

research and technology

bulletin published by the commission of the european communities

REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED

Brussels, 19 March 1969

No. 11

PRESS AND
INFORMATION OFFICES
OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BRUXELLES
Kurfürstendamm
86 40 28

DENNEN
Kurfürstendamm
60 41/43

BRUXELLES
avenue de la Joyeuse Entrée
500 40

BRUXELLES
avenue de Lausanne
1 8730

LA HAYE
Alexander Gogelweg
13 41 23

LONDON
Cheshamstreet (S.W. 1)
35 4904/07

BRUXELLES
rue européenne du Kirchberg
179 41

BRUXELLES
Calle Bartolome Mitre
184 242

NEW YORK
Marcer Building 2207
East 44th Street
York 10 017
112 MU 20458

BRUXELLES
rue des Belles-Feuilles (16e)
553 53 26

BRUXELLES
rue de la Poli
58 97 22/26

WASHINGTON
Farragut Building 900
Street (Washington 6 D.C.)
196-5131

** The Community's Working Party on Scientific and Technical Research Policy (former Maréchal Group) met in Brussels on 17 and 18 March to put the finishing touches to the report which the Council of Ministers had requested it to draw up (see in particular "Research and Technology" Nos. 1 and 10). This report is to be submitted to the Community's Medium-Term Economic Policy Committee, which will examine it at its next meeting on 31 March and 1 April 1969, after which it will be forwarded to the Council of Ministers.

In its report, which represents a first technical approach to the problem in question, the Working Party proposes a number of cooperative projects which could be undertaken at the European level. The commitment procedures and the general conditions governing the implementation of the proposed projects are merely outlined; additional work on the subject will be carried out before the Council meeting scheduled for July of this year.

In the same way, the Working Party has not as yet managed to undertake in-depth studies of fields for cooperation other than the first seven decided on by the Council (information science, telecommunications, means of transport, oceanography, metallurgy, abatement of nuisances, and meteorology), any ..//..

For all further information please apply to the :

Commission of the European Communities
Directorate general Press and Information
Scientific and Technological Information Service
23, avenue de la Joyeuse Entrée
Brussels 4 — Tel. 35 00 40

or to the : Information Offices of the European Communities.

more than it has had time to deal exhaustively with the "horizontal" problems inherent in scientific cooperation (comparison of the national research programmes and budgets, scientific documentation, training and exchanges of researchers, etc.). The Working Party intends to tackle all these questions at a later date.

In the seven fields referred to above, the Working Party proposes well-defined cooperative projects, which it subdivides into two distinct classes, i.e.:

- proposals developed to such a degree that they can be submitted to the Council for the latter to adopt a position on them;
- proposals which call for additional studies prior to the adoption of a position by the Council.

** At its meeting on 13 March 1969, the European Parliament REFUSED TO APPROVE the Euratom research budget for 1969 as forwarded to it by the Council of Ministers of the Community (see "Research and Technology" No. 9).

In its resolution the European Parliament states that this budget "cannot be regarded as a budget for a genuine scientific and technical research policy capable of meeting the requirements of the Common Market countries".

"This being so, the Parliament cannot give its approval to this draft budget, particularly since, even before the Council has taken the decisions which it undertook to enact by 1 July 1969, it is seriously prejudicing the future in planning for a cutback in personnel, the cancellation of service-rendering contracts and the blocking of appropriations for the second half of the year.

../..

The European Parliament therefore urges the Council to submit to it another draft budget which takes full account of the Commission's preliminary draft".

The Council of Ministers of the Community will therefore have to resolve afresh on the Euratom research budget for 1969.

** On 21 March 1969, the Commission of the European Communities will be holding a MEETING WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES in the member countries which are responsible for economic, industrial and energy problems in order to discuss the Community's policy for the nuclear industry as laid out in the white paper entitled "Survey of the Nuclear Policy of the European Community", drawn up by the Commission in October of last year.

** The Ispra Joint Research Centre establishment's ESSOR TEST REACTOR was recently shut down for a period estimated at one month as a result of malfunctioning of the safety rods caused by accelerated corrosion due to the power level reached by the reactor.

** FIVE NEW TECHNICAL NOTES, containing brief descriptions of the patented results obtained under Euratom research programmes, have just been published by the Commission. These notes are intended to enable Community industries to appreciate more fully the value to be obtained from the industrial exploitation of results reported in them. They cover the following topics :

- electrolytic deposition of metals (No. 18)
- structural material for nuclear reactors (No. 201)
- burn-out detector (No. 239)/..

- method of smelting uranium carbide (No. 522)
- rheoelectrical transducer (No. 1021)

- ** Mr. Haferkamp, a member of the Commission of the European Communities, read a paper on the COMMUNITY'S ENERGY POLICY to the European Parliament on 13 March. Speaking about supplies of enriched uranium, Mr. Haferkamp felt that, irrespective of the plans for an ultracentrifuge isotope separation plant run on a cooperative basis by Germany, the Netherlands and Britain, the Community must carry out a thorough study with regard to the INSTALLATION OF A EUROPEAN URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY. Such a study might indicate that it would be to the Community's advantage to use the two known technical processes - gaseous diffusion and ultracentrifugation - simultaneously. At the same time, the Commission of the European Communities has decided to publish in four languages its study "FIRST GUIDELINES FOR A COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY" together with the two annexes "Present State of the Community Energy Market" and "Fundamental Problems of a Community Energy Policy".
- ** The Commission of the European Communities is to sponsor a SECOND SYMPOSIUM ON MICRODOSIMETRY at the Ispra establishment of the Joint Research Centre from 20-24 October 1969. At this symposium specialists from throughout the Western world will be able to exchange views on the physical, technical and biological aspects of the spectral and spatial distribution of deposited energy in irradiated tissue, particularly at the cellular and sub-cellular level.
- ** The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) Committee of Experts on "STRATA CONTROL AND SUPPORTS" held its ..//..

half-yearly meeting a few days ago in Brussels and Houthalen (Kempenland coalfield). In particular, it examined the status of various Community projects concerning strata control and supports.

** On 20 and 21 March 1969 the Commission of the European Communities is to sponsor a meeting of experts in Brussels on the use of activation analysis for ASSAYING OXYGEN IN NON-FERROUS METALS.

** A report entitled "COMBATING ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY", shortly to be published by the Commission, will give details of the results obtained under 30 research projects which received financial backing from the Community under Article 55 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community.