

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

# BULLETIN



No. 8/9

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

# **BULLETIN**

**Brussels - August/September 1979**



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171st PLENARY SESSION

The 171st Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Committee was held in Brussels on 26 and 27 September 1979 under the chairmanship of Mr VANNI, Chairman of the Committee.

EXCERPT FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

In his speech opening the Plenary Session, the Chairman said :

"The Bureau has had an initial discussion of matters concerning the organization of our work which affect our attempts to reach a consensus among the three Groups and the members. I intend to make a second assessment before the joint meeting with the section chairmen which is to be held as soon as possible.

At a time of serious economic and social crisis, the Committee must voice the requirements of our society with respect to the key issues we deal with. It is my duty as Committee Chairman to point out to the members that, in the present stage of the institutional, economic and social activities of the Community, the causes of internal tension must be eliminated by a joint effort based on a wider view of the objectives of the Committee. This joint effort will bear testimony to the vitality of our Committee.

Our Opinions undoubtedly influence the Council and the Commission while they are making up their minds on future policy. They have no influence once policy ideas have gelled.

Before drawing up a progress report or looking at the prospects of renovated relations with the Council, the Commission and the Parliament - all issues which have or will be tackled in our meetings - we must therefore resolve the problem of speeding up our work and perhaps changing the nature of our Opinions, which should get down to basic issues rather than dwell on the details of Commission documents.

These are major concerns of the representatives of the abovementioned institutions, and are a preliminary to a new discussion of our role.

More specifically, we feel that the institutions want to know not only the consensus views of the Committee - i.e. the views reflecting a compromise between the various interests - but also the cases where disagreements persist. Even in the latter cases, the Committee can play a major role as representative of the various socio-economic interests."



## Adoption of Opinions

### 1. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S 1980 GENERALIZED TARIFF PREFEREN- CES SCHEME

Commission's proposals to the Council concerning the European Community's 1980 Generalized Tariff Preferences Scheme.

#### Gist of the Commission's Proposals

This is the tenth issue of the Community rules on imports from developing countries and springs from the offer made by the Community in 1969 at the UNCTAD.

Changes with respect to the previous year concern :

- a) industrial products - modifications in line with a more recent statistical basis;
- b) technical changes to the quota system for tobacco;
- c) renewal of the previous proposal on textiles.

The Commission reserves the right to review improvements respecting certain products of interest to countries with which the Community has preferential agreements in the light of the outcome of future consultations with these countries pursuant to the relevant consultative procedures.

The main innovation is the proposal that China should be included among the beneficiary countries. The Commission justifies this proposal on political grounds.

### Gist of the Opinion

By a large majority, with 7 abstentions, the Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposals.

However, since it did not have sufficient information in respect of China the Committee had reservations about the proposed inclusion of this country among the beneficiaries of the agreement.

The Committee also said that it would be coming back to the GSP for the second decade (1981/90).

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for External Relations under the chairmanship of Mr de PRECIGOUT - France - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr CREMER - Germany - Workers.

## 2. JRC RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Communication from the Commission to the Council : Multiannual Programme of the Joint Research Centre 1980-1983.

## Gist of the Proposal

The Community's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is made up of four Establishments (Ispra, Karlsruhe, Petten and Geel). The Commission proposes to follow-up the JRC's current four-year programme which expires on 31 December 1979, with a new programme to run from 1980 to 1983. The new plan would cost 542 MEUA, against 346 MUA for the current programme. Total staff would remain unchanged at 2,260.

The programme covers 6 major topics :

	AREA	TOTAL STAFF	COST MEUA
1.	NUCLEAR SAFETY AND THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE	1,113	260
2.	NEW ENERGIES	394	85
3.	ENVIRONMENT	271	55
4.	NUCLEAR MEASURES	194	48
5.	SERVICE AND SUPPORT TO THE COMMISSION	195	40
6.	OPERATION OF LARGE-SCALE INSTALLATIONS	88	54
	T O T A L	2,260	542

It shows a continued gradual evolution in the work of the JRC. Nuclear activities, which accounted for all the work prior to 1972, now represent half of the total. 74% of the funds are concentrated on energy and environmental research, with the remainder largely financing the JRC's 'public service' activities.

