

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

# BULLETIN



No. 10

Brussels - October 1979



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## 172nd PLENARY SESSION

The 172nd Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities was held in Brussels on 24 and 25 October 1979. The Committee's Chairman, Mr VANNI, presided.

### Adoption of Opinions

#### 1. AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

Proposals on Policy with Regard to Agricultural Structures.

#### Gist of the Commission document

The Commission has prepared a series of proposals which form part of a long-term strategy designed to iron out the disparities between the various agricultural regions of the Community and reduce the large differences in income between them.

For this reason the new orientation of the structural policy, which started in 1978 with projects to help farming in the Mediterranean regions and the West of Ireland, must be further strengthened.

The Commission is proposing that the existing structural measures be reinforced and new ones introduced for certain especially handicapped regions.

In the latter category are specific projects for Italian hill and mountain areas, the West of Ireland and Greenland. Integrated programmes combining agriculture and the encouragement of other economic activities are proposed for the Western Isles of Scotland, the Lozère and South-East Belgium. A specific measure is also proposed to improve pig slaughtering and pigmeat processing in France and the United Kingdom. It is estimated that the Commission's proposal will cost the Community budget 570 to 682 million EUA over a five-year period.

#### Gist of the Opinion

This Opinion, which was discussed in the presence of the Chairman of the Council's Special Committee on Agriculture, Mr O'SHEA, was adopted by 58 votes in favour, 14 votes against and 38 abstentions.

Approving the Commission proposals on agricultural structures, the Committee called for a number of changes considered to be indispensable.

Having pointed out that 77% of farms in the Community are less than 20 ha in size and cover 29% of the total amount of farmland, the Committee welcomes the new advance towards the development of a flexible socio-structural policy in the field of agriculture.

It nevertheless underlines that a socio-structural policy cannot and must not replace



price policy, which remains a fundamental component of the CAP.

As far as farm modernization plans are concerned, the refusal of the Commission to take into consideration the notion of phased development is regretted. For both psychological and technical reasons a good many farmers are unable to implement a Single Development Plan though this would not be the case with a Phased Development Plan.

The Committee welcomes the Commission's plan to introduce development programmes for specific regions (Lozère, South-East Belgium, Western Isles of Scotland) - programmes that cover all agricultural and non-agricultural activities. This would be done by coordinating all the Community's financial instruments.

The selection of regions eligible for aid would nevertheless seem to stem more from the wish to preserve a political balance than from the desire to correct the most flagrant regional imbalances. After all, other regions might just as easily have been chosen.

The Committee is surprised, however, that the non-agricultural content of these programmes (i.e. those parts not financed by the EAGGF) has not yet been worked out. In the preparation of these programmes the Committee would like consideration to be given to both economic and socio-cultural aspects.

The Committee would also like the Community to examine two additional measures which it feels are of importance.

- The Committee considers that suspension of aid in certain sectors, as proposed by the Commission, does not seem consonant with the continuous modernization of production. The Committee thinks that the objective of reducing surpluses is compatible with the maintenance of investment aids in hill areas, less prosperous areas and areas where there is permanent pastureland, and also where production takes place on farms capable of producing a considerable proportion of their animal feed;
- The Committee is in favour of mobility of land and stresses that, because of the pressures arising out of the various possible uses of land and its cost, we should ask ourselves what methods can be used - within the framework of land management techniques - to delimit areas reserved for agriculture and ensure that those who need land most are given priority of access.

Finally, the Committee urges that the CAP be constantly updated in the light of developments in other Community policies.

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 LAUR - France - Various  
Interests.

## 2. INFLUENCE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

(own-initiative Opinion)

The Role and Influence of Local and  
Regional Authorities and Socio-Economic Or-  
ganizations in the Field of Common Regional  
Policy.

In its Opinion, adopted unanimously, the  
Committee expresses concern about certain shortcomings  
in the Community's regional policy and would like to  
see local and regional authorities and economic and  
social interest groups more closely involved in the  
preparation and implementation of this policy.

It also pleads for an all-out effort to  
provide the ordinary citizen of the Community with  
more information.

- it considers that this involvement will make it  
easier to apply the principle that Community aid  
must be additional to national aid, improve coordi-  
nation between national regional policies and make  
it possible to check whether Community decisions are  
being carried out.
  
- it feels it is of vital importance for the local  
authorities and socio-economic organizations to show

their determination to take part in the implementation of the Community's regional policy.

- The ESC asks the Member States, whose official duty it is to submit the applications for aid from the European Regional Development Fund, to hold systematic and far-ranging consultations beforehand with local and regional authorities and with socio-economic organizations representing the grass-roots in the regions.

It reminds the Member States that it is their duty to pass on the information they receive from the Community.

At Community level it would like to see :

- these authorities involved in the work of the Regional Policy Committee, which presupposes the reform of this committee;
- these authorities consulted more often by the Consultative Committee of Local and Regional Institutions of the Member States.

The Committee further points to the need to extend considerably its possibilities of collecting information from regional bodies. It would like to see a speeding-up of consultation and information procedures at all levels.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Regional Development under the chairmanship of Mr MASPRONE - Italy - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr VENTEJOL - France - Various Interests.

3. INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING (ECSC/CES)  
(own-initiative Opinion)

Industrial Restructuring and How to Implement it at Community level.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 35 votes in favour, 17 votes against and 17 abstentions.

After having pointed out that the effects of the economic crisis still persist and are reflected in inflationary pressures, investment difficulties in many industries, increased competition and high unemployment, the Committee states that there is an urgent need to restructure Community industry in view of the important role it plays as the employer of 40% of the Community's labour force and the producer of 44% of its gross domestic product.

No overall industrial strategy has been worked out, however, and only a small fraction of the

Community's overall budget is allocated to the redevelopment and restructuring of industry.

Consequently, while recognizing that certain action programmes and measures in individual industries have already been proposed by the Commission and adopted by the Council, the Committee regrets the fragmentary nature of the action taken so far and urges the Commission to draw up a more comprehensive programme of structural reform and industrial development which will stimulate new technologies and industries, develop new indigenous energy sources, improve industry's competitive position and ensure that adequate job openings are available. It therefore proposes that the appropriate budgetary instruments and funds be made available for this purpose by rebalancing the Community's overall budget. These funds should be incorporated in all of the Community's financial instruments.

