

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

# BULLETIN

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ECONOMIC AND  
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C O M M I T T E E



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C O M M I T T E E



This Bulletin reports on the activities of the Economic and Social Committee, a consultative body of the European Communities. It is published by the ESC's General Secretariat (2, rue Ravenstein, B-1000 Brussels) in the official Community languages (10 editions per annum)

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*The complete texts of the Opinions summarized in this brochure can be obtained either in the Official Journal of the European Communities, Office for Official Publications, 2, rue Mercier, L-2985 Luxembourg, or directly from the ESC Public Relations Division (Fax: +32.2.519.98.22)*

## I. 320th PLENARY SESSION ON 23 AND 24 NOVEMBER 1994

The Economic and Social Committee of the European Union held its 320th Plenary Session in Brussels on 23 and 24 November 1994. The ESC President, Mr Carlos Ferrer, took the chair.

Mr Pádraig Flynn, Member of the Commission, addressed the Assembly on 23 November in the context of the adoption of the Opinion on the White Paper on European Social Policy.

The Committee adopted the following Opinions at this Plenary Session:

### 1. STATISTICS - CARRIAGE OF GOODS/PASSENGERS BY SEA

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Directive on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passengers by sea*  
(COM(94) 275 final)

(CES 1296/94)

Rapporteur: Mr D.H. Kielman (The Netherlands - Employers)

#### Gist of the Commission document

In its White Paper of December 1992 on the future development of the common transport policy, the Commission point out that it is essential that indispensable information on the functioning of the transport market be available. Much of this information exists for inland transport but is lacking at Community level for air transport, maritime transport, combined transport, passenger transport and transport safety.

The Directive proposes the following measures:

- the collection of reliable, regular, timely and comparable data on the carriage of goods and passengers by sea, between Member States, in national sea transport and between Member States and third countries, by drawing up quarterly and annual data on goods and passenger transport by seagoing vessels which call at ports in the territories of the Member States;
- the collection of comparable data for ship traffic in European ports, broken down by different types and sizes of vessels;
- the compilation of harmonized statistical information, comparable with the available information for other modes of transport. Such data will provide guidelines in the discussions on measures to support transport modes offering the possibility of additional capacities under favourable environmental conditions. The justification of future initiatives in this field will depend to a large extent on the availability of relevant information on the functioning of the transport services market;
- the dissemination of the statistical data to the Commission and the national administrations, and also to enterprises and all the European socio-economic operators concerned, in order to inform their decisions, while respecting the confidentiality principles laid down in Regulation 1588/90 adopted by the Council on 11 June 1990. Among these operators, in addition to the maritime transport enterprises, mention should be made of ports, for which the provision of data on the markets which they are serving may improve their competitive performance within the Single Market. Also concerned are the European shipbuilding industries, for which the availability of harmonized statistics on ship traffic and of goods carried on these vessels is essential for a correct assessment of market trends and the forecast of future ship demand.

By providing harmonized statistical data on European maritime transport, coordinated with what exists on the other modes of transport, the aim is therefore to contribute to the development and monitoring of free and fair competition in the provision of maritime transport services.

#### Gist of the Opinion

The Committee is convinced that the Commission needs to have accurate, comparable statistics at its disposal in order to be able to carry out its tasks under EU maritime transport policy.

The Draft Directive under review provides for the establishment of such statistics and the Committee therefore welcomes it.

## 2. INTEROPERABILITY - HIGH SPEED TRAINS

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Directive on the interoperability of the European high speed train network*  
(COM(94) 107 final)

(CES 1297/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Joël Decaillon (France - Workers)

### Gist of the Commission proposal

The proposal seeks to pave the way for cross-frontier high speed train traffic.

The proposal provides for the establishment of a regulatory framework containing mandatory technical specifications for interoperability (TSI) and harmonized standards.

It sets out the essential requirements on safety, health, environmental protection, consumer protection, technical compatibility and operation which are to be observed; it also covers conformity assessment procedures and procedures for assessing the suitability for use of sensitive products which affect interoperability.

These key requirements form a frame of reference for technical standards to be drawn up by the three European standardization bodies (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI). The draft Directive also specifies the procedures for obtaining authorization from the supervisory authorities for setting up the various sub-systems which make up the network.

The Directive focuses on mutual recognition of national operating licenses.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee endorses the Commission's initiative. However, it feels that a number of improvements can be made, in order to:

- optimize cohesion of the system, safety and the cost-benefit ratio, bearing in mind that interoperability is essentially a long-term objective;
- improve the social aspect of the approach, by including management and labour in planning the system and the training programme;
- take the passenger's needs more into consideration.

Furthermore, the latter implies greater interoperability of railway operational practices at all levels. This aspect is only touched upon in the proposal.

Subject to these conditions, the directive on the interoperability of the high speed train network - complemented, where necessary, by interoperability of the conventional railway network and combined transport systems - could become a key factor in trans-European networks.

## 3. SAFETY AND HEALTH/WORK EQUIPMENT

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 89/655/EEC on the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work*  
(COM(94) 56 final)

(CES 1298/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Giorgio Liverani (Italy - Workers)

### **Gist of the Commission proposal**

Council Directive 89/655/EEC concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work lays down general minimum requirements applicable to work equipment. It does not lay down minimum additional requirements applicable to specific work equipment, but Article 9(1) provides that such supplementary minimum requirements shall be adopted by the Council in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 118a of the Treaty.

Furthermore, Council Directive 92/57/EEC on the implementation of minimum safety and health requirements at temporary or mobile construction sites provides that certain minimum requirements concerning on-site outdoor workstations (points 6,7,8 and 9 of Annex IV, part B, section 2) will be specified in the future Directive amending Directive 89/655/EEC.

This proposal, therefore, meets the requirements for further action provided for in Council Directives 89/391/EEC and 92/57/EEC.

The aims of the proposal are as follows:

- progressive improvement in the protection of the safety and health of workers when using work equipment;
- harmonization - as provided for in Article 118a of the Treaty - of the minimum health and safety requirements to be observed when using work equipment, in particular with respect to periodic inspection.

In formal terms, the proposal is intended as a response to the Council's invitation to supplement Directive 89/655/EEC.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee approves the reasons for and aims of the proposed Directive, including the large proportion of accidents at work still linked to the use of work equipment, new basic requirements for certain equipment and the extension of initial and periodic inspection.

The Committee would nonetheless urge the Commission to simplify the general structure and presentation of the proposal, so that SMEs in particular might better be able to comprehend and apply the minimum safety and health requirements set out.

## **4. EUROPEAN YEAR OF EDUCATION**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *European Year of Education and Lifelong Learning (1996)*  
(COM(94) 264 final)

(CES 1299/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Jan Jacob van Dijk (The Netherlands - Workers)

### **Gist of the Commission Communication**

Chapter 7 of the White Paper on growth, competitiveness and employment submitted by the Commission to the Brussels European Council in December 1993 recommends that the Commission should "set firmly and clearly the essential requirements and the long-term objectives for measures and policies" in the areas of education and training. "One way of sending an important signal and creating added awareness in this area would be to announce and organize a "European year of education".

This would make it possible to:

- make the European public aware of the importance of lifelong learning as a key factor in the personal development of individuals and for a European model of competitiveness and growth which is employment intensive;

- foster better cooperation at all levels between education and training structures and the business community, particularly the SMEs;
- help to establish a European area of education and training through the academic and vocational recognition of qualifications within the European Union and through the introduction of a European dimension in education and training;
- stress the importance of improving the equality of opportunities in access to education and training, particularly between men and women.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Economic and Social Committee approves the Commission initiative to establish 1996 as the European Year of Lifelong Learning.

The White Paper on European Social Policy states categorically that: "social policy must serve the interests of the Union as a whole and of all its people, both those in employment and those who are not. By the same token activities during the European Year of Lifelong Learning concern not only all the citizens of the Union, but also workers in the strict sense of the term.