The Commission would continue to be assisted by the same Advisory Committees on Programme Management.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the new programme for research work.

The Committee stresses the importance of nuclear safety which is the largest item, accounting for 48% of expenditure. It believes there should be sufficient flexibility in one of the projects under this heading to take account of the problems raised by the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power station.

The Committee endorses the increased emphasis on new energies (solar energy, energy storage and transport). It also welcomes the extension of environmental research work which is to concentrate on toxic chemicals. While recognizing the necessity of the cut-back on reference materials, the Committee calls for care to ensure that the Community Bureau of Reference (CBR) does not suffer.

On the administrative side, the Committee shares the Commission's concern about the age structure of the staff. It recommends that the measures proposed for improving this situation should be checked and applied in an appropriate manner. At the same time, on early retirement, it points to the danger of losing particularly experienced staff.

The Committee welcomes the fact that ratio of operating expenditure to staff expenditure is now about 1:1; a favourable indicator of the efficiency of a research organization.

Finally, the Committee calls for good coordination between the work of the JRC, the indirect Community research programmes and national R & D.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HATRY - Belgium - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr von der DECKEN - Germany - Various Interests.

### 3. WORKER PROTECTION

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Protection of Workers for Harmful Exposure to Chemical, Physical and Biological Agents at Work.

## Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The proposed Directive is based on the Council Resolution of 29 June 1978 concerning an Action Programme by the European Communities on Safety and Health at Work. It lays down common principles for preventing risks of harmful exposure to chemical, physical or biological agents at work and protecting workers thus exposed.

The aims of the proposed Directive are :

- to eliminate or limit exposure to chemical, physical or biological agents and prevent the risks that such exposure presents to workers' health and safety, and
- to protect workers liable to be exposed to such agents.

The Member States will be obliged to take appropriate measures to ensure that worker exposure to any agents is kept to as low a level as is reasonably possible. Some of the protective measures to be employed are listed.

Additional measures are prescribed for exposure to the following : acrylonitrile, asbestos, arsenic and its compounds, benzene, cadmium and its compounds, mercury and its compounds, nickel and its compounds, lead and its compounds, chlorinated solvents, and noise.

This list is based on that in the Action Programme concerning measures that can be taken between now and 1982 and on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.

The proposal also provides for specific directives on the agents on the list.

The Member States will be required to make provisions for worker participation and ensure that (i) a worker shall not suffer undue prejudice through his removal from exposure and (ii) the application of the proposed Directive does not lead to an undue effect outside work.

A technical committee is to be set up. It will be made up of representatives of the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission.

This committee will have the job of helping to straighten out technical details.

#### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously less 1 abstention.

It fully supported the aim of the proposed directive, which it felt would speed up the co-ordination of existing regulations in the Member States and bring

them into line with the most recent requirements of occupational medicine, hygiene and safety.

In its general comments the Committee focused on the linkage between technical progress and economic growth on the one hand and the protection of workers on the other.

The Committee also pointed out that account should be taken of national rules in force and called for concerted action by employers and workers in planning and implementing the measures judged to be necessary.

The specific comments chapter of the Opinion dealt with the following in particular :

- The need to clarify certain articles in the proposal, especially those on scope, the definitions of the terms "agents" and "limit values" in Article 2, the nature of the measures to be taken by the Member States in Article 4, the procedure for fixing limit values (i.e. individual directives), and the powers to be given to the Industrial Medicine and Hygiene Committee;
- Procedures for informing workers of the results of tests and other measures involving harmful substances;
- The interpretation of and procedures for implementing the rule whereby the Member States must see that no worker suffers undue prejudice through exposure to any agent whatsoever;



- The involvement of employers' and workers' representatives in the work of the Industrial Medicine and Hygiene Committee; and
- The need to supplement the list of agents in Annex 1 to the proposal at the appropriate time.

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for Social Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HOUTHUYS - Belgium - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr BLASIG - Germany - Workers.

#### 4. SOCIAL SECURITY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 574/72 setting out the Implementing Procedures in respect of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1408/71 on the Application of Social Security Schemes to Employed Persons and Their Families Moving within the Community

##### Gist of the Proposed Regulation

Specific conversion rates are used by the social security institutions of the Member States to investigate and administer the files of employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

The implementation of the European Monetary System involves a review of the method currently being used for determining rates for converting currencies, fixed in accordance with Article 107 of EEC Council Regulation No. 574/72.

