

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BULLETIN

No. 7

July 1979

1:537
CES:1

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

BULLETIN

Brussels - July 1979

S U M M A R Y

	<u>Page</u>
I. <u>170TH PLENARY SESSION</u>	1
<u>Chairman's introductory speech</u>	1
<u>Adoption of Opinions</u>	2
1. 2ND TEXTILE PROGRAMME	2
2. CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS	6
3. MEASURING INSTRUMENTS	10
4. LAWN MOWERS	12
5. DNA	12
6. CHILLING OF FRESH POULTRYMEAT	18
7. FRESH MEAT	19
8. EMULSIFIERS	21
9. COCOA	22
II. <u>EXTERNAL RELATIONS</u>	24
<u>AGRICULTURE SECTION STUDY GROUP</u>	
<u>VISITS SCOTLAND</u>	24
<u>ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE VISITS BERLIN</u>	24
III. <u>NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS</u>	25
IV. <u>PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK</u>	26
V. <u>PUBLICATION</u>	29
VI. <u>PRESS SHOW</u>	30

170th PLENARY SESSION

The 170th Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities was held in Brussels on 17-18 July 1979. The chair was taken by the Chairman, Mr Raffaele VANNI.

Chairman's introductory speech

The Chairman, Mr VANNI, opened the Plenary Session with the following words:

"It is hardly any time at all since my election and in that time I have been pondering, together with the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary-General, what the Committee is facing in the coming period.

My election fell at a time when, owing to events of which I have not need to remind you, our methods of working must be thought anew in order to turn our role to best account.

Realizing the urgency of this, I proposed to the Committee Bureau - with the agreement of the Vice-Chairmen - that the meeting with the Section and Group Chairmen be held earlier than planned. It will now be held on 25 September.

I consider this meeting to be of the greatest importance for the future of the Committee since it is there that priorities will be laid down, it will be decided what directions we shall be taking and consideration will be given to simplifying some aspects of our work.

My priority commitments are: faster and more effective work, full but proper use of the right of initiative, and better coordination with the activities of the other Institutions.

On the subject of coordination with the other Institutions, I have already taken the necessary steps to prepare meetings with the Council and the Commission. As for the European Parliament, I am gratified and honoured to say that I shall be at Strasbourg tomorrow for the formal inaugural sitting, where I shall be able to make some initial contacts."

Adoption of Opinions

1. 2nd TEXTILE PROGRAMME

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a Second Multiannual Research and Development Programme for the European Community in the Field of Textiles and Clothing.

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

This Second Research and Development Programme is the continuation of the programme drawn up by the Council on 14 April 1975. Among its many objectives, it aims to improve the competitiveness of the European textile industry in the world, improve working conditions or production conditions, introduce new methods, machines or products, economize on energy and protect the environment. It is thus a vital stage in the development of the textile industry, which is an important sector in the Community economy.

The five research areas are the following:

- Garment physiology and construction;
- Quality of knitted fabrics and knitwear articles;
- Application of new spinning technologies in the wool industry;
- Upgrading of linen;
- Pollution treatment and water recycling in textile finishing enterprises.

A budget estimated at 4.2 million European units of account on Community budget and 4.05 million European units of account by the textile industry is necessary for the implementation of this 3-year programme.



On the right, Mr VANNI, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, and on the left Mr LOUËT, Secretary-General, at the Plenary Session.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

In view of the fact that the proposed programme has been the subject of careful and critical consideration, the Committee endorses the selection of projects and the proposals for their implementation from a scientific, technological, economic and social point of view.

In effect,

- the programme represents a specific attempt to achieve industrial cooperation at Community level in an important economic sector;
- it is a programme which brings benefits to all the parties involved and therefore does not distort competition;
- close cooperation between the research institutes in the individual Member States will lead to a saving of resources;
- the programme should make a real contribution towards carrying out adjustments in the textile and clothing industries and bringing about job security, consumer protection, protection of the environment and more efficient use of energy, raw materials and water.

The Committee considers that workers should be adequately represented on the proposed management council.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr STARATZKE - Germany - Employers.

2. CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Approximation of the Laws, Regulations, and Administrative Provisions of the Member States relating to Construction Products,

Proposal for a Council Resolution laying down a List of Priority Products to be Covered by Directives Implementing Council Directive .../EEC on the Approximation of the Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States Relating to Construction Products.