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

#### 4. COMMISSION'S ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT 1979/80

Annual Report on the Economic Situation in the Community

## Background to the Report and Opinion

Each year in mid-October the Commission, in accordance with the Council Decision of 18 February 1974 on the attainment of a high degree of Convergence of the Economic Policies of Member States of the European Community (74/120/EEC) makes a Report on the Economic Situation in the Community. Under the provisions of the same Decision, the Committee is consulted and gives its Opinion on the Commission's Annual Economic Report and on its Economic Policy Recommendations for the coming year.

Accompanying the Section's Opinion is the Report which goes into the Economic Situation in greater detail. At the same time the Section prepares a brief Report on the Economic Situation in an individual Member State. For good order's sake, the Member State chosen is the Member State currently holding the Presidency of the Council. In order to be as well briefed as possible, the Members of the Study Group discuss a Draft Report on that country's Economic Situation with leading members of the principal professional organizations. On this occasion the Member State concerned is Ireland.

## The Commission's Annual Economic Report 1979-80

In its forecast for 1980 the Commission believes the Community can aim for a continued moderate GDP volume growth in 1980 of about 2½% to 3% in

the majority of Member States, which, taking into account the likely weaker performance of some others, would make a Community average of about 2%. This compares with an average growth rate of a little over 3% which was experienced, or is now forecast, for both 1978 and 1979.

The oil price rise of about 60% in the twelve months to June 1978 means for the Community as a whole an initial deflationary impact of the order of 0.7% of GDP, mounting perhaps to 1% after a year taking into account various secondary effects.

The slower GDP growth forecast for 1980 means that the growth of total employment being experienced in 1979 is likely to be arrested. With the continued rise in the population of working age (by 0.5% in 1980) unemployment is likely to rise again somewhat in the Community as a whole, although not in all Member States.

The Commission sees the Community as being faced with two sets of difficult structural economic problems. The first is the complex of issues linking productivity trends, employment policy and industrial policy. The second concerns energy.

To achieve a moderate growth rate in Community GDP in 1980, and to respond also to these issues of structural development, there is a vital role to be played by household savings and private investment



including stockbuilding. In 1980 some decline in the household savings ratio would be desirable, so as to help sustain real demand without increasing costs and hence prices.

Turning to the policies to be pursued, the Commission believes that in the present situation a concerted response is called for according to which Member States should move together through two successive phases of policy. The first and immediate need, given that the oil price rise be fully communicated to the consumer, is to prevent a secondary increase in the rate of inflation. This means that in the period from now to about mid-1980 the evolution and the distribution of incomes has to be adjusted either through lower real income claims or through a temporary adjustment to the full working of indexation mechanisms.

A further immediate, and unconditional, requirement is the strengthening of energy policy in the Community.

The Commission holds that monetary policy has an important counter-inflationary role to play. Nominal interest rates may have to remain high by historical standards to permit a sufficient non-monetary financing of public deficits.

On budgetary policy, the Commission feels that it is now desirable to move into a phase of falling public deficits relative to GDP, so as to help

allow the shift of savings in private investment, and to reduce the public finances' contribution to monetary expansion.

Income bargaining behaviour will in the year ahead carry a major responsibility for determining whether the present economic difficulties can be absorbed without damaging the prospects for continuing economic progress.

In the first instance the social partners have to agree - in each country in its particular setting as regards the nature of wage contracts and negotiating practices - to limit to the minimum the repercussion of energy price rises into incomes. In countries with fixed wage contracts, this means not seeking to re-negotiate them before their normal expiry. In other countries with comprehensive and rapid-acting wage indexation mechanisms it is necessary either to withhold payment of some part of future indexation adjustments so as not to pass on the recent energy price rises, or alternatively, to make equivalent reductions in claims for real purchasing power increases.

In the period ahead real wage increases should be near to zero in the Community on average: maintenance of purchasing power but hardly more.

The Commission believes that the general employment strategy has to count on employment growth in services of the widest range, while still aiming at

high productivity performance in manufacturing industry. The role of government must be to favour those trends through its labour market, industrial and regional policies, although there are constraints (notably budgetary) on the extent to which governments should directly intervene in labour markets.

On cuts in working hours, the Commission states that these are not a quick-acting panacea, nor can they be a substitute for general growth and adjustment policies. One should envisage - without, however, aggravating the costs of enterprises - some strengthening of the long-term trend in the reduction of annual working hours (the working week or holidays), alongside other forms of work-sharing (schemes for earlier and flexible retirement, part-time working, reduced overtime) and the development of a wider array of vocational training and further training schedule.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 50 votes in favour, 32 votes against and 18 abstentions.

It feels that the Commission's Report fails to pinpoint clearly the links between its proposed objectives.

The Community's economic policy must give priority to the fight against both unemployment and inflation.

The rise in unemployment is dangerous because of the social pressures and disintegration it generates, especially among the young. It can reasonably be argued that the absence of any prospect of getting a job lies behind certain manifestations of malaise and anti-social behaviour.

As far as the policies proposed by the Commission are concerned, the Committee stresses that there should be close and continual interplay between monetary policy and the manipulation of the public budget. In particular, budgetary policy is an instrument which, when deployed together with monetary policy, enables intervention measures to be better selected and the adverse effects of investment of higher interest rates to be attenuated.

The behaviour of the two sides of industry is of great importance, although the interdependence means that the Governments, generally speaking, can only mediate. An effective drive to squeeze out inflation must be conducted above all by the Governments using the instruments which fall within their competence, namely budgetary policy, monetary policy and social policy.

The inflation brought about by the oil price hike must not be offset by wage moderation on the part

of employees alone. The oil bill should be borne by the entire community on the basis of equitable criteria.

Consumption, and, by the same token purchasing power, will have to be supported if there is going to be a recovery in investment for purposes other than rationalization.

As for wages, the Committee counts on the two sides of industry to tailor wage trends in their negotiations to the new economic reality.

More emphasis should be placed on the role of structural policies, especially with respect to the objectives which can be attained by coordination and more selective use of the various financial instruments.

Member State policies must - within a Community framework - be aimed at tackling the dangers associated with slow growth: namely, an increase in sectoral and regional difficulties, structural unemployment, and growing difficulties with public finances and social security schemes.