The Committee is astonished about the short time it has been given to submit its Opinion. Furthermore, the Committee feels that the period allowed to prepare for this European Year will be very short, given that the co-decision procedure is applicable in this case.

The Committee regrets that the social partners are not included on the Advisory Committee, and points out that all social forces are prime movers in a European culture of training and qualifications.

The Commission's objectives with regard to raising awareness, publicizing and promoting this European Year constitute a great idea bereft of sufficient funding. Even compared with the European Year on health and safety, the budget is very modest; there is a clear risk of a loss of credibility for such an ambitious project. The Committee feels that the budget of ECU eight million over three years should be increased.

The Committee wonders what basis will be used to distribute the fund. In earlier experiences such as the European Year on health and safety, criteria such as active population, employment in high risk sectors and SME's were used. In the current Commission document, no criteria are mentioned.

Using the media is one of the instruments to achieve the objectives. Another instrument might be the establishment of pilot projects. The effect of presenting the positive results of pilot projects might be higher compared with only developing a slogan and a logo.

## **5. CONCLUSION GATT/URUGUAY ROUND AGREEMENTS**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Draft Council Decision concerning the conclusion on behalf of the European Community, as regards matters within its competence, of the agreements reached in the Uruguay Round multilateral negotiations (1986-1994)*  
(6537/94 - 94/0114 (AVC) - COM(94) 143 final)

(CES 1300/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Helmut Giesecke (Germany - Employers); Co-Rapporteurs: Mr Vasco Cal (Portugal - Workes) and Charles Pelletier (France - Various interests)

### **Gist of the Draft Decision**

The purpose of this Draft Decision, which draws on a far broader legal basis than Treaty Article 113 (common commercial policy) alone, is to approve on behalf of the European Community, with regard to those provisions which fall within its competence:



- ii. the following multilateral agreements and acts:
    - the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, and the Agreements in annexes 1, 2 and 3 to that Agreement,
    - the ministerial decisions and declarations and the Understanding on Commitments in Financial Services which appear in the Uruguay Round Final Act;
  - ii. the plurilateral agreements in Annex 4 to the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization,
- and the Agreement on bovine meat concluded with Uruguay.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

In its Opinion the Economic and Social Committee regrets that it is not statutorily consulted on matters relating to trade policy, other than in particular circumstances such as those currently prevailing.

The Committee reiterates the conclusions of its recent Own-initiative Opinion on the results of the Uruguay Round agreements and its general approval of these agreements.

Finally, the Committee regrets the lateness of the decision by the European Court of Justice and urges that everything be done to enable the European Union to adhere to the timetable for the creation of the World Trade Organization agreed in Marrakesh.

## **6. FRESH MEAT**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 64/433/EEC on health conditions for the production and marketing of fresh meat*  
(COM(94) 315 final)

(CES 1301/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mr Johannes M. Jaschick (Germany - Various interests)

### **Gist of the Commission proposal**

To take account of practical difficulties in the application of Directive 64/433/EEC, it is proposed to make some technical modifications to Article 3 to allow for trade in cuts of all types of offal, to clarify the obligation to indicate the code number of the official veterinarian on the commercial document or certificate for meat coming from approved cold-stores, and to clarify the provisions relating to the accompanying document or certificate.

In the light of the application of the throughput ceilings in Article 4, it is proposed to align the ceilings with those adopted by the Council under Directive 92/120/EEC for small slaughterhouses and cutting plants, and to extend the scope for small plants to cover small cold-stores. Since small establishments are required to meet the same hygiene standards as other establishments, they should be allowed to market their product throughout the Community and mark their meat with the oval stamp. It is also proposed to provide that Member States may be authorized, on the basis of a justified request, to exceed the weekly throughput limits to take account of particular circumstances.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee endorses the Commission proposal, which is likely to further the intended aim of maintaining regional operating structures. The Committee stresses that consumer health protection should not be impaired by the planned measures.

## 7. FISHERIES - CONTROL SYSTEM

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2847/93 of 12 October 1993 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy*  
(COM(94) 309 final)

(CES 1302/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mr Michael P. Strauss (United Kingdom - Various interests)

### Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission is proposing a set of amendments to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2847/93 of 12 October 1993 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy. In order to secure the desired restriction of fishing effort, the existing control arrangements are to be supplemented by rules for monitoring and controlling the fishing activities concerned. The following provisions are to be added to the Regulation:

- 1) Monitoring of movements and/or catches held on board (Article 3a).
- 2) Monitoring of fishing effort by fishermen and the Member States.
- 3) Monitoring of the use of fishing gear, particularly passive gear.
- 4) Regulation and close-down of fishing activities.

### Gist of the Opinion

The Committee finds that the proposals setting out the arrangements for monitoring compliance with the proposed new rules of access to western waters are too complex, too bureaucratic and, as they stand, incapable of enforcement. The Commission should therefore be asked to reconsider them and table arrangements which can be applied Union-wide without being unnecessarily burdensome on the industry.

## 8. COM/FISHERY PRODUCTS AND AQUACULTURE

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery products and aquaculture*  
(COM(94) 403 final)

(CES 1303/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mr Michael P. Strauss (United Kingdom - Various interests)

### Gist of the Commission document

The Commission proposal contains three main sets of provisions:

The anticipated enlargement of the Union on 1 January 1995 will require some adjustments to be made.

Under Article 18(9) of Regulation (EEC) No. 3759/92, the Council, having studied the relevant Commission report, is obliged to decide on any proposal to review the compensation scheme for tuna before 31 December 1994.

The serious crisis in the fishing industry, while mostly structural in nature, calls for adjustments to and innovations in the common organization of the market so that, while the Community holds to its international commitments, producers' incomes can be maintained and the conditions created to bring about an increase in their incomes, which have been considerably affected by the crisis. To this end it is proposed to:

- replace the existing system of monitoring in advance the extension of producer organizations' rules to non-members with an appraisal after the event so as to shorten the time required for implementation, the producer organizations being thus able to react more quickly to market trends;
- introduce, in the case of measures taken on the basis of Articles 22, 23 or 24, the requirement on non-members trading within the area of activity of a producer organization to observe the withdrawal price for the products in question;
- grant special recognition and temporary assistance to those producer organizations which draw up and implement a plan to improve product quality and marketing approved by the competent national authorities;
- provide for special financial compensation for withdrawals in cases of exceptional intervention for a limited period as a result of market disturbances.

Apart from the three sets of measures above, the Commission proposal also includes a provision to ban the use by the producer organizations of the margin of tolerance of up to 10% below the Community withdrawal or selling price in cases where minimum prices are applied to imports. This provision was previously included in a Commission Regulation laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of reference prices, which is currently being recast. It seems more appropriate to include it in the basic Regulation.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee approves the proposal, subject to certain comments on the three main factors involved:

In the accession negotiations with Norway, the Union agreed to maintain the Norwegian scheme under which producer organizations are recognized exclusively for specified areas of activity. The Committee, therefore, supports the proposal under which Member States would be able to opt for similar arrangements.

The Committee welcomes the moves to encourage particularly the smaller and more fragile producer organizations to improve all aspects of handling and marketing to promote quality. For the proposals to be a success, the bureaucratic procedures will have to be kept to a minimum and any grant aid will have to be paid expeditiously. The Committee considers, however, that the proposals as they stand are vague.

The Committee recognizes that to conform with Article XI of the GATT, producer organizations can no longer enjoy a margin of tolerance of up to 10% below the Community withdrawal or selling price when minimum prices are applied to imports, and that it will be necessary for non-members of producer organizations to observe withdrawal prices. It must, however, be stressed that the safeguard clauses (Article 24 of Regulation 3759/92) need clarifying and simplifying. An in-depth study of these clauses is required urgently, particularly in the light of the recently negotiated GATT agreement. The Committee will wish to be consulted on the outcome of such a study.

