Study Group for Company Law. Mr. Lecuyer would be Chairman and Mr. Friedrichs and Mr. De Bièvre, Rapporteur and Co-Rapporteur respectively.
6. Entrusted to a Drafting Committee, made up of the Rapporteur, Mr. Camann, and two other members to be appointed by Groups II and III the preparation of a draft Opinion and draft report on the proposal for a directive on the prospectus to be published in connection with official stock exchange quotations.
7. Entrusted to the Study Group for Short-term Economic Policy, whose Chairman was Mrs. Hesse, and Rapporteur Mr. Malterre, the preparation of an Opinion on the 'Economic Situation in the Community'.

The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work;

- 9 January 1973 : Study Group for Customs Harmonization (8th meeting)
 18 January 1973 : Study Group for Technical Barriers (53rd meeting)

(b) Meeting of 15 February 1973

The Section :

1. Chose its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Bureau (cf. Chapter IX)
2. Adopted unanimously, except for four abstentions, its Opinion and report on
 - safety glass to be fitted in motor vehicles
 - the device providing protection against unauthorized use of motor vehicles
 - the interior fittings of motor vehicles (protection of the driver with respect to the steering device in the event of an impact).
3. Entrusted the Study Group for Customs Harmonization (Chairman : Mr. Peyromaure-Debord - Broca; Rapporteur : Mr. de Grave) with the preparation of an Opinion on small postal packages and the processing of goods in bond before marketing.

The following meeting was held in connection with the Section's work :

- 31 January 1973 : Study Group for Customs Harmonization (9th meeting)

(c) Meeting of 21 March 1973

The Section :

1. Adopted its Opinion and report on
 - the value of goods for customs purposes (23 votes for, 5 abstentions)
 - the processing of goods in bond before they are marketed (unanimously less 6 abstentions)
 - small non-commercial postal packages (unanimously)
 - community contracts (21 votes for, 2 abstentions);
2. Referred to the 9 member Study Group for Pharmacy (Chairman : Mr. Fassina, Rapporteur : Mr. Ramaekers) the preparation of an Opinion on medicinal products;
3. Referred to the 19 member Study Group for Technical Barriers, the preparation of Opinions on
 - mopeds (Chairman : Mr. Chabrol ; Rapporteur : Mr. Masprone)
 - pressure vessels and seamless steel gas cylinders (Chairman : Mr. Chabrol, Rapporteur : Mr. Lecuyer);

The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

27 February 1973 : Study Group for Technical Barriers (54th meeting)
 7 March 1973 : Study Group for Customs Harmonization (10th meeting)
 20 March 1973 : Study Group for Company Law (9th meeting)

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F. SECTION FOR NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND ENERGY

(Chairman : Mr. Kuipers - Netherlands - Employers)

The Section met on :

- 15 February 1973 - 1st meeting
- 26 April 1973 - 2nd meeting

(a) Meeting of 15 February 1973

The Section :

1. Elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX)
2. Adopted unanimously its Opinion on the 'Proposal for a Council directive (Euratom) amending the Directives laying down the basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation' (Doc. COM (72) 858).
3. Appointed the members of the Study Groups which were to prepare draft reports and draft Opinions on the following documents :
 - Necessary progress in Community energy policy
 - 'Energy Policy : Problems and Resources 1975-1985'
 - 'Proposal for a Council regulation establishing a common system for imports of hydrocarbons from third countries'
 - 'Proposal for a Council regulation concerning trans-frontier oil and gas pipelines';
 - 'Proposal for a Council directive concerning measures designed to attenuate the effects of the difficulties inherent in hydrocarbon supplies'.

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The following meetings were held by the working bodies of the former Specialised Sections for Nuclear Questions and for Energy.

10 January 1973 : Study Group for Hydrocarbon Supplies
 16 January 1973 : Study Group for Energy Policy
 17 January 1973 : Study Group for Basic Standards

 1 March 1973 : Study Group for Energy Policy
 13 March 1973 : Study Group for Hydrocarbon Supplies
 13 March 1973 : Study Group for the 2nd Illustrative Programme

(b) Meeting of 26 April 1973

Following the decision of the Bureau of the Committee on 27 March 1973 and the request made by the Chairman of the Committee for the Section to carry out a re-examination of an Opinion, in accordance with Article 33 of the Rules of Procedure, the Section amended its Opinion on the

'Proposal for a Council directive (Euratom) amending the Directives laying down the basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiation'

on the basis of modifications proposed by Mr. de Ferranti and Mr. Scalia.