It is therefore hoped that the attempt to bring about increasing convergence of policies and economic performance, the Community will put forward a number of priority recommendations of a structural

character which the Member States should use after tailoring them to suit their needs. These recommendations should concern:

- eliminating regional, sectoral and agricultural structural imbalances;
- stepping up and improving special measures designed to create new jobs so as to improve the balance of labour, supply and demand;
- supporting consumption, namely through maintenance of purchasing power and an increase in the lowest incomes.

Because the Committee is currently taking a stand on the whole problem of working hours it will not put forward views on the Commission's recommendations on this matter in this Opinion.

However, the final vote (by name) brought out the disagreement between the various interests and social groups about reduction of working hours and the proposed adjustment of wage indexation schemes.

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 DRAGO - Italy - Workers.

5. INDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING AND CONVERSION: SHIP-  
BUILDING/ TEXTILES

Proposal for a Council Decision on Community Aid for Restructuring or Conversion Investments in the Shipbuilding Industry

Proposal for a Council Decision on Community Aid for Restructuring or Conversion Investments in the Textile Industry, Particularly in the Man-Made Fibres Industry.

Gist of the Proposals

Under Article 1 of the Proposal for a Council Regulation on Community Aid for Industrial Restructuring and Conversion Operations, the Council is to designate, on the basis of Commission Proposals, those sectors experiencing a crisis that could be granted Community aid.

In its Opinion of 20 December 1978 the Committee asked to be consulted on the choice of sectors. In compliance with this request, the Commission has recently proposed an amendment to the above-mentioned Proposal for a Regulation so as to provide for consultation of the European Parliament and the Committee. This amendment has also made it necessary to change the two Proposals for a Decision recently sent to the Council to enable shipbuilding and textiles to receive the aid provided for in the Regulation.

## Gist of the Opinion

In its Opinion, adopted by 57 votes in favour, 5 votes against and 1 abstention, the Committee states that it is pleased to note that the Community authorities have taken account of the Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Regulation on Community Aid for Industrial Restructuring and Conversion Operations and that the Committee will henceforth be consulted when the sectors which are to receive Community aid are selected.

It also calls on the Council to adopt this proposed Regulation as soon as possible so that the planned Community aid can be rapidly implemented.

The Committee approves the industries chosen in the proposals.

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 EVAÏN - France - Employers.

## 6. STOCK EXCHANGE LISTING

Proposal for a Council Directive on information to be Published on a Regular Basis by Companies whose Transferable Securities are Admitted to Official Stock Exchange Listing.



## Gist of the Commission's Proposal for a Directive

This Proposal for a Directive is the third of a series of three Draft Directives designed to enable issuers to become quoted on the official stock exchanges of one or more of the Member States. The over-riding aim is to promote interpenetration as between one stock exchange and another, leading eventually towards an effective European capital market.

The first Draft Directive - still with the Council, but likely to be approved soon - dealt with the prospectus to be published when securities are first admitted to official stock exchange listing.

The second - in fact already approved by the Council on 6 March 1979 - laid down the conditions of admission to official stock exchange listing.

The present proposal represents an essential complement to these two proposals, by providing investors and potential investors with information about the issuers of the securities during the entire period the securities are being quoted on the stock exchange.

## Gist of the Opinion

In its Opinion, adopted unanimously, the Committee welcomes in principle the purpose of the Draft Directive, the aims of which are to reinforce

the protection given to investors by obliging companies to publish half-yearly reports on their activities, and to bring about a degree of uniformity in company reporting throughout the Community. However, the Committee regards this Draft Directive, containing only minimum standards, as merely a first step in the process of harmonization. It hopes that in the long run it will be adapted for the better in the light of experience. With this reservation, and provided that certain articles are amended to take account of general and specific remarks contained in the Opinions, the Committee agrees with the proposed Directive.

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 MILLER - United Kingdom - Employers.

## 7. COMPANY TAXATION AND COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT INSTITUTIONS

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Application to Collective Investment Institutions of the Council Directive concerning the Harmonization of Systems of Company Taxation and of Withholding Taxes on Dividends.

### Gist of the Commission's Proposal

This Proposal for a Directive is a first step towards harmonizing the tax treatment of income

which a final beneficiary receives through the intermediary of a Collective Investment Institution (CII).

The Proposal is directly based on the Proposal for a Directive on the Harmonization of Systems of Company Taxation (OJ No. C 253 of 5 November 1975) and on which the Committee gave an Opinion (OJ No. C 278 of 24 November 1976).

The application of the partial imputation system provided by this proposal, alleviates the impact of economic double taxation on dividends (corporation tax on distributed profits, and tax on dividends received by shareholders) by giving back to the shareholders part of the corporation tax in the form of a tax credit.

In the case of participants in CIIs, the application of the partial imputation system is complicated by the fact that the CII is an intermediary coming between the distributing company and the final recipient of dividends, and the proposed granting of tax credits is difficult to effect. It was not thought possible to provide for this when the original Proposal for a Directive on a Company Taxation System was drafted; hence a separate proposal.

In this proposal, the Commission has limited itself to putting forward common rules allowing the tax credit and the right to set off the withholding tax to be transferred to the final recipient via the

CII. It thus decided not to propose complete harmonization of tax arrangements applying to CIIs, but rather to apply the principles of the Company Taxation Directive to cases in which dividends are distributed by a CII.

### Gist of the Opinion

In its unanimously adopted Opinion the Committee expresses itself pleased to see that the Commission is now proposing to bring Collective Investment Institutions within the scope of the (still pending) Directive concerning the Harmonization of Systems of Company Taxation and of Withholding Taxes on Dividends. The Commission is thus doing what the Economic and Social Committee expressly asked it to do in its Opinion of 29 September 1976 (section 2.2.2., OJ No. C 278 of 24 November 1976). The Committee would reiterate the view voiced in that Opinion, namely, that both Directives should enter into force at the same time, because it is impossible to accept that Collective Investment Institutions should be excluded from measures to harmonize systems of company taxation.