## **9. FISHERIES - RULES FOR ACCESS**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) establishing the rules for access to certain Community fishing areas and resources*  
(COM(94) 308 final - 94/0172 CNS)

(CES 1304/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mrs. Maria Luisa Freire de Andrade Santiago (Portugal - Various interests)

### **Gist of the Commission proposal**

This is the first time that the new instruments for the management of Community fisheries adopted by the Council in 1992 are to be applied in full. The aim is to manage the fisheries sector in a more balanced, integrated and rational manner, in the light of the natural limits imposed by the availability of marine resources.

Although innovative, the proposal fully respects the "acquis communautaire" and takes account of the parameters governing the Community fishing activities which are regulated in whole or in part by the fisheries chapters of the 1986 Act of Accession.

In order to ensure that the fishing effort levels laid down in the 1986 Act of Accession are not increased, and to guarantee equal treatment, the Commission proposes that fishing effort levels for all Member States concerned by the fisheries which are to be regulated be expressed as "standard-vessel days", or "SVDs".

### Gist of the Opinion

The Committee broadly approves the Commission proposal which, in accordance with the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal, provides for adjustments to the transition arrangements in the fisheries sector as of 1996. The aim is the full integration of the two countries into the Common Fisheries Policy.

However, the Committee points out that, contrary to the Commission's intentions, the new access scheme could prove even more bureaucratic than the old one, in flagrant contradiction with the Council conclusions of June 1994 which clearly established that the CFP should be as simple as possible.

The Committee also has reservations about the Commission's proposal to determine fishing effort, on the basis of "standard-vessel days" (SVDs) converted from the levels laid down in the Act of Accession in 1986.

The Committee is afraid that this method might not properly reflect the previous balances established in the Act of Accession.

## 10. TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORKS

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision on Community Guidelines for the Development of the Trans-European Transport Network* (COM(94) 106 final)

(CES 1305/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Claus-Benedict von der Decken (Germany - Various interests); Co-rapporteurs: Mr Joël Decaillon (France - Workers), Mr Robert J. Moreland (United Kingdom - Various interests) and Mr Francis J. Whitworth (United Kingdom - Employers)

### Gist of the Commission document

The proposal covers a series of guidelines ("master plans") relating to achievement of the trans-European transport network. The proposal:

- aims at **all transport infrastructures** (land, sea and air) in an **intermodal** perspective, in accordance with the commitment made by the Commission to the European Parliament in October 1993. Given that the Commission had already proposed master plans for roads, inland waterways, high-speed trains and combined transport, this new proposal **replaces** the former guidelines (based on a "modal" approach) to place them in an intermodal perspective. In addition, it adds the missing master plans: **railways, airports and sea ports**;
- was elaborated in close cooperation with the Member States, which told the Commission what their national priorities were. These projects were then placed in a European context;
- is based on Article 129d of the Treaty and aims at facilitating the achievement of trans-European transport networks, which is one of the central actions recommended by the White Paper on Growth, Competitiveness and Employment;
- the projects mentioned in the proposal serve as a **reference framework for the choice of Community financial intervention**, in particular for the Cohesion Fund, EIB loans, guarantees from the European Investment Fund and budgetary interventions under the section on trans-European networks.

A Commission memorandum stipulates that the completion of the trans-European network will require investment of at least **ECU 400 billion over the next 15 years** to be financed by a public/private partnership.

The trans-European transport network, as now proposed by the Commission is based on the following general lines:

- a) **Roads.** In total 58,000 km of roads are considered as being trans-European. Action envisaged by Member States provides for their realignment or modernization and the construction of new roads, mainly in outlying areas.
- b) **Railways.** The trans-European rail network comprises 70,000 km of track of which 23,000 km are new high-speed lines and improved conventional lines on which trains may travel at 200 km/h or more. The other lines are for combined transport or will be service lines for regions or ports.
- c) **Inland waterway network** comprises 12,000 km of navigable waterways.
- d) **Combined transport network** will consist of well-equipped intermodal platforms and corridors to ensure effective trans-loading of goods between rail, road, waterway and sea transport.
- e) Several projects are planned with a view to improving the position of **sea ports** in the transport chain as well as the efficiency of port operations.
- f) Nearly 250 **airports** are of interest to the Community, as well as the development of **air traffic management and control systems**.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee welcomes the Commission proposal as a highly significant, logical and forward-looking step for transport policy. Trans-European networks (TENs) are only one instrument of EU transport policy and cannot resolve shortcomings in EU social policy or in transport policy itself.

The main themes dealt with in the Committee Opinion are:

#### - ***Master plan***

The Committee points out that a **master plan** is essential for fixing future priorities for transport, environmental and energy policy, the level of government intervention and the extent to which the market economy must of necessity be held in check.

In this connection the Committee considers that there should be as little intervention as possible, that the economic viability of the networks should be ensured and that work needs to be done in particular on the interconnectability of the individual networks so that they can be integrated on a European-wide scale. A pan-European network can only be created by deliberately and systematically interlinking the separate networks by means of nodes which are more all-embracing than the junctions within the individual networks.

#### - ***The development process***

The Committee considers it essential to define the new types of partnership and working methods, to carry out a periodic review and to focus on the integration of existing networks which will serve as the foundation for the overall network.

In addition, the Committee wonders whether the Member States, regions, users and citizens concerned should not have a greater say in the decision-making process, and whether decisions on projects of common interest for the entire network should not be entrusted to the Council and EP.

#### - ***Financing***

As the necessary investment cannot be met in full by the public sector, the Committee stresses the need to **mobilize private capital** - though this must not mean that the planning of projects and control over parts of the network is taken away from the public authorities - and **Community financing instruments** (in particular, the possibility of EU borrowing on the private capital market should be examined).

- ***Subsidiarity***

The Committee agrees that it has to be up to Member States to determine the details of the network infrastructure and the timetable for completion. It is, however, at Community level that action will have to be taken in good time to remove obstacles which might arise at national level.

- ***Research and development measures***

The Committee considers that R & D measures, which are of fundamental importance in drawing up the master plan, should take account of the preconditions for the interoperability and interlinking of the networks, with particular regard to intermodality and accessibility, and exploit the synergies between the relevant work carried out by the Member States, the EU and other international organizations. Above all, the industry and competent authorities must be provided with better information on transport flows. In this connection the Committee has already proposed that a transport data bank be set up for identifying and studying possible trends in transport demand.

- ***Subsequent development***

In the Committee's view one of the primary tasks in the development of a master plan for the multimodal TEN will be to establish the criteria and individual measures for interoperability between the various modes at Community level.

The Committee stresses that the following work should be given priority:

- fixing of priorities within the framework of the master plan; uniform assessment of the projects from the point of view of environmental acceptability, economic viability and importance for European integration;
- immediate setting up of institutional groups with the participation of public and private bodies to study how individual projects can best be carried out with minimum outlay and the best chances of success and what obstacles will have to be removed in the interests of the EU;
- study of the advantages and weaknesses of the present regulatory conditions with a view to creating a regulatory framework as called for in the master plan;
- development of financing formulas which include/encourage the participation of private-sector bodies.

Furthermore, the Committee considers that even now, at the development stage, special emphasis must be placed on ensuring that the TEN is able to incorporate transport links with the rest of the world as far as possible, that it is open to such link-ups from the outset. For this, however, the objectives, priorities and conditions must be defined right now.

## **11. HELIOS II - HANDYNET**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the continued development of the HANDYNET system within the framework of Decision 93/136/EEC establishing a third Community action programme to assist disabled people (HELIOS II 1993-1996)*  
(COM(94) 303 final)

(CES 1306/94)

Rapporteur-General: Dame Jocelyn Barrow (United Kingdom - Various interests)

### **Gist of the Commission document**

About 30 million disabled people living in the 12 Member States need information which will allow them to enjoy greater independence in their daily and working life.

On 25 February 1993 the Council, in accordance with Decision 93/136/EEC, established the second Community action programme to assist disabled people, entitled HELIOS II. HANDYNET, the European information system, was developed as part of this programme.

