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**Corrigendum
to Bulletin 1-1968**

Page 12, sec. 6, line 9, should read:

- The measures decided on by the British Government concern:
- i) The reduction of certain public expenditures, both military and civil;
 - ii) The abolition of certain export refunds;
 - iii) An increase in corporation tax from 40 to 42.5%;
 - iv) A rise in Bank rate from 6.5 to 8%;
 - v) A limit on bank advances;
 - vi) Holding down borrowing requirement to £1 000 million in the financial year 1968-1969;
 - vii) Restrictions on hire purchase of cars;
 - viii) Strict control of prices, wages and dividends.

I. Debate in the European Parliament on problems connected with the admission of new members following the Council meeting of 19 December 1967

On 23 January 1968, the European Parliament held an important debate and adopted a resolution presented by the Political Affairs Committee on the Council's decisions of 19 December 1967 concerning the applications for membership from the United Kingdom and other European countries. The spokesmen of the various political groups, the President of the Commission and many members of the Parliament took the floor; the Parliament thus had an opportunity clearly to express its views on the key questions involved and, by confronting divergent opinions on the results of the Council's deliberations, to define the difficulties and note a broad measure of agreement on many points. As the final resolution shows, the majority of the speakers, except those from one political group, regretted that it had not been possible to open negotiations because of the position adopted by the French Government in opposition to the unanimous opinion of the Commission; negotiations would have shown whether or not the necessary conditions were fulfilled so that the applications for membership could be accepted or rejected or agreement reached on other forms of participation. The Parliament's views on this point were similar to those expressed by the Commission in the concluding part of its memorandum.¹ The debate concentrated on several themes: the political, rather than economic, nature of the disagreements between Member States concerning enlargement of the Communities; the repeatedly expressed concern that the work of the Communities should continue, and the need to use every possible means to bring about a satisfactory solution; the dangers that might threaten Europe if the Communities were not enlarged (position of political and economic inferiority vis-à-vis the major world powers of the present day). In addition, speakers pointed out that the deep-rooted democratic traditions of the British would make a valuable contribution to the harmonious development of the Community, particularly at the parliamentary level.

On the other hand, the speakers from the European Democratic Union stressed that the United Kingdom's economy would have to be successfully transformed before she joined the Communities; rejecting the "all or nothing" attitude of the British, they suggested that it would be possible to arrive at an "arrangement" which would reserve the future and enable negotiations, once started, to come to a rapid and successful conclusion.

Although in both its resolution and the debate which preceded it, the Parliament expressed its regrets about recent events, it nevertheless turned resolutely to the future, requesting that the applications for membership be kept on the agenda and hoping that the difficulties might be surmounted by the establishment of Community relations in various fields with the United Kingdom and the other European countries that had asked to join, and by further meetings of Heads of State or Government.

¹ See Bulletin No. 11-1967, Ch. I.

Presenting his 1967 report on the applications for membership, M. Scelba (Italy), Chairman of the Parliamentary's Political Affairs Committee, began by expressing his regret that France had opposed the opening of negotiations with the countries that wished to join the Communities; he considered that such negotiations would have shown whether the difficulties were really insuperable, as the French Government thought.

Recalling that the ECSC, EEC and Euratom had been conceived as open Communities, the speaker held that the French attitude was contrary to the letter and spirit of the Treaties, in so far as it reflected opposition to any enlargement.

Moreover, M. Scelba said, such opposition was not only an obstacle to the Communities' internal development but also a factor that would weaken their position vis-à-vis the super-powers.

The European Parliament ought, however, not merely deplore this state of affairs but suggest a way out of the present situation. The speaker therefore urged the Parliament to insist that the time-limits for the achievement of the full economic union be respected. Everything possible ought to be done to overcome the present difficulties by re-examining the dossiers that were still on the table, in the light of the British Government's recent decisions — decisions which proved that the country was resolved to turn more than ever towards Europe. In his conclusion, M. Scelba said that a fresh summit meeting of Heads of State or Government might reduce current divergences and help forward the integration of the Community.

The views of the political groups

Speaking on behalf of the Christian-Democrat group M. Illerhaus (Germany) broadly endorsed what M. Scelba had said, but urged the Member States to avoid adopting attitudes that might paralyse the advance of economic union within the Community. The reasons why the Six should act together had never been so obvious, and the speaker mentioned, in this connection, the need for closer co-operation at Community level with regard to monetary policy. It was also to be hoped that the Community would show real solidarity and a co-operative spirit at the forthcoming World Conference on Trade and Development in New Delhi. This attitude had served its cause well in the Kennedy Round.

M. Illerhaus considered that for a solution to be reached it was desirable that the United Kingdom abandon its policy of "all or nothing", and that France do the same. In order to end the deadlock, the problem would have to be re-examined; M. de Lipkowski's proposal for an arrangement that would lead on to full membership would have to be taken into account, and Britain's advance towards Europe would have to be recognized.

In conclusion, M. Illerhaus said that there was no time to be lost. "Let us therefore", he said, "avoid paralysing the Community and speed up the preparatory work for its enlargement."

After commenting on certain points in the draft resolution, urging particularly that the word "supranational" be inserted, M. Burger (Netherlands), who spoke for the Socialist group, said that the resolution should be seen in a worldwide context. The real question was whether the various countries of Europe could still play an important part in a world dominated by the two super-powers. Assuming that they refused to become puppets of the latter because they aspired to a satisfactory

future of their own, it was essential that the countries of Europe should unite. European unification, although desirable in itself as a contribution to peace and stability in the world, could not be confined to the six Community countries. Moreover, M. Burger went on, the authors of the Treaty of Rome were perfectly well aware of this. Article 237 made it clear that the Community was intended to be an open one. Furthermore, unification could not be achieved unless, in addition to enlargement of the Communities, there were a supranational institution continually working to further this objective.

The speaker mentioned that young people's enthusiasm for the European ideal had waned somewhat. This he attributed to the atmosphere of frustration created by crises in the Communities and the inability to resolve disagreements. Furthermore, he thought that the way in which France had acted was unfortunately bound to have the effect of inducing the other countries to isolate her in her turn.

With regard to the legal aspects of the procedure for the accession of new members, M. Burger considered that the Community was in an unusual situation at present. Explaining what he meant by this, he said that the first paragraph of Article 237 of the EEC Treaty lays down that any European State wishing to become a member of the Community shall address its application to the Council which, after obtaining the opinion of the Commission, shall act by means of a unanimous vote, and lead on to the procedure outlined in the second paragraph of the same Article. The main feature of the second paragraph was, however, that the Community procedure would be set aside as a new phase opened in which the Member States would act as sovereign and independent States. Although the latter could subsequently authorize the Commission to conduct the negotiations, the final decision as to whether any particular State could become a member would have to be taken not by the Council but by each of the Member States and, ultimately, by each of the national Parliaments. But instead of deciding either for or against the admission of the United Kingdom, the Council, M. Burger declared, had simply published a communiqué stating, among other things, that no Member State had raised objections of principle. Having said this, the President of the Council ought, the Socialist spokesman concluded, to have declared that the Community procedure laid down in the first paragraph of Article 237 had been completed, and that it was then for the Member States to continue the matter.

Referring to the attitude of his own country, the Netherlands, after the declaration of disagreement within the Council, the Socialist spokesman said that nothing would be achieved by pursuing a policy designed to slow down the development of the Community; the French refusal ought not to be countered by negative reactions but by a coherent and determined policy.

In addition, M. Burger doubted whether a solution could be found through any "step by step" policy, such as the one advocated by — among others — M. Brandt, the German Foreign Minister. To ask the United Kingdom to make do with joining Euratom, for example, was not a very attractive offer at a time when that body's development was being hampered by the lack of a budget adequate to its needs.

M. Burger also declared that he was not much in favour of summit conferences, since their effect seemed to be to reduce the Commission to a secondary role, whereas it ought to remain the central body.

Speaking on behalf of the Liberal and allied group, M. Berkhouwer (Netherlands) made four main points. Firstly, European problems must be seen in a world context, in the light of political events. Secondly, the growing *de facto* interdependence, which called for as much political cohesion as possible, should be recognized;

but what was in fact happening at present was that the western world was becoming more and more divided. Thirdly, M. Berkhouwer denounced the widespread recrudescence of nationalism and its corollaries, isolationism and protectionism. Lastly, the tendency to think in terms of force and unconditional acceptance was even greater than before; this attitude could only result in a monologue, whereas it was essential that there should be a dialogue.

In M. Berkhouwer's view, the debate ought not to get bogged down in legal considerations, but should resolutely face up to the political aspects of the problem.

Furthermore, he did not accept the argument that negotiations might perhaps block the Community's development. He thought that the development of the Community would be more hampered by the absence of negotiations.

Now that the United Kingdom was falling back on Europe, now that she had decided to withdraw from her bases East of Suez, we should — the speaker said — be consistent with ourselves. This was therefore the moment to open the door to Great Britain, if she were not to become a satellite of the United States.

M. Berkhouwer also mentioned world monetary problems, and stressed that they could not be solved by the Six alone, without the United States and Great Britain.

In conclusion, he spoke of the need to promote the development and the democracy in Europe, and considered that, on this point, the Community could not afford to reject the support it would get from the United Kingdom and the Scandinavian countries.

On behalf of the European Democratic Union, M. Terrenoire declared that the present deadlock in the Council of Ministers with regard to the British application for membership of the Common Market was, essentially, the outcome of political differences between the Member States. This political disagreement could have been overcome if more attention had been paid to fundamental questions, instead of allowing the opening of negotiations to become an end in itself. Common sense, and concern for efficiency, he said, would demand that an agreement be reached before any negotiations were opened.

The EDU spokesman then made several points, the aim of which was "much less to express regret, or try to explain, than to illuminate landmarks on the only routes practicable in future":

1. An "arrangement" with the British would be the only practical and reasonable solution, to begin with. If the Six, after examining the essentials of the problem and reaching agreement among themselves, had proposed this unanimously, the British Government would not have persisted in its policy of "all or nothing";
2. But everything had happened as if the applicants had been sure in advance that there would be disagreement, and they had been, and still were, concerned to play on this disagreement, in the dogged hope — so characteristic of them — that by trying to break open the door of the Common Market they could induce the Five to force the hand of the sixth Member State;
3. Since any idea of reprisals would run counter to the desired objective, common sense demanded that the European Communities should continue their work, and that the United Kingdom should successfully complete her economic recovery and begin the necessary mutation, after which a phased solution leading on to membership might be envisaged.

But what was more important than anything else now, M. Terrenoire declared, was the will of the British people and the decisions taken by the British Government and — on the Community side — the uninterrupted build-up of the structures of the economic union.

Speaking for the Socialist group, M. Mitterrand (France), who was making his maiden speech in the European Parliament, began by recalling the role that the latter ought to play in the present crisis. Just as it was its right and duty to address itself to the general public, in order to inform it and, having done that, to get its support for principles on which the future of Europe depended, so too, the speaker maintained, it was the European Parliament's right and duty to address itself to the Governments and to the Council, and to do so loudly and clearly. However, he continued, the European Parliament must be honestly representative of the national Parliaments, and this meant that it ought to include Communist members.

Criticizing the narrowly nationalistic policies pursued by certain Governments in particular fields, M. Mitterrand said that at present an appeal to the European will seemed all too often to be regarded as means to justify national contentions. Turning next to the tasks for the future, the speaker emphasized that, in addition to making the fullest possible use of the clauses already contained in the Treaties, bold initiatives should be taken in the near future as regards currency, technology and social policy. The Community ought also to develop at the cultural level, with the creation of a European University. In the field of technology, there were still immense tasks that the various countries ought to tackle together, and M. Mitterrand regretted that the Council of Ministers had granted Euratom barely 50% of the sums requested by the Commission.

"Moreover," the spokesman of the Socialist group declared, "the Europe that is being built up at present does not correspond to the idea Socialists have of Europe, for it is neither Europe by the workers nor Europe for the workers." Priority should be given to the social problems of the less-favoured classes and regions.

Turning to the question of the accession of the United Kingdom, M. Mitterrand said, "We think that Europe should be opened up by enlarging its area and its market without fearing the advent of the countries naturally destined to join the Community." In this connection, he added, "When I hear some of my colleagues using economic arguments to counter the refusal to negotiate with the United Kingdom, I feel like telling them that a political question demands a political answer. If they confine themselves to the economic level, the eminent experts who are considering ways of resolving the disagreement about negotiations between the United Kingdom and the Six may only arrive at a dialogue of the deaf with the French Government."

To the question; "Why negotiate with the United Kingdom?", M. Mitterrand would answer: "Because she is the leading EFTA country and because the applications from other countries are conditioned by hers"; because she is, in the industrial, commercial, maritime and technological fields, the most important partner that we can have in the present circumstances; because she provides an example of a model democracy; because it is inconceivable to have agreements with Greece and Turkey assuming in principle that they will enter the Community, when a country like Britain — which is, geographically, historically, economically and culturally, just as much part of Europe as any other country and more so than some — is not allowed to discuss the conditions and possible time-limits for her admission, which she has requested."