The Commission's Proposal provides that henceforth the rates of conversion used for the purposes of the Regulations on social security for migrant workers will, as in all the other Community sectors, be based on the exchange rates notified by the Central Banks at the same hour and no longer on the central rates for certain currencies and the "fixing" rates for other currencies.

#### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal.

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for Social Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HOUTHUYS - Belgium - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr SCALIA - Italy - Workers.

#### 5. R & D - BIOLOGY-HEALTH PROTECTION

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a Five-Year Research and Training Programme (1980-1984) of the European Atomic Energy Community in the Field of Biology - Health Protection (Radiation Protection Programme)

#### Gist of the Proposal

Since 1958, EURATOM has carried out 4 consecutive multiannual research programmes in the field of biology-health protection. The current programme expires on 31 December 1979.

The proposed programme would run for 4 years from 1 January 1980. It would cost a total of 68.2 MEUA on the Community budget (against 39 MUA for the present programme). It would require a Community staff of 64, compared with a previous figure of 68 staff plus 20 man/years.

The programme, which is designed to improve scientific and technical knowledge so as to update standards for the protection of man and his environment, consists of six major areas :

- radiation dosimetry and its interpretation;
- behaviour and control of radionuclides in the environment;
- short-term somatic effects of ionizing radiation.
- late somatic effects of ionizing radiation;
- genetic effects of ionizing radiation;
- evaluation of radiation hazards.

The work would be carried out on the basis of part-financing research contracts (i.e. "Indirect Action"). It would be administered by the Commission with the help of the Association's Management Committee and the Advisory Committee on Programme Management.

## Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion endorsing the proposed research programme.

It reiterates its view that further R & D is necessary into the effect of ionizing radiation for the purpose of constantly improving radiation protection standards for nuclear workers, the general public and the environment. The Committee believes that everything should be done to maximize protection against the risks associated with all forms of radiation, including natural radioactivity which has been intensified by human activity, and radiation from medical uses. The Committee also stresses the importance of research into the effects of low doses.

The introduction of a "Nuclear Passport" recording radiation exposure for all nuclear industry workers is called for. Temporary employees in the industry should be afforded a similar level of protection as permanent workers.

The Committee endorses the proposed financial allocation and staffing levels for the programme. It recommends that the research work and its results be made as widely known as possible to the general public.

It believes that the Community should continue to play an active role in the various international bodies involved in this field. These include the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU).

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HATRY - Belgium - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr DRAGO - Italy - Workers.

#### 6. PROPOSAL FOR A 10th VAT DIRECTIVE

Commission's Proposal for a 10th Council Directive on the Harmonization of the Laws of the Member States relating to Turnover Taxes, Supplementing Directive 77/388/EEC - Application of Value Added Tax to the Hiring out of Moveable Tangible Property.

#### The Essentials of the Commission's Proposal

The Draft Directive concerns the liability for VAT of a person or enterprise that buys moveable tangible property in a Member State or imports such property into a Member State with a view to hiring it out in that country. It is clear that such a person or enterprise is exercising an economic activity there - an activity in respect of which he must satisfy the obligations laid

down in Article 22 of the Sixth Directive. Practical difficulties may arise in determining, in accordance with Article 9(1) of the Sixth Directive on the Harmonization of the Laws of the Member States relating to Turnover Taxes of 17 May 1977, the place where the supplier has established his business.

The aim of this proposal for a Tenth Directive is to avoid these difficulties by supplementing the provisions of Article 9(1).

More specifically, the aim is to create a legal fiction to the effect that the supplier is established in the same country in which he buys or into which he imports the property hired out by him and in which that property is physically made available to the customer.

This legal fiction will, however, not be extended to the hiring out of forms of transport. For the hiring out of forms of transport, Article 9(1) of the Sixth Directive as it stands at present would continue to be applied strictly to such supplies of services; the place of supply is, in all cases, the place where the supplier has established his business.