The modular system HANDYNET comprises a database, an electronic mail facility and an electronic journal. Its main aim is to give disabled people access to Europe-wide - and hence multilingual - information which will, step by step, cover all areas of interest to them.

The HELIOS II programme will run from 1 January 1995 to 31 December 1996 and has three advisory bodies: the Advisory Committee, the European Disability Forum and the Liaison Group.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee points out that the grave situation of disabled people must be addressed at the political level by a declaration by the Heads of State or of Government, or, better still, by the incorporation of the rights of the disabled in a Charter of Citizens' Rights both at national and European level.

The Committee once again<sup>1</sup> welcomes the proposal for the continued development of the HANDYNET computerized information and documentation system under HELIOS II. Nevertheless it suggests the rewording of the proposal to include development as well as continuation.

All possible measures must be taken to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to legalize rights to equal opportunities in respect of employment and social life. Pressure must be brought to bear on the Member States to amplify, a) here necessary, their domestic legislation in this area. Concrete action must be taken in the fields of employment, culture and education. Public awareness is a key component in establishing political will, without which there will be no progress.

The Committee urges the Member States to encourage the maximum dissemination of the CD-ROM at national level and to step up cooperation and the exchange of information with third countries in respect of manufactured technical aids.

It recalls that the HANDYNET system should be cost effective in that economies of scale will be generated by the development of existing networks and by the cut in communications costs stemming from the widespread use of disks, print-outs and networking.

The Committee welcomes the Commission's decision to study two new modules (employment-training and accessibility) taking account of the needs expressed by the disabled themselves and to consider information on job placement. In this context it requests the Member States to step up their commitment and to support various measures such as encouraging employers to recruit disabled people.

The Committee draws attention to the fact that safety in design and construction are of particular importance to disabled people, and sometimes to the people who care for them. This aspect is not at present adequately covered.

Second-hand products are to be deleted from the database but kept in an archive file. The Committee points out that such products can and do remain in use for a long time and information must be readily available, especially on maintenance and spare parts. The introduction of liability of second-hand goods in the Product Safety Directive 1994 should be noted.

Once again the Committee stresses the need for an urgent reappraisal of VAT and zero-rating on aids for disabled people.

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<sup>1</sup> Opinion on the Commission Report to the Council on the establishment of the HANDYNET system (European Community computerized information system on disability questions) and the Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the further development of the HANDYNET system in the context of the HELIOS programme (OJ C 56 of 7 March 1990).

## 12. EUROPEAN SOCIAL POLICY WHITE PAPER

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the White Paper on European social policy - a way forward for the Union  
(COM(94) 333 final)

(CES 1307/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Vasco Cal (Portugal - Workers)

### **Gist of the Commission proposal**

The White Paper seeks to set out the Commission's approach to the next phase of social policy development (1995-99) during the final years of this century.

#### ***Jobs - the top priority***

The Commission proposes to prepare a specific action plan, develop Union-level cooperation, expand the policy content of its annual Employment in Europe Reports, strengthen its Employment Observatory system and consolidate EURES. It will present proposals to build a Union-wide job, training or education guarantee for young people under the age of 18 and set progressive targets up to the year 2000 for the elimination of basic illiteracy. It will also extend the scope and range of existing apprenticeship schemes, improve the coordinated provision of guidance and placement services and examine ways of introducing tax incentives for firms and individuals to invest in their continuing training.

#### ***Encouraging high labour standards as part of a competitive Europe***

The Commission will press for the adoption of the European Work Committee directive (adopted under the Social Protocol procedure on 22 September 1994). If no success can be achieved in Council on the posting of workers, the Commission will consider European-wide collective agreements or new proposals. If no progress can be made in Council on new forms of non-standard employment, the Commission will consider the possibility of a first step through a directive on part time work. Proposals for directives on working time based on Article 118a will be considered as regards five transport sectors plus sea fishing and other work at sea and doctors in training. The Commission will also advance discussion on extending binding minimum standards, present proposals on illegal work and organize a joint hearing to assess the Social Charter.

#### ***Health and safety at work***

A fourth programme of action on safety and health will be drawn up in 1995 including appropriate development of Union legislation, consolidation of existing provisions and promotion of information, education and training activities plus risk assessment and a study of problems in SME's.

#### ***Free movement***

The Commission proposes to review all aspects of free movement of people.

It will evaluate the measures already taken at Union level on the mutual recognition of diplomas and the comparability of qualifications, propose to extend the general system of recognition of diplomatic professions not yet covered and it will make proposals to solve the taxation problems of workers who exercise free movement, in particular frontier workers.

#### ***Social security and free movement***

The Commission will bring forward legislative proposals covering cross-border occupational and complementary social security schemes; coordination provisions for education benefits and benefits for persons in need of long-term care; third country nationals staying temporarily in another Member State; unemployment benefits for persons looking for work in another Member State; early retirement schemes based on industrial agreements. The Commission will also recommend the ratification of the UN International Convention on the protection of all migrant workers and members of their families; encourage the social partners to address the question of the conditions of employment for third-country nationals legally residing in the Union; present a proposal to give priority to third country nationals legally resident in another Member State when job vacancies cannot be filled by EU nationals or nationals of third countries legally resident in the Member State.



### ***Combatting racism and xenophobia***

The Commission will continue to monitor incidents of racial harassment, increase existing financial support for anti-racism projects; consult the social partners on the possible adoption of a code of good employment practice against racial discrimination.

### ***Equality of opportunity between women and men***

The Commission will introduce codes of practice on equal pay for work of equal value, develop measures to encourage the skilling and development of professional qualifications of women, make proposals for the removal of discriminatory fiscal and social protection policies and for the individualization of rights, follow up the childcare recommendation and assess both the job-creation and reflationary potential of child and dependent-care infrastructures and services. It will continue to develop proposals for action on the increased participation of women in decision-making in both the public and private sectors. The Commission will also publish a Fourth Action Programme and an annual "Equality Report" and press for the adoption of the proposed directives on parental leave and on the burden of proof. It will develop mechanisms to integrate the equality dimension in the operation of the Structural Funds; examine how to build monitoring by gender into all relevant Union policies; propose that regular meetings be held between the social partners and the heads of the national equality agencies represented on the Advisory Committee for Equal Opportunities.

### ***Social policy and social protection - and active society for all***

The Commission will propose maintaining and adapting the European model of the welfare state by monitoring social protection expenditure, plus complementary recommendations on the individualization of rights, on the financing of social security and on long term care insurance for people who become dependent. A modification to the directive on equal treatment in occupational social security schemes will be proposed, in line with the Barber judgement.

The Commission will continue to ensure the adoption of the next poverty and social exclusion programme. It will also build on the positive experience of the European Disability Forum, prepare an appropriate instrument endorsing the UN Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and prepare a code of good practice.

The Commission will shortly make proposals for a Decision for further Union-wide actions to help meet the challenges of an ageing population.

Serious consideration will be given to the introduction of a specific reference in the Treaties to combatting discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, age and disability.

### ***Trade unions, employers and voluntary organizations as partners in the process of change***

The Commission will bring forward proposals concerning the mandate and composition of the Standing Employment Committee; the number, mandate, coverage and composition of the social dialogue committees; implementation of Articles 3 and 4 of the Agreement on Social Policy. The Commission will also encourage the social partners at European level to consider how labour standards can be improved and how to help disabled people at work, to support positive action for women, to address the question of the conditions of employment of third country nationals and the possible adoption of good employment practice against racial discrimination, and to address major new issues such as reconciling family and work, exclusion and ageing.

The Commission proposes to institute a Forum for Voluntary Organizations to debate and discuss social policy issues.

### ***International cooperation - the role of European social policy***

The Commission intends to strengthen links with international organizations such as the OECD, ILO, the Council of Europe and the United Nations. It will also help formulate responses to the social consequences of industrial restructuring, the implementation of employment policies, the fight against poverty and social exclusion and setting up social security systems in Central and Eastern Europe.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The White Paper on European Social Policy comes as a follow-up to the presentation and debate on the Green Paper dealing with the same subject published in November 1993.