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

In all the countries of the Community, the building trade is one of the most important sectors of industry, especially if the industries supplying the trade are also included under this heading. In actual fact, building and civil engineering in the Member States account for 15% of the GNP on average and close on 60% of the gross fixed capital formation. In 1975, this sector employed over seven million workers throughout the Community (or approximately 18.5% of the total workforce in manufacturing industries).

The building industry is dominated by a wealth of rules and standards at national level. This poses a special problem for smaller firms in particular. One of the Commission's main concerns is to give these smaller firms access to Community-wide market and to enable them to have a share of extra-Community trade in building materials.

From the industrial point of view, the establishment of a common market in the building sector is particularly important. In view of the economies of scale which it would bring about and which would benefit both the producer and the consumer, the unification of this market is vital for the development of the building industry within the Community.

Substantial differences exist between Member States with regard to the definition of technical characteristics and performance; methods of testing, calculation codes and methods of classification; and the marketing and checkout procedures to which the products are subject.

Harmonization of Member States' provisions will lead not only to the removal of barriers on the Community market but also to the limitation - and even reduction - of the costs borne by firms, which frequently have to go to great expense to have their products submitted for national approval. Harmonization will also be of benefit to competition policy, for national procedures of approval are often the source of competitive distortions. In the building sector, technical innovation is vital for reducing production costs and all barriers curb technical innovation.

Apart from submitting a proposal for a Directive, the Commission is also proposing that the Council should adopt a Resolution setting out a list of the products to be harmonized. This list is strictly limited to products which have to contend with major obstacles to trade and whose manufacturers depend heavily on a Community-wide market for their profits.

Simplification of harmonization procedures

The underlying idea behind the Commission's drafting of the Outline Directive is to simplify harmonization procedures and thus speed up the adoption of implementing directives later on. This is in response to a wish repeatedly voiced by the European Parliament, which wants the Commission to introduce such simplified procedures for all industrial products. The Parliament has suggested in this connection that the fourth paragraph of Article 155 of the EEC Treaty be invoked in order to avoid complicated technical discussions at Parliamentary level. Such an approach would also put an end to a re-run at the Council of the technical discussions held at the Commission during the drafting stages.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority with one vote against and one abstention.

Its approval of the Commission's two proposals was contingent upon the procedure for adopting implementing directives being amended to provide for:

- effective involvement, at the drafting stage, of the socio-economic groups directly and technically concerned, and
- mandatory consultation of the Economic and Social Committee before the implementing directives were submitted to the Committee for Implementing Directives. The Committee asked the Commission to use its powers under Article 149 of the EEC Treaty to amend its proposal accordingly.

It considered that the implementing directives had to be chosen with great circumspection. The products to be covered by such directives should be carefully selected in the light of a market survey, which should be conducted in conjunction with the relevant socio-economic groups.

This selection process should be based on:

- the existence of major barriers, and
- the impact which a free Community market had on the profitability of the industrial sector.

As far as the individual articles were concerned, the Committee called for greater clarity in drafting Article 4, a limit on inspectors' powers to what was strictly necessary to assess the specifications of finished products (dealt with in Article 10) and a re-drafting of Article 30 to ensure that conditional recognition arrangements were not used to hold up product harmonization.

The Committee noted that Article 6 made it possible to introduce total harmonization for certain implementing directives.

In view of its potential importance for locally manufactured products, the Committee felt that such a decision should be taken in full possession of the facts and underlined again the absolute necessity of consulting socio-economic groups, particularly the ESC, prior to the adoption of each implementing directive.

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr MASPRONE - Italy - Employers.

3. MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 71/316/EEC of 26 July 1971 on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Common Provisions for both Measuring Instruments and Methods of Metrological Control.

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The measuring instruments industry is in full evolution because of the development of electronics.

At present within the Community, the market in these instruments is expanding about 10% per year. In 1976 this market represented more than 400 million units of account. With reference to the field of weighing

machines, whose turnover is to the order of 250 million units of account in the EEC, electronic machines represent each year a growing percentage of the turnover, percentage which is at present between 30% and 40%. When one thinks of the introduction of electronics into the field of meters for liquids (petrol pumps) one can imagine the enormous market which is open to electronics in the field of measuring instruments. And yet the situation is still blocked from the point of view of intra-Community trade because of diverging national laws, in particular in France and in Germany.