#### Opinion of the Committee

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion confirming that the Draft Tenth VAT Directive is intended to deal with specific problems which

have arisen in two Member States in particular, since the adoption of the Sixth Directive on VAT.

It acknowledges that the Council wishes to make a decision on the Draft Eighth VAT Directive (dealing with the refund arrangements for taxable persons not established in the country) at the same time as it resolves the problems of the Sixth VAT Directive by the adoption of the Tenth.

Although not wholly convinced that "the place where the property is made available" is the right criterion, the Section wishes to be realistic and thus approves the Draft Directive.

It would, however, point out that if the tax rates were aligned, the present problems would resolve themselves.

Finally, the Section considers that the Commission must get together again with experts and representatives of the business community to study the controversial concepts of "use" and/or "making available" so as to avoid major distortions while the rates continue to differ.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Economic and Financial Questions under the chairmanship of Mr ROLLINGER - Luxembourg - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers.

## 7. CERAMICS PROGRAMME

Proposal for a Council Decision on the Adoption of a Programme of Technological Research in the Field of Clay Minerals and Technical Ceramics

### Gist of the Proposal

The research programme contained in this proposal, which seeks in the main to encourage and step up the integration of R & D in this industrial sector, covers two fields, viz. :

- The technology of clay minerals;
- The technology of industrial ceramics.

The basic properties of ceramics (resistance to high temperature and wear, chemical inertness, electrical behaviour and - more recently - higher mechanical strength) have led to their use in a whole range of industrial products ranging from domestic ceramics right through to areas of advanced technology. Several other sectors of industry depend on ceramic components for their development and growth so that a coordinated research programme will not only benefit the ceramics industry itself but will also strengthen the technological base of Community industry in general.



A budget of 4.5 million EUA from the Community and 4.1 million EUA from the other sectors at national level will be needed to finance this four-year programme, which will take the form of research contracts.

#### Opinion of the Committee

By a large majority, with two abstentions, the Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion endorsing the proposal in view of the importance of these research programmes for the Community ceramics industry.

While research organizations exist in all Member countries, their efforts are often concentrated - because of limited resources - on particular aspects and although there is already some cooperation between some of these organizations, the scale of the effort and the cooperation are inadequate in relation to the needs of the industry, where an empirical approach still plays too large a role, particularly in the clay ceramics industry.

In addition the industry has to adjust to competition from State trading countries, from various East-Asian countries (South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan), from Spain and Brazil, and from Japan and the USA, where substantial advances have been made in technology, because of heavy investment in research. There is thus a danger that the new industry may have to rely increasingly on licensing new processes and products from the USA and Japan.

Finally, in view of the fact that the Community's ceramics plants are predominantly of a small or medium size, the need for cooperative research at Community level, taking into account the existing industrial state and university research centres, has been felt for a long time. The promotion of such new efforts will lead to better quality, new products and energy savings and so make the industry more competitive.

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 LOEBL - United Kingdom - Employers.

#### 8. DEHYDRATED POTATOES

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

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Fixing for the 1979/1980 Marketing Year the Flat-Rate Production Aid for Dehydrated Potatoes

#### Gist of the Commission's proposal

The Commission's proposal is aimed at extending the present system of aid under Regulation (EEC) No. 1117/78 to the 1979/1980 marketing year in order to maintain continuity in production aid for dehydrated potatoes.

## Opinion of the Committee

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal.

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 de TAVERNIER - Belgium - Various Interests.

### 9. SEEDS

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2358/71 on the Common Organization of the Market in Seeds and Regulation (EEC) No. 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff, and the

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) supplementing Regulations (EEC) Nos. 1347/78 and ..../79 Fixing, for the Marketing Years 1978/79 and 1979/80, and 1980/81 and 1981/82 respectively, the Amounts of Aid Granted for Seeds

#### Gist of the Commission proposal

Certified rice seed production covers about 40% of needs. An increase in the production and use of certified seeds will both improve the quality of the rice and increase productivity and security of production. It is therefore important to encourage the production of certified seeds in order to satisfy the demand for quality seeds.

The Commission estimates that aid of 12.1 ECU/100 Kg as from the 1979 harvest would cover the extra cost of production and would lead to high quality rice.

#### Opinion of the Committee

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal.