The Committee issued an extensive Opinion tackling all the questions raised by the Green Paper, and many ESC members were involved in the debates held at both Community and national level.

The Committee endorses the move to draw up a social policy action programme, at both EU and Member State level, in order to give social policy the requisite stability and predictability.

The action programme should take account of:

- An examination of the measures from the 1989 action programme which have already been approved, together with their transposition by the Member States and the practical steps taken to implement and enforce them.
- A re-evaluation and, if necessary, adjustment of the measures already presented but not yet approved, with a view to their rapid approval at Community level.
- The extension of "the floor of binding and enforceable minimum standards, as the appropriate instrument for making gradual progress towards economic and social convergence in the Union, having regard to the economic strength and capacity of the different Member States". This could lead to Community legislative proposals in such areas as protection of workers' privacy with regard to the collection, processing and transmission of personal data, equal treatment in the case of part-time work and work on fixed-term contracts, prohibition of discrimination against workers who uphold their rights or refuse to perform unlawful tasks, the right to payment of wages on public holidays and during illness, and the right of workers to be consulted on internal company matters which concern them personally.
- Further efforts to adapt and update legislation in the spheres of occupational health and safety, free movement of workers, recognition of qualifications, convergence of social security schemes including transfer of pension rights, and promotion of equal treatment for men and women, given the fact that the role of women in decision-making is fundamental to the progress of society.
- The need to extend the traditional ambit of European social policy in order to tackle the growing incidence of marginalization and social exclusion.
- The need to enshrine citizens' rights in the Treaty by including "a Treaty provision banning discrimination on grounds of sex, colour, race, opinions and beliefs".

### 13. IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS FROM NON-EU STATES

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Council Decision establishing rules for the recognition of third country health and veterinary inspection measures for fresh meat and meat products as equivalent to those applied to Community production, and for the conditions to be met for importation into the Community and amending Council Directive 72/462/EEC on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine, ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat and meat products from third countries* (COM(94) 394 final)

(CES 1308/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mr Gèuseppe Pricolo (Italy - Employeurs)

#### Gist of the Commission proposal

Community legislation concerning the conditions for the import of animal products from third countries already provides for the possibility of recognizing the equivalence of a third country's health and veterinary inspection requirements, except in the case of fresh meat and meat products.

The present proposal provides for the possibility of recognizing the equivalence of a third country's health and veterinary inspection measures for fresh meat and meat products. It would therefore complete Community legislation in this field. Measures are also proposed for establishing the conditions of importation where equivalence is recognized.

This proposal would also allow the Community to meet its international obligations, in particular as regards the United States of America whose arrangements for fresh meat have already been recognized in principle as equivalent.

The adoption of this proposal would necessitate modification of Council Directive 72/462/EEC to clarify the situation. The existing provisions of Directive 72/462/EEC would be maintained to cater for the majority of the 60 or so third countries from which imports of fresh meat are authorized.

This proposal would have no effect on the Community budget.

#### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Commission proposal is designed to extend the recognition of third country equivalence to the **fresh meat and meat products sector**, which has hitherto been excluded.

To qualify for recognition, a third country must meet a number of requirements calculated to ensure that its fresh meat and meat product imports to the EU are subject to health standards equivalent to those required of Community production.

As well as facilitating the establishment of a uniform framework for health regulations worldwide, use of the equivalence procedure should also speed up the liberalization of international trade in agricultural products, as envisaged by the new GATT agreement.

#### **14. URUGUAY ROUND - AGRICULTURE**

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Proposal for a Parliament and Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1576/89 laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of spirit drinks and Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1601/91 laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of aromatized wines, aromatized wine-based drinks and aromatized wine-product cocktails following the Uruguay Round of the multilateral trade negotiations* (COM(94) 414 final)

(CES 1309/94)

Rapporteur-General: Mr José Luis Mayayo Bello (Spain - Various interests)

#### **Gist of the Commission Proposal**

Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1576/89 of 29 May 1989, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No. 3280/92, and Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1601/91 of 10 June 1991, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No. 3279/92, lay down general rules for the definition, description and presentation of spirit drinks, aromatized wines, aromatized wine-based drinks and aromatized wine-product cocktails.

These Regulations now need to be amended in order to meet the obligations arising, in particular, from Articles 23 and 24 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, which forms an integral part of the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization. Provision must thus be made for the parties concerned to prevent, subject to certain conditions, the unlawful use of geographical designations protected by a third country member of the WTO.

#### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Uruguay Round Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) requires signatories to provide legal means in respect of geographical designations, in order to prevent (a) the use of any designation liable to mislead the consumer as to the origin of a product and (b) any use which constitutes unfair competition.

The Committee regrets that the Commission is not showing greater stringency in transposing the TRIPs Agreements in the wines and spirits sector.

## 15. AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL POLICY

**Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee** on the *Communication concerning the application of the Agreement on social policy presented by the Commission to the Council and to the European Parliament* (COM(93) 600 final)

(CES 1310/94)

Rapporteur: Mr Jan Jacob van Dijk (The Netherlands - Workers)

### Gist of the Commission proposal

Entry into force of the Treaty on European Union automatically brings into force at the same time the Protocol on Social Policy and the agreement on Social Policy ("the Agreement").

The Protocol and the Agreement state that eleven Member States "wish to continue along the path laid down in the 1989 Social charter", but they point out that the Protocol and the Agreement "are without prejudice to the provisions of the Treaty, particularly those relating to social policy which constitutes an integral part of the *acquis communautaire*".

At least until 1996, social policy will be governed, on the one hand, by the provisions of the EC Treaty, while on the other, the provisions introduced by the Agreement will form a new basis for Community action, including the possibility for the eleven Member States which signed the Agreement to adopt legislative measures. This situation has never occurred in the Community before.

Articles 3 and 4 of the Agreement constitute a significant development of Article 118b of the Treaty. They redefine the Commission's task of promoting the social dialogue by placing an obligation on the Commission, on the one hand to promote the consultation of management and labour (the social partners) and on the other hand to consult them before presenting proposals in the social policy field. These Articles also open up new possibilities as regards the dialogue between the social partners at Community level, which may be implemented in certain closely defined cases, by a Council decision on the basis of a proposal from the Commission.

Based on some criteria set out below, a number of organizations are potentially eligible to be consulted. At the same time, the Commission recognizes fully that there is a substantial body of experience behind the social dialogue established between the UNICE, CEEP and ETUC.

The Commission believes, as a matter of general principle, that the extent to which organizations should be consulted within the terms of Article 3 of the Agreement should depend on the following factors.

The organizations should:

- be cross-industry or relate to specific sectors or categories and be organized at European level;
- consist of organizations which are themselves an integral and recognized part of Member State social partner structures, have the capacity to negotiate agreements and are representative of all Member States, as far as possible;
- have adequate structures to ensure their effective participation in the consultation process.

The Commission suggests that:

- The first consultation of the social partners will be initiated on receipt of the Commission's letter. The requested consultation may be by letter or, if the social partners so desire, by the convening of an ad hoc meeting. The period of consultation should not exceed 6 weeks.
- The Commission will determine its position in the light of comments received during this first consultation and will decide whether to proceed to the second phase.
- The second phase consultation of the social partners will be initiated with the receipt of the second letter from the Commission, incorporating the content of the planned proposal initiative, together with an indication of the possible legal base.

On the occasion of this second consultation, the social partners should deliver to the Commission in writing and, where the social partners so wish through an ad hoc meeting, an opinion setting out the points of agreement and disagreement in their respective positions on the draft text. Where appropriate, they should deliver a recommendation setting out their joint positions on the draft text. The duration of this second phase shall also not exceed 6 weeks.