Refusing to talk with the United Kingdom amounted, M. Mitterrand said, to "turning one's back on just those objectives one claimed to be pursuing."

With regard to the structures of the Community, the spokesman of the Socialist group recognized the need to consolidate these in the way outlined by President Rey. In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that the choice was not between national independence and Europe, but between Europe — in which each could maintain his personality and ensure the perpetuation of his homeland — and submission to foreign interests.

Speaking for the European Democratic Union, M. de Lipkowski said that "difficulties were inevitable in so far as one cannot embark upon an undertaking like ours, never before attempted in the history of this old continent, without raising enormous difficulties." In addition, he went on: "Experience shows that, since we have always ended up by resolving our disagreements, it would be better to try to find conciliatory solutions straightaway."

Recalling the principles behind French policy with regard to the admission of new members, M. de Lipkowski declared: "We have, of course, no objection of principle to the entry of the United Kingdom into the Common Market. Our attitude is in no way a blind, a bad excuse, a subterfuge. We regard the entry of the United Kingdom as being eminently desirable, not only because enlargement is provided for in the Treaty but also because the entry of the United Kingdom is in line with the fundamental idea behind our conceptions of Europe, with — that is — the aim of reinforcing the specific weight of Europe in order to enable it to play its part in the world."

Coming to the crux of the problem, the spokesman said he believed that the difference between the six partners was not so great as was generally thought. In fact, he maintained, they were all in agreement with the Commission's memorandum, which gave a very detailed picture of the highly complex problems posed by British accession. They were also unanimous that Britain should not be allowed to enter regardless of the cost and, on the contrary, that the cohesion and originality of the Community should be preserved. The difference between the Member States, the speaker underlined, was however that everyone else was talking about lengthy negotiations, whereas the French considered that it was in the Community's interest that they should be short.

In view of the difficulties with which the British economy was faced, and the differences in its structures due to the fact that the Community had already been in existence for ten years, the United Kingdom would need a very long time to adapt herself. "During the period of these negotiations, we might risk being paralysed internally." For this reason, he went on, "If our interest demands that the negotiations be short, we must nevertheless prepare the ground sufficiently beforehand, so that the negotiations for membership become in effect no more than implementing procedures, dealing less with the basic aspects than with current problems."

From this point of view, M. de Lipkowski proposed a concrete solution which would consist in preparing the United Kingdom for membership. This transitional solution was not a blind and was not meant to be "a delaying manoeuvre, proposing a vague and humiliating statute of association". This solution would consist in an initial step forward, creating a kind of free trade area for certain industrial products. The concessions from the Community would obviously have to be matched with equivalent concessions from the United Kingdom. The list of liberalized products would be revised every year by a kind of permanent council which would be set up between the Six and the United Kingdom. In addition, a parallel list of agri-

cultural products could also be negotiated. M. de Lipkowski did not think it worth considering whether this proposal should involve certain conditions regarding time-limits or automatic mechanisms.

The EDU spokesman ended by reiterating his devotion to the idea of a political Europe and by expressing his conviction that it was not through facile solutions and half measures "that this European nation whose voice would be heard speaking with authority in this redoubtable world, could be brought to birth".

M. Metzger (Germany), who was also speaking for the Socialist group, recalled certain provisions of the Treaty of Rome. Those who were now eager to declare that the United Kingdom should first of all adapt herself so as to be able to apply all the provisions of the Treaty of Rome and accept the institutional structures should set an example themselves by applying the Treaty faithfully. But, he went on, did those who were against the opening of negotiations for British membership themselves accept the Treaty in every respect? Was not the French Government itself refusing to implement the provisions concerning majority voting, which was explicitly provided for in the Treaty? Such an attitude, M. Metzger maintained, certainly did not help to consolidate and strengthen the Community, although France had said she was concerned to further these aims.

Replying to the speeches made by the EDU speakers, M. Metzger said that M. Terrenoire's reasoning had left him with the impression that France's attitude in this case smacked of a punitive campaign against the British, whilst M. de Lipkowski's arguments seemed to him to have been contradicted on several points, and on many occasions, by President de Gaulle himself.

It was now for the Council, M. Metzger concluded, to see whether France really took the possibilities for a solution seriously. If, however, it turned out that all doors remained firmly shut, alternatives would necessarily have to be sought. The speaker considered that it would be a bad business for France if, outside the Treaty of Rome, nine European States were to agree to collaborate in a number of fields without her. M. Metzger declared that his group agreed that all possibilities should be investigated. They thought that there could be no Europe without France. However, he concluded, that also went for the United Kingdom and the other applicants.

In his speech¹ M. Rey, President of the Commission, declared that "had it not been for that unfortunate decision of 19 December 1967, we would have been able to say that 1967 was an excellent year in every respect for the Community". The President recalled the Commission's position: it was necessary to negotiate, it was necessary to look tenaciously for a compromise solution. M. Rey then pointed out that the Communities remained the nucleus for the integration of the European continent, and that they ought to be alive and develop in order one day to be able to welcome the United Kingdom and other countries. Any attempt that might check this development would serve no purpose and would make future deliberations more difficult. Furthermore, the President of the Commission said, "Our Commission is opposed to all lateral movements that might occur outside the Communities and through which it might be imagined that solutions to the present crisis could be found". He ended by mentioning the various ways in which the Community might return to the problem of enlargement and make progress on it.

¹ M. Rey's speech was published in EEC Bulletin 2-68, Ch. I.

The general debate and the resolution

Speaking in a personal capacity, M. Armengaud (France — Liberal and allied group) raised a number of questions: why ought the United Kingdom to join, and what kind of Community ought she to join? Was it simply in order to create a larger economic area? Was it in the hope of undermining some of the rather restrictive rules imposed on the Common Market? Was it in order to create an economic and political entity that could express a serious opinion on world problems? And what kind of Europe ought she to join? An Atlantic Europe? A European Europe? A Europe of vested interests? Would it be a Europe that would bring about an effective *détente* with its eastern parts, to the point of loosening their links with the USSR and thus permitting an effective *détente* with the East? Would it be a Europe in which there was full employment, a Europe strengthened by a European currency that would become one of the features of a new monetary system appropriate for the expansion of world trade?

M. Armengaud said that time would of course show, "but in any case, as politicians, we have to consider what the Europe of the Six in which we live stands for today". In the present circumstances, Europe — a collection of small nations — was regarded both by the USSR and by the United States as an entity that did not carry any weight, and its advice and opinions were not heeded.

"Thus", M. Armengaud declared, "in the face of this dual complex of superiority and oversimplification, our political survival demands that Europe be strong, economically and politically."

Did they then want a Europe that included the United Kingdom? Yes, the speaker replied, "if this Europe were characterized not by competition between various States but by organization, the planning of investment, industrial specialization, and co-operation between enterprises in their development and activities. Yes, if it were a Europe in which there were European companies. Yes, too, "to show by results that we can create an economic, political and moral force that will have sufficient power of attraction for our fellow-citizens and the Third World — that of a dynamic civilization abreast of scientific progress but in which man remains the ultimate value."

Yes, again, "in order to put an end to the myth of general liberalization of trade as a panacea for all the ills suffered by the most deprived, and their domination by the most powerful and richest nations." Yes, for a common industrial strategy, and for a common energy policy.

Yes, too, "in order to apply an incomes policy at the level of the Europeans which will ensure a just distribution of wealth among them and a reasonable share for the developing countries."

Yes, too, "in order to have the economic and financial strength to enable us to influence the course adopted by the nations of continental scale, or even their behaviour, and not to leave alone, as leaders of the world, a redoubtable trinity that would deprive us of our liberties."

"The strength of Europe would thus make its contribution to a modern message," M. Armengaud said, "that of a civilization, a thousand years old, which, except in periods of international or religious wars has been able to play a decisive part in the development of the world."

Of course, he added, having the United Kingdom in the Common Market would not be enough to ensure that all these objectives were achieved. But this was a chance that should not be missed.

For these reasons, the speaker concluded, a dialogue should be started with the United Kingdom. Talking did not mean accepting these imperatives automatically. "But to say 'No' first of all, *ex abrupto*, would mean either condemning one party's intentions without a hearing or else running the risk of allowing the gigantic, even dangerous, mass of an excessive American power to weigh for ever on our Europe of the Six, as also the threat of subversion from the East." In either case, M. Armengaud thought, Europe would cease to exist as such, becoming "a peninsula that would be a satellite of one of the nations of continental dimensions."

Other members of the Parliament, who spoke more briefly, stressed the need for vigorous action to continue the Community's advance (M. Battista — Italy, Christian Democrat; M. Herr — Luxembourg, Christian Democrat) or the need to safeguard the results already achieved (M. Van Hulst — Netherlands, Christian Democrat).

M. Battista (Italy — Christian Democrat) also thought that the present situation of the Community was serious and disquieting. However, one must take care not to envenom the situation further by allowing oneself to be carried away by feelings or emotions. "Let us therefore," he said "follow the example of the European Executive which, through its President, has set an example of an objective and realistic approach to the problem".

The speaker described the French attitude as "extremely serious from every point of view", consisting as it did in refusing to open negotiations because the French Government considered that the economic and financial situation of the United Kingdom did not warrant them. He pointed out that the British Government was making enormous and courageous efforts to improve the position, thus showing great goodwill. Moreover, one should not simply make adverse comments on British finances, economy and agriculture without allowing the British to reply.

M. Battista challenged certain affirmations about the "bad conduct" of the United Kingdom in this stage of its approach to the Community.

With regard to a possible summit meeting of Heads of State or Government, the speaker considered that it could only produce positive results if prior agreement had been reached on certain points concerning the unification of the European continent.

In conclusion, M. Battista expressed his conviction that the world needed a strong and united Europe, able to make a decisive contribution to its progress.

M. Van Hulst (Netherlands — Christian Democrat) thought that both the letter and the spirit of the Community Treaties were in favour of enlargement. Consequently, he said, to close one's ears to requests for membership amounted to denying the Communities' vocation.

After emphasizing that the present difficulties had arisen neither about the Commission nor about the competences of the European Parliament, but that the crisis was in fact one within the Council itself, the speaker pointed out that the French attitude on the subject was not really based on economic and financial considerations but was really political.

Speaking of the situation in his own country, M. Van Hulst said that all the political parties and a large majority of the Dutch people were disappointed at the French Government's attitude towards the enlargement of the Communities. Moreover, he profoundly regretted the effects that the European crises had on young people's belief in Europe, which had not previously wavered.

M. Dichgans (Germany — Christian Democrat) welcomed M. de Lipkowski's idea of creating a sort of "pre-membership Council" in which the Six would discuss with the United Kingdom the state of her advance towards Europe. "It is not much in itself," he said, "but it is nevertheless better than nothing at all."

The speaker concluded his short speech by urging more contacts with British Members of Parliament.

The Parliament then examined the draft resolution. Two amendments were discussed. The first, presented by M. Vals on behalf of the Socialist group, was to re-draft paragraph 4 as follows: "Calls upon the Governments of the Member States [...] in order to bring to birth to new supranational forms of European Communities..." (the rest unchanged).

On behalf of the European Parliament's Political Affairs Committee, M. Scelba, the rapporteur, asked that this amendment be rejected, because he considered, in particular, that the United Kingdom might also not be much in favour of a definitely supranational form of integration.

M. Burger, while expressing reservations about this argument, also favoured rejecting the amendment, in view of the fact that the wording proposed by the Political Affairs Committee already allowed of a supranational interpretation. The Parliament then rejected M. Vals' amendment.

The second amendment, proposed by M. Schuijt (Netherlands — Christian Democrat) was to omit "... bring to birth new forms of European Communities endowed with competence in the ... military field ..." This amendment was rejected.

Before the draft resolution was put to the vote, M. Habib Deloncle (EDU) spoke again. He asked that a separate vote be taken on the first paragraph. Since the paragraph, he explained, deplored the position adopted by a member Government, nobody would be surprised if his group voted against it. The rest of the resolution, he continued, ought however to be adopted, because it looked to the future and was much more positive in character. M. Habib Deloncle then stressed the particular importance of section 5 of the draft resolution, calling for a summit meeting of the six Heads of State or Government "to reinforce our Europe". Summing up the views of his group, the speaker concluded by saying that it would vote against the first part of the resolution, and for the four last points, and that it would abstain on the resolution as a whole.

After expressing regret that certain speakers who had taken part in the debate were no longer present for the vote, M. Berkhouwer announced that the Liberal and allied group would vote for the proposed resolution.

On behalf of the Christian-Democrat group, M. Miccara also announced that his group would vote in favour of the text as a whole.

The resolution was unanimously adopted at the close of the debate, with the EDU group abstaining. The resolution reaffirmed the need to ensure the normal functioning of the Communities and invited the Governments to do their best to bring to birth new forms of European Communities — technical, scientific, military and political — that could facilitate the creation of a United States of Europe.¹

M. Poher, the President of the Parliament, then declared that, as M. Burger had suggested, the text of the resolution would be communicated to the Parliaments of the Member States.

¹ The full text of the resolution is given in the Annex to this Bulletin.