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The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

28 March 1973	: Study Group for the 2nd Illustrative Programme (4th meeting)
6 April 1973	: Study Group for Energy Policy (3rd meeting)
10 April 1973	: Study Group for the 2nd Illustrative Programme (5th meeting)
12 April 1973	: Study Group for Hydrocarbon Supplies (3rd meeting)

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G. SECTION FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(Chairman : Mr. Ramaekers - Belgium - Various Interests)

This Section met on :

- 14 February 1973 - 1st meeting
- 3 April 1973 - 2nd meeting

(a) Meeting of 14 February 1973

The Section :

1. Elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX);
2. Adopted unanimously its draft Opinion and its report on the :
'Draft Council recommendation to the signatory Member States of the Berne Convention, establishing the International Commission for the protection of the Rhine against pollution'.

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The following meetings were held in connection with the Section's work :

12 January 1973 : Study Group for the Rhine.

(b) Meeting of 3 April 1973

1. At this meeting the Section elected Mr. Kley as Vice-Chairman, to replace Mr. Balke who had resigned.

2. It formed the following Study Groups :

Hill Farming (Supplementary Opinion)

Mr. Noddings was appointed Rapporteur of a Study Group made up of Mr. Nicolaj and Mr. van Greunsven.

Pharmacy (Supplementary Opinion)

Mrs. Groes was appointed Rapporteur of a Study Group made up of Mr. Bernaert and Mr. Merli Brandini.

Programme of Environmental Action

Mr. Merli Brandini was appointed Rapporteur of a 9 member Study Group chaired by Mrs. Kutsch.

3. The Section heard a statement by a Commission Representative on the state of the Community's work on the environment.

4. The Section held an extensive general discussion on its terms of reference. It was decided to send a memorandum on this matter to the Bureau of the Committee.

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H. SECTION FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(Chairman : Mr. Dalla Chiesa - Italy - Workers)

The Section met on :

- 21 February 1973 - 1st meeting
- 14 March 1973 - 2nd meeting

(a) Meeting of 21 February 1973

1. At this meeting the Section elected its Chairman and the members of its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX);

2. The Section also drew up its work timetable and enlarged the Study Group for Policy Concepts.

(b) Meeting of 14 March 1973

This meeting was given over to a statement by Mr. Ruggiero, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Regional Policy, on the guidelines for the regional policy programme and to a general discussion on this matter.

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I. SECTION FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(Chairman : Mr. de Précigout - France - Employers)

The Section met on :

- 28 March 1973 - 1st meeting
- 13 April 1973 - 2nd meeting

(a) Meeting of 28 March 1973

The Section held its inaugural meeting and elected its Bureau (cf. Chapter IX).

(b) Meeting of 13 April 1973

At this meeting the Chairman informed the members of the Section that it was necessary to change the membership of the Bureau - which did not have any United Kingdom members - so as to ensure a better balance.

The Section heard statements made by Mr. Wellenstein, Director-General at the Commission, and by Mr. Frisch and Mr. Muller, both Heads of Division at the Commission, on :

- the multilateral negotiations in GATT;
- the situation of the main problems facing the Community in the field of cooperation and development;
- the system of Community guarantees for private investments in third countries and the problem of stabilising the prices of raw material.

The Section then appointed Mr. de Précigout as Rapporteur and entrusted him with the preparation of a draft Opinion on the Memorandum from the Commission to the Council on the 'Development of an overall approach to trade in view of the coming multilateral negotiations in GATT'.

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VI

OFFICIAL AND FACT-FINDING VISITS MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A - Official visit to Great Britain

Mr. Alfons Lappas, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee (ESC) of the European Communities and a member of the Executive Council (Vorstand) of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB) made an official visit to Great Britain on 13 and 14 March 1973.

Following his visit to London Mr. Lappas said that the British trade unions could not withdraw from their responsibilities towards the workers of Europe - particularly in the current phase of the European Community in which far-reaching decisions were being taken. He stressed particularly the problems which had arisen through the failure of British trade union representatives of the TUC had strengthened his view that the British trade unions' attitude had been influenced mainly by considerations of domestic policies - considerations which he understood.

However, he did not believe that the attitude was a realistic one. The Treaty of Accession, which had been ratified by all the national Parliaments in the European Community, would not be the subject of new negotiations. He recalled in this connection that the trade unions in the old Member States of the Communities had been fighting for years for conditions from which British workers would also benefit.

Mr. Lappas said he was greatly impressed by the seriousness with which the representatives of economic and social life in Britain were approaching the opportunities and problems of the European Communities. He was particularly grateful for the interest shown in the work of the ESC. Participation of leading British representatives, coming from a country with a long democratic tradition, would without any doubt increase the ESC's effectiveness and influence.