For some time now the Community has turned its attention to the elimination of technical barriers in the metrological field. Since 1971 more than 25 directives adopted for the elimination of technical barriers relate to this sector. However, the instruments which have been affected to this date have always been mechanical or electromechanical instruments which represented the major part of the market. This will no longer be the case in the future. In order to facilitate the Community industry in its natural evolution towards electronics, in the face of its third country competitors, it is necessary to allow it also to benefit from the advantages of a unified internal market in this field.

Gist of the Opinion

In its Opinion, adopted unanimously, the Committee welcomes the two alternative approaches provided in

the proposal for achieving metrological security, leaving a free choice to the manufacturer of the method to be used. The Commission should, however, re-examine the design proving tests and the checking circuit provisions to ensure that they are no more stringent than necessary.

So that products will not become more expensive, the Committee urges the Commission to re-examine the possibility of providing adequate consumer safeguards with a less complicated series of tests and of utilizing the principle of quality assurance at the factory of the manufacturer as far as possible

In order to avoid competition distortions, it must be ensured that all manufacturers will be submitted to the same level of EEC verification.

Finally, the Committee wishes to emphasize once more the importance of the Community in obtaining reciprocity from third countries which export to its market, in accordance with the basic principles of GATT.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section of Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr BREITENSTEIN - Denmark - Employers.

4. LAWN MOWERS

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to the Noise Emitted by Lawn Mowers

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The Community market in lawn mowers is by no means negligible and industrial development in this sector is forging ahead. Nevertheless, intra-Community trade is hampered by barriers which are the outcome of national legislation. Thus, several Member States have adopted, or are in the process of preparing, laws which regulate the noise emitted by lawn mowers, and as a result manufacturers have to comply with a wide range of requirements, which lead to a marked increase in their costs (and hence in the prices of the mowers).

This trend in national legislation has made it necessary for the Commission to fulfil its task of abolishing technical barriers to trade. The Commission's proposal is based on two aims: a) to put a stop straight-away to the development of the noisiest lawn mowers by using all the resources of present-day technology to limit the permissible noise levels; and b) to make provision for the further reduction of these limits as soon as new techniques have been developed. The Commission is proposing total harmonization and is also advocating a system of self-certification, whereby the manufacturer will have to issue a certificate with each lawn mower which states that the mower complies with the requirements of the proposed Directive.

Gist of the Opinion

In its unanimously adopted Opinion, the Committee approves the Commission's aim in presenting this proposal.

The Committee is pleased that the Commission has found the right balance between noise, performance and price; it would suggest, however, that the proposed study into the conditions for a step-2 reduction in noise levels should evaluate not only the noise annoyance as related to the sound power, but also the noise annoyance due to other characteristics of the sound emission, such as the frequency spectrum.

The Committee thinks that application of the lower step-2 noise limits will call for a considerable effort on the part of manufacturers in areas such as research, engineering, tooling, tool-proving, testing and piloting of new models. At least four years will be needed for all this. The Committee accordingly considers it vital to bring forward the date for the fixing of the step-2 limits to no later than 31 December 1982 and to defer the entry into force of these limits until 31 December 1986.

The Section Report accompanying the Committee Opinion proposes a new method for testing lawn mowers which complies with ISO Standards and fits in with the methods in widespread use in Europe. The Committee considers it vital that this testing method is used to check the step-1 limits laid down in Article 2 of the Directive.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr MASPRONE - Italy - Employers.

5. DNA

Proposal for a Council Directive establishing Safety Measures against the Conjectural Risks Associated with Recombinant DNA Work

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The Commission has presented the Council with a Draft Directive for the monitoring of work on genetic manipulation in the Community. This is the first time that the Commission has proposed legislation in the field of research. Modern techniques and, in particular, the use of the recently discovered restriction enzymes, now allow genetic material to be arranged in combinations which do not occur in nature at the moment. If the genetic material transferred in this manner replicates and expresses itself in its new surroundings, there are theoretically no limits to the range of organisms which may be produced through the use of recombinant DNA technology.

While this use of DNA - that is, deoxyribonucleic acid - may have enormous potential in agriculture and industry, there are possible risks connected with the work which could damage man and his environment.