II. The enlargement of the Communities

Developments since 19 December 1967

The January issue of the Bulletin of the European Communities contained a report on the Council meeting of 19 December 1967 and the events which preceded it.¹ Since then there have been various contacts between the Governments of the Member States, debates have been held in the European Parliament and other assemblies, and various Member States have published aides-mémoires or statements in an attempt to find some way of overcoming the difficulties caused by the lack of agreement between the Six on 19 December. These efforts culminated in a fresh discussion of the question at a Council meeting on 29 February 1968.

Various meetings have taken place between Heads of Governments or Ministers for Foreign Affairs of certain member countries, the United-Kingdom and the other countries which have applied for membership.

On 2 January 1968 Mr George Brown, British Foreign Secretary, met M. Fanfani the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs in Rome. On 8 January Lord Chalfont, Minister of State at the British Foreign Office and Head of the British delegation appointed to handle possible negotiations, visited the Federal Government in Bonn. On 12 January Lord Chalfont said that Great Britain "intended to do all in its power to strengthen its links with those members of the Community who wanted this and that there is no question of any attempt to break or undermine the present Community which we wish to join ourselves one day".

On 15 January the Foreign Ministers of the three Benelux countries met in Brussels and on the following day transmitted an aide-mémoire containing their findings to the Member States, the Commission and the countries seeking membership of the Community. This aide-mémoire² was favourably received by the governments of the applicant countries (Great Britain: statements by Mr George Brown on 24 January and by Lord Chalfont on 7 February; Ireland: statement by the Prime Minister on 6 February; statement by the Danish and Norwegian Governments on 8 February; Sweden's reply of 9 February).

For his part, the President of the Commission, M. Jean Rey, spoke about the Benelux plan to the press on 14 February describing it as "a reasonable and constructive effort and a good basis for finding a solution to the problems to be tackled".

On 10 January, following Lord Chalfont's visit, a spokesman of the Federal German Government said that since Great Britain's application was still on the Council's agenda everything would be done to find a solution acceptable to all concerned until such time as the Council is in a position to decide what was to be done with the application. On 31 January Chancellor Kiesinger visited Rome and saw M. Aldo Moro, the Prime Minister, and M. Willy Brandt discussed the matter with M. Nenni. The two Governments declared that they were in complete agreement on the basic problems of European policy. The Italian Government felt that an approach could usefully be made by Germany on the occasion of the Kiesinger/de Gaulle meeting

¹ See Ch. I.

² See text below.

in Paris concerning the possible "arrangement" with Great Britain mentioned a few days previously by the French President. The Franco-German talks took place on 15 February and were followed by a joint declaration¹ in which the two Governments expressed the hope that the Communities would be enlarged to include other European countries and their readiness to consider "arrangements to develop trade in industrial and agricultural products between the Six and the applicant countries".

Anglo-Dutch talks were held in London on 19-20 February and talks between Germany and the Netherlands on 1 February. On 22 February, M. Fanfani declared that the Benelux aide-mémoire, the joint Franco-German declaration and "any other relevant statements" should be examined by the Council.

On 23 February the Italian Government published an aide-mémoire proposing the adoption of five groups of measures to bridge the gap between the Community and the applicants and develop a policy on European unity, and suggesting that a meeting attended by the Commission be held between the Six and the applicants.

The various documents were favourably received by the different Governments concerned who expressed a desire to be given an opportunity of examining the problems raised and the solutions advocated in them.

On 3 January 1968 the European Parliament held an important debate² leading to a resolution³ deploring France's refusal to allow negotiations to begin and expressing the hope that the Communities would assume new forms. This debate gave the President of the Commission an opportunity of stating the latter's view following the Council meeting of 19 December.⁴

Subsequently M. Rey had further occasion to refer to the situation created by the Council's failure to reach agreement and to the various plans put forward for an acceptable solution. Speaking at the Green Week in Berlin on 26 January 1968 he expressed the hope that consultations would increase and that the difficulties with Great Britain would be analysed. At a press conference on 5 February he said that this crisis went beyond the specific problem which had given rise to it and affected, in a way, the joint existence of the Six. The President said that the Commission was entirely opposed to "external solutions"; non-Community solutions to this crisis would increase tension and would constrict rather than expand the Community's sphere of action, as should be the case.

Other European assemblies also discussed the problem of enlarging the Communities. The Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe at its session of 29 January-2 February adopted a resolution⁵ reaffirming its opinion of 29 September 1967 that negotiations with Great Britain should begin.

The meeting of the Council of Ministers of Western European Union on 29/30 January was also dominated by the problem of relations between the Community and the applicant countries.⁶

The enlargement of the Communities has continued to be one of the main concerns of political parties and other organizations in the member countries and was the subject of many speeches by individual leaders and discussions in various gatherings.

¹ The text of this declaration is given below.

² See Ch. I of this Bulletin.

³ See Annex to this Bulletin.

⁴ M. Rey's speech will be found in Ch. I of Bulletin 2-68.

⁵ See below.

⁶ See Ch. VI, sec. 73.

On 26 February the liaison office of Socialist groups in the Parliaments of the six Community countries met in Brussels to discuss the present political situation in the Community with a view to co-ordinating their stand in the various Parliaments. Four Commission members attended this meeting — MM. Mansholt, Levi-Sandri, Haferkamp and Bodson.

A CDU seminar on "Europe in the world of tomorrow" was held in Saarbrücken on 25 and 26 January under the chairmanship of Professor Walter Hallstein, former President of the EEC Commission, who also spoke.¹ At this meeting M. Jean Monnet, President of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe and former President of the ECSC High Authority, expressed the hope that Great Britain would take the initiative in an attempt to find institutional solutions to the problem of the political organization of Europe.

Finally, four resolutions adopted on 15 June 1967 by the Action Committee for the United States of Europe on British membership, the development of technology in Europe, the establishment of equal partnership with the United States and co-operation with eastern Europe, were adopted by the Second Chamber in the Netherlands on 15 February and by the Italian Chamber of Deputies on 27 February.

At the end of February, following the lodging of the three documents (Benelux, Franco-German, Italian) and several further meetings within the Six or with the applicant countries, the question of the enlargement of the Communities was placed on the agenda for the Council meeting of 29 February.

At this meeting, the Ministers examined the proposals in the various documents and heard statements by MM. Harmel, Luns, Fanfani, Brandt and Couve de Murville. The entire problem was debated in detail and the Ministers decided to resume their discussions at the next Council meeting (9 March) on the basis of a summary which the Council asked M. Brandt to prepare.

The texts of the Benelux, Franco-German and Italian documents are given below.

THE BENELUX AIDE-MEMOIRE

1. Following the deliberations of the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community on 19 December, it was agreed that a concerted effort should be made to review the proposals which could be made to counter the impossibility of reaching a decision on the opening of negotiations on the applications for membership of the European Communities lodged by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway.

The Benelux countries think it advisable to let their partners in the European Community, the Commission and the applicant States know the results of their consultations on this subject.

Aims

In formulating their suggestions, the Benelux countries were inspired by the following guiding ideas and principles:

1. To continue the work of European unification, which implies the development and enlargement of the European Communities in conformity with the Treaty of Rome;

¹ See Bulletin 2-68; Miscellaneous.

2. To respect, in any action they may take, the letter and spirit of the Treaty of Rome;
3. The advisability of establishing closer links between the member countries of the European Communities and the countries seeking membership.

When speaking of the European idea, it is necessary to go beyond the words themselves and the present state of the economic construction of Europe within the Community. Europe is not confined to the six countries united by the Treaty of Rome. Its unification must also forge ahead in sectors which have not yet been the subject of Community decisions.

Taking into account the provisions mentioned below the Benelux countries recommend a positive programme for European construction in the economic and political fields.

Economic proposals

1. The Benelux countries are determined to take an active part in the programme for the development of the European Communities.
2. The Benelux countries urge the introduction of a concrete procedure for consultations between the Community and the Member States on the one hand and the applicant countries on the other with the aim of preventing increased discrepancies between the Common Market and the applicants.

Various types of action are suggested:

A. Continuation of the study started by the Commission on the difficulties and the advantages of the adhesion of the applicant States. This means continuing with these countries the examination of the problems which the Commission was not able to complete in its Opinion.

The Council of Ministers of the Community might entrust the Commission with this task, asking it to report regularly to the Council on the consequences it draws from this joint analysis.

If this procedural suggestion could not be accepted, it would still be necessary to carry out this analysis by another method.

B. The establishment of a well-defined procedure for consultations between the Community, the Member States and the applicant States in order to facilitate a rapprochement, and to avoid widening the gaps between the systems of the applicant States and those of the Community.

This consultation will deal with questions which have been settled in principle and so far as their detailed execution by the EEC is concerned, and with questions which have to date been settled only in principle at Community level or have not yet been dealt with in the Community, even if they are explicitly mentioned in the Treaties. European patents, European companies, and measures in the insurance field are examples of areas which, although already examined by the Community, would allow of agreements including the applicant countries.

As far as procedure is concerned, the Benelux countries suggest that the agreement on relations between the ECSC and the United Kingdom of 21 December 1954 be used as a guide. Now that there is only one Council and one Commission, this

procedure, at present confined to questions of common interest in the coal and steel sector, could appropriately be extended to questions of common interest arising from the Treaties of Rome and Paris.

If the extension of this agreement cannot be sanctioned by a Council decision, it would be necessary to look for another procedure permitting the same aims to be achieved.

C. Joint action between European countries, wishing this in fields not covered by the Treaties.

This should cover precise field: the number of participants could vary from project to project.

Examples of this type of action would be development policy, joint production and purchase of military equipment, co-operation in well-defined technological and scientific fields, aid to developing countries.

Political proposals

The Benelux countries feel that these proposals for a European relance would not be complete without the strengthening of relations in the field of political unity.

The three countries have decided to step up their political co-operation and to consult each other before taking any decision or stand on questions of common interest and on major problems of foreign policy, in order to reach similar positions. This consultation will respect commitments subscribed to in the Treaties of Washington, Paris and Rome and will include the following: European political co-operation, political and economic relations with the countries of eastern Europe, and relations with developing countries.

Without trying, for the moment, to create a new institution, the Benelux countries have attempted to improve their consultation procedures with the view to harmonizing their positions. They trust that other European countries will associate themselves with their experiment and thus give further proof of their will to achieve European political unification.

Should their Community partners, the European Commission or the applicant States wish it, the Benelux countries are ready to answer any questions arising from these necessarily sketchy proposals and to examine them in greater detail.

JOINT FRANCO-GERMAN DECLARATION

1. The two Governments affirm their willingness to continue the work begun by them and their partners since the creation of the European Economic Community. They intend to devote all their efforts to completing and developing the Common Market. They reaffirm in particular, their intention of seeing to it that the merger of the three existing Communities is completed.

2. In this spirit, they hope that the Communities will be enlarged to include other European countries, particularly those which have already submitted applications for membership, as soon as these countries are in a position effectively to enter the Community or to form other links with it.

This applies particularly to Great Britain, and means that the evolution already started by that country should continue.

3. Until such time as this enlargement becomes possible, the two Governments are prepared to consider arrangements between the Community and the candidate countries, which would expand trade between them in industrial and agricultural products. Such arrangements, which in respect of industrial products, would include the progressive reduction of trade barriers, would help to facilitate the evolution mentioned above and would in any event contribute to the development of relations between the countries of Europe.

4. In affirming their position on the desired development and enlargement of the European Economic Community the two Governments have in view an essential aim of their policy, which is to enable a strong and united Europe to play its proper role, i.e. to be an organized, independent and active force for world equilibrium and consequently for peace.

THE ITALIAN AIDE-MEMOIRE

On 19 December 1967, following a favourable opinion from the Commission of the European Communities, it proved impossible, despite the agreement of five of the member countries to reach a decision on the opening of negotiations to enable Great Britain, Denmark, Ireland and Norway to join the European Communities. It was, however, unanimously decided that the applications for membership made by the United Kingdom and the other three countries should remain on the agenda.

On 19 January last, the Benelux countries released a memorandum containing proposals to facilitate the re-examination under favourable conditions of the said applications and, on 16 February, the French and German Governments published a declaration outlining what they proposed to do with regard to Community activities and relations with other European countries which have established or are proposing to establish special links with the European Communities.

The Italian Government, bearing the above in mind, proposed in the spirit of its own memorandum of 8 May 1964:

1. That, at the Council meeting on 29 February, the documents submitted by the Benelux countries and by the French and German Governments be examined under the agenda item: "Applications by the Governments of the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway and letter from the Government of Sweden";

2. That, the following decision concerning the objectives indicated below be adopted by the Council at the same meeting.

1. Normal functioning and merging of the Communities

The six Governments reaffirm their determination to continue the process of economic integration undertaken, while respecting the letter and the spirit of the Treaties of Paris and Rome.

They undertake in particular:

- a)* To achieve the free movement of industrial and agricultural products and workers within the Community in accordance with the time-table already laid down;
- b)* To continue the working out of measures which will bring about economic union;
- c)* To consolidate, during the present year, the basis of Joint Nuclear Research Centre by defining the activities which may be carried out there in the future, by ensuring the continuation of studies on nuclear fusion and by setting the limits and the tasks of a common uranium supply policy;
- d)* To examine, in due course, the report which the Commission has been instructed to present on the merging of the Communities.