On his visit, Mr. Lappas was accompanied by the ESC's two Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Henri Canonge and Mr. Alberto Masprone, as well as the Secretary-General of the ESC, Mr. Delfo Delfini, and some members of his private office.

Mr. Lappas and his delegation had talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, Mr. Robin Chichester-Clark, Minister of State for Employment, and Mr. Dudley Smith, Under-Secretary of State for Employment.

Mr. Lappas and his delegation also met representatives of the Consumers' Association, the National Farmers Union, the Confederation of British Industry and the Trades Union Congress. Their visit gave them a detailed picture of the views of representative economic and social organizations in the United Kingdom.

B - Fact-finding visit to various countries associated with the EEC

In April Mr. A. Lappas, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee (ESC) of the European Communities and a member of the Executive Council (Vorstand) of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB), made a fact-finding visit to several countries associated with the EEC.

On 6 April 1973 in the Republic of Zaïre, Mr. Lappas had a long discussion with Mr. Bisengimana, head of President Mobutu's private office. Mr. Lappas also had talks with the State Commissioner for Economics of the Republic of Zaïre. Mr. N'Dongala, and with the chairman of the national employers' association. The visit concluded with discussions between Mr. Lappas and Mr. Boboliko, the President of the National Assembly, on improved opportunities of EEC employers and workers for commenting on the impact of the association policy on economic and social activities in the Community.

After his visit to the Republic of Zaire Mr. Lappas had talks in Kenya with the Minister for Commerce and Industry Dr. Kiano, the Permanent Secretary to the Minister for Labour, Mr. Ottiano, the speaker of the Kenyan Parliament, Mr. Mati and the Chairman of the East African legislative Assembly, Mr. A. Sarwatt. Mr. Muthana, Commissioner for Co-operative Development also took part in the talks. The main topics were development aid and, in particular, the possibility of speeding up the industrialisation of the countries concerned.

VII

ATTENDANCE AT VARIOUS FUNCTIONSFormal sitting of the European Parliament

(16 January 1973 in Strasbourg)

On the occasion of the accession of the new Member States the European Parliament organised a formal sitting.

Mr. Lappas, Chairman of the Committee, who was invited to this sitting, requested Mr. Berns, member of the Committee Bureau, to represent him.

2nd meeting of the EEC Savings Banks

(18 and 19 January 1973 in Brussels)

The Economic and Social Committee was represented at this meeting by Mr. Kuby, Director.

Symposium organised by the International Association of Conference Interpreters

This Committee was represented on this occasion by Mr. Pixius, Director, Mr. Hulsebos, Head of the Translation Division, and Mr. Lauwens, Translator.

Fact-finding visit to NATO

(2 March 1973 in Zaventum)

Twenty officials of the Committee Secretariat went on this visit.

Seminar of the European Training and Promotion Centre for Farming and Rural Life (CEPFAR)

(9-13 April 1973 in Freyung, Bavaria)

Mr. Lappas, Chairman of the Committee, who was invited to this seminar, asked Mr. Lecuyer, member of the Economic and Social Committee, to represent him.

VIII

NEW STRUCTURE OF THE SECTIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

At the 108th plenary session the Economic and Social Committee adopted a new structure for its Sections and at the same time laid down their respective terms of reference.

From now on there were to be nine Sections, named as follows :

- (i) Section for Agriculture
- (ii) Section for Transport and Communications
- (iii) Section for Nuclear Questions and Energy
- (iv) Section for Economic and Financial Questions
- (v) Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services
- (vi) Section for Social Questions
- (vii) Section for External Relations
- (viii) Section for Regional Development
- (ix) Section for Protection of the Environment,
Public Health and Consumer Affairs

The membership of these Sections is contained in an Annex to this Information Bulletin.