The social partners who are consulted on the content of a proposal for Community action may deliver an opinion or, where appropriate, a recommendation to the Commission. Otherwise they can inform the Commission of their desire to embark, in the context of their bargaining independence, upon a process of negotiation which could lead to a direct agreement between the parties. This negotiation process may take up to nine months and may be extended with the agreement of the Commission. If they are unable to reach an agreement, the Commission will examine, in the light of the work already undertaken, whether a legislative instrument in the area under consideration would be appropriate. The Commission will inform the Council of its findings. The Economic and Social Committee and the European Parliament will also be consulted in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Treaty.

Agreements concluded at Community level are to be implemented either in accordance with the procedures and practices specific to management and labour and the Member States or, in matters covered by Article 2, at the joint request of the signatory parties, by a Council decision on a proposal from the Commission. The Council is to act by qualified majority, except where the Agreement in question contains one or more provisions relating to one of the areas referred to in Article 2(3), in which case it shall act unanimously.

Under the Agreement, the Commission is not legally required to consult the European Parliament on requests made to it by the social partners concerning implementation of an agreement by means of a Council decision. However, it does intend to inform the European Parliament and to send the text of the Agreement, together with its proposal for a decision and the explanatory memorandum, so that Parliament may, should it consider it advisable, deliver its opinion to the Commission and the Council.

The Commission considers that the Council decision can only relate to the text of the Agreement as signed by the parties concerned. If the Agreement were to be amended, it could no longer be regarded as an agreement freely concluded between the social partners.

If the Council decides, in accordance with the procedures set out in the last sub-paragraph of Article 4(2), not to implement the Agreement as concluded by the social partners, the Commission will withdraw its proposal for a decision and will examine whether a legislative instrument in the area under consideration would be appropriate.

The Agreement establishes the general principle that directives may be implemented by collective agreement. This principle has been recognized in the case law of the Court of Justice. It is also in line with the provisions of the International Labour Organization and the Council of Europe.

### **Gist of the Opinion**

The Committee considers every effort should be made to incorporate an improved version of the Agreement into the Treaty at the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference.

The Protocol and Agreement comprise a major extension of the Community's powers in the social field as regards the 11 Member States party to the Agreement. This implies the proposal of measures going beyond the present **acquis communautaire**.

In the Maastricht Treaty the principle of subsidiarity is introduced. The European Parliament has distinguished two separate meanings of this principle: vertical and horizontal subsidiarity. Horizontal subsidiarity refers to the division of responsibilities between the social partners and the authorities.

The Committee takes the view that horizontal subsidiarity at EC level must cover all employees, and must include all the Directive's requirements. Otherwise, there must be back-up in the form of a State guarantee (usually legislation).

Given the Agreement's much larger field of competences in the social field, most proposals will fall exclusively under its provisions. In order to prevent a situation arising where the social partners were not consulted on social policy proposals, the Committee wonders whether a two-track procedure might be followed, comparable with the dual legal basis of Commission directives on equal treatment. If the Commission would state that it will always consult the social partners, either under the Treaty or on the Social Protocol, there would be no problem.

The Member States clearly wished the UK to join the new social policy initiatives. The UK retains the right to refuse to take part until it wishes to join. The UK cannot invoke the principle of non-discrimination when its refusal to join is the cause of any discrimination.

The social partners consulted are also potentially capable of negotiating EC level agreements. The Comitée would question how much discretion the Commission has in deciding which organizations to consult. Criteria for selection of the social partners in national systems often use the keyword "representativeness". This work does not appear in the Agreement. To render the EC social dialogue representative, it is essential that both management and labour be represented. The definition of "representativeness" can be shaped in two ways:

- a. Designate as representative EC level social partners those organizations recognized by the **national** social partners **deemed** representative by **national** law and practice.
- b. The social partners at EC level are to be selected having regard to the nature of the **process** and of the **outcome** of EC social dialogue. These would indicate transnational criteria linked to national social partners, and organizational capacity.

The criteria proposed by the Commission in paragraph 24 are ambiguous as to the need for a **negotiating** capacity of the EC social partners. A criterion requiring negotiating competence and ability to make agreements could assist EC level partners.

Member State social partners comprising the EC level organizations should be encouraged to grant adequate bargaining mandates to the EC level social partner organizations. European organizations are deemed to be those which have members in all the EU countries.

The Committee would propose that the consultation for the social partners in the first phase should be 8 weeks. The Commission should present their proposal for the second consultation period within 4 months. Then the social partners have 8 weeks to give their opinion or to say they want to start the procedure mentioned in Article 4 of the Protocol. Only a major upgrading of the social partners planning capacity to enable them to respond quickly and adequately would allow for such a short time to produce effective consultation including independent proposals. Hence the Committee's idea of an Independent Secretariat.

The Commission's Communication states that the social partners consulted "on the content of a proposal for Community action ... may ... as stated in Article 3(4)" initiate the Article 4 process. There are advantages in allowing the social partners to initiate the Article 4 procedure also after the **first** consultation, **before** Commission proposal is tendered.

Even before the Commission considers a possible direction of Community action in the social policy field, and independent of the consultation of the social partners as prescribed by Article 3 of the Agreement on Social Policy, the social partners may initiate the social dialogue autonomously. In accordance with Article 4 of the Agreement, this autonomous social dialogue may lead to contractual relations, including agreements.

If the Council refuses to take a decision, the Economic and Social Committee and the European Parliament should be asked for an Opinion.

In accordance with the case law of the European Court of Justice concerning the implementation of Community instruments through collective bargaining, now encapsulated in Article 2(4) of the Agreement, collective agreements, must **therefore be applicable to all workers whose unions and managers have given a mandate for negotiations at European level, or to all workers in the sector in question following a "declaration that the agreement is binding on everyone" ("erga omnes" procedure).**

Otherwise, there must be a back-up in the form of a State guarantee.

The Committee would stress that the decision mentioned in Article 4(2) refers to a legally binding instrument, as provided in Article 189 of the Treaty. This implies that a regulation, directive or decision are the only possible legal instruments. The real choice is between a decision or a directive. The latter can be implemented by the social partners (Article 2(4)), which may not be the case with a decision. The Committee is of the opinion that a decision and a directive are the most likely possibilities. The social partners have to decide in their agreement which instrument they prefer.

## II. FUTURE WORK

### ECOFIN Section

- Annual economic report 1995  
Session to be determined
- Monetary, financial and balance-of-payments statistics  
COM(94) 452 final  
January Session
- Taxes on tobacco and cigarettes and excise duties on alcohol  
COM(94) 484 final  
Session to be determined
- Approximation of excise duties on mineral oils  
COM(94) 485 final  
Session to be determined

### Environment Section

- Exploitation and marketing of mineral waters  
COM(94) 423 final - 94/0235  
December/January Session
- Economic growth and the environment  
COM(94) 465 final  
March/April Session

### Energy Section

- Energy efficiency of refrigerators, deep freezers and electrical household appliances (to be confirmed)  
COM(94) 521 final  
Session to be determined

### Agriculture Section

- Technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources  
COM(94) 481 final - 94/0253 CNS  
December Session
- Additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from very remote regions  
COM(94) 473 final - 94/0255 CNS  
December Session
- Common organization of the market in dried fodder (to be confirmed)  
COM(94) 508 final  
January Session
- Common organization of the market in sugar (to be confirmed)  
COM(94) 439 final - 94/0248 CNS  
February Session

### Industry Section

- Industrial competitiveness  
COM(94) 319 final  
May/June Session

**Regional Development Section**

- Fifth Periodic Report on the social and economic situation of the regions of the Community  
COM(94) 322 final  
March Session