The Commission has put forward a number of principles for monitoring certain areas of genetic engineering, around which the Member States are to adopt legal safeguards of their own choice. The Commission also suggests that work in the field of genetic manipulation should

be subject to prior ratification. The Draft takes into account the necessary safety requirements as well as the need for flexibility and adaptation to local circumstances. It gives each Member State's authorities a completely free hand to establish the categorization and containment levels which it deems most appropriate. Special provisions are to apply for low- risk work.

The Commission advocates that the Directive should be brought up-to-date at short intervals to cater for advances made in this field.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted unanimously its Opinion approving this proposal, but unlike the Commission it felt that an obligation to give notice of experiments would generally be sufficient.

The appropriate authorities should have the right to veto experiments that had to be notified, i.e. they should be able within a specified period to issue an injunction or impose a ban. Such action should be properly justified in each case.

Only experiments within a closely defined area of research should have to seek prior authorization.

The Committee also pointed out that it had not been able in the short time at its disposal to determine

whether the specific physical and biological safety measures (e.g. the special rules governing laboratories or the selection of vectors and hosts) were adequate for dealing with the suspected risks, especially as scientific knowledge in the field of genetic engineering was progressing so rapidly. The Committee believed that it was more important for the Member States to follow a common line on such matters, especially as far as industrial uses of the new technology were concerned.

In addition to the proposed Council Directive there was a need for national measures and the voluntary safety codes on genetic engineering in the Member States to be harmonized. This was all the more important if, as was the case at present, the legal status and content of the rules in force varied from one Member State to another. The industrial application of the new technology could be particularly affected by such anomalies.

The Committee thought that these questions should be gone into thoroughly. As views differed, especially on the nature and extent of the risks involved, the Committee proposed to draw up an own-initiative Study with the help of experts. In this connection hearings would be organized in conjunction with the Commission in order to sound out the opinion of experts from the world of science, the unions, industry, agriculture and public interest groups. Afterwards a paper should be prepared which would serve as a basis for aligning safety rules within the Member States.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mrs HEUSER - Germany - Various Interests.

6. CHILLING OF FRESH POULTRYMEAT

Commission Report to the Council on Certain Problems of Hygiene involved in the Process for Chilling Poultry Carcasses by Immersion in Water, and

Proposal for a Council Directive amending in respect of Chilling Directive 71/118/EEC on Health Problems Affecting Trade in Fresh Poultrymeat

Gist of the Proposal for a Directive

The Proposal for a Council Directive provides that carcasses to be subjected to immersion chilling in accordance with the process described in 28b of the original Directive must not be scalded at a temperature exceeding +54°C, if they are intended to be marketed chilled. Furthermore, immediately after evisceration they must be thoroughly washed by spraying and be immersed without delay.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal, subject to the inclusion in the Directive of a provision that the chilling process used has to be clearly indicated (i.e. "chilled by air" or "chilled by immersion in water").

Furthermore, insofar as Regulation 2967/76 does not lay down a maximum extraneous water content for fresh poultrymeat chilled by immersion in water, the Committee would like to see this fixed in this Directive. The consumer should also be adequately informed of the true extraneous water content of such poultrymeat.

These provisions are necessary in the interests of competition in the poultry industry and to provide consumers with a guide as to the quality of the products.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mrs STROBEL - Germany - Various Interests.

7. FRESH MEAT

Proposal for a Council Regulation on Health Problems affecting Intra-Community Trade in Fresh Meat and Fresh Poultrymeat which has been Minced, Ground or Similarly Chopped with or without the Addition of other Foodstuffs, Additives and Condiments

Gist of the Proposal for a Regulation

The main aim of the draft document is to align the various manufacturing, processing and storage procedures, the different ways of monitoring standards and procedures for issuing health certificates and to co-ordinate the various health services. In this way the procedures for dealing with minced meat are to be made the same throughout the Community, thus facilitating intra-Community trade in this product which has been hampered by the differences in the health requirements of the Member States.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously. It approves the principles underlying the Commission's proposal for there is no doubt that both the meat industry and consumers will be considerably affected by a Regulation that covers all minced and chopped meat handled in cross-frontier trade within the Community and which is afterwards processed and consumed.