IX

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS1. Appointment of new members of the Economic and Social Committee

During the period under consideration the plenary assembly of the Committee installed the following new members in office :

- Mr. van Rens to replace Mr. Alders
- Mr. Droulin to replace Mr. Flandre
- Mr. de Caffarelli to replace Mr. Genin
- Mr. Heimes to replace Mr. Raucamp
- Mr. Kley to replace Mr. Balke

2. Membership of the Section Bureaux

At the 109th plenary session, held on 21 and 22 February 1973, the assembly, in accordance with Article 13 of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, ratified the new membership of the Section Bureaux :

Section for Agriculture

Mr. Visocchi, Chairman
 The Marquess of Hamilton, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Murphy, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Bourel
 Mr. Clavel
 Mr. De Grave
 Mr. Dohrendorf
 Mr. van der Ploeg
 Mr. Caprio
 Mr. Schnieders

Section for Transport and Communications

Mr. Hoffmann, Chairman
 Mr. Jansen, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Renaud, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Bodart
 Sir Patrick McCall
 Mr. Mourgues
 Mr. Rómer
 Mr. Tranquilli Leali
 Mr. de Vries Reilingh

Section for Nuclear Questions and Energy

Mr. Kuipers, Chairman
 Mr. Delourme, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Heuser, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Bornard
 Mr. Chabrol
 Mr. De Bièvre
 Mr. de Ferranti
 Mr. Piga
 Mr. Van Berk

Section for Economic and Financial Questions

Mr. Rollinger, Chairman
 Mr. Clark, Vice-Chairman
 Mrs. Hesse, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Carstens
 Mr. Friedrichs
 Mr. Kramer
 Mr. Malterre
 Mr. Purpura
 Mr. Soulat

Section for Social Questions

Mr. Bouladoux, Chairman
 Mr. Emo, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Sloman, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Bernaert
 Mr. Costantini
 Mr. De Bruyn
 Miss Mackie
 Mrs. Kutsch
 Mrs. Weber

Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services

Mr. Hipp, Chairman
 Mr. Ventejol, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Margot, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Arena
 Mr. Debunne
 Mr. Lecuyer
 Mr. Loughrey
 Mr. van Rens

Section for the Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs

Mr. Ramaekers, Chairman
 Mr. Christensen, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Blake, Vice-Chairman
 Mrs. Gross
 Mr. Hemmer
 Mr. Merli Brandini
 Mr. Noddings
 Mr. Schmit
 Mr. Schrijvers

Section for Regional Development

Mr. Dalla Chiesa, Chairman
 Sir Gwilym Williams, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. Ebrill, Vice-Chairman
 Mr. van Campen
 Mr. Giustiniani
 Mr. Harkin
 Mr. Hennig
 Mr. Nielsen T.
 Mr. Roseingrave

Section for External Relations

Mr. de Précigout, Chairman
Mr. Germozi, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Grasman, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Baduel Glorioso
Mr. Bodart
Mr. Bonomi
Mr. Dohrendorf
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Muhr

X

FACT-FINDING VISITS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

During the period covered by this Information Bulletin a number of delegations paid visits to the Economic and Social Committee to acquaint themselves with its operations.

Among these visits were the following :

- 22 February : The Executive of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, led by Senator F. Kennedy.
This group was received by Mr. A. Lappas, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee.
- 13 April : The Members of the Executive of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) under their President, Mr. McGonagle, visited the Committee's headquarters.
They were received by Mr. D. Delfini, Secretary-General of the Committee.
- 7 February : A group of British journalists specialising in social questions also visited the Committee.
The group was received by Mr. Ries, Head of the Chairman's Private Office, and by Mr. E. Schoneweg, responsible for the Press and Information Department.

In addition, various delegations made up of officials from the new Member States visited the Economic and Social Committee. These were :

- 22 January : High officials from various British Ministeries.
These were received by Mr. A. Masprone, Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
- 17 January : British, Danish and Irish officials
- | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 February : | " | " | " | " | " |
| 8 February : | " | " | " | " | " |
| 19 February : | " | " | " | " | " |
| 27 February : | " | " | " | " | " |

These groups were received by Mr. E. Schoneweg.

Finally, conferences were organised for the following groups :

- 26 March : Students of the London School of Economics
- 9, 13 and
16 April : Trainees of the Commission of the European Communities.

These conferences were also opened by Mr. E. Schoneweg.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY

EUROPEAN ATOMIC
ENERGY COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS

Installed in office at the 108th plenary session of the Economic
and Social Committee, which was held in Brussels on 24 and
25 January 1973

Annex 1

to Information Bulletin No 1/1973

UNITED KINGDOM

Sir John Carmichael
 Hon. Basil de Ferranti
 Mr. T.W.H. Gailey
 Marquess of Hamilton
 Mr. C.A.C. Henniker-Heaton
 Miss Anne Mackie
 Sir John Nicholson
 Sir Gwilym Williams
 Mr. D.A. Clark
 Mrs. June Evans
 Sir Patrick McCall
 Sir John Peel
 Mr. Hugh Rees
 Miss Eirlys Roberts
 Dr. Albert Edward Sloman
 Mr. Antony Greaves Tasker