2. Desirability of refraining from the adoption of measures which would widen the gap between the Community and the applicant States

The six countries declare:

- a)* That in working out the measures necessary for the creation of an economic union, they will take into account, by means of consultations with the countries concerned either through diplomatic channels or through the Commission of the European Communities, the existing situation and possible changes in the applicant States;
- b)* That, in the context of the achievement of economic union, when adopting decisions, particularly in connection with common policy on agriculture, trade, taxation, regional development, energy, industry, competition and aids, they will take care not to place further serious obstacles in the way of the applicants becoming members of the European Communities in the future.

3. Adoption of measures to reduce the above-mentioned gap

The Council:

- a)* Requests the Commission of the European Communities to continue its study of the difficulties and the advantages of extending the Communities to include the applicants, pinpointing the most appropriate ways and means of attaining the common objective of admitting other European States into the European Communities, and to submit this report as soon as possible (see Annex 1);
- b)* Instructs the Commission, in accordance with Article 3 of the Decision on the co-ordination of the economic situations in the Member States, to propose the most appropriate measures for achieving a special co-ordination of short-term economic policies in collaboration with OECD;
- c)* Invites the Monetary Committee, in accordance with Article 14 of its Statutes, to propose the holding of joint meetings with the Steering Committee of the European Monetary Agreement.

The six Governments are agreed that the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance should be invited to attend the second part of the quarterly meeting of

the Council of Western European Union devoted to examination of the economic situation in Europe, with a view to assuring the co-ordination of economic and monetary policy.

4. Harmonization of measures adopted and the external development of the European Communities

With a view to maintaining a certain balance between progress in the internal aspects of building the Community, the process of extending the Communities in Europe and the development of external relations, the Council decides that, after 1 July next, when the necessary measures to achieve free movement of industrial and agricultural products and the free movement of workers within the Community have come into force, it will take decisions on the negotiations already under way for new associations or new agreements and on the preparatory work for the renewal of the Yaoundé Convention, and deliberate immediately after this on applications already made for other associations or agreements.

5. Development of a policy on European unity

In implementation of the principles outlined at points 1, 2, 3 and 4 the six Governments which were signatories to the Treaties of Paris and Rome could prepare a declaration which could later be signed by the countries which have applied or will apply for membership of the European Communities.

Following the examination of the memorandum put forward by the Benelux countries and the Franco-German declaration, and once the proposals outlined above have been accepted, the Italian Government feels that it should also be possible to call a conference of Foreign Ministers of the six Community countries and the applicant States, which would also be attended by the Commission of the European Communities, in order to reach agreement on means of producing closer co-operation between their Governments with a view to achieving the economic and political unification of Europe.

Annex

The Council instructs the Commission to continue its study of the advantages and difficulties involved in admitting the applicant European countries to membership and, by virtue of Article 152 of the EEC Treaty, Article 122 of the EAEC Treaty and Article 26 of the ECSC Treaty, requests the Commission to proceed, in consultation with the parties already directly involved, with a study of the most appropriate ways and means for attaining the common objective laid down in Article 237 of the EEC Treaty, Article 205 of the EAEC Treaty and Article 98 of the ECSC Treaty, namely the admission of other European States to membership of the European Communities.

The results of this study, together with any specific proposals, would then have to be submitted to the Council as soon as possible and taken into account in formulating proposals relating to the implementation of the merger of the three existing Communities.

III. Introduction to the Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1967

In February 1968, the Commission published its Report to the European Parliament on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1967. The Report is appended to the Commission's First General Report, in accordance with Article 122 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community. However, it covers not only EEC matters but also activities within the context of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community.

The last part of the Introduction to this Report is given below:

Main features of development of the social situation

VI. In submitting its first Report to the Parliament and to the public, the Commission of the European Communities feels it necessary to summarize briefly the development that has taken place since 1958 in the social situation of the six member countries.

In order to see things in their true proportions, one should bear in mind that the six countries entered the Common Market with very unequal levels of employment, different wage systems and wage levels, and very dissimilar social security arrangements.

As regards employment, there has been a considerable decline in unemployment in Italy and it has almost disappeared in the other five countries — or at least it had until the recent downturn in the economic situation. In the Community as a whole, the average annual unemployment figure fell from 2.75 million in 1958 to about 1.5 million in 1966 — i.e. by approximately one half, despite the appreciable increase in the total population and in the working population. However, since the second half of 1966 the situation has been deteriorating steadily.

All in all, wages and salaries have increased more in the Common Market countries than in most of the other big industrial powers. To take only one example, average real annual gross income of wage-earners in the Community as a whole rose by over 50% between 1958 and 1966. In Italy, these incomes went up by over 60%, whilst they rose by about 50% in the Netherlands, Germany and France, 40% in Belgium, and 30% in Luxembourg. When the Common Market was set up, wages were highest in Belgium and Luxembourg and lowest in Italy and in the Netherlands; the differences between countries have therefore narrowed. This tendency is even more clearly demonstrated by the overall income, since family allowances, for example, have been put up more generously in the countries where they were lowest.

In addition, there has been an appreciable fall in wage earners' working hours, because of a reduction in the actual working week, or of longer annual holidays, or of an increase in public holidays and holidays with pay. In this connection, it should be noted that the increase in leisure time is already posing a new problem for the organization of modern society and one that will become even greater in the next few years.

Substantial progress has been made in the field of social security, both by progressively extending its scope to new categories of beneficiaries (particularly farmers and other self-employed persons) and by increasing the amount of protection given. In 1958 expenditure on social security accounted for between 12.4 and 18.6% of national income in the six countries; in 1965 it had risen to between 17.7 and 19.5%, because of the extension of benefits. In a general upward trend, the maximum difference between the six countries has thus narrowed from 6.2% to 1.8%.

The Commission has also been closely following other improvements brought about in living and working conditions, through collective agreements freely negotiated between employers and workers. It has noted several common tendencies, such as the progressive rise in the status of wage-earners, which is becoming more and more similar to that of salaried workers; endeavours to safeguard employment and income more effectively in the event of sickness, structural change or economic downturn; the extension of certain trade union rights; and employees' participation, in various ways, in the profits made by the enterprise.

It would, of course, be vain to try to analyse and weigh up the many factors and the diverse circumstances that have played a more or less decisive part in the way the social situation has tended to improve and become much more similar throughout the Community.

The social advancement policies pursued by the public authorities and trade unions in the six have no doubt been favoured by a faster pace of economic growth than in most other industrial countries, much of the increase being due to the establishment of the Common Market. After all, did not the signatories of the Treaty of Rome consider (Article 117) that the functioning of the Common Market would in itself help to bring about an "improvement of the living and working conditions of labour so as to permit the equalization of such conditions in an upward direction"?

This tendency towards the harmonization of social systems is undeniable, and is to some extent automatic, but it is also partly due to the various activities at Community level in the social field. These include direct intervention to safeguard employment and living standards as mentioned above, and the indirect effect of the work and studies carried out, in particular, under Article 118 of the EEC Treaty, Articles 46-48 of the ECSC Treaty, and Articles 30-39 of the Euratom Treaty.

The general function of the European Executives has been to collect, process and disseminate information at Community level (inquiries, statistics, studies, comparative tables, etc.); to organize numerous meetings and symposia, and flexible and varied working parties; and to issue recommendations aimed more directly at Community harmonization. By doing these things they have enabled the governments, as also employers and workers in each of the six countries, to bear in mind the development of the social situation in the other member countries, and the needs revealed at Community level, more frequently and to better purpose when taking action at national level.

Current problems of the common social policy

VII. Thus outlined, the balance-sheet for the Communities' social policy in 1967 and preceding years is on the whole a positive one as regards the endeavour to achieve social progress in which the new Commission intends to co-operate. The Commission will try to supplement and expand this work in the light of particular circumstances, giving it the fresh impetus it must have in order to meet the needs born of the merger of the three former Executives.

More than a year ago, with a view to continuing, intensifying and perfecting the activities already begun, the EEC Commission expressed its point of view and its intentions in a document entitled "Guidelines for the EEC Commission's work in the social sector". The prospects for the development of the common social policy had been worked out in the light both of the lessons to be learnt from the work undertaken so far and the first medium-term economic policy programme, which constituted a new departure, particularly because of its obvious implications in the social fields. Today, these "Guidelines" must be seen in the general context of the Community's activities as envisaged by the new Commission which took office at the beginning of July 1967.

It goes without saying that the Commission intends, first of all, to continue and complete all the policies and activities already embarked upon by the three European Executives that preceded it, and that it will at the same time progressively co-ordinate certain tasks, pending the merger of the Treaties. This means that it accepts the social objectives included in the common policies which have already been established such as the common agricultural policy and the common transport policy.

However, as the Commission's President, M. Rey, has already been able to make clear before the European Parliament — the Commission also intends to undertake a number of new tasks which it considers particularly urgent; these concern industrial policy, the common energy policy, regional policy, and a European policy on scientific and technological research.

The new measures will have many social implications, both as regards necessary industrial mergers and combinations and as regards the repercussions that developments in particular industries will have on employment. The Commission has already pointed out that some of these social problems in particular industries have been tackled by the European Coal and Steel Community in the concrete and effective action it has taken to deal with the crises in the mines and the difficulties of the steel industry. Such activities will find their natural continuation within the common energy policy and industrial policy — which will extend them to other sensitive or "problem" industries, whether declining or expanding — and also, of course, within social policy.

There is no need, however, to stress the connection between the solutions that will have to be found to these social problems in certain industries and the implementation of a regional policy.

Lastly, particular attention will have to be given to the social effects of research policy and technological progress in such fields as vocational training.

VIII. In Europe, as it is being organized today, each of the six countries finds itself confronted with the same new problems owing to the rapid development of economic structures; the latter is the result of such factors as sharper international competition, the creation of a large, unified internal market with nearly 190 million consumers by 1970, technological progress, and important changes in demand and production.

The Commission, for its part, will try to offset the negative and sometimes painful effects of this economic reorganization, and will try to guarantee workers the means of subsistence in order that they may ultimately benefit from the modernization of industrial and agricultural structures. The Commission will not neglect activities designed to open other professional horizons to that part of the agricultural working population which is at present ill-employed.

In the face of these essential structural changes and the rejuvenation of the economy, increased efforts will have to be made at Community level, particularly in the fields of employment and vocational training, owing to the size of the social problems that have to be solved and the fact that they have arisen simultaneously and take a similar form in each of the six countries.

In this connection the Commission welcomes two decisions already taken by the Council, to the effect that the situation of the labour market and its prospects will be discussed in the Council at least once a year on the basis of the Commission's annual report on manpower problems in the Community, and that a plan for collaboration between the national labour exchanges will be carried out by stages.

IX. Structural changes and industrial conversion will demand sustained effort in the field of occupational retraining. Here, the European Social Fund will have to play a more important part than hitherto; to this end the nature of its operation and the conditions governing its intervention will have to be adapted in the light of the changes that occur in economic structures and in particular of the consequences of technological progress, as suggested in the first medium-term economic policy programme. Even when action is taken under Article 126 of the EEC Treaty, the instruments and methods used by the ECSC could serve as an example, particularly where industrial conversion and its regional implications are concerned, without prejudice to the assistance that can be given in this field by the European Investment Bank.

The same concern for efficiency lies behind the Commission's work on vocational training. The decisive importance of such training was also emphasized in the first medium-term economic policy programme, which declared that social and economic exigencies obviously converge in this field.

Since the vocational training of young people takes a fairly long time to produce tangible results, it would be advisable, as soon as possible to look beyond the medium term in order to face up to the consequences of technological progress which, in the social field, are as varied as they are momentous.

The Commission will continue the work it is doing to achieve the "common policy on vocational training" which was regarded by Article 128 as one objective of the Treaty of Rome, and it will do so in accordance with the general principles and action programmes that have already been laid down.

For this purpose, the Commission feels that general objectives ought to be decided upon: training for versatility, the progressive alignment of training standards, forward-looking attitudes, social advancement through further vocational training, and increased efforts to train technicians and highly qualified staff. Supplemented by more effective vocational guidance for both adults and young people, the implementation of these general objectives will make it easier for every worker to find a more productive and remunerative job and will make him better prepared to face the inevitable professional changes. The Commission's recommendation for the development of vocational guidance addressed to the Member States on 18 July 1966, has already begun to produce results. A beginning has been made, for example, with Community collaboration in the exchange of information and experience between the national bodies responsible for vocational guidance. Several further-training sessions have been held for their staff. Moreover, a first Annual Report on vocational guidance activities in the Community is to be published shortly. Besides describing these activities, it will contain information about research at present in progress and the prospects for improving vocational guidance in the six member countries.

Europe's social future

X. In view of the above considerations, the Commission feels it should again point out that social and economic exigencies inevitably go together.