Whereas almost all provisions governing the meat and poultry sector have so far been in the form of Directives, this is a Regulation. In other words its legal provisions are directly applicable. The Committee feels that, having opted for a directly applicable Regulation, it is all the more necessary to ensure that all provisions are wholly acceptable from a hygiene point of view and that all the necessary technical regulations are applicable in practice.

Article 3 of the Regulation says that the Regulation covers only trade between the Member States. The Committee notes, however, that the Regulation is not concerned with the whole of trade within the Community but only with cross-frontier trade between the Member States.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mrs STROBEL - Germany - Various Interests.

8. EMULSIFIERS

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending for the Second Time Directive 74/329/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States Relating to Emulsifiers, Stabilizers, Thickeners and Gelling Agents for Use in Foodstuffs

Gist of the Draft Directive

The Draft Directive is concerned with two groups of substances. The first group consists of substances permitted for use in the Community and includes E 460 (microcrystalline cellulose). The Commission proposes in the Draft Directive that this substance be subdivided into microcrystalline cellulose and powdered cellulose. The Commission's proposal is supported by the Opinion of the Scientific Committee for Food.

The second group consists of substances not permitted for use in the Community as a whole but which may be permitted by individual Member States. Once again the Commission's proposals are based on the conclusions reached by the Scientific Committee for Food.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

Although the Committee approves the proposal, it considers that criteria of purity should be laid down when additives are authorized - a point of view that is shared by the Scientific Committee for Food.

In addition, it regrets that the Commission has not yet proposed any measures for determining conditions of use, as requested by the Economic and Social Committee in its Opinion of 23 November 1977.

With regard to Karaya gum's inclusion in the proposal's list of additives, the Committee notes that the long-term studies will not be completed within one year. Since, however, it has been informed that the preliminary studies are in progress, it accepts the Commission's proposal that this substance be kept in Annex II on a provisional basis until the Scientific Committee has been able to examine the results of these preliminary toxicological studies, which should be available within one year.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr DE GRAVE - Belgium - Workers.

9. COCOA

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending for the Seventh Time, Directive No. 73/241/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Cocoa and Chocolate Products Intended for Human Consumption

Summary of the Draft Directive

The Commission, which has consulted the Member States and the relevant economic interests, proposes that the use of ammonium phosphatides should be admissible throughout the Community.

The Draft Directive also amends the wording on lecithins, purity standards for these additives having been laid down by Council Directive 78/664/EEC of 25 July 1978.

Gist of the Opinion

In its unanimous Opinion, the Committee states that it is broadly opposed to the use of additives in food, except when they are absolutely necessary.

The Committee therefore calls for urgent introduction of Community-wide rules. Pending this, a derogation could be granted to allow the use of polyglycerol polyricinoleate and sorbitan tristerate in the Member States where they are currently widely used in chocolate. However, the use of these substances should be specified on labels.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr ZINKIN - United Kingdom - Employers.

II

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

AGRICULTURE SECTION STUDY GROUP VISITS SCOTLAND

The Study Group on Farm Structures visited Scotland (Inverness and Stornaway) on 1-4 July 1979. The agricultural economy of the region was one of the matters discussed.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE VISITS BERLIN

The Economic and Social Committee's Section for Social Questions paid an official visit to Berlin on 12-13 July 1979. The Section visited the European Vocational Training Centre on a fact-finding mission where useful information was obtained, especially about experience in Germany.

The Section meeting, which was chaired by Mr HOUTHUYS, Chairman of the Belgian CSC/ACV, was coupled with a visit to Siemen's training centre and the Berlin labour office. The Section was addressed by the Director of the European Centre, Mr FAIST, on the activities and programme of the Centre and by Dr Hermann SCHMIDT, General Secretary of the Federal Institute for Vocational Training, Berlin, on the activities of his institute.

NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

During the month of June, the Council requested the Committee to deliver Opinions on:

Draft Action Programme of the European Communities with regard to Consumers
(Doc. COM(79) 336 final)

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1117/78 on the Common Organization of the Market in Dried Fodder

and the

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Fixing for the 1979/1980 Marketing Year the flat-rate Production Aid for Dehydrated Potatoes
(Doc. COM(79) 340 final)

New Lines of Action by the European Community in the Field of Energy Saving
(Doc. COM(79) 312 final)

IV

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

September 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- 1980 Generalized Preferences Scheme
- 10th VAT Directive
- Relief from customs duty
- Protection of workers
- Programme of the Joint Research Centre
- Company taxation
- Securities
- Dehydrated feed - dehydrated potatoes
- Technological research - mineral clays
- R & D Biology - Radioprotection

Initiative Opinions

- Multiannual customs programme
- ECSC/ESC - industrial restructuring

October 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Structural policy - agriculture
- Cosmetics

- Second European Social Budget (Additional Opinion)
- Changes in working hours
- Migration policy vis-à-vis third countries
- Units of measurement
- Simple pressure vessels
- Aquatic environment
- Mercury in aquatic environment
- 1990 energy objectives - convergence
- Amendment, Directive on trade in fresh poultrymeat

Initiative Opinions

- Technical barriers
- Influence of regional authorities

Studies

- Yugoslavia
- Cereal substitutes

Later Plenary Sessions

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Own-account road haulage (November)
- Alcohol
- Powered industrial trucks
- Annual report on the economic situation
- Technological research
- Consumer credit
- Chlorofluorcarbons

- Consumer action programme
- Energy conservation guidelines
- Weight of road vehicles

Initiative Opinions

- Structural aspects of growth
- Investment guarantees in LDC's
- International standards for working conditions
- Use of medicines
- Regional development programmes

Study

- Regional policy - integrated operation in Lorraine.

PUBLICATION

"L'EUROPE AU FIL DES JOURS - Les jeunes années de la construction européenne, 1948-1978" by Jean-Claude CLAVEL (a member of the Economic and Social Committee) and Pierre COLLET. On sale in book shops. Sale by post from 124, rue Henri Barbusse, 93300 AUBERVILLIERS and in "Documentation Française" book shops, 29 Quai Voltaire, PARIS, and 165 rue Garibaldi, LYONS.

Frankfurter Allgemeine, 30.6.79

„Spanien will nur die Vorteile“

Kritische Stellungnahme zur Erweiterung der Europäischen Gemeinschaft

ist. BRÜSSEL, 29. Juni. Eine kritische Stellungnahme zur Erweiterung der Europäischen Gemeinschaft um die Länder Griechenland, Portugal und Spanien hat der Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuss (WSA) der Europäischen Gemeinschaft auf seiner Sitzung jetzt in Brüssel abgegeben. Mit besonderer Skepsis wird die Aufnahme Spaniens gesehen. Der Fraktionsvorsitzende der Arbeitgebergruppe im Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuss, Hans Werner Stegatzke, sagte in einer Erklärung der Stellungnahme, Spanien versuche, die Möglichkeiten in der bestehenden Gemeinschaft wahrzunehmen, spreche sich aber gegen die Verpflichtungen, die es selbst übernehmen müsse, mit besonderen Schutzmaßnahmen.

Im Bericht des Ausschusses heißt es, Spanien werde bei der Herstellung gleicher Wettbewerbsbedingungen im Rahmen des gemeinsamen Marktes die größten Fragen auf. Es habe ein komplexes

das System eingeführt, das den Absatz spanischer Erzeugnisse in der Gemeinschaft fördere und die Aufuhr der Gemeinschaft nach Spanien behindere. Zu diesen Maßnahmen gehörten die Erhebung bestimmter Zölle, häufige Abwertungen der Peseta, die Diskriminierung von Importerzeugnissen durch eine Ausgleichsteuer bei gleichzeitiger Förderung spanischer Exporte durch Nachlass von Inlandsteuern und die Preiskontrolle bei der Einfuhr. Die Frage des Zeitplans (insbesondere die Übergangsfristen) für die Herstellung gleicher Wettbewerbsbedingungen einschließlich der Übernahme des gemeinschaftlichen Mehrwertsteuersystems sei für Spanien besonders dringend. Nach Meinung des Ausschusses ist die Vereinbarung von „Zweiweg-Schutzklauseln“ unerlässlich. Die Gemeinschaft sollte Spanien auffordern, sich schon jetzt selektiv an die gemeinschaftlichen Verhältnisse anzupassen.

KE'SOUR

2.7.79

Plus d'attention
aux causes structurelles
de la crise
demande le C.E.S.