LUXEMBOURG

Mr. Roger Theisen

DENMARK

Hr. Arne Byskov
 Hr. Jens Rømer
 Hr. Einer Carstens
 Hr. Vagn Fog-Petersen
 Hr. Kaj Nielsen
 Hr. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen
 Hr. Jens Christensen
 Fru. Lis Groes

IRELAND

Mr. P.J. Loughrey
 Mr. J.J. Ebrill
 Mr. P.J. Byrne
 Mr. J.F. Carroll
 Mr. B. Harkin
 Mr. P. Murphy
 Mr. T.J. Maher
 Mr. J. O'Keefe
 Mr. T. Roseingrave

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY

EUROPEAN ATOMIC
ENERGY COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP OF SECTIONS

Annex 2

to Information Bulletin No 1/1973

DET ØKONOMISKE OG SOCIALE UDVALG
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND SOZIALAUSSCHUSS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
COMITE ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL
COMITATO ECONOMICO E SOCIALE
HET ECONOMISCH EN SOCIAAL COMITÉ

SAMMENSETNING AF DE ØKONOMISKE OG SOCIALE UDVALGS AFDELINGER
(Medlemmernes navne i alfabetisk orden)

ZUSAMMENSETZUNG DER FACHGRUPPEN DES WIRTSCHAFTS- UND SOZIALAUSSCHUSSES
(Aufführung der Mitglieder in alphabetischer Reihenfolge)

MEMBERS OF THE SECTIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
(alphabetical order)

COMPOSITION DES SECTIONS DU COMITE ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL
(Répartition des membres par ordre alphabétique)

COMPOSIZIONE DELLE SEZIONI DEL COMITATO ECONOMICO E SOCIALE
(Ripartizione dei membri per ordine alfabetico)

SAMENSTELLING VAN DE AFDELINGEN VAN HET ECONOMISCH EN SOCIAAL COMITÉ
(alfabetische volgorde)

LANDBRUGSAFDELINGEN
 FACHGRUPPE LANDWIRTSCHAFT
 SECTION FOR AGRICULTURE
 SECTION DE L'AGRICULTURE
 SEZIONE AGRICOLTURA
 AFDELING VOOR DE LANDBOUW

Bureau

MM. Visocchi (I), président
 Hamilton (UK), vice-président
 Murphy (IRE), vice-président
 Bourel (F)
 Clavel (F)
 De Grave (B)
 Dohrendorf (D)
 van der Ploeg (N)

Membres

MM. Bernaert (B)	Mlle Mackie (UK)
Berns (L)	MM. Maher (IRE)
Boon (B)	Masprone (I)
Bourel (F)	Mourgues (F)
de Caffarelli (F)	Muhr (D)
Canonge (F)	Murphy (IRE)
Caprio (I)	Nicolaj (I)
Carstens (DK)	O'Keefe (IRE)
Charbo (N)	Peyromaure-Debord-Broca (F)
Christensen (DK)	Pierucci (I)
Clavel (F)	Piga (I)
Costantini (I)	Ramaekers (B)
De Bièvre (B)	Rossi (I)
De Grave (B)	Scalia (I)
Delourme (B)	Schnieders (D)
Dohrendorf (D)	Theisen (L)
Droulin (F)	van der Ploeg (N)
Emo (I)	van Rens (N)
Mme Evans (UK)	Visocchi (I)
MM. Fog-Petersen (DK)	Mme Weber (D)
Friedrichs (D)	MM. Wick (D)
Giustiniani (I)	Williams (UK)
Guillaume (F)	Zijlstra (N)
Hamilton (UK)	.....
Kuipers (N)	.....
Mme Kutsch (D)	.....
M. Loughrey (IRE)	

AFDELINGEN FOR TRANSPORT OG KOMMUNIKATION
 FACHGRUPPE VERKEHR UND KOMMUNIKATIONSMITTEL
 SECTION FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
 SECTION DES TRANSPORTS ET COMMUNICATIONS
 SEZIONE TRASPORTI E COMUNICAZIONI
 AFDELING VOOR VERVOER- EN COMMUNICATIEWEZEN

Bureau

MM. Hoffmann (D), président
 Jansen (N), vice-président
 Renaud (F), vice-président
 Bodart (F)
 McCall (UK)
 Mourgues (F)
 Rømer (DK)
 Tranquilli Leali (I)
 de Vries Reilingh (N)