The Committee regrets that the Council has still failed to discuss and adopt :

- the Proposal of 16 January 1969 for a Directive on the Common Tax Arrangements Applicable to Parent and

Subsidiary Companies in Different Member States  
(OJ No. C 39 of 22 March 1969, and

- the Proposal of 16 January 1969 for a Directive on the Common Tax Arrangements applicable to Mergers, Scission and Contribution of Assets Involving Companies in Different Member States (OJ No. C 39 of 22 March 1969).

Both Proposals are referred to in the list of definitions given in Article 2 of the Proposal for a Directive concerning the Harmonization of Systems of Company Taxation and therefore have to be adopted before the latter. The Committee therefore urgently requests the Council to discuss and adopt these two 1969 Proposals without delay so that progress towards the harmonization of company taxation is no longer impeded on that score at least.

With this proviso, and subject to certain specific comments set out in the Opinion, the Committee approves the proposal for a Directive.

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 FREDERSDORF - Germany - Various Interests.

## 8. MULTIANNUAL PROGRAMME/CUSTOMS UNIONS

(own-initiative Opinion)

Multannual Programme for the Attainment of  
the Customs Union.

### Gist of the own-initiative Opinion

The Commission felt it necessary to present to the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee a multiannual programme laying down the basic objectives at which the Community should aim in establishing a true customs union.

This document follows on from the Commission's communication of 15 July 1977 on the state of the customs union, on which the Committee issued an Opinion on 30 March 1978.

In its Opinion, adopted unanimously, the Committee notes the programme with interest, and welcomes it as a logical follow-up to the Communication of the Commission to the Council and to the European Parliament on the State of the Customs Union of the European Economic Community. The Committee's Opinion on the Communication, issued on 30 March 1978, specifically recommended that such a programme be drawn up, updated whenever necessary and closely monitored.

It feels that the programme is of major political significance.

Unless the harmonization of customs legislation and customs procedure is completed, it will hardly be possible to achieve the Customs Union, which is one of the most important principles of the Common Market and the cornerstone of many Community policies.

The impending enlargement of the Community, first to 10 and then in the not too distant future, to 12 is a further argument in favour of early completion of the Customs Union.

The Committee welcomes the Commission's intention to improve Community legislation, in particular by :

- making customs rules clearer;
- amalgamating in one instrument all the provisions on a particular subject;
- drawing up a basic customs instrument (Customs Code) dealing systematically with all customs regimes.

In conclusion the Committee urges the Member States and the Council to give very special attention to the Commission's work in this area, and adopt as soon as possible the instruments designed to implement the Customs Union.

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 MARVIER - France - Various Interests.

## 9. 2ND EUROPEAN SOCIAL BUDGET - 1976-80

Second European Social Budget - 1976-80.

### Gist of the Commission's document

The European Social Budget contains projections - at current and constant prices - for certain fields of social policy to 1980, as well as statistics for 1970 and 1975.

As the Commission states, the term "budget" should not be understood here in the sense in which it is normally used in public finance, that is, an act authorizing expenditure or receipts for the financing of this expenditure. The projections do not represent either targets or constraints at either Community or national level.

The European Social Budget originated with a decision of the Council of Ministers for Social Questions on 26 November 1970. The Council adopted the proposal of the German delegation to set up a Community social budget, specifying that its purpose would not be to lay down binding political objectives for the Member States but to collect statistics and medium-term forecasts on receipts and expenditure



relating to social security and all aspects of social policy in general. Its conclusions would enable the competent authorities to assess the impact of any changes in the legislation on which the forecasts were based.

The Social Action Programme of 21 January 1974 laid down the objective of the European Social Budget as follows : "To acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the past and future development - short and medium-term - of social expenditure and methods of financing in the member countries of the Community, as a means of providing an instrument for the progressive convergence of social protection, in particular, and social policy in general throughout the Community".

The European Social Budget is designed to act as a source of information about the financial repercussions of Member States' social policies by supplying statistical data and medium-term forecasts about the trends in revenue and expenditure in these policy areas.

The document submitted by the Commission to the Council is divided into two - an overall report prepared by the Commission and national reports from the Member States. The different chapters in the overall report are devoted to (i) a presentation of the basic results; (ii) a detailed study of the various functions of health, old age, family and

unemployment benefits - with a special distinction being made in the case of each function between cash benefits and benefits in kind; and (iii) a comparison with the economic environment.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

Whilst conscious of the improvements to the Second European Social Budget, and in agreement with its overall objectives (source of information on trends in social expenditure and the financing thereof; instruments to aid decision-making), the Committee has a number of comments to make. These consider in particular :

- the need to continue efforts to align the statistical bases for the national reports;
  
- the need for new governing principles and processing procedures (possibly including alternative options) because of the higher cost of financing in relation to social expenditure and because, during a structural crisis marked by a slowdown in economic growth and a high rate of unemployment and inflation, the European Social Budget and social policy in general become increasingly important;

- the possible repercussions of enlargement on the planning and drawing up of the European Social Budget;
- the ideal length of time that should elapse between the appearance of European Social Budgets.

The close relationship between economic and social conditions means that it is essential in the near future to have a Social Budget determined by economic planning and social trends rather than legislative status quo.

In its conclusions the Committee says that if social policy is to be fully implemented, the Social Budget must be the basis for the Commission's proposals and Council's decisions.

More attention should be paid to the contribution that both sides of industry and all socio-economic interest groups can make to the evaluation and use of the Budget and its recommendations.

The Committee concludes by asking the Council to give priority to tackling social security problems as a whole.

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

## 10. UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Units of Measurement and Repealing the Council Directive of 18 October 1971 (71/354/EEC) as modified since then.

### Gist of the Draft Directive

The Draft Directive is based on Article 100 of the EEC Treaty and is proposed pursuant to the Council Directive 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 (71/316/EEC). The Draft Directive relates to the field covered by the Council Directive of 19 October 1971 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement (71/354/78), as last amended by the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 (76/770/EEC).

The Draft Directive has three main aims :

- to codify the legal instruments of units of measurement;
- to extend the period in which units such as the inch, foot, mile, acre, pint, gallon, ounce and pound are admissible;

- to specify the circumstances under which uniform and UK units can co-exist during the transition periods.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion nem con with one abstention.

It broadly approves the Draft Directive, but considers that the 1989 cut-off date for imperial units is a very long way off. The Committee trusts that the units in question will be abolished before 1989.

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 BREITENSTEIN - Denmark - Employers.