Aalborg Stiftstidende

8 JULI 1979

← Civilingeniør Arne Byskov, Blåmejsvej 18, Hundested, fylder på tirsdag 70 år. Efter polyteknisk eksamen var han i en årrække knyttet til dagbladet »Politiken«, hvor han var driftschef og senere teknisk direktør, indtil han i 1959 blev knyttet til direktionen af Gutenberghus, hvor han var administrerende direktør fra 1967 til 1973. Arne Byskov har været medlem af Industrirådet, af Carlsbergfondens bryggeriråd, af EF's økonomisk-sociale udvalg og af bestyrelsen for fondet til fremme af teknik og industriel udvikling. Han er endvidere medlem af Ulysnarådet for dagpressens finansieringssinstituttet.

Der Abend
13.7.79

EG-Ausschuss in Berlin

Der Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuss der EG, ein beratendes Organ der Europäischen Kommission und des Europäischen Rates, beendet heute seine zweiseitige Berlin-Sitzung. Im Mittelpunkt stehen die Förderung der Berufsbildung und der Arbeitsplätze. Gestern besuchte er in Berlin das Europäische Zentrum zur Förderung der Berufsbildung.

Si les résultats ont été atteints au cours de l'année 1978 dans la lutte contre l'inflation, la situation de l'emploi est de plus en plus préoccupante, estime le Comité économique et social de la C.E.E. dans un rapport sur l'évolution sociale chez les Neuf en 1978. Au cours de sa session plénière mensuelle qui s'est déroulée les 27 et 28 juin 1979 à Bruxelles, la C.E.S. a souligné qu'il n'est pas raisonnable de prévoir des améliorations à court terme, principalement parce que les Etats membres n'ont pas suffisamment pris en considération les causes structurelles de la crise. Poussant plus avant son analyse, le Comité note qu'il existe un déséquilibre particulièrement important entre les caractéristiques des offres d'emploi et les qualifications des demandeurs d'emploi. Cela explique le nombre élevé d'offres insatisfaites.

Signalement par ailleurs, que le C.E.S. vient de nommer M. Vanni, syndicaliste italien, président. Il remplace M^{me} Baduel-Glorioso qui a été élue à l'Assemblée européenne le 10 juin dernier.

M. Vanni est un des membres fondateurs de la Confédération européenne des syndicats.



**PUBLICATIONS OBTAINABLE FROM THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Periodical


- Bulletin (monthly publication)

General Documentation

- The Economic and Social Committee (leaflet) (January 1975)
- The Economic and Social Committee (April 1979) (A descriptive brochure) 16 p.
- Annual Report (1977) 70 p. (1976) 80 p.
- Directory (January 1979) (List of Members) 41 p.
- The Right of initiative of the Economic and Social Committee (October 1977) 124 p.
- 20th Anniversary of the Economic and Social Committee (May 1978) 19 p.

Opinions and Studies

- Enlargement of the European Community Greece-Spain-Portugal (September 1979) (Study) 75 p.
- The Community's Relations with Spain (June 1979) (Study) 112 p.
- Community Shipping Policy Flags of Convenience (April 1979) (Opinion) 170 p.
- Employee Participation and Company Structure (September 1978) (Opinion) 116 p.
- Youth Unemployment — Education and Training (November 1978) (5 Opinions) 97 p.
- The Stage reached in aligning labour legislation in the European Community (June 1978) (Documentation) 60 p.
- Employment in Agriculture (Study) (June 1978) 135 p.
- Monetary Disorder (Opinion) (June 1978) 98 p.
- Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in the Community Context (April 1978) (Opinion) 29 p.
- Industrial Change and Employment (November 1977) (Opinion) 98 p.
- EEC's Transport Problems with East European Countries (December 1977) (Opinion) 164 p.
- Community Nuclear Safety Code (July 1977) (Study) 50 p.
- Regional Development - Unemployment and Inflation (June 1977) (Opinion) 130 p.
- Research and Development (November 1976) (Study) 35 p.
- Systems of education and vocational training (August 1976) (Study) 114 p.
- Regional Policy (March 1976) (Opinion) 11 p.
- European Union (July 1975) (Opinion) 33 p.
- Progress Report on the Common Agricultural Policy (February 1975) (Study) 52 p.
- The Situation of Small and Medium-sized Undertakings in the European Community (March 1975) (Study) 69 p.



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Press, Information and Publications Division
Ravenstein 2, 1000 Bruxelles - Tél. 512 39 20 - TELEX 25983