Membres

MM. Alasia (I)	MM. Hildgen (L)
Bernaert (B)	Hoffmann (D)
Bodart (B)	Illerhaus (D)
Bonomi (I)	Jansen (N)
Bouladoux (F)	Jonker (N)
Byrne (IRE)	McCall (UK)
Canonge (F)	Mamert (F)
Carroll (IRE)	Mourgues (F)
Christensen (DK)	Nicholson (UK)
Costantini (I)	Piga (I)
Dalla Chiesa (I)	Renaud (F)
Delacarte (F)	Rømer (DK)
de Ferranti (UK)	Schmit (L)
Fredersdorf (D)	Tranquilli Leali (I)
Gailey (UK)	de Vries Reilingh (N)
Giustiniani (I)	Mme Weber (D)
Hauenschild (D)	MM. Wick (D)
Heimes (D)	Williams (UK)
Hennig (D)	

AFDELINGEN FOR ENERGI OG NUKLEARE ANLIGGENDER
 FACHGRUPPE ENERGIE UND ATOMFRAGEN
 SECTION FOR ENERGY AND NUCLEAR QUESTIONS
 SECTION DE L'ENERGIE ET DES AFFAIRES NUCLEAIRES
 SEZIONE ENERGIA E QUESTIONI NUCLEARI
 AFDELING VOOR ENERGIE EN NUCLEAIRE VRAAGSTUKKEN

Bureau

MM. Kuipers (N), président
 Delourme (B), vice-président
 Mme Heuser (D), vice-président
 MM. Bornard (F)
 Chabrol (F)
 De Bièvre (B)
 de Ferranti (UK)
 Piga (I)
 Van Berk (D)

Membres

MM. Berns (L)	MM. Jonker (N)
Bonomi (I)	Kramer (D)
Bornard (F)	Mme Kutsch (D)
Byskov (DK)	MM. Nielsen (DK)
Canonge (F)	Piga (I)
Chabrol (F)	Purpura (I)
De Bièvre (B)	Rees (UK)
de Ferranti (UK)	Renaud (F)
Delacarte (F)	Rossi (I)
Eboli (I)	Scalia (I)
Fassina (I)	Schlitt (D)
Gailey (UK)	Soulat (F)
Giustiniani (I)	Tranquilli Leali (I)
Grasman (N)	Van Berk (D)
Guillaume (F)	.....
Harkin (IRE)	.....
Hoffmann (D)	.....
Jansen (N)	

AFDELINGEN FOR ØKONOMISKE OG FINANSIELLE ANLIGGENDER
 FACHGRUPPE WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZFRAGEN
 SECTION FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS
 SECTION DES AFFAIRES ECONOMIQUES ET FINANCIERES
 SEZIONE AFFARI ECONOMICI E FINANZIARI
 AFDELING VOOR ECONOMISCHE EN FINANCIËLE VRAAGSTUKKEN

Bureau

MM. Rollinger (L), président
 Clark (UK), vice-président
 Mme Hesse (D), vice-président
 MM. Carstens (DK)
 Friedrichs (D)
 Kramer (D)
 Malterre (F)
 Purpura (I)
 Soulat (F)

Membres

M. Ameye (B)	Mme Hesse (D)
Mme Baduel Glorioso (I)	MM. Hipp (D)
MM. Berns (L)	Houthuys (B)
Bonomi (I)	Jonker (N)
de Caffarelli (F)	Kramer (D)
Cammann (D)	Loughrey (IRE)
van Campen (N)	Maher (IRE)
Carmichael (UK)	Malterre (F)
Carstens (DK)	Mamert (F)
Charbo (N)	Margot (B)
Clark (UK)	Mascarello (F)
Dalla Chiesa (I)	Merli Brandini (I)
De Bièvre (B)	Murphy (IRE)
De Bruyn (B)	Nicholson (UK)
Debunne (B)	Noddings (F)
Dido (I)	Nyrup Rasmussen (DK)
Dohrendorf (D)	O'Keefe (IRE)
Ebrill (IRE)	Peyromaure-Debord-Broca (F)
Fredersdorf (D)	de Précigout (F)
Friedrichs (D)	Purpura (I)
Garino (I)	Rollinger (L)
Germozzi (I)	Mlle Roberts (UK)
Gingembre (F)	MM. Soulat (F)
Grasman (N)	Tasker (UK)
van Greunsven (N)	Ventejol (F)
Guillaume (F)	de Vries Reilingh (N)
Hauenschild (D)	.....
Hemmer (L)	.....
Henniker-Heaton (UK)	.....