### 11. ENERGY COOPERATION DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

First Actions of Cooperation with Certain Developing Countries in the Field of Energy.

### Gist of the Communications

The Communication "Cooperation with the developing countries in the field of energy" suggests a strategy based on :

- making an inventory of the developing countries energy requirements and potential;
- helping the developing countries to develop conventional energy sources (oil, natural gas, coal, hydroelectric power) and in the rational use of energy;
- assessing the potential of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal, etc.);
- helping in the training of personnel.

The Communication (Doc. COM(79) 130 final) outlines certain "Instruments of Mining and Energy Cooperation with the ACP countries".

The Communication (Doc. COM(79) 155 final) requests the Council to approve guidelines for energy cooperation with certain developing countries, in Latin America and certain others such as Turkey and Nigeria. The suggested activities could require total expenditure of 30 MEUA in 1980.

### Gist of the Opinion

In its additional Opinion, adopted unanimously with 1 abstention, the Committee calls for an overall and coherent programme of cooperation with the developing countries in the field of energy.

The Opinion expresses some criticism on the lack of a systematic approach and concrete details in the Commission's suggestions. It nevertheless welcomes these as a first step.

Noting the concentration on a number of Latin American countries and others such as Nigeria and Turkey, the Committee calls for a more comprehensive survey.

It believes that there should be appreciably increased funds for promoting such cooperation with the ACP countries and that these should be used as rationally as possible. It hopes that private investors participating in such projects will be backed with appropriate Community guarantees. The Committee makes no comment on the adequacy of the 30 MEUA earmarked for "first actions of cooperation" in 1980.

The posting of experts and the training of technicians should not be regarded as a separate action, but rather integrated in the other objectives.

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 MARGOT - Belgium - Various Interests.

## 12. CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE

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

### Gist of the Proposal

The proposal is designed to enable the Community to become a party to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats.

The Commission recommends that the Council should sign the Convention and authorize the President of the Council to appoint persons with the authority to sign so that the Convention is concluded and satisfied as soon as possible after signature.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously. It endorses the Community's signing of the Convention, for it thinks that the Convention represents a great step forward in ensuring that wild flora and fauna are conserved in their natural habitats.

Nevertheless, it would draw attention to the need to protect eco-systems, i.e. the inter-related balance between flora and fauna and their surroundings.



In addition, the Committee reserves the right to undertake a study in which the Convention could be examined closely and interpreted more precisely with a view to its possible revision later on.

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 CLARK - United Kingdom - Various Interests.

### 13. FRESH POULTRYMEAT

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

#### Gist of the Commission's Proposal

Council Directive 71/118/EEC of 15 February 1971 on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat laid down the slaughtering and inspection requirements for such meat intended for intra-Community trade and trade within Member States. It has become apparent that the application of certain aspects of the Directive would cause difficulties for a large number of small-scale producers.

In order to permit the continuation of this production which, in the regions where it is made, contributes appreciably to farmers' incomes, while at

the same time maintaining the hygiene and health inspection standards established by Community rules, it appears essential to make the relevant technical amendments to the Directive.

The proposed amendments include the removal of the time limits in the derogations for small-scale producers, particularly at local markets, and the authorization for post-mortem inspection to take place separately from the place of slaughter in the case of birds reared for the production of "foie gras". In the latter case, slaughter should be permitted on the farm in order to prevent unnecessary suffering resulting from the transport of the fattened birds to a separate place.

#### Gist of the Opinion

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

It approved the Commission's proposal but expressed concern about preserving the taste of the products covered by the proposed Directive, applying the proposed checks in practice and about aligning the checks in the different Member States. The Committee particularly thought that the 24-hour deadline set by the Commission for gutting slaughtered poultry would be inadequate on Saturdays if the needs of poultry farmers were to be met.

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr CLAVEL - France - Various Interests.

#### 14. TRADE IN MEAT PRODUCTS/TRADE IN FRESH MEAT

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 72/461/EEC on Health Problems Affecting Intra-Community Trade in Fresh Meat and the

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/99/EEC on Health Problems Affecting Intra-Community Trade in Meat Products.

#### Gist of the Commission documents

- Doc. COM(79) 380 final

The Commission proposes making amendments to Council Directive 77/99/EEC of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products. The purpose of these amendments is to make it possible for meat complying with the rules of hygiene in respect of consumption, but excluded from trade in fresh meat for reasons of animal health, to be used, in the Member State in which it is obtained, for the preparation of certain categories of meat products intended for intra-Community trade.

- Doc. COM(79) 383 final

The work done on harmonization, notably regarding trade in meat products, shows that certain treatments particularly heat treatment, can destroy the germs of contagious animals diseases and avoid any risk of those diseases spreading.

It is therefore possible to authorize the use, for the preparation of certain products, of fresh meat which would, as fresh meat, be excluded from intra-Community trade on animal health grounds.

The necessary amendments should therefore be made to Directive 72/461/EEC and a special health mark created to enable such meat to be identified and its use monitored in the Member State in which it was obtained.

#### Gist of the Opinion

In its unanimous Opinion, the Committee approved the Commission's proposal on the understanding that the Member States would take every precaution when applying the directives to ensure that the transport of live animals or meat did not entail any risk of spreading disease germs.

This Opinion was based on material supplied by the Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests.

The Rapporteur was Mr CLAVEL - France - Various Interests.

## 15. MIGRATION POLICIES

Proposal on Migration Policies vis-à-vis Third Countries.

### Gist of the Commission document

This communication, which forms part of the action programme for migrant workers, takes account of a new element of political importance : the enlargement of the Community.

The communication recalls the decisions taken at the European Summit in Paris on 9 and 10 December 1974, calling for a "stage-by-stage harmonization of legislation affecting aliens", and notes that Europe now has a large, heterogeneous population of migrants with varying rights. It lists the areas proposed for immediate consultation.

The following are the main areas listed in the communication :

- priority for nationals of the Member States;
- measures to deal with illegal migration and illegal employment;

- future programmes on the use of non-Community labour;
- family reunification in the host countries;
- the proposition of Member States in relation to existing or proposed measures in other international organizations.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority with 13 abstentions. It welcomes the initiative taken by the Commission on the consultation on migration policies vis-à-vis third countries and points out that it had taken up the complex question of migrant workers several times in the past and has expressed Opinions on it.