In order that the Commission's objectives are more readily attained, the Committee asked that :

- technical and scientific research in the field of rice-growing be stepped up;
- the proposed aid be granted direct to the users of the selected seed.

The Rapporteur-General was Mr RAINERO - Italy - Various Interests.

#### 10. AUBERGINES

Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a system of aid for the marketing of aubergines grown in the French Antilles

#### Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The production of aubergines is becoming very important from the West Indies, since it provides an additional resource to the traditional monocultures (sugar

cane, bananas) and extra work for the agricultural workforce.

The cultivation of aubergines is restricted to the period from October to June so that it will not compete with European open field production.

During this period, the output of Martinique and Guadeloupe has to compete with aubergines from Spain and Israel.

To remedy these difficulties, the Commission proposes to grant a fixed rate of aid for aubergines produced in Guadeloupe and Martinique and sold on the Community's European markets. For the 1979/80 marketing year, this would amount to 0.55 F/Kg, or 8.84 UA/100 Kg, or 10.69 ECUs/100 Kg.

#### Opinion of the Committee

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority (12 votes against and 6 abstentions).

It approves the Commission's proposal. It also hopes that the Council will adopt as soon as possible measures to enable Martinique and Guadeloupe to offset the disadvantages of their remoteness and climate, as well as aid measures to enable them to overcome the economic and social problems caused by the recent cyclone in the islands.

Out of season production of aubergines under glass is expanding in the Mediterranean and the Commission should ensure that aids for the aubergine production in the French Antilles do not create difficulties for Community growers.

The Rapporteur-General was Mr CLAVEL - France - Various Interests.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Chairman's statement

The Chairman gave members a summary of his recent activities in the following words :

"During the period between the 170th and 171st Plenary Sessions, bearing in mind the priorities laid down by the Chairman on taking office, the following meetings were held :

As far as relations with the European Parliament were concerned the Committee Chairman had the opportunity of personally congratulating the President of the European Parliament, Mrs VEIL, on the occasion of the inaugural Session of the new Parliament in Strasbourg on 18 July 1979.

A meeting with Mrs VEIL to examine in detail the relations between the Parliament and the Committee has been scheduled for 11 October. This will be followed by meetings with the chairmen of the various parliamentary groups and committees.

The Committee's relations with the Council, and particularly the problems of improving coordination so as

to maximize the effectiveness of the Committee's Opinions, were examined in talks with the Permanent Representatives of Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany. Also scheduled is a meeting with the Permanent Representative of Belgium.

The problems mentioned above will be the main subject of the talks which the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Committee will have in Dublin on 3 and 4 October on the occasion of their visit to the president-in-office of the Council of Ministers.

Relations with the Commission were dealt with in a meeting with the Commission President, Mr JENKINS, Vice-Presidents NATALI and VREDELING and Commissioners GIOLITTI and CHEYSSON.

The Committee Chairman welcomed the increasingly frequent presence of Commission members at Committee meetings and highlighted some co-ordination aspects which could be improved later.

The discussions with Japan's Ambassador to the European Communities, H.E. TAKA AKI KAGAWA, covered relations between the two economic blocs and the need for a more intensive programme for contacts between socio-economic groups in the Community and Japan, among other things



to make the latter aware of the current economic and social situation in the Community and reduce the risks of misunderstandings and friction.

There will shortly be a meeting with the Head of the US Mission to the European Communities.

The Secretary-General of the OECD, Mr van LENNEP received the Committee Chairman at OECD headquarters in Paris. Agreement was reached on the usefulness of a more regular exchange of information and documentation."

NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

During the month of September the Council requested the Committee to deliver Opinions on the following subjects :

Proposal for a Council Decision initiating a Consultation Procedure concerning International Action in the Field of Air Transport

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 3164/76 on the Community Quota for the Carriage of Goods by Road between Member States

Proposal for a Council Directive Laying down Technical Requirements for Inland Waterway Vessels

Proposal for a Council Regulation Laying down Conditions Designed to Render and keep the Territory of the Community free from Classical Swine Fever

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on Liqueur Wines produced in the Community, and  
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Amending Regulation (EEC) No. 338/79 as regards Quality Liqueur Wines produced in specified regions