AFDELINGEN FOR INDUSTRI, HANDEL, HÅNDVÆRK OG TJENESTEYDELSER
 FACHGRUPPE INDUSTRIE, HANDEL, HANDWERK UND DIENSTLEISTUNGEN
 SECTION FOR INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, CRAFTS AND SERVICES
 SECTION DE L'INDUSTRIE, DU COMMERCE, DE L'ARTISANAT ET DES SERVICES
 SEZIONE INDUSTRIA, COMMERCIO, ARTIGIANATO E SERVIZI
 AFDELING VOOR INDUSTRIE, HANDEL, AMBACHT EN DIENSTVERLENING

Bureau

MM. Hipp (D), président
 Margot (B), vice-président
 Ventejol (F), vice-président
 Arena (I)
 Debunne (B)
 Lecuyer (F)
 Loughrey (IRE)
 van Rens (N)

Membres

M. Arena (I)
 Mme Baduel Glorioso (I)
 MM. Balke (D)
 Bourel (F)
 Calvetti (F)
 Cammann (D)
 Canonge (F)
 Caprio (I)
 Carroll (IRE)
 Chabrol (F)
 Charbo (N)
 Clark (UK)
 De Bièvre (B)
 De Bruyn (B)
 Debunne (B)
 De Grave (B)
 Fassina (I)
 Friedrichs (D)
 Germozi (I)
 Gingembre (F)
 Mme Groes (DK)
 MM. Hamilton (UK)
 Hemmer (L)
 Mme Hesse (D)
 MM. Hildgen (L)
 Hipp (D)
 Illerhaus (D)
 Kolbenschlag (D)
 Kramer (D)
 Kuipers (N)

MM. Lecuyer (F)
 Loughrey (IRE)
 Margot (B)
 Masprone (I)
 Merli Brandini (I)
 Nicholson (UK)
 Nicolaj (I)
 Nielsen K. (DK)
 Nielsen T. (DK)
 O'Keefe (IRE)
 Peel (UK)
 Peyromaure-Debord-Broca (F)
 de Précigout (F)
 Purpura (I)
 Ramaekers (N)
 van Rens (N)
 Mlle Roberts (UK)
 MM. Rollinger (L)
 Rømer (DK)
 Schlitt (D)
 Schrijvers (N)
 Sloman (UK)
 Soulat (F)
 Theisen (L)
 Ventejol (F)
 Visocchi (I)
 Wick (D)

AFDELINGEN FOR SOCIALE ANLIGGENDER
 FACHGRUPPE SOZIALFRAGEN
 SECTION FOR SOCIAL QUESTIONS
 SECTION DES AFFAIRES SOCIALES
 SEZIONE AFFARI SOCIALI
 AFDELING VOOR SOCIALE VRAAGSTUKKEN

Bureau

MM. Bouladoux (F), président
 Emo (I), vice-président
 Sloman (UK), vice-président
 Bernaert (B)
 Costantini (I)
 De Bruyn (B)
 Mlle Mackie (UK)
 Mmes Kutsch (D)
 Weber (D)

Membres

MM. Bernaert (B)	MM. Kley (D)
Bodart (B)	Kolbenschlag (D)
Bornard (F)	Kuipers (N)
Bouladoux (F)	Mme Kutsch (D)
Byskov (DK)	MM. Lecuyer (F)
Calvetti (F)	McCall (UK)
Carroll (IRE)	Mlle Mackie (UK)
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Chabrol (F)	Mourgues (F)
Costantini (I)	Muhr (D)
De Bruyn (B)	Noddings (F)
Debunne (B)	Nyrup Rasmussen (DK)
Delacarte (F)	Peyromaure-Debord-Broca (F)
Dido (I)	Pell (UK)
Droulin (F)	van der Ploeg (N)
Eboli (I)	Purpura (I)
Ebrill (IRE)	Renaud (F)
Emo (I)	van Rens (N)
Mme Evans (UK)	Rollinger (L)
MM. Fassina (I)	Roseingrave (IRE)
Fredersdorf (D)	Rossi (I)
Garino (I)	Schmit (L)
Germozzi (I)	Schnieders (D)
Gingembre (F)	Schrijvers (N)
Heimes (D)	Sloman (UK)
Hemmer (L)	Tranquilli Leali (I)
Hennig (D)	Mme Weber (D)
Henniker-Heaton (UK)	.....
Hildgen (L)	.....
Houthuys (B)	.....