The problem of migrant workers from third countries needs to be set in the context of migrant workers as a whole, if the widest measure of Community consensus envisaged in the Action Programme of 1976 is to be achieved.

The Committee takes the view that the question of policy towards migrants has to be considered against inter alia the background of the economic situation of the Community and its future prospects. Furthermore, this question is also related to the external economic policies of the Community.

The Committee expresses worry about the scale of unemployment especially in the period 1980-1985, due to such factors as the world economic recession, deflationary effects of the rising energy prices and the effects of the technological changes now taking place, such as the micro-processor revolution. The Committee also points out that there are at present 6 million migrant workers in the Community and 6 million unemployed. Many of the migrant workers are doing jobs which Community nationals are reluctant to undertake even when unemployed.

The Committee suggests that consideration should be given to strengthening existing institutional machinery along the following lines :

- member governments should delegate their most senior officials responsible for executing policy on these questions to the consultative or coordinating body;
- this consultative body should be under permanent Commission chairmanship;
- each member government should be required to submit an annual report on its handling of migrant labour questions;
- every two years each government policy should be examined in depth by this coordinating body.

As a general rule, Member States in need of migrant workers should offer jobs to workers from

other Member States in preference to workers from third countries. In principle workers from the applicant States (Spain, Portugal, Greece) should have precedence over migrant workers from other third countries during the period when the applications are being considered.

On the treatment of all migrant workers, no matter what their origins, the Committee urges that the objective be accepted to ensure migrant workers equality of treatment once they have been legally admitted for employment in the Community. There should also be a similarity of treatment of all migrant workers throughout the Community on matters peculiar to them (e.g. reunion of families). The Committee also points out that an adequate standard of education for the children and youths of migrant workers must be guaranteed so as to ensure their full integration into the Community.

The impact of migrant labour on the development of third countries, illegal migrants and Community migrants to third countries is briefly dealt with.

The Committee notes the very wide differences in practice among Member States, due to differences in historical circumstances and administrative tradition. It nevertheless urges them to adopt common standards designed to ensure that they



receive the same treatment as indigenous workers and also to try to pursue policies which do not conflict one with another.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Social Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HOUTHUYS - Belgium - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr WILLIAMS - United Kingdom - Various Interests.

#### 16. 1980 COMMUNITY QUOTA - TRANSFER OF GOODS BY ROAD

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.

##### Gist of the Commission Proposal

The main aim of the Commission proposal is to lay down each Member State's allocation of Community road haulage authorizations for 1980. It is proposed that the total number of authorizations be 20% more than in 1979.

The 3,750 authorizations for 1980 are to be allocated as follows :

1980 Community Quota 3,750 authorizations		1979 Community quota (for comparisons 3,122 authorizations (Regulation 3062/78 of 19.12.1978))
% increase		
Belgium	413 + 18.7	348
Denmark	286 + 24.9	229
Germany	687 + 21.2	567
France	625 + 17.3	533
Ireland	76 + 16.9	65
Italy	540 + 25	432
Luxembourg	107 + 17.6	91
Netherlands	597 + 18.9	502
United Kingdom	419 + 18.0	355

One of the reasons given by the Commission for the increase is "the need to make progress in respect of Community integration of transport, particularly road traffic between Member States, which would make it easier to eliminate inequalities of treatment among carriers and which would, at the same time, encourage trade."

#### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 44 votes in favour, 10 votes against

and 5 abstentions. It notes once again that the statistical evidence in support of the Commission's proposal is inadequate. This applies in particular to the allocation of the quota, since account has only been taken of the use made of authorizations in 1978.

This is why the Committee proposes that, for want of a better solution, the proposed 20% increase for 1980 in the total number of authorizations be applied linearly across-the-board.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Transport and Communications under the chairmanship of Mrs WEBER - Germany - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr RENAUD - France - Employers.

#### 17. DRIED FODDER

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.

#### Gist of the Commission proposal

The aim of this proposal is to amend Regulation (EEC) No. 1117/78 :

- by replacing, with respect to protein concentrates, the number ex 23.07 C of the CCT by the number ex

23.06 B, in accordance with the Opinion of the CCT Nomenclature Committee, and

- by providing for express inclusion in Article 1 of the Regulation in question of the by-products obtained when manufacturing protein concentrates, since these products are used for the same purposes as the other products referred to therein.

#### Gist of the Opinion

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

The Rapporteur-General was Mr DE TAVERNIER - Belgium - Various Interests.

#### 18. ERDF (own-initiative Opinion)

Endowment of the European Regional Development Fund.

#### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion by a large majority with 11 votes against and 6 abstentions.

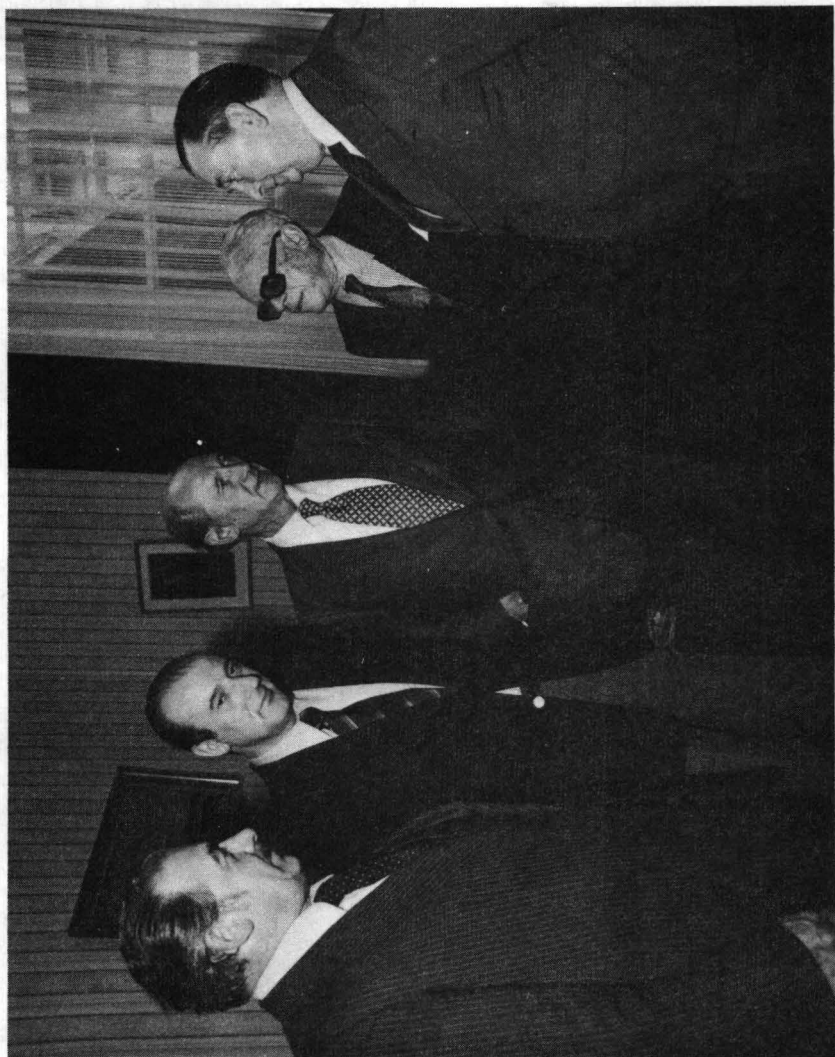
It is concerned that the amount allocated to the European Regional Development Fund may be reduced

