

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 671 final

Brussels, 27 October 1982

Draft

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

on the organization of a sample survey of manpower
in the spring of 1983

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(82) 671 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. For the purposes of Community action programmes the series of labour force sample surveys is currently one of the rare statistical sources providing data on the structure and development of employment and unemployment compiled by uniform methods and based on common definitions. Its results, reflecting as they do the problems of employment and unemployment from different points of view, meet the statistical documentation requirements for social, economic, regional, industrial and agricultural policies as well as for educational and environmental policy.

2. The programme of employment statistics, which was the subject of a communication from the Commission to the Council¹⁾ and which the Council took note of on 19 July 1976 approving it in outline and confirming the importance of its effective implementation, provides for these labour force sample surveys to be conducted every two years.

In accordance with Council Regulations, the most recent surveys were carried out in 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979 and 1981²⁾. Consequently, the next survey must be organized in Spring 1983.

3. The results of the labour force sample surveys can be used to analyse, at Community level, Member State level and certain regional levels:
 - a) the structure of the population by main activity criteria (employed persons, unemployed persons, non-active persons);
 - b) the structure of employment by individual characteristics (sex, age, marital status, etc.) and by occupation (status, sector, branch, profession, etc.);

1) Doc. COM(75) 485 final

2) 1973: Council Regulation (EEC) 2723/72 of 19.12.1972
1975: Council Regulation (EEC) 2640/74 of 15.10.1974
1977: Council Regulation (EEC) 2877/76 of 23.11.1976
1979: Council Regulation (EEC) 27/79 of 19.2.1979
1981: Council Regulation (EEC) 95/81 of 20.1.1981

- c) the structure of working hours;
- d) the breakdown of unemployed persons and of other job seekers by individual characteristics, taking into account professional experience, the type of employment sought, the circumstances, length of time spent and method of seeking work;
- e) the education or training currently available for different population groups.

Since the data are collected in respect of each member of the households included in the sample, the survey is also the only instrument available for analysing the socio-economic situation of households. Account is also taken of certain specific work aspects not fully covered by other statistics, in particular different forms of employment (full-time/part-time, permanent or temporary employment) and regional and/or occupational mobility.

4. There have been considerable changes in the labour market since the beginning of the 1970s when the current series of two-yearly Community surveys was introduced. Consequently it has been necessary to adapt the content of these surveys. These changes have mainly been effected in two ways:
 1. by an even stricter delimitation of the various population categories (employed persons, unemployed persons, non-active persons) which need to be studied in order to improve comparability between countries.
 2. by obtaining statistical data in areas which are the subject of specific Community policies (notably temporary work, as a link between training and employment).
5. As stated in Article 8 of the draft Regulation, for the conduct of this survey the Member States will receive a flat rate sum proportional to the number of households surveyed. On the basis of the appropriations for previous surveys and of the number of households, the maximum contribution for all the Member States can be estimated at ECU 2 500 000, i.e. a flat rate subsidy per household of ECU 3.84. The costs will be allocated in Article 263 and if necessary under item 6400 of the budget of the European Communities.

Draft
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

on the organization of a sample survey of manpower
in the spring of 1983

(presented to the Council by the Commission)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 213 thereof.

Having regard to the draft Regulation submitted by the Commission,

Whereas, in order to carry out the tasks which are assigned to it by the Treaty, in particular Articles 2, 117, 118, 122 and 123 thereof, the Commission must know the situation and developments in employment and unemployment;

Whereas the statistical information available in each of the Member States does not provide a suitable basis for comparison, particularly because of the differences between the laws, rules and administrative practices of the Member States on which these statistics are based;

Whereas by reason of considerable changes in the field of employment and unemployment, it appears necessary to have statistics permitting valid comparisons to be made between Member States;

Whereas the best method of ascertaining^{the} level and the structure of employment and unemployment consists in carrying out harmonized and synchronized Community labour force sample surveys; whereas only the repetition in 1983 of the surveys already carried out in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979 and 1981 will enable this information to be obtained,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In the spring of 1983, the Commission shall undertake a manpower survey based on a sample of households in each of the Member States.