The attitude to social affairs must be a positive one: positive, despite certain unfavourable economic developments that must not be allowed to obscure the economy's fundamental need for skilled personnel; positive, too, towards the profound structural changes in the economy, despite their sometimes painful consequences — the duration and scope of which must, of course, be limited as much as possible.

The "stability" or "rigidity" of employment at enterprise level, almost a fetish to some people, has become a snare and a delusion in the member countries' present economic situation, which will very probably last for the next few years. All those who are concerned in and responsible for economic expansion must be convinced that, even if stability of employment is no longer possible at the level of each single enterprise, or even within each branch of activity, employment must nevertheless be guaranteed by the possibility of rapid professional reintegration at regional level, or at the level of the national economy as a whole, or even at Community level. They can also rest assured that these changes will favour the general interest, technological and economic progress, increased productivity and, therefore, higher living standards and a higher level of employment.

It should, however, be borne in mind that economic growth does not of itself lead to balanced social progress. It is often said that social progress is conditioned by sound economic expansion, but this is only a necessary, not a sufficient, condition, although some forms of social progress can determine and facilitate economic progress. Economic progress cannot constitute an end in itself; it is essential also to have the political will to improve social conditions. The Commission, for its part, is resolved to take all appropriate steps to facilitate the attainment of this fundamental objective, as it is required to do by the Treaties.

Apart from the purely automatic process mentioned in Article 117 of the Treaty of Rome, it is advisable to step up efforts to achieve harmonization in the specifically social field and, to this end, to increase the "close collaboration between Member States" which the Commission is politically and legally required to promote under Article 118.

The Commission is perfectly well aware of the financial burdens that often, though not always, accompany social measures. But it is by social general economic expansion that progress will be facilitated. The experience of harmonization which the Commission has already gained over a long period shows, moreover, that it takes time — often a great deal of time — to overcome constraints connected with the sociological context or historical development.

Furthermore, harmonization does not mean unification or uniformity. It would be completely utopian, even harmful, to try to achieve such unification at Community level when, owing to the special circumstances of particular regions or industries, it does not yet exist at national level.

But just as excessive disparities between regions or industries have been progressively reduced at national level and the differences have had to become less marked, it would also be desirable to look for a middle way between "specificity" and "equality" at Community level. The Commission will spare no effort to achieve this by encouraging the trend towards a narrowing of the differences in an upward direction.

To this end, a knowledge of these differences and of how they develop will be essential, and the Commission will devote the fullest possible attention to the question. Once again, the Commission stresses the fundamental importance of its task of collecting, processing and disseminating information. The new Commission intends to continue the work done in this field by the former European Executives and, as regards social matters, more particularly by the EEC Commission and the ECSC High Authority. A greater effort will therefore have to be made to achieve transparency in any comparative analysis of the *de jure* and *de facto* social situations in the various countries, and especially of working conditions — wages and salaries, working hours, social security, professional relations, or industrial health and safety in the broadest sense of the term.

The Commission wishes, however, to widen the scope of its studies, and it has already done so on certain points, in the light of the considerations that have become important at the national or Community level.

XI. Thus the problems connected with wages and salaries will be examined in the wider context of incomes policy, which will again be stressed in the second medium-term economic policy programme, at present in preparation. Incomes policy includes policy on contractual saving or on workers' access to ownership. Joint examination will therefore be possible of such matters as wage drift, the criteria underlying wages policy, and the good and bad effects of sliding wage-scale systems.

Thus, too, as regards working conditions it will be of the greatest interest to follow the history of the clauses inserted in the most important collective agreements signed in the six member countries, beginning — tentatively with one carefully chosen branch of activity. In addition, certain studies will be carried further — for example, concerning workers' participation in economic and social decision-making within enterprises.

As regards industrial health and, above all, safety, it will be advisable to go beyond the narrowly competitive idea of removing technical obstacles to trade and tackle these matters from the right angle, i.e. the social angle, since they concern human lives: the sole objective of even the most technical regulations is to safeguard the health and life of the worker.

As in 1967, the Commission will go on taking steps to ensure the continuity of the activities it has undertaken in pursuance of Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty in order to promote industrial health and safety and the development of medicine, hygiene, and physiology and — psychology applied to working conditions. The various research programmes will be continued. The Commission will also examine the possibility of broadening its activities in this field by launching a research programme to make it easier for workers suffering from chronic respiratory diseases to be trained for other types of work and re-integrated in professional life. For its part, the Mines Safety Commission will be continuing its work in the best possible conditions, following a re-organization of its activities which will start to take full effect in 1968.

Lastly, in the vast field of social security the various governments are confronted with a rapid increase in expenditure which often outstrips the advance in national income. Although the serious problems thus posed are not identical in the six countries because of the structural differences that still exist between the national systems, they are nevertheless of the same kind and are — to say the least — very similar and occur simultaneously. The search for solutions that will achieve a balance between the exigencies of social progress and financial requirements will undoubtedly be facilitated by joint meetings, which have already been agreed upon, to compare

the national security systems. For this purpose the Commission is completing a number of studies on the economic and financial problems connected with social security, and these will provide a solid basis for such discussions.

XII. The Commission believes that all this work will facilitate the new activities which will be necessary if fresh progress towards harmonization is to be made, bearing in mind the Community's needs, the matters of concern to its governments, and the views of trade unions and professional organizations. The success of this policy will in fact depend not only on the determination shown by public authorities but also on the support they receive from professional and social groups.

The Commission which succeeds the three distinct Executives is resolved to work, in its turn, for the progressive improvement of the instruments created by ten or fifteen years of efforts and to develop its social policy while respecting three major objectives in the future as in the past: to inform, to protect, to promote.

The Commission will take particular care to safeguard the socio-economic mechanisms for accelerating the structural changes already in progress and to adjust them in the light of the actual circumstances.

It is fully aware of the close interdependence between the objectives and the instruments of its economic and social policy.

In accordance with the spirit of the Treaties, it will therefore continue to base its action on the necessary convergence of social and economic exigencies, so as to contribute, by all the means in its power, to the welfare of the peoples of the Community.

IV. Official visit of M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission of the European Communities, to the United States

At the invitation of President Lyndon B. Johnson, M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission of the European Communities, made an official visit to the United States of America on 7 and 8 February 1968. Accompanying M. Rey were M. Fritz Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, and M. Jean Deniau, the member of the Commission responsible for External Trade Policy.

During his stay in Washington on 7 and 8 February, M. Rey also met other officials of the United States Administration, including the Vice-President, Mr Hubert H. Humphrey, the Secretary of State, Mr Dean Rusk, the Under Secretary of State, Mr Nicholas Katzenbach and the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Henry Fowler. The delegation from the Community also had talks with Mr Seaborg and other members of the Atomic Energy Commission.

While in New York the President of the Commission also met the Secretary General of the United Nations, U Thant. He lunched with the Mayor of New York, Mr John Lindsay, and visited the Governor, Mr Nelson Rockefeller.

At the end of the talks between M. Jean Rey and President Lyndon Johnson a joint communiqué was published in the following terms:

The President of the United States and M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission of the European Communities, met at the White House on February 7. During his visit to Washington, M. Rey, accompanied by Vice President Hellwig and Commissioner Deniau, is also meeting with the Vice President, the Secretary of State, and other cabinet and subcabinet officials.

The President and M. Rey confirmed their belief in the need for continued progress toward the unity of Europe. The President reaffirmed the support of the United States for the progress of the European Communities. A strong and democratic Western Europe working as an equal partner with the United States would help to build a peaceful, prosperous and just world order. Both the United States and the European Communities recognize their responsibilities to the developing countries in expanding export earnings and development.

The President reviewed his balance of payments program with M. Rey and emphasized the firm intention of the United States to take the necessary action to restore equilibrium. The President and M. Rey recognized the need for both surplus and deficit countries to continue and intensify their individual and common efforts to achieve a better equilibrium in the international balance of payments.

The closest co-operation between the United States and the European Communities is necessary to ensure that international adjustment takes place under conditions of continued economic growth with financial stability. In particular, they agreed that the achievements of the Kennedy Round must be preserved, that protectionist measures should be avoided and that further progress should be made in the elimination of barriers to trade.

M. Rey told the President of his satisfaction with a meeting held on February 7 between his party and senior officials of the United States Government on matters of common concern pertaining to the economic interrelationship of Europe and the United States. The President and M. Rey agreed similar level consultations would be useful in the future.

In Memoriam

BRUNO MINOLETTI

Professor Bruno Minoletti, former Director-General for Transport in the EEC Commission, died in Genoa on 16 February 1968 after a long illness.

M. Minoletti was a well-known figure in the Italian Resistance Movement, in which he was a member of the "National Liberation Committee for northern Italy".

He was also a representative figure in the fields of economics and culture in the broad sense.

Besides being a professor in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce at the University of Genova, he was the President of the Academy of Science and Letters and a member of various academies abroad.

He is the author of numerous publications.

During his service with the Commission M. Minoletti proved himself an outstandingly talented and able administrator.

V. Internal activities

ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE SINGLE MARKET

Free movement of goods

Customs matters

Tariff quotas.

1. On 11 January 1968 the Commission, acting under Article 25(3) of the Treaty, granted Germany a tariff quota of 6 000 metric tons at a duty of 10.5% for imports of prunes (CCT heading 08.12 C) from non-member countries.

2. On 16 January 1968 the Commission, acting under Article 25(3) of the Treaty, granted Germany a tariff quota of up to 55 000 hectolitres for natural red wines of fresh grapes (CCT headings ex 22.05 B I b, ex 22.05 B II b and ex 22.05 B III b 2), for blending on certain conditions, at the following rates of duty:

7.12 u.a./hl for wines with an acquired alcohol content not exceeding 13 degrees,

8.12 u.a./hl for wines with an acquired alcohol content exceeding 13 and not exceeding 15 degrees,

9.62 u.a./hl for wines with an acquired alcohol content exceeding 15 and not exceeding 18 degrees,

presented in casks, tank waggons or other large containers.

This quota is for the period 1 December 1967 to 30 November 1968.

3. On 23 January 1968 the Council adopted Regulations Nos. 91/68/CEE and 92/68/CEE, under Article 111 of the Treaty and Regulation No. 14/64/CEE:

i) Opening a Community tariff quota, for 1968, of 20 000 head of heifers and cows of mountain breeds (CCT heading ex 01.02 A II), other than those intended for slaughter, at a duty of 6% bound in GATT. The quota is divided among the Member States as follows:

Germany	10 000 head
Italy	7 500 head
France	2 500 head

ii) Opening a Community tariff quota, for 1968, of 22 000 metric tons of frozen beef and veal (CCT heading ex 02.01 A II), at a duty of 20% bound in GATT. The quota is divided among the Member States as follows:

Germany	2 200 tons
France	1 000 tons
Italy	15 000 tons
Netherlands	2 500 tons
Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union	1 300 tons

Competition policy

State aids

The Commission's appeal against the French system of bonuses on purchases of gliders

4. In accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 93 of the EEC Treaty, the EEC Commission had examined at the beginning of 1963 the system of bonuses on purchases of private aeroplanes, gliders and aircraft equipment established in France by Decree No. 54-109 of 28 January 1954 and Decree No. 58-1107 of 15 November 1958. These provided for substantial bonuses on the purchase of private aeroplanes, gliders and aircraft equipment of French manufacture.

Since, in the Commission's view, this arrangement amounted to an indirect aid to French manufacturers that was liable to affect trade between Member States in the industry in question, it asked the French Government to take appropriate measures to abolish it. The French Government's action on the Commission's proposals was partly satisfactory (Decree No. 64-341 of 16 April 1964 and an *arrêté* of 16 March 1965), but in the case of gliders, allowed the advantage of the bonus to continue to apply solely to the purchase of those manufactured in France. This means that, since then, bonuses ranging between 30% and 80% of the price of the aircraft have still been granted to purchasers of French gliders. Moreover, the bonus reaches the upper limit for most of the purchases, those made by sports organizations or flying clubs. In these circumstances, users are bound to favour gliders of French manufacture and this undoubtedly affects competition and trade between Member States.

As the arguments put forward by the French Government to justify maintaining this bonus were not accepted by the Commission, a multilateral consultation procedure (Article 93(2), sub-paragraph 1, of the EEC Treaty) was initiated on 16 July 1965. Upon the conclusion of this procedure on 23 September 1966, the EEC Commission communicated a decision to the French Republic requesting that, before 23 December 1966, it either abolish the system of aid for the purchase of gliders or make such adjustments as would ensure that the aids would be granted on equal terms irrespective of whether the aircraft were manufactured in France or in other Member States (Official gazette No. 182, 12 October 1966, Decision No. 6/556/CEE).

As no action was taken on this decision either within this prescribed period or by the end of 1967, the Commission has decided to refer the matter to the Court of Justice of the European Communities. The Commission's appeal, based on Article 93(2), sub-paragraph 2, of the EEC Treaty, was filed with the Court of Justice on 18 January 1968: the Commission asks the Court to declare that the French Republic has failed to meet the obligation incumbent upon it under the decision of 23 September 1966.