in the future and has made its views known to the Community authorities in an own-initiative Opinion issued on 25 October 1979.

The Committee regards it as a serious matter that measures are being considered which would ultimately result in a fall in the value in real terms of the resources which were available to the Fund in 1979 - and this at a time when the situation of the Community's less-favoured regions continues to deteriorate.

It considers that the current crisis calls rather for an increase in the resources available for these regions.

The Rapporteur-General was Mr MILNE - United Kingdom - Workers.



Meeting in Dublin. From left to right :

Mr LOUET, Secretary-General and Mr VANNI, Chairman of the ESC, Mr Jack LYNCH, Prime Minister of Ireland and Mr RENAUD and Mr ROSEINGRAVE, Vice-Chairmen of the ESC.

## II

### EXTERNAL RELATIONS

#### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT ON COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The following meetings took place between the 171st and 172nd Plenary Sessions :

#### - OFFICIAL VISIT TO IRELAND

During the official visit to Ireland marking Ireland's turn to fill the Presidential seat at the Council, the Committee Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen and the Secretary-General had talks with the President of the Republic, Mr HILLERY, the Taoiseach, Mr LYNCH, the Minister for Labour, Mr FITZGERALD, the Minister for Economic Planning and Development, Mr O'DONOGHUE, Minister of State at the Department for Foreign Affairs, Mr ANDREWS, and the Joint Committee on secondary legislation of the European Communities.

The Committee delegation had in-depth discussions with representatives of the various Irish economic and social groups, including the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, the Confederation of Irish Industry, the Association of Chambers of Commerce and the European Association of Public Enterprises.

- MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

As announced earlier, after an initial courtesy visit to Mrs VEIL, the newly-elected President of the European Parliament, to congratulate her and wish her well on behalf of the Committee, the Committee Chairman had a further meeting with her to tackle the issue of relations between the Parliament and the ESC.

The Committee Chairman stressed the importance of the two Institutions' coordinating their work schedules and keeping up a constant exchange of data and documentation. The Chairman trusted that the existing practice of Section Chairmen and Rapporteurs being invited to expand on selected Opinions before parliamentary committees would be maintained. By the same token, Chairmen of parliamentary committees and European Parliament Rapporteurs could participate in the proceedings of ESC Sections when issues of interest to them were being discussed.

Mrs VEIL stated that she was extremely keen on collaboration with the Committee and promised to put the matter to the European Parliament authorities, recommending that it be given a positive reception.

- MEETING WITH PRESIDENTS OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

As part of on-going meetings with all the Presidents of the EP parliamentary groups, the Committee Chairman has met to date the President of the



Liberal and Democratic Group, Mr BANGEMANN, the President of the European Democratic Group, Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS, and a delegation from the Socialist Group, including Mr JAQUET (Vice-President of the European Parliament) and Mr DELORS (Chairman of the economic and monetary committee).

- ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND LOME CONVENTION

The Committee's commitment to effective action concerning the Convention of Lomé was reaffirmed at a meeting between an ESC delegation, comprising the Chairman, Mr VANNI, Mr de PRECIGOUT as Chairman of the Section for External Relations and Mr BERNS, Mr BREITENSTEIN, Mr KIRSCHEN, Mr SOULAT and Mr WILLIAMS, all members of the External Relations Section, and a group of Commission representatives in the ACP States. The representatives promised to cooperate fully in organizing contacts between economic and social groups in the ACP States and the Economic and Social Committee.

The Chairman attended the formal opening of the ACP/EEC Consultative Assembly in company with Mr Roger LOUET, ESC Secretary-General, Mr QUERENGHI, Chef de Cabinet, and Mr GRAZIOSI, adviser for external relations. The Chairman confirmed that the ESC was willing to help the Joint EEC/ACP Committee arrange the further meeting to be held next year between the representatives of EEC and ACP economic and social

interest groups. Section 6 of the resolution adopted by the meeting mentions the participation of economic and social interests in the Lomé Convention. It welcomes the official recognition of the consultations held between the Joint Committee and economic and social interests and calls for implementation of the joint declaration on the importance of an effective, direct dialogue with the two sides of industry, with which the Council and its groups would be associated.

Finally, the Chairman was invited to take part in the signing ceremony for the new convention between the EEC and the ACP countries which took place in Lomé on 31 October.

- TALKS WITH US AMBASSADOR TO EC

The Committee Chairman had talks with the United States Ambassador to the European Communities, Mr HINTON. They centred around the problems of the industrialized world in responding to the current economic crisis and the need for close cooperation between various developed areas and, in particular, the USA, Japan and the EEC. The contribution which a better understanding of the problems between economic and social groups from the various areas can make was considered important. In this connection, an initiative from the Committee to organize meetings with representatives of US economic and social groups seemed extremely desirable.

- ILO CONFERENCE

Lastly, Mr VANNI took part in the proceedings of the third European Regional Conference of the International Labour Organization, held in Geneva on 17 October.