**OWN-INITIATIVE WORK**

**External Relations Section**

- World summit on social development  
February Session

**III. MEMBERSHIP OF SECTIONS**

**SECTION FOR PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

	<b>GROUP I</b>	<b>GROUP II</b>	<b>GROUP III</b>	
B	VERHAEGHE	FERNÁNDEZ	de PAUL de BARCHIFontaine RAMAEKERS	
DK	GREEN JOHANSEN KROHN	NIELSEN B.	NIELSEN L. SKOUBY	
D	DENKHAUS KIENLE LÖW	EULEN SCHMITZ WILMS	BOISSEREE von d DECKEN ELSTNER zu EULENBURG FUCHS JASCHICK	
GR	FOLIAS	PAPAMICHAÏL	LIOLIOS	
E	GAFO FERNÁNDEZ MERCÉ JUSTE	SÁNCHEZ ZUFIAUR	CEBALLO HERRERO HERNÁNDEZ BATALLER MARGALEF I MASIÀ	
F	BOUSSAT GHIGONIS	DECAILLON (VP)		
IRL	CONNELLAN	ATTLEY	SCULLY TWIST	
I	BURANI PRICOLO	COLOMBO CARROZA SEPI (MB)	de JORIO GOTTERO RANGONI MACHIAVELLI	
L		BLESER DUNKEL	MULLER	
NL	LINSSEN	de KNEGT DRIJFHOUT	KOOPMAN STOKKERS	
P	CAVALEIRO BRANDÃO SANTIAGO	CHAGAS SEQUEIRA	ATAÍDE FERREIRA (P) COSTA MACEDO	
UK	BEALE GARDNER LEVITT	ANDREWS JENKINS MADDOCKS	ASPINALL DAVISON	
	21	22	26	67



SECTION FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	DE NORRE GAUDER PARDON	GRUSELIN PIETTE		
DK	JOHANSEN KROHN	KARGAARD	NIELSEN L.	
D	FRERICHS GIESECKE HAUSMANN PETERSEN	ENGELN-KEFER GEUENICH SCHUNK	ELSTNER RUPP	
GR	BREDIMA-SAVOPOULOU FOLIAS	KORYFIDIS PAPAMICHAÏL	KORFIATIS SKLAVOUNOS	
E	RODRÍGUEZ DE AZERO RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA-CARO STECHER NAVARRA	BAEZA BETELU SANTILLÁN	FORGAS I CABRERA MARGALEF I MASIÀ	
F	PELLETIER R. VEVER	BRIESCH (P) PE TIXIER	BASTIAN MATTEOLI PELLETIER Ch. REBUFFEL	
IRL	MEGHEN	FREEMAN	DONNELLY	
I	MERIANO PRICOLO SOLARI	CASSINA LIVERANI (MB) MASUCCI	PEZZINI	
L		MERTEN	EWERT	
NL	KIELMAN	van DIJK ETTY (MB)	KOOPMAN POMPEN	
P	ANDRADE BARROS VALE	CAL SANTOS	SÁ BORGES COSTA MACEDO	
UK	BEALE LEVITT	ANDREWS JENKINS MADDOCKS	DAVISON GUILLAUME STRAUSS	
	25	26	21	72

SECTION FOR INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, CRAFTS AND SERVICES

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	GAUDER PARDON	FERNÁNDEZ JANSSEN	RAMAEKERS THYS	
DK	GREEN KROHN	KARGAARD (MB) NIELSEN B.	HAGEN	
D	GIESECKE LEHNHOFF PETERSEN	EULEN SCHMITZ (MB) SCHUNK	BOISSEREE FUCHS SCHLEYER	
GR	FOLIAS KAZAZIS	MANTZOURANIS	KORFIATIS	
E	PANERO FLÓREZ STECHER NAVARRA	ABEJÓN MOLINA	FORGAS I CABRERA HERNÁNDEZ BATALLER	
F	PELLETIER R. SEGUY VEVER	BERNARD DANTIN	CHEVALIER GIRON du GRANRUT	
IRL	CONNELLAN (P)	CARROLL		
I	BAGLIANO BURANI REGALDO	PELLARINI SEPI VINAY	AMATO PASOTTI PEZZINI	
L	GIACOMELLI	MERTEN	MULLER	
NL	LINSSEN NOORDWAL	de KNEGT (VP) DRIJFHOUT	LUSTENHOUWER	
P	ANDRADE CAVALEIRO BRANDÃO	CAL SANTOS	ATAÍDE FERREIRA BENTO GONÇALVES	
UK	LITTLE MOBBS MORGAN	LYONS PICKERING WRIGHT	BARROW MORELAND SIMPSON	
	26	24	22	72

SECTION FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	DE NORRE	GRUSELIN HAAZE PIETTE	de PAUL de BARCHIFONTAINE THYS	
DK		CARLSLUND	HAGEN	
D	FRERICHS GIESECKE KIENLE	ENGELLEN-KEFER SCHMITZ WILMS	zu EULENBURG	
GR	LERIOS	KORYFIDIS TSIRIMOKOS	KORFIATIS LIOLIOS ZARKINOS	
E	MERCÉ JUSTE RODRÍGUEZ DE AZERO RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA-CARO	BETELU MOLINA ZUFIAUR	MUNIZ GUARDADO QUEVEDO ROJO	
F	BOUSSAT OSENAT SEGUY	BERNARD BORDES-PAGES BRIESCH DRILLEAUD	BIES-PERE	
IRL	DONOVAN MEGHEN	ATTLEY FREEMAN	DONNELLY SCULLY TWIST	
I	BERNABEI REGALDO	CASSINA MASUCCI ROSSITTO	AMATO MENGOZZI PASOTTI	
L			MULLER	
NL	LINSSEN	van DIJK (MB)	STOKKERS	
P	ANDRADE BARROS VALE	SEQUEIRA (VP)	BENTO GONÇALVES SÁ BORGES	
UK	LITTLE WALKER	CHRISTIE (MB) WRIGHT	BARROW BROOKES MORELAND (P) SIMPSON	
	20	25	24	69

SECTION FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	DE NORRE GAUDER	JANSSEN		
DK	GREEN	CARLSLUND	SKOUBY	
D	DENKHAUS HAUSMANN	EULEN (MB) GEUENICH von SCHWERIN	von der DECKEN	
GR	BREDIMA-SAVOPOULOU	PAPAMICHAÏL TSIRIMOKOS		
E	GAFO FERNÁNDEZ	BAEZA SANTILLÁN	HERNÁNDEZ BATALLER QUEVEDO ROJO MAYAYO BELLO	
F	GHIGONIS OSENAT	BRIESCH DECAILLON PE	BURNEL GIRON	
IRL	CONNELLAN DONOVAN	CARROLL FREEMAN (MB)		
I	BAGLIANO MERIANO	COLOMBO ROSSITTO VINAY	AMATO	
L		BLESER (P) MERTEN		
NL	KIELMAN	ETTY	KOOPMAN POMPEN	
P		CHAGAS SEQUEIRA	ATAÍDE FERREIRA	
UK	MOBBS WHITWORTH	SANDERSON	BROOKES GUILLAUME MORELAND	
	16	23	14	53 +1

D'AGOSTINO

SECTION FOR ENERGY, NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	GAUDER	HAAZE		
DK				
D	DENKHAUS LÖW	KONITZER von SCHWERIN	BOISSEREE von der DECKEN JASCHICK	
GR	LERIOS		KORFIATIS	
E	GAFO FERNÁNDEZ(P)	BAEZA (MB) SANTILLÁN	FORGAS I CABRERA	
F	SEGUY	BERNARD BORDES-PAGES(MB) TIXIER		
IRL		ATTLEY	TWIST	
I	BERNABEI	CASSINA PELLARINI ROSSITTO	de JORIO RANGONI MACHIAVELLI	
L		DUNKEL		
NL	KIELMAN	de KNEGT	POMPEN STOKKERS	
P	BARROS VALE			
UK	BEALE GARDNER MORGAN	LYONS (VP) PECKERING SANDERSON WRIGHT	ASPINALL	
	12	18	11	41+1

D'AGOSTINO

SECTION FOR ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND MONETARY QUESTIONS