Fiscal policy

The European Parliament

Debate and resolution on the proposal for a directive concerning the average rates referred to in Article 97 of the EEC Treaty

5. At its session of 22 to 26 January 1968, the Parliament held a debate on the proposal for a directive concerning the average rates referred to in Article 97 of the EEC Treaty.

In his introductory remarks, the rapporteur, M. Wohlfart (Luxembourg—Socialist group) wondered whether, in view of the “standstill” which took place in June 1960 between the Member States and also of the fact that, as from 1 January 1970, the generalized system of tax on value added will come into use, a directive for Article 97 was still required. The proposal for a directive does after all bring about an improvement in the present position in as far as it introduces a standard method of calculation. Seeing that the tax on value added will not be introduced until 1 January 1970, M. Coppé, member of the Commission, stated that the latter saw no reason for opposing the wish of certain Member States to have a uniform system in the meantime. The Parliament then adopted a resolution endorsing the Commission’s proposal.

Approximation of legislation

Publicity for branded pharmaceuticals: Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee

6. On 24 January 1968 the Economic and Social Committee expressed its opinion on the “Proposal for a directive on the approximation of the legislation by which Member States regulate publicity for branded pharmaceuticals”.

The Committee regrets that medicinal preparations other than branded pharmaceuticals, i.e. veterinary drugs and dietetics and health products, do not come within the scope of the directive. Furthermore, it hopes that the directive will clearly distinguish between publicity and information, and that the provision of information for the professions concerned will be the responsibility of those who produce or market the preparations.

In addition, the Committee requests that the ban on producers granting or promising bonuses or other material benefits to stimulate sales also be applied to goods of low price.

Freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services

Proposals concerning architects: Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee

7. On 24 January 1968 the Economic and Social Committee expressed its opinion on three proposals for directives concerning various aspects of freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services in self-employed activities of architects. The proposals are complementary.

While the Committee approved the three texts, it stressed the need to find a valid solution for the general social problems arising from freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services.

The Committee also hoped that the Council would make a statement about refugee architects similar to that made in 1964 when the regulation on the free movement of workers was adopted.

In general, the Committee recommended that the Commission expedite as far as possible preparation of the directives concerning the various technical professions.

TOWARDS ECONOMIC UNION

Short-term economic policy

Short-term Economic Policy Committee

8. The Short-term Economic Policy Committee met on 11 and 12 January 1968. As M. Pérouse, the Chairman, had resigned, the Committee elected M. Sérísé for the term of the outgoing chairman still to run.

The Committee used this meeting to examine the probable economic development for 1968 in the light of the economic budgets of the Member States. Its conclusions regarding the latter were summarized in an opinion communicated to the Commission.

Monetary and budget policy

The Monetary Committee

9. The Monetary Committee met in Brussels on 15 January 1968. It reviewed the chief international monetary problems and, in particular, held an initial discussion of the recent measures taken by the United States. It also decided on the general structure of its 10th annual report.

10. The Working Party of the Monetary Committee instructed to arrange for a mutual exchange of information on the instruments and methods used by the Member States to preserve the balance of capital supply and demand held its first meeting on 23 January 1968 under the chairmanship of M. de Voghel, Deputy-Governor of the Banque Nationale de Belgique.

The party had an initial exchange of views on the general structure of its mandate as well as on its working programme and instructed its Chairman to inform the Monetary Committee of its opinions.

The Budget Policy Committee

11. The Committee held its eleventh and twelfth meetings on 10, 30 and 31 January, under the chairmanship of M. Stamatii.

As its eleventh meeting it examined the draft budgets of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for 1968. In addition, it adopted an opinion to be submitted to the Council and the Commission concerning the Netherlands' draft budget for 1968.

At its twelfth meeting the Committee examined the 1968 French budget and Belgian draft budget and the medium-term budgetary support measures recently taken by the Governments of France and Belgium. The Committee formulated its conclusions in an opinion to the Council and the Commission. It also adopted opinions for submission to the latter institutions concerning the German and Luxembourg budgets examined at its previous meeting.

Medium-term economic policy

Medium-term Economic Policy Committee

12. The Committee held its twenty-sixth meeting on 29 and 30 January 1968, when it continued the work of drawing up the preliminary draft of the second medium-term economic policy programme.

The Working Party on external trade policy held its annual meeting on 8 January 1968 and how it would set about preparing the report it will have to make to the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee by June 1968.

The Working Party on scientific and technological research policy continued its studies in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Council on 31 October 1967 and held a meeting on 5 January 1968.

In the first days of January, certain Member States requested that the meeting planned to take place early in that month should be postponed.

Social policy

Free movement of workers

13. The Commission has submitted to the Council amended texts of its proposal for a Council regulation on the free movement of workers within the Community and of its proposal for a Council directive concerning the abolition of restrictions on the movement and residence of Member States's workers and families within the Community.

In the two amended proposals, considerable allowance is made for the opinions expressed on these texts by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

Readaptation operations (Art. 56 of the ECSC Treaty)

14. The Commission on 22 January 1968 decided to extend readaptation assistance under the ECSC Treaty to some 7 900 German miners and steelworkers faced with redundancy in consequence of the structural changes in the coal and steel markets.

This high figure represents the maximum number of men who could be affected by the planned closures and cutbacks, but in a good many cases it is hoped that dismissal may be avoided by postings to other jobs within the industrial combines concerned.

The Commission decided to earmark DM. 9 100 000 for the following readaptation operations, the Federal authorities to provide an equal amount, to finance the various allowances payable under the agreement between the German Government and ECSC.

a) *Concordia colliery* (Concordia Bergbau AG.), Oberhausen, Ruhr

The closure will not take place all at once on a given date, but will be phased over a fairly long period, possibly lasting into 1969. The maximum number of workers affected will be 4 151, and the sum made available by the Commission towards their readaptation DM. 4 100 000.

b) *Ewald, Ewald-Fortsetzung and Haus Aden collieries*, owned by Ewald-Kohle AG., Recklinghausen, Ruhr

Winning is to be progressively discontinued in several large seams in three pits; 1 245 men in all will become redundant, of whom 350 or so will be reassigned within the enterprise. The readaptation costs to be met by the Commission are put at DM. 1 650 000.

c) *Westfalen colliery*, owned by Steinkohlenbergwerk Westfalen AG., Ahlen, Ruhr

A series of partial closures is in progress, to be completed on 15 March 1968. 370 miners will be affected, 75 of whom will be reassigned. The Commission is allocating DM. 550 000 for readaptation assistance.

d) *Osterfeld colliery* and the integrated *Jacobi-Franz Haniel colliery*, owned by Hüttenwerk Oberhausen AG. Bergbau, Oberhausen, Ruhr

1,500 redundancies are involved by cutbacks at these two mines. The Commission's share in the readaptation expenses is DM. 1 850 000.

e) *Luitpoldhütte steel plant*, Amberg, Bavaria

The coking and blast-furnace divisions are to close in 1968, resulting in 625 redundancies in respect of which the Commission is setting aside DM. 950 000.

On 12 January the Commission decided to grant readaptation assistance to about another 5 050 German miners who will be affected by pit closures taking place by reason of the changes in the coal industry's sales position. Here its contribution is to be DM. 5 400 000, the German Government undertaking to furnish the same amount. The men concerned are from the following enterprises:

f) *Zollverein, Adolf von Hansemann/Gustav and Fürst Hardenberg collieries*, owned by the Ruhr company Rheinlbe Bergbau AG.

The total number of persons becoming redundant, including central office staff, is 3 450. The resulting readaptation expenditure is calculated at DM. 6 900 000, of which one-half, DM. 3 450 000, is to be met by the Commission.

g) *Diergardt colliery*, owned by Steinkohlenbergwerke Mathias Stinnes AG., Rheinhhausen, Ruhr

Redundancies here total 1 484. The sum allocated by the Commission is DM. 1 815 000.

h) *Justus and Ludscheid collieries*, owned by the Ruhr company Deutsch-Niederländische Brennstoff- und Schiffahrtsgesellschaft

The Commission is furnishing DM. 120 000 towards the readaptation of the 117 persons dismissed when these two small mines closed on 31 December 1967.

i) The Commission also decided to increase the amount set aside on 20 July for the personnel of the Augusta Victoria pits and the Gewerkschaft Augusta Victoria coking-plant by DM. 1 200 000, in order to meet the additional expenditure incurred in connection with the various redeployment and retraining operations.

Social security of migrant workers

15. At its 91st meeting on 26 January 1968, the Administrative Committee for the social security of migrant workers adopted the text of the annexes to the draft of Regulation No. 4 (revised).

At the same meeting the Administrative Committee examined two draft recommendations submitted by the Auditing Committee. One is to agree the balance sheets of previous years as between institutions and the other proposes advances between institutions from the sums to be reimbursed in accordance with Regulations Nos. 3 and 4.

Lastly, the average Italian and Luxembourg costs for 1966 — the only ones available at present — on which the standard reimbursements between institutions are based, were approved by the Administrative Committee.

On 25 January 1968 the European Parliament adopted a resolution embodying approval of the Commission's proposals to the Council on a regulation concerning the application of social security systems to wage-earners and their families who move from one Community country to another, a Council decision applying Article 51 of the EEC Treaty to the French Overseas Departments, and a resolution embodying the Parliament's opinion on the draft recommendation of the Commission of the European Economic Community concerning a Community definition of disability for which benefits may be claimed.

Joint Committee on Harmonization of Terms of Employment (Coal)

16. The Joint Committee on Harmonization of Terms of Employment in the Coal Industry met in Luxembourg on 9 January 1968. The Committee consists of 78 representatives of the employers' federations, trade unions and Governments of the five Community coal-producing countries.

As the regular chairman, Vice-President Levi Sandri, was unable to attend owing to pressing engagements in Brussels, the chair was taken by M. Vinck, Director-General of Labour Problems.

In his opening remarks, M. Vinck stressed that the European Commission had every intention of carrying on with the work the High Authority had been doing in co-operation with the Committee to help improve conditions for the coal industry's personnel. Representatives of the employers and workers expressed acknowledgment, and urged that the Committee press ahead with its activities. A discussion on future activities followed, and it was decided that the Committee should consider at its next meeting the matters various members had suggested for its attention, or would be suggesting in the next few weeks, after which it would make up its mind as to how to proceed.

The Committee endorsed the comparative tables showing the legal position (statutory, contractual and *de facto*) in the Community coal industry with respect to the employment of manual workers as at 1 April 1967. These summarize the main provisions applying in the industry regarding recruitment, types of contract, obligations undertaken by the parties, the position of the worker in the event of stoppage of work, of short time or of alteration in the legal status of the enterprise, and termination of the contract by either side.

Verbal reports were given on:

- a) The activities of the special working party on the social security arrangements for miners, which is incurrently assembling comparative material on the financing of these schemes (employers' charges and provenance of the funds), on occupational accidents and diseases, and on unemployment and short-time working;
- b) The meetings held in the different countries in connection with the survey on the turnover of manpower in the coal industry;
- c) Progress to date with the compilation of comparative tables showing the statutory and contractual provisions in force with regard to the welfare of juveniles employed in the Community coal industry.

In accordance with the Committee's custom, members exchanged information on the main social developments in the industry since the last meeting, a rapporteur for each national delegation presenting an account jointly drawn up by the employers' and workers' associations in the country concerned. This is a valuable practice, as it enables all members of the Committee to learn without delay at first hand what is going on in the social field in all the Community countries, and, if they wish, to obtain additional particulars on any point of special concern to them.

At the end of the meeting it was asked what action, if any, had been taken concerning the minute on social aspects of the coal problem which had been appended to the Memorandum on Coal Policy submitted by the High Authority to the Council of Ministers early in 1967. M. Vinck said the ad hoc Committee on Coal set up by the Council to study the Memorandum had not taken up the subject of the social implications, and no final decision had up to now been taken as to the future course of its work. He added, however, that the Commission firmly intended to draw the Council's attention to the urgent need to discuss the social problems raised by the cyclical and structural developments in the coal sector.

Joint Committee on Harmonization of Terms of Employment (Steel)

17. The Joint Committee on Harmonization of Terms of Employment in the Iron and Steel Industry, consisting of 58 representatives of the steel employers' and workers' associations, met in Luxembourg on 15 and 16 January 1968.

As the regular chairman, M. Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission, was unable to be present, his place was taken by M. Vinck, Director-General of Labour Problems, who in his opening remarks made the point, as he had done to the Joint Committee (Coal), that the Commission was anxious to continue the work the High Authority had been doing, in co-operation with the two Committees, to ensure better conditions for those employed in both the ECSC industries. Representatives of the employers' and workers' groups said in reply that they appreciated the Commission's intentions, and considered it most important that the Committee's work should go forward actively.

The Committee endorsed the comparative tables showing the legal position (statutory, contractual and *de facto*) in the iron and steel industry of the Community countries with respect to the employment of manual workers as at 1 June 1967, the previous edition of which had appeared in 1964.