### III

#### NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

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

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 78/25/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the colouring matters which may be added to medicinal products

Proposal for a Council Decision on the Conclusion of the Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution

Proposal for a Council Decision introducing special aid for small- and medium-sized industrial enterprises in Portugal

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 64/432/EEC as regards tuberculosis and brucellosis.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

November 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Cosmetics
- Simple pressure vessels
- Reliefs from customs duties
- Chlorofluorocarbons
- Convention on air pollution
- Tuberculosis and brucellosis
- Classical swine fever
- Air transport
- Inland waterway vessels
- Energy objectives 1990 - convergence
- Special aid for small- and medium-sized industrial enterprises in Portugal

Initiative Opinions

- 4th Annual Report ERDF
- Technical barriers

Study

- Cereal substitutes

## December 1979 Plenary Session

### Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Right of residence
- Harmonization of export procedures
- Community transit
- Powered industrial trucks
- Mercury in aquatic environment
- Dieldrin in aquatic environment
- Colouring matters in foodstuff
- 2nd consumer action programme
- Own account haulage
- Processing of agricultural products
- Basic products - agriculture
- Liqueur wines
- Energy saving
- Specific Community development projects  
(Article 13 ERDF)

### Initiative Opinions

- Intake of medicines
- Structural aspects of growth
- Yugoslavia

### Later Plenary Sessions

- Insurance credits
- Legal protection

- Taking up and pursuit of direct insurance
- Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures
- Noise emission of construction plant and equipment
- Consumer credit
- Colouring matter added to medicinal products
- Major accident hazards in certain industrial activities
- Changes in working hours
- Alcohol
- Weight of road vehicles
- Harmful organisms of plants or plant products

#### Initiative Opinions

- Completion policy
- Regional development programme
- International standards for working conditions
- Investment guarantees in LDCs

#### Studies

- Regional policy - Lorraine integrated operation
- Conjectural risks DNA
- Consistency in external policy

MEMBERS' NEWSAppointments

On 13 November 1979 the Council of the European Communities appointed the following new members of the Economic and Social Committee :

Signor Gian Battista CAVAZZUTI (Italy) of the Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori - CISL (Italian Confederation of Unions). Mr CAVAZZUTI replaces Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO. He will be a member of Group II (Workers).

Signor Ettore MASUCCI (Italy), Secretary-General of the Federazione Nazionale Tessili della Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro - CGIL (National Textile Federation of the Italian General Confederation of Labour). Mr MASUCCI replaces Mr BONACCINI. He will be a member of Group II (Workers).

Signor Giancinto MILITELLO (Italy), Secretary of the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro - CGIL (Italian General Confederation of Labour). Mr MILITELLO replaces Mr DIDO. He will be a member of Group II (Workers).



Mr Michael WALSH (UK), Assistant Secretary, International Department of the Trades Union Congress (TUC). Mr WALSH replaces Mr JENKINS. He will be a member of Group II (Workers).

Mr Michael HICKS-BEACH (UK), formerly Director, PE International Limited. Mr HICKS-BEACH replaces Mr de FERRANTI. He will be a member of Group I (Employers).

## VI

### PRESENTATION OF MEDALS

At a ceremony held on 24 October 1979 in the presence of the Secretary-General and the Chairman of the Staff Committee, the Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee awarded medals to the following 15 officials who have worked for the Community for 20 years :

Miss ADAM  
Miss BERTHON  
Mr d'ANSEMOURG  
Mr DI TOMASSO A.  
Mr FINOCCHIARO  
Mr HULSEBOS  
Mr KUBY  
Mr MERCIER  
Mr PICCO  
Miss PEUSCHEL  
Mr SCHEIBER  
Mr VAN DER VAART  
Mr THILL  
Mr VERMEYLEN  
Mr WOLFF

PRESS SHOW

**Syndicats, 13. 10. 79**

**Au Comité économique  
et social  
des Communautés**

Lors de la dernière session plénière du Comité économique et social, le 27 septembre, Georges Debunne, secrétaire général de la FGTB, au nom du groupe « travailleurs » a averti les deux autres groupes que la balle est acueilliement dans leur camp : le groupe « travailleurs » ne prendra donc plus d'initiative. Il se réunira à la mi-novembre pour étudier les éventuelles

propositions des deux autres groupes. Georges Debunne avait déjà menacé le Comité d'une participation purement passive du groupe « travailleurs » si les « assistants » n'étaient pas acceptés.

Cet ultimatum n'est que l'aboutissement de deux ans de propositions continuelles de la part des syndicats en vue d'améliorer le fonctionnement du Comité. Ces propositions ont toujours été rejetées par la Commission des règlements intérieurs, les sous-commissions ou le Comité des sages. Comme le disait un dirigeant de la CES, le Comité économique et social ne peut plus continuer à « travailler pour les archives ».

**Irish Times  
5. 10. 79  
Work  
sharing  
criticised**

WORK SHARING is no answer to unemployment in Ireland unless there is income-sharing, too, suggested Mr John Kenny of the Confederation of Irish Industry yesterday. Mr Kenny, a member of the Economic and Social Committee of the EEC, was speaking to the press during a visit to Ireland by the committee's chairman, Mr Raffaele Vanni, and said that he "didn't see work-sharing as the answer to unemployment particularly if that is done without loss of any earnings to those who work." The Irish economy depended on trade with its EEC partners more than did any other member-State, he said. It had to remain competitive. Job creation, not work-sharing, was the way to create jobs.

**Est Républicain, 7. 10. 79**

**Le comité économique  
et social des Communautés  
européennes, en Lorraine**

METZ. — Le comité économique et social des Communautés européennes est en visite d'étude en Lorraine. Il a fait étape jeudi matin à la chambre de commerce de Metz, où, à l'issue d'un colloque de formation, ses responsables ont expliqué le but de leur venue dans notre région. Il s'agit, ont déclaré tour à tour M. Bisio (RFA), son président ; et M. Bernard (France), son rapporteur, de faire mieux connaître aux responsables de l'avant de la Lorraine, les différentes aides que peuvent leur accorder les communautés européennes et de mieux coordonner ces aides entre elles.

**L'Echo de la Bourse, 9. 10. 79**

**AU FIL  
DES JOURS**

\* Une délégation du comité économique et social a reçu des députés des pays C.C.P.







**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.