AFDELINGEN FOR UDLANDSFORBINDELSER
 FACHGRUPPE AUSSENBEZIEHUNGEN
 SECTION FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS
 SECTION DES RELATIONS EXTERIEURES
 SEZIONE RELAZIONI ESTERNE
 AFDELING VOOR EXTERNE BETREKKINGEN

Bureau

MM. de Précigout (F), président
 Germozzi (I), vice-président
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 Mme Baduel Glorioso (I)
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 Bonomi (I)
 Dohrendorf (D)
 Kramer (D)
 Muhr (D)

Membres

M. Ameye (B)	MM. Hipp (D)
Mme Baduel Glorioso (I)	Houthuys (B)
MM. Berns (L)	Illerhaus (D)
Bodart (B)	Kramer (D)
Bonomi (I)	Mascarello (F)
Bourel (F)	Masprone (I)
Byrne (IRE)	Muhr (D)
de Caffarelli (F)	Nielsen K. (DK)
Carmichael (UK)	Nyrup Rasmussen (DK)
van Campen (N)	Piga (I)
Caprio (I)	de Précigout (F)
Carstens (DK)	Rømer (DK)
Clark (UK)	Scalia (I)
Clavel (F)	Tasker (UK)
Dohrendorf (D)	Theisen (L)
de Ferranti (UK)	Visocchi (I)
Germozzi (I)	de Vries Reilingh (N)
Grasman (N)	Zijlstra (N)
Harkin (IRE)	.....
Hauenschild (D)	.....
Hemmer (L)	

AFDELINGEN FOR EGNSUDVIKLING
 FACHGRUPPE REGIONALE ENTWICKLUNG
 SECTION FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 SECTION DU DEVELOPPEMENT REGIONAL
 SEZIONE SVILUPPO REGIONALE
 AFDELING VOOR REGIONALE ONTWIKKELING

Bureau

MM. Dalla Chiesa (I), président
 Williams (UK), vice-président
 Ebrill (IRE), vice-président
 van Campen (N)
 Giustiniani (I)
 Harkin (IRE)
 Hennig (D)
 Nielsen T. (DK)
 Roseingrave (IRE)

Membres

MM. Ameye (B)	MM. Hamilton (UK)
Arena (I)	Harkin (IRE)
Mme Baduel Glorioso (I)	Hennig (D)
MM. Van Berk (D)	Henniker Heaton (UK)
Boon (B)	Hipp (D)
Bornard (F)	Hoffmann (D)
Bouladoux (F)	Kolbenschlag (D)
Bourel (F)	Lecuyer (F)
Byrne (IRE)	McCall (UK)
van Campen (N)	Maher (IRE)
Carmichael (UK)	Margot (B)
Ceyrac (F)	Nielsen T. (DK)
Dalla Chiesa (I)	Rees (UK)
Delourme (B)	Rollinger (L)
Dido (I)	Roseingrave (IRE)
Droulin (F)	Tranquilli Leali (I)
Eboli (I)	Ventejol (F)
Ebrill (IRE)	Visocchi (I)
Emo (I)	Williams (UK)
van Greunsven (N)	.....
Giustiniani (I)	.....

AFDELINGEN FOR MILJØBESKYTTELSE, SUNDHEDSVÆSEN OG FORBRUG
 FACHGRUPPE UMWELTSCHUTZ, GESUNDHEITSWESEN UND VERBRAUCH
 SECTION FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMPTION
 SECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE ET DE LA CONSOMMATION
 SEZIONE ECOLOGIA, SALUTE PUBBLICA E CONSUMO
 AFDELING VOOR MILIEU, VOLKSGEZONDHEID EN CONSUMPTIE

Bureau

MM. Ramaekers (B), président
 Balke (D), vice-président
 Christensen (DK), vice-président
 Mme Groes (DK)
 MM. Hemmer (L)
 Merli Brandini (I)
 Noddings (F)
 Schmit (L)
 Schrijvers (N)

Membres

MM. Alasia (I)	M. Lecuyer (F)
Arena (I)	Mlle Mackie (UK)
Balke (D)	MM. Merli Brandini (I)
Bernaert (B)	Murphy (IRE)
Byskov (DK)	Nicolaj (I)
Ceyrac (F)	Noddings (F)
Chabrol (F)	Peel (UK)
Clavel (F)	Pierucci (I)
Christensen (DK)	Mlle Roberts (UK)
De Bruyn (B)	MM. Schlitt (D)
De Grave (B)	Schmit (L)
Delacarte (F)	Schnieders (D)
Eboli (I)	Schrijvers (N)
Emo (I)	Van Berk (D)
Mme Evans (UK)	van der Ploeg (N)
MM. Gayley (UK)	van Greunsven (N)
Garino (I)	Ventejol (F)
Mme Groes (DK)	.....
M. Hemmer (L)	.....
Mmes Heuser (D)	.....
Kutsch (D)	