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending Directive 72/461/EEC on Health Problems affecting Intra-Community Trade in Fresh Meat

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending Directive 77/99/EEC on Health Problems affecting Intra-Community Trade in Meat Products

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Laying down the Trade Arrangements applicable to Certain Goods Resulting from the Processing of Agricultural Products

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Harmonization of Procedures for the Exportation of Goods

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending for the Seventh Time the Council Directive of 23 October 1962 on the Approximation of the Rules of the Member States concerning the Colouring Matters authorized for use in Foodstuffs intended for Human Consumption

Commission Communication to the Council on the Results of the Negotiations for the Conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, and

Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the Conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Major Accident Hazards of Certain Industrial Activities

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Coordination of Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions Relating to Legal Expenses Insurance

Proposal for a Council Directive on a Right of Residence for Nationals of Member States in the Territory of another Member State

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1117/78 on the Common Organization of the Market in Dried Fodder and Regulation (EEC) No. 827/68 on the Common Organization of the Market in Certain Products listed in Annex II to the Treaty (submitted to the Council by the Commission)

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) Amending for the Second Time Regulation (EEC) No. 222/77 on Community Transit

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

October 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Conservation of wildlife and nature habitats
- Agricultural structures policy
- Community quota
- Trade in meat products
- Trade in fresh meat
- Trade in fresh poultrymeat
- Aid for restructuring (shipbuilding and textiles)
- 2nd European Social Budget (supplement to Opinion)
- Migration policy vis-à-vis third countries
- Units of measurement
- Company taxation
- Securities
- Energy objectives 1990 - third countries (supplement to Opinion)
- Annual Report on economic situation

Own-initiative Opinions

- Industrial restructuring
- Technical barriers
- Influence of regional authorities
- Multiannual customs programme

## November 1979 Plenary Session

### Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Aquatic environment
- Cosmetics
- Simple pressure vessels
- Classical swine fever
- Chlorofluorocarbons
- Right of residence
- Changes in working hours
- Energy saving
- Reliefs from customs duty
- 2nd consumer action programme
- Technical research
- Energy objectives 1990 - convergence

### Own-initiative Opinion

- Structural aspects of growth

### Studies

- Yugoslavia
- Cereal substitutes

## December 1979 Plenary Session

- Mercury in aquatic environment
- Powered industrial trucks
- Consumer credit
- Own-account haulage
- Weight of road vehicles

### Own-initiative Opinions

- Intake of medicines
- International standard for working conditions

### Later Plenary Sessions

### Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Alcohol
- Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels
- Liqueur wines
- Colorants
- Insurance
- Legal protection
- Processing of agricultural products
- Air transport
- Major accidents in certain industrial activities
- Export procedures for goods
- Dried feed
- 2nd amendment, Community transit
- Basic products

### Own-initiative Opinions

- 8th report on competition policy
- Investment guarantees in LDCs
- Regional development programme

### Study

- Regional Policy - Lorraine integrated operation.

MEMBERS' NEWS

On 24 July 1979 the Council of the European Communities nominated Mr C.T.A.M. LEO a member of the Economic and Social Committee.

Mr LEO, Consultant to the Dutch Business Confederation (VNO), replaces Mr Sj. JONKER, who resigned. Mr LEO is a member of Group I.

1. 10. 79

Nachr. f.

Aussenhandel

**WSA gegen Einbeziehung Chinas in Präferenz-System**

Brüssel. — Der EG-Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschuß (WSA) hat auf seiner jüngsten Sitzung Bedenken gegen die Einbeziehung der VR China in das System der Allgemeinen Präferenzen (SAZ) für das Jahr 1980 angemeldet. Es liegen nach Ansicht des WSA zur Zeit zu wenige Informationen über das Land vor, die einen solchen Schritt, wie ihn die EG-Kommission vorgeschlagen hat, rechtfertigen. Der Vorschlag der EG-Kommission für das System der Allgemeinen Präferenzen als solcher wurde von dem WSA gebilligt. Es sei zu begrüßen, daß die EG-Kommission bei der Vorlage des SAZ für das Jahr 1980 der Verantwortung der Gemeinschaft gegenüber den Entwicklungsländern und der wirtschaftlichen Lage der Gemeinschaft und speziell der Lage auf dem Arbeitsmarkt Rechnung trage.