It also approved a combined summary report on 12 case studies carried out in Community steel enterprises concerning the social impact of technological changes. This constitutes Part III of the Committee's big survey of the effects of technological change on productivity, working hours, wages and employment.¹

Verbal accounts were given of the meetings held in the different countries in connection with the survey on the turnover of manpower in the respective steel industries, and the Committee agreed to hold a full debate on the findings of the survey as soon as the report was forthcoming.

A long and lively discussion on future activities followed. The Committee decided to embark, in six months' time at latest, on a study of the means used in the Community to cushion the social effects of the structural trend in the steel industry.

It also set up two working parties to go more fully into the methods by which it was proposed to carry out two other studies envisaged, one on the scale and nature of absenteeism and the other on the shorter working week and its implications, more especially for productivity, production, accident rates and so on.

It was agreed to update the comparative tables on working hours, the current edition giving the position only in 1964.

At the end of the meeting there was the usual exchange of information on the main social developments in the industry since the previous occasion. It was urged that the Committee should meet in future more frequently, to make sure that its work was as fully in step with events as possible.

Industrial health and safety

18. On 19 January 1968 the Commission convened a meeting of government experts responsible for the industrial health inspection departments in the Member States to examine the Commission's various activities in this field. In accordance with the information on industrial health provided by the Council, the experts discussed the following three studies:

- i) Work in compressed air caissons;
- ii) Noise and noise abatement in industrial establishments;
- iii) Inoculation of workers exposed to special hazards.

After a broad discussion it was decided to form a working party of doctors and engineers to make a detailed examination of the study on work under compressed air. As to the study of the measures to reduce noise in industrial establishments and protect workers against its harmful effects and the study on the inoculation of workers exposed to special hazards, it was suggested that these problems be analysed afresh in a wider framework.

The Commission informed those present of the Council's decision concerning a programme of in-service training courses for factory inspection officials (doctors, engineers and lawyers) to start in 1968.

Finally, there was a broad review of the progress of industrial medicine in the member countries since 1965.

¹ Part I consisted of an overall survey (2nd edition published 1967), and Part II of a schedule of the statutory and contractual provisions relating to the implications of technological progress (published 1965).

Policy with regard to nuclear and general research, technology, education and training — Dissemination of information — Coal and steel research

Debate in the European Parliament on Euratom's present position and prospects

19. An important debate took place in the European Parliament on 24 January 1968 which resulted in a resolution being adopted concerning Euratom's present position and prospects.

M. Kulawig, representing the Socialist group, was the first speaker in the debate and his main concern was the uncertainty which at present overshadows Euratom's future.

He argued that Euratom's importance must not be allowed to diminish in any way and it must be recognized that the time had now come to consider transforming it into an organization incorporating the entire field of technology. In order to foster co-operation between Euratom and private enterprises and arrive at a joint industrial policy, it was necessary to make use of Article 45 of the Treaty, which provides for the creation of joint enterprises, and also for participation in such enterprises by non-member countries, e.g., Britain.

In M. Kulawig's estimation, the activities of joint enterprises and the Joint Research Centre must be supplemented by the setting-up of a documentation centre and a research institution to cater for the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises; furthermore the social consequences of the current trend must not be overlooked. Finally, attention must be given to the problem of the Community having its own sources of funds — which would make itself felt from 1 July 1968 onwards — which would put Euratom in a position to take independent action. The speaker felt, however, that Euratom's future depended on its ability to apply a joint industrial policy successfully.

On behalf of the Liberals and "apparentés", M. Hougardy stated that the initial repercussions of the ill-chosen procedure in the Council's resolution of 8 December 1967 were already apparent. Wide divergences of opinion between the Six were evident and in all probability the Council would only have a "mini-programme" of Community activities before it.

M. Hougardy believed that it was perhaps in the field of biological research that the greatest changes were to be expected; hence the necessity of a Community programme in this sector. He pointed out that in the United States \$100 million of the annual budget for the AEC are channelled into the human sciences. The European public at large did not realize that these sciences were being neglected within the Community.

M. Hougardy then advocated a complete reappraisal of the relations existing between the member countries. National nuclear research programmes and Euratom's supplementary programme must be scrapped and a genuine Community programme substituted.

The speaker also emphasized the absolute necessity of setting up a European committee for nuclear programmes and supported M. Oele's views concerning an autonomous source of financing for Euratom.

M. Bousch, speaking on behalf of the UDE, stated that M. Oele's report called for certain comments.

After he had defended the measure adopted by the Council on 8 December 1967, which was prompted by a genuine desire to reexamine Euratom's programme thoroughly and honestly without running any risk of jeopardizing its future by a one-year extension, M. Bousch agreed with the rapporteur that the absence of a joint industrial policy was to be deplored. Several proposals had, however, been formulated by France, but had failed to arouse sufficient interest.

In M. Bousch's opinion, the problem of independent resources did not exist as far as Euratom was concerned, it being more a question of avoiding fragmentation in the use of the funds made available to the Community.

The speaker then asserted that the Council had not destroyed the means available for achieving co-operation, as was stated in the proposed resolution; on the contrary, its aim had been to make them more flexible by its decisions taken on 8 December 1967. A timetable had been fixed, and all that remained was to await proposals. The speaker concluded that if certain amendments had been made to the proposed resolution, it would certainly have been accepted unanimously.

M. Pedini, the Chairman of the Committee on Research Energy and Atomic Problems, considered this debate as evidence that efforts to give Euratom a new lease of life were justified. Commenting on the decision adopted by the Council on 8 December 1967, the speaker felt that a crisis in the reorganization of Euratom had been inevitable. This crisis had duly occurred. The question confronting us now was: on what lines should the Community take action in the future?

According to M. Pedini, it was of vital importance that Euratom should take practical steps to bring nuclear energy to industrial maturity. One way was by setting up joint enterprises. Echoing the fears aroused by the budgetary restrictions introduced by the Council, M. Pedini stressed the importance of contracts of association as tools for co-ordination. The Joint Research Centre should be used principally for basic research, which is essential for all stages of nuclear development.

The speaker believed that the Council's resolution of 8 December 1967 had two positive aspects: firstly the opportunity it offered for using the Joint Research Centre for non-nuclear programmes; secondly, the interest shown by the Council in a study on the possible construction of a Euratom enrichment plant.

M. Raedts expressed the opinion that, if a concrete decision concerning the Euratom sector was to be reached, unified leadership was one of the essential conditions which must be fulfilled.

On the other hand, the speaker deplored the absolute lack of continuity in Euratom's research. Whenever the necessary funds ceased to be available or new projects came into being, the current research programme was "torpedoed". If Europe wanted worthwhile results, there must be a definite plan for making available the financial resources essential to cover an entire research project. If Euratom had its own resources, they could be employed for this purpose.

In addition, research assignments must, according to M. Raedts, be entrusted to those centres where research was likely to produce the best results. In connection with uranium enrichment, the speaker asserted his conviction that this problem was subsidiary to a more important question which must have prior consideration, namely that of supply sources. The fact was that uranium resources were by no means abundant. Steps must therefore be taken to ensure dependability of supply for the Community by concluding agreements with certain producer countries.

M. Oele, the rapporteur of the Committee on Research Energy and Atomic Problems, drew a comparison between the speakers who had taken part in the debate and a group of doctors assembled at a patient's bedside. And they fitted the part well, he said, because Euratom, without any programme for the future, deprived of the association machinery and despite the promises made for 1968 by the Council of Ministers, was still very much the sick man of Europe. These "doctors of 8 December" had not succeeded in providing an exact diagnosis, but we did at least know the root causes of the sickness.

Summing up the debate, M. Oele pointed out that, with the exception of the UDE representative, all the speakers had agreed that Euratom must have funds of its own. The question had also been raised of the resources to be made available to Euratom for the purpose of supervising and co-ordinating activities undertaken by all the European partners. But, asked the speaker, what did these resources consist of and were they available.

M. Hellwig, the Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, believed that, for the moment at least, endeavours to establish responsibilities in respect of Euratom's present position were not called for. This position should be accepted as a reality and then efforts should be made to find solutions.

At the present stage in the deliberations, which for the moment were still confined to the Treaty framework for the drawing-up of programme, the Commission was not yet in a position to pronounce final judgment on the decision made by the Council on 8 December 1967. M. Hellwig recalled in this connection that an interim programme and a budget for the activities of the Joint Research Centre had been approved. Despite the suspension of its financial contributions, the Commission was nevertheless continuing to participate in Community activities in the field of association arrangements, notably by seconding personnel, disseminating information, supplying fissile materials and assisting in project management.

With reference to the sections of the resolution of 8 December 1967 concerning Euratom's future activity, M. Hellwig made the following points. First of all, there was the fact that the Council wished to incorporate a greater flexibility into the new programme covering several years, particularly as regards the possibility of varying the duration of programmes. This wish was shared by the Commission. It was equally important to note that the cardinal point of the new programme covering several years must be a continuation of the activity of the Community's research centres. Everybody recognized the need for a revision of the Centre's programmes. The Council's resolution paved the way for directing some of the Centre's activities towards non-nuclear projects.

There had been unanimous approval for the Community's activity in the fields of research training and dissemination of information.

Although the Council was at present examining the question of incorporating existing associations in the joint programme, it had also been stressed that new associations could be included in the programme in order to lend greater flexibility to indirect action, thus making it possible for the varying interests of the member countries to be taken into consideration; where industrial projects are concerned in particular, the Council had made a distinction between the joint programme and the supplementary programmes. This enabled the Community to fulfil the many tasks connected with the legal and financial infrastructure of applied research for industrial purposes.

The Council's resolution accentuated the importance of the problem of supply. Studies to be undertaken in this context would relate to supplies not only of source materials but also of enriched uranium for the Community.

After making the announcement that the Commission would submit a document to the Council suggesting guide-lines for a new Euratom programme covering several years, M. Hellwig concluded his speech by enumerating the lessons to be learnt from the difficulties experienced in Euratom's activities in recent years. The cause of Euratom's sickness is inherent in the Treaty itself, which requires a unanimous vote for any Council decisions concerning programmes. The consequence of this unanimity system is that the solutions reached are negotiated at government level and the Commission, which defends its proposals at every stage of these negotiations, has to accept the governments' decision in the absence of financial resources of its own. The problem of a fair return, which frequently renders a unanimous decision difficult, should in the final analysis be resolved by seeking a middle way over a longer period of time. Perhaps it will also be possible, in the event of the extension of the Community's jurisdiction to encompass other areas of research, to find means of adjusting the situation outside the nuclear sector. The main thing, however, is to realize the relative smallness of the sums under discussion in the research sector compared with those sums administered by the FEOGA (European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund), the FED (European Development Fund) and the Social Fund.

A comparison of this nature will serve to show that political decisions on Community lines must be taken to overcome these difficulties.

M. Hellwig concluded his speech with a reference to the Community's co-operation with non-member countries, to which the Commission has always given a certain priority. In the Commission's view, co-operation of this nature should be achieved between the Community as such and the non-member countries and should not be limited to certain of the member countries. If such co-operation is negotiated outside the Community's institutional framework, the effect will be to by-pass the Commission as champion of Community interests, which in turn would mean that all decisions would be taken at an intergovernmental level.

Activities carried out under the various projects

The Orgel Project and Heavy-Water Reactors

- Orgel Prototype Call for Bids

20. The general characteristics of the 250 MWe prototype power plant were drawn up as a result of meetings held between the industrialists submitting tenders and the representatives of the Orgel Project.

The prototype will mainly embody the techniques developed under the Orgel programme, but also those developed in Canada by the AECL.

- Association Euratom-CNEN (CISE) on the Cirene Programme

21. During December 1967, acceptance tests were carried out on the REBO loop installed in the Avogadro reactor for the irradiation of Cirene fuel pins of the collapsed cladding type. The tests, which lasted about 40 hours, were conducted on a rod of dimensions similar to those of the Cirene fuel, although the specific power was relatively low. Since the water contained ammonia and the pressure was about 50 atm, no activity attributable to fission products was detected. The post-irradiation examinations will not commence until a hot cell has been built and put into operation in a few months' time.

High-Temperature Gas Reactors

- Dragon Programme

22. *Operational report on the Dragon reactor covering the period from 2 to 30 December 1967:* The Dragon reactor is still running at a power of 18 MWth and has accumulated an integrated power of 3 300 MWd. The various types of fuel used are always maintained at the same temperature. That employed in the high temperature experiment is at 1 750°C and that proposed for power reactors is at 1 330°C, while the remainder of the second charge stayed at the maximum average temperature of 1 300°C. The average helium outlet temperature is 860°C, the impurity content being less than 1 ppm. The activity of the primary circuit is still in the region of 2 Curies.

The reactor is scheduled to be shut down towards mid-March 1968 in order to insert the third fuel charge and to install six new heat exchangers.

- THTR Programme¹

23. *Research and development projects:* An international symposium was to be held by the Jülich Nuclear Research Centre on 6 and 7 March 1968 on "The problems relating to the stacking of spherical elements and granular materials". During this symposium the results acquired under the THTR Association were to be presented and, in particular, papers read on the mechanics of the stacking of spherical elements with a view to their use in the THTR core. It was also planned to include in this symposium relevant reports concerning other disciplines.