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	PARDON (P)	GRUSELIN HAAZE JANSSEN (MB)	RAMAEKERS THYS	
DK	GREEN	CARLSLUND KARGAARD	HAGEN	
D	FRERICHS LEHNHOFF PETERSEN	GEUENICH KONITZER (MB) SCHUNK	ELSTNER SCHLEYER	
GR	KAZAZIS	MANTZOURANIS		
E	MERCÉ JUSTE PANERO FLÓREZ STECHER NAVARRA	ABEJÓN SÁNCHEZ	MAYAYO BELLO	
F	OSENAT PELLETIER R. VEVER	BORDES PAGES DANTIN DRILLEAUD	BASTIAN BURNEL du GRANRUT PELLETIER Ch.	
IRL	DONOVAN	ATTLAY		
I	BAGLIANO BURANI SOLARI	MASUCCI PELLARINI (VP) SEPI	GOTTERO PASOTTI PEZZINI	
L	GIACOMELLI		EWERT	
NL	LINSSEN	van den BURG	LUSTENHOUWER POMPEN	
P	BARROS VALE	CAL SEQUEIRA	BENTO GONÇALVES	
UK	LEVITT MORGAN WALKER	ANDREWS CHRISTIE LYONS	SIMPSON STRAUSS	
	22	24	19	65+1

D'AGOSTINO

SECTION FOR SOCIAL, FAMILY, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	DE NORRE VERHAEGHE	FERNÁNDEZ PIETTE		
DK	JOHANSEN	KARGAARD NIELSEN B.	HAGEN	
D	LEHNHOFF LÖW	ENGELN-KEFER KONITZER	zu EULENBURG FUCHS RUPP SCHLEYER	
GR	BREDIMA-SAVOPOULOU LERIOS KAZAZIS	KORYFIDIS MANTZOURANIS	SKLAVOUNOS ZARKINOS	
E	PANERO FLÓREZ RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA-CARO	BETELU MOLINA ZUFIAUR (MB)	CEBALLO HERRERO MUÑIZ GUARDADO	
F	BOUSSAT GHIGONIS	DANTIN DECAILLON PE	BURNEL CHEVALIER LAUR	
IRL	MEGHEN	CARROLL (P)	TWIST	
I	MERIANO REGALDO SOLARI	CARROZZA LIVERANI VINAY	de JORIO MENGOZZI RANGONI MACHIAVELLI	
L	GIACOMELLI	DUNKEL		
NL	NOORDWAL	van den BURG van DIJK	LUSTENHOUWER	
P	CAVALEIRO BRANDÃO	CAL SANTOS	SÁ BORGES COSTA MACEDO	
UK	MOBBS WALKER WHITWORTH	JENKINS MADDOCKS (MB) PICKERING	ASPINALL BARROW GUILLAUME	
	20	26	22	70

SECTION FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	
B	VERHAEGHE		de PAUL de BARCHIFONTAINE	
DK			NIELSEN Leif	
D	HAUSMANN KIENTLE	von SCHWERIN WILMS	JASCHICK	
GR	LERIOS	TSIRIMOKOS	LIOLIOS ZARKINOS	
E	RODRÍGUEZ DE AZERO	ABEJÓN SÁNCHEZ	MARGALEF I MASIÀ(P) MAYAYO BELLO MUÑIZ GUARDADO QUEVEDO ROJO	
F	OSENAT	DRILLEAUD TIXIER	BASTIAN BIES PERE GIRON LAUR PELLETIER Ch.	
IRL	DONOVAN	FREEMAN	DONNELLY SCULLY	
I	BERNABEI PRICOLO	COLOMBO LIVERANI	GOTTERO MENGOZZI	
L			EWERT	
NL	NOORDWAL	ETTY	STOKKERS	
P	SANTIAGO	CHAGAS SANTOS	BENTO GONÇALVES	
UK	GARDNER LITTLE WHITWORTH	CHRISTIE SANDERSON	BROOKES DAVISON STRAUSS	
	14	15	24	53



#### **IV. PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

##### **Activities of the ESC President and Vice-Presidents**

9 November 1994 : talks in Brussels with Mr Philippe de Schoutheete de Tervarent, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the EU.

9 November 1994 : meeting in Brussels with Mr Jacques Blanc, Chairman of the Committee of the Regions.

10 November 1994 : talks in Brussels with Mr Pádraig Flynn, Member of the Commission with responsibility for relations with the ESC.

10 November 1994 : meeting in Brussels with journalists from Agence Europe, VWD and Europolitique.

16 and 17 November 1994 : attendance at the meeting in Madrid of the Presidents and Secretaries-General of the Economic and Social Councils of the EU.

18 November 1994 : attendance at the European Banking Conference held in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany.

23 November 1994 : talks in Brussels with Mr Erik Forsman, Chairman of the EFTA Consultative Committee.

##### **Other activities of the Committee and its constituent bodies**

20 and 21 October 1994 : participation in the seminar on social dialogue organized by the Commission and the social partners in Brussels.

26 October 1994 : address given by Mr Michel Carpentier, Director-General of the Commission's DG XIII, on the document entitled "Europe's Way to the Information Society - an Action Plan" to a meeting in Brussels of the Committee's Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services.

4 November 1994 : attendance at a meeting in Clermont-Ferrand, France, on the subject of decentralization and the consultative role of socio-economic interest groups, organized by the Economic and Social Council of the Auvergne Region, and participation in the round table discussion on relations between consultative assemblies and executive bodies

9 November 1994 : address by Mr Robert J. Coleman, Director-General, DG for Transport at the Commission, to a meeting in Brussels of the Committee's Section for Transport and Communications.

5 November 1994 : address given by Mr Ronald Hall, representing the Commission's DG for Regional Policy, on the 5th Periodical Report on the socio-economic situation and development of the regions of the Community, to a meeting of the Committee's Section for Regional Development and Town and Country Planning held in Brussels.

15-17 November 1994 : participation in the second "Employment Week" organized by the Commission in Brussels.

17 November 1994 : attendance at the European enterprise forum organized in Tours by the Prefecture of the Centre Region and the Centre Regional Council, with the help of the European Commission, the French Ministry of European Affairs and the CRCI Île-de-France.

30 November-2 December 1994 : attendance at the 18th annual meeting of representatives of ACP/EU economic and social interest groups held in Brussels on the subject of "Industrial development in the ACP countries: stocktaking and prospects"

## V. FACT-FINDING VISITS

During the period under review the Economic and Social Committee received groups of visitors from the following bodies:

4 November 1994	Holstebro Handelskole (Denmark)
4 November 1994	Helsingør Erhvervsskoles (Denmark)
7 November 1994	Council for Building Professionals (UK)
8 November 1994	KEY TO EUROPE Handelshogeschool Groningen (Netherlands)
8 November 1994	Norwegian School of Marketing, Oslo
8 November 1994	Wirtschaftslandesrat von Oberösterreich, Linz (Austria)
9 November 1994	Commission of Bishops in the EC
9 November 1994	Representation of Finnish Industry and Employers, Brussels
9 November 1994	Young diplomats from non-EU Mediterranean States
11 November 1994	Odense Kommune (Denmark)
11 November 1994	Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain)
15 November 1994	University of Westminster - The Diplomatic Academy of London (UK)
15 November 1994	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Zimbabwe delegation)
16 November 1994	Fachhochschule des Bundes für öffentliche Verwaltung, Cologne (Germany)
17 November 1994	Jalasjärvi Institute (Adults education centre), Jalasjärvi (Finland)
17 November 1994	Landeszentrale für Politische Bildung, Kiel (Germany)
18 November 1994	Liaison Committee of the International Road Transport Union, Brussels
21 November 1994	Ecole supérieure de journalisme de Lille (France)
21 November 1994	Deutsche Gesellschaft e.V. zur Förderung politischer, kultureller und sozialer Beziehungen in Europa, Berlin (Germany)
22 November 1994	Gwent College of Higher Education, Newport (UK)
25 November 1994	Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain)
28 November 1994	Escola secundária de D. Sancho II de Elvas, Lisbon (Portugal)
29 November 1994	West London Business School (UK)
30 November 1994	Neath College, Neath (UK)