Die EG-Kommission hat für den Textilhandel ein neues Präferenz-System vorgeschlagen: Hauptmerkmal ist, daß die den Entwicklungsländern gewährten Vorteile entsprechend ihrer Konkurrenzfähigkeit im Textilbereich differenziert werden. Während die ärmsten Länder alle ihre Erzeugnisse zollfrei in den gemeinsamen Markt einführen können, wurden für konkurrenzfähige Länder Quoten für die zollfreie Einfuhr festgesetzt. Nach den Berechnungen der EG-Kommission ergeben sich folgende Werte: Zollfreiheit für 2% der Exporte in die EG: Hongkong (2 295,2 t) und Rumänien (572,9 t) — für 9%: Korea (Rep.) (7 354,3 t), Brasilien (4 121,3 t) sowie Jugoslawien (2 760,7 t) — für 15%: Singapur (2 026,9 t) — für 35%: Malaysia (3 456 t), Macao (4 751 t), Indien (24 819,1 t), Argentinien (2 260,6 t), Thailand (6 965,3 t), Mexiko (2 280,2 t), Kolumbien (3 173,8 t) — für 65%: Peru (2 849,6 t), Pakistan (13 343,2 t), Philippinen (3 744 t), Uruguay (493,4 t), Indonesien (389,2 t), Sri Lanka (295,1 t) und Guatemala (55,2 t) — für 100%: Haiti (291 t) und Bangladesh (324 t).

-WVD NIA (yy) 1. 10. 79

L'Echo de la  
Bourse, 2.10.79

\* Le comité économique et social des Communautés européennes a proposé aux gouvernements membres de la Communauté des mesures contre les substances toxiques.

The Scotsman, 20. 9. 79

**Strathclyde visit  
by EEC group**

The EEC's Economic and Social Committee, who are carrying out a review of the structural problems of European industry, will be holding their quarterly meeting in Strathclyde today and tomorrow.

West Central Scotland has been designated a priority action area by the EEC, one of only six such regions of the Community, because of the intractability of its industrial problems. A co-

ordinator is being appointed for the West of Scotland to look for ways of increasing industrial development, and will be taking up his post within the next few weeks.

During the visit, members of the committee will see facilities at Govan Shipbuilders and Babcock & Wilcox, as well as holding talks with Strathclyde Regional Council.

Jour, 2.10.79

**La protection des travailleurs  
contre les substances toxiques**

*Le comité économique et social des Communautés européennes, inquiet de l'utilisation des substances toxiques sur les lieux de travail et des risques encourus par un nombre croissant de travailleurs soumis à leur contact insiste dans un communiqué publié jeudi à Bruxelles pour que la quantité de substances nocives absorbées par les travailleurs, ainsi que le temps d'exposition passé à leur proximité soient abaissés au maximum. Il souhaite vivement qu'une information complète des travailleurs soit assurée à l'issue des examens menés sur le degré de nocivité de ces substances.*

*Le comité estime que la priorité doit être donnée à la protection des travailleurs en leur assurant des conditions de travail humaines, tout en évitant de porter préjudice à la croissance économique et en maintenant la compétitivité de la Communauté Européenne à l'égard des autres pays industrialisés.*

*Il souligne également la nécessité que des mesures adéquates soient prises pour assurer la protection de l'environnement immédiat des lieux de travail, donc, des populations qui pourraient être menacées par l'utilisation des substances dangereuses.*

*Le comité rappelle que les mesures communautaires viennent compléter les dispositions nationales déjà existantes. Il formule le vœu que, dans ce domaine qui touche directement à la vie quotidienne des travailleurs, la commission associe les partenaires sociaux à ses travaux.*

*Le comité approuve les objectifs proposés par la Commission des Communautés européennes et constate que ceux-ci, en accélérant la coordination des textes déjà en vigueur dans ce domaine au niveau des Etats membres, favoriseront un progrès, à l'échelle européenne, de la médecine du travail, de la sécurité et de l'hygiène sur les lieux du travail.*







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

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**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**

- Agricultural Structures Policy (November 1979) (Opinion)±90 p.
- 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.