Operation of the AVR reactor²: on 18 December 1967, the AVR pebble-bed reactor was connected up to the grid of the Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk. The power produced at present amounts to 6 MWe. This is the first time that electricity has been produced by a nuclear source from superheated steam (at 350°C and 7 atm) in Germany.

At the beginning of 1968 additional fuel elements will be loaded with a view to reaching full power (15 MWe) gradually by the spring of 1968.

Thermonuclear reactions.

- Association Euratom/CEA³

24. Self-excitation and steady-state operation tests have been conducted at Fontenay-aux-Roses on the prototype generator (500 kJ) recently delivered; the results obtained from these tests confirmed the theoretical predictions concerning operation.

From 15 to 18 January 1968 a colloquium was held at Saclay on the subject of the interactions between high-frequency electromagnetic fields and a plasma; this meeting, organized jointly by the Institut National des Techniques Nucléaires and the General Ionics Section of the Department of Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion of the CEA, was attended by 120 participants from 13 different countries, including 11 Soviet representatives. The large amount of discussions held on this subject of common

¹ Thorium-Hoch-Temperatur-Reaktor (Thorium High-Temperature Reactor).

² Arbeitsgemeinschaft Versuchsreaktor.

³ Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique.

interest indicates that the meeting was a success; at it, a general rundown was given of the methods involving the use of high-frequency electromagnetic fields for heating and confining plasmas. Moreover, since this field of activity is at an advanced stage of development in the Soviet Union compared with Western Europe, the meeting enabled European experts to have discussion with leading Soviet specialists and to acquaint themselves with the latest progress that has been made in the Soviet Union.

- Association Euratom/IPP¹

25. A method for determining the temperature of ions in a single theta pinch discharge has been developed. Various measurements have already been performed or work is in progress on the determination of magnetic surfaces from electron beams, comparison of the temperature reached in an arc in the presence of a curved magnetic field with that obtained in a linear discharge.

BR-2 Materials Testing Reactor at Mol

26. During December 1967 the BR-2 reactor at Mol (Euratom/CEN Contract of Association) ran for a total of 12 days at a rated power of 66 MW during the 10/67/2 cycle and at 58.5 MW at the beginning of the 11/67 cycle.

While the reactor was in operation, 42 and 34 irradiation channels respectively were occupied by experimental devices; these included, in particular, the first in-pile section of the sweep loop, which is used for irradiating the graphite-coated fuel particles.

In the space of time between the two irradiation periods mentioned, two special short runs were carried out. The maximum specific power reached in the fissile pins was 3 600 W/cm³, which corresponds to a linear power of 3 200 W/cm pin length (= 270 W/g); these values are the highest ever obtained in the world in continuous tests. In order to obtain this result, the power of the BR-2 was stepped up to the exceptional value of 73 MW for a period of nine hours.

The preparation of irradiation devices and their post-irradiation examination in hot laboratories was continued. Among the studies already embarked on, mention could be made of the following:

- the design of irradiation capsules and baskets for fissile materials
- a safety study for a thulium irradiation
- the construction of a new boiling-water capsule for the Joint Plutonium Group
- the examination of irradiated graphite samples from the Babcock programme
- the handling of activity detectors.

The Promotion of Irradiation Technology

27. In 1967 the IRMA irradiation unit on wheels (*Irradiateur Mobile Autonome*), equipped with a source of 175 000 Curies of caesium-137 and accompanied by a mobile exhibition, began its demonstration and information tour as planned under

¹ Institut für Plasmaphysik.

the IRAD programme (irradiation). This project was launched by the Eurisotop Office with the express aim of preparing industry for, and arousing interest in, irradiation technology.

Its first call en route was Wageningen in the Netherlands, where a series of tests on a pilot scale were carried out. These were directed towards the preservation of foodstuffs by irradiation. The mobile irradiator then continued its demonstration tour in West Germany, stopping at Bremerhaven, Kiel and Düsseldorf, after which it moved on to Belgium, stopping at Courtrai and Charleroi.

During the demonstration tour about 10 000 batches of products and materials were irradiated, including 1 500 kg of strawberries, 400 kg of mushrooms, several tons of potatoes and 1 300 kg of fish and other seafood. These products constituted the largest quantity of fish, fruit and vegetables ever irradiated in Europe.

In addition, the IRAD project gave industrialists an opportunity to assess the practical possibilities offered by irradiation techniques with regard to the pasteurization and preservation of foodstuffs, the sterilization of pharmaceutical products and medical and surgical requisites, the finishing of textiles and the fabrication of plastic-wood or new packing materials.

Thousands of people visited the mobile exhibition, which demonstrated the practical applications of irradiation technology and its advantages, or attended the many film shows which included four documentaries dealing with the practical applications of irradiation techniques.

In addition to all this, prominent experts on the subject gave around 60 technical lectures at the meetings devoted to the dissemination of technical information. These were organized jointly with the IRAD project with the express aim of providing industrialists and other interested parties with an insight into the present state of progress and a description of the exciting prospects offered by irradiation techniques.

In 1968, the IRAD project will be continued in Italy, France and West Germany.

Technology Working Group

28. The technology working group set up under Euratom's auspices met for the second time on 16 January 1968 at Fontenay-aux-Roses. Apart from an enquiry to determine the extent to which the recently issued technology catalogue is being used, suggestions were accepted that quarterly information reports be drawn up on the activities of the technological departments of the Community's laboratories and that a proposal be put before the Fusion Liaison Group with a view to setting up a joint technology programme in future which would be more comprehensive and even more rationalized than hitherto.

Scientific and Technological Research

29. In January the Special Working Party on scientific and technological research (Task Force), which is composed of Commission officials, continued the work begun in December, by organizing several meetings of experts. This Special Working Party was set up by the Commission to assist the Working Party on scientific and technological research (known as the Maréchal Group) attached to the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee. Its duties were defined by the Ministers responsible

for scientific research, on 31 October 1967. Having been instructed by the Council to study the existing possibilities for co-operation in a number of specified fields, the Maréchal Group set up seven specialized groups — one for each field:

- i) Data processing;
- ii) Telecommunications;
- iii) Development of new means of transport;
- iv) Metallurgy;
- v) Meteorology;
- vi) Oceanography;
- vii) Abatement of nuisances;

These specialized groups are composed of experts and senior officials from the six Member States, each of which provides the chairman and one of the rapporteurs for one or two groups. The Special Working Party (Task Force) set up by the Commission provides the seventh rapporteur, as well as the secretariat for all the specialized groups.

The following meetings took place in January:

- i) Data processing — 8, 23, and 29 January;
- ii) Telecommunications — 16/17 and 29 January;
- iii) Development of new means of transport — 24 January;
- iv) Metallurgy — 23 January;
- v) Meteorology — 4, 15-17 and 26 January;
- vi) Oceanography — 3 and 25 January;
- vii) Abatement of nuisances — 3/4, 9 and 22 January.

At these meetings the experts made an inventory of the research work undertaken in these different fields at national level, and reviewed the co-operation already existing within international bodies. They then considered where European co-operation is needed and what its objectives should be, and listed the subjects that lend themselves to research within the Community framework. The specialized groups also examined the various possibilities for organizing and undertaking joint activities, and submitted proposals accordingly.

Dissemination of information in the nuclear field

30. In January 1968 the Directorate-General for the Dissemination of Information issued 29 scientific or technical reports.

During the same period the Centre for Information and Documentation (CID) put out 15 communications, scientific or technical documents containing information of direct industrial application. Distribution of the documents is limited to member countries and Community personnel and enterprises.

No. 1, Volume 6, of "Euratom Information" and No. 1, Volume 8, of "Transatom Bulletin" were also published and distributed during the same period.

In another field, 8 216 items were added to the collection stored in the computer's memory, which forms part of the automatic nuclear documentation system used by the CID for carrying out literature searches for customers.

The systems was successful in providing 68 clients with something in the region of 2 500 abstracts dealing with subjects in their particular field of activity.

Coal and steel research

Research Liaison Committee (Coal)

31. The Research Liaison Committee (Coal), consisting of representatives of the coalowners' federations and miners' unions, met for its second six-monthly session of 1967 in Luxembourg on 21 December. In parallel with the Technical Research Committee (Coal), consisting of experts, the Liaison Committee advises the Commission in connection with its (the Commission's) research promotion work under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty.

The 21 December meeting (the fifth) first discussed future coal research promotion measures in general. Next, it considered 10 applications for research grants from the point of view of the value to the Community of the projects or programmes concerned. Arrangements for the dissemination of research results in 1968, by publishing researchers' reports, holding technical-level meetings and so on, were discussed, and the possibility of closer co-operation with the American industry on coal research was also touched on.

Technical Committee on Air Pollution Control

32. The Technical Committee on Air Pollution Control met in Essen on 20 December 1967.

The main item dealt with was desulphurization of coal combustion fumes, on which several Community-aided projects have been going on, a number of them with Government co-operation. Some of the work is at laboratory and semi-industrial level, some in pilot plants and on full industrial scale in large power-stations; it includes both pure research and trials with different processes and types of equipment.

As a contribution to the preparation of new official clean-air regulations in various Community countries, the Committee is working on a survey of present techniques in this field.

Technical Committee on Coal Preparation

33. The Technical Committee on Coal Preparation met in Essen and Bottrop on 19 December 1967. Members were pleased to learn that the research on "bogging-down" of coal had yielded some striking results, which would certainly be taken into account in future construction or conversion of bunkers, and would make for quite substantial savings in operating costs.

The research was conducted using an experimental bunker specially constructed by the Steinkohlenbergbauverein, Essen, with the aid of a High Authority grant.

Study on technological progress

34. On 18 December 1967 the Commission's Directorate-General for Steel in Luxembourg conferred for the second time with the expert committee set up to advise it in connection with the study it is having carried out on the implications for the pattern of steel production over the next fifteen years of technological progress in the steel-consuming sectors of the economy. This meeting was concerned more particularly with settling the precise field to be covered.

The first thing to be done is to work out a provisional method, test this in practice with reference to a selected sector, and on the strength of the results establish the final method for use in studying all the sectors.

It was agreed that the test sector should be transport (exclusive of ocean-going shipping), as the manufacturing industries involved include some in which technological change is in full swing and others which are continuing on traditional lines.

The study covers all innovations — new devices, new processes, and also new applications where likely to have economic repercussions. It is being conducted by the Bipe Institute in collaboration with the Ifo and Breda Institutes. Work was scheduled to start on 1 January 1968, and the study is to be submitted by 30 September. The Directorate-General and the three research centres will be in constant touch throughout, consultations with the expert committee also to take place at regular intervals.

Research Committee on Dust Control in Mines

35. The Research Committee on Dust Control in Mines met in Luxembourg on 17 January 1968 to consider a number of projects relating more particularly to dust prevention and suppression in iron-ore mines.

Three projects were submitted by the Chambre Syndicale des Mines de Fer de France, concerning respectively drilling, control of nitrous fumes emitted in nitrate-fuel shot-firing and by diesel engines, and control of dust produced by the use of the continuous miner. A fourth project concerning dust control in pneumatic stowing operations was submitted by the Istituto di Arte Mineraria of the Turin Polytechnic.

The usual consultations with the employers' and workers' associations and the Government departments responsible will follow shortly, after which the projects will be laid before the European Commission.

Steel Products Nomenclature Co-ordinating Committee

36. Working Party 23 met in Luxembourg on 18-19 January 1968.

Euronorm 85 (nitriding steels) was finalized; with regard to Euronorms 86 (flame-hardening and induction-hardening steels) and 87 (free-cutting steels) agreement was reached on the values for mechanical and chemical properties and heat treatments, so that all points of substance have now been settled and the blueprint can be proceeded with.

The Working Party discussed the rough draft of Euronorm 89 (ferritic-pearlitic spring steels), and fixed provisional values for the mechanical properties and heat treatments concerned.

It was urged that the abbreviated designations for all the Euronorms relating to heat-treatment steels be revised in co-operation with Working Party 7.

The request was made that Working Party 1 draw up a Euronorm for the Jominy hardness test.

The Working Party discussed its programme of future activities, and agreed to deal with cold-heading bolt steels and bearing steels.

Meeting on pneumoconiosis and environmental factors

37. One point which has emerged from the epidemiological survey conducted in a number of Community coalfields on the development and progress of pneumoconiosis is that it would undoubtedly be a good thing to line up the methods employed to some extent.

It being necessary to get some preliminary principles agreed before there was any possibility of pooling and comparing the data recorded in the coalfields, a meeting of experts was convened at the Nord/Pas-de-Calais Mining Medical Study Centre at Sin-le-Noble, where it was accepted that the work should be carried on in future on a broader Community basis and action taken to see to it that the data for consideration were more efficiently circulated.

Special arrangements would need to be made with respect to the two particular problems of dust measurement and classification of pulmonary X-rays, to enable these to be embodied in the epidemiological survey.

Medical research programme

38. The High Authority on 18 May 1966 decided to earmark 1 500 000 units of account for a four-year research programme on the treatment and rehabilitation of burns patients. Various projects on different aspects of this subject have been passed