Article 2

This survey shall be carried out in each of the Member States in a sample of households residing in the territory of those States at the time of the survey. The information shall be collected for each member of the households included in the sample.

Article 3

The sample shall comprise between 60 000 and 100 000 households in the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom, between 30 000 and 50 000 in Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands and Ireland, between 30 000 and 40 000 in Denmark and about 10 000 in Luxembourg.

Article 4

The survey shall cover:

- a) the individual characteristics of all members of the households questioned;
- b) the occupational activity of these persons (status, type of activity, hours of work, etc.) at the time of the survey and one year prior to it;
- c) attempts to find work, taking into account the type of employment sought, the circumstances and length of time spent seeking work;
- d) participation in training courses;
- e) work previously done by unemployed persons of working age.

Article 5

The information shall be gathered by the statistical services of the Member States on the basis of a list of questions drawn up by the Commission in cooperation with the said services.

The Commission shall determine, in collaboration with those services, the technical details of the survey. It shall also establish, under the same conditions, the starting and closing dates of the survey and the deadlines for transmission of the results.

Article 6

The statistical services of the Member States shall check the answers collected. They shall forward to the Commission the results of the survey for each person questioned, who shall remain anonymous.

Article 7

The individual items of information provided in the context of the survey may be used for statistical purposes only. They may not be used for fiscal or other purposes and may not be communicated to third parties.

The Member States shall take appropriate measures:

- a) to ensure that the information requested is furnished truthfully and in its entirety within the period specified;
- b) against any infringement of the obligation under the first paragraph to preserve the confidentiality of the information gathered.

Article 8

For the conduct of this survey, the Member States shall receive a flat-rate amount of 3.84 ECU per household questioned. This amount shall be set off against the appropriations provided for this purpose in the budget of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at

For the Council
The President

FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Budget heading concerned: Article 263 and Item 6400

2. Subject of the report: Labour force sample survey in Spring 1983

3. Legal basis: Council Regulation (EEC)

4. Purpose: Conduct of a labour force sample survey in member countries in Spring 1983 to determine the structure and level of employment and unemployment in Member States on a comparable and harmonized basis

Previous surveys

Year	Regulation (EEC)	Flat-rate contribution per household	Number of households surveyed
1973	2723/72 of 19.12.1972	2.30 ECU (1)	434 726 (2)
1975	2640/74 of 15.10.1974	2.50 ECU	506 925
1977	2877/76 of 23.11.1976	3.00 ECU	512 295
1979	327/79 of 19.02.1979	3.33 ECU	502 901
1981	195/81 of 20.01.1981	2.61 ECU (3)	579 178 (4)
1983		3.84 ECU (5)	650 000

5. Financial implications

5.0 Expenditure: Total Community contribution to be charged against the EC budget 2 500 000 ECU :

5.1 The Community contribution covers only part of the entire cost of the surveys carried out by the national statistical offices

5.2 Method of calculation: It is proposed to calculate the flat-rate contribution to the Member States for each household taking part in the survey on the basis of the total number of households laid down in Article 3 of the Council Regulation (650 000 households). This works out a 3.84 ECU per household.

6. Financing: See Note (6)

7. Control arrangements: Control of compliance with financial Regulation, control at technical level of results

(1) For the six original Member States taking part in both the basic inquiry and the complementary inquiry and 1.6 Ecu for the United Kingdom taking part in the basic inquiry only.

(2) Ireland and Denmark did not take part in this survey.

- (3) Basic inquiry only. No complementary questionnaire was added to the basic inquiry.
- (4) Estimate, including Greece; Luxembourg did not take part in the survey.
- (5) The rise in the flat-rate contribution per household from 2.61 to 3.84 ECU is due to increased costs resulting from inflation and the need to improve the quality and speed of the survey for its use as a basis for Community activities.
- (6) 2 000 000 ECU are entered under Article 263 of the 1983 preliminary draft budget and the remainder (500 000 ECU) under Item 6400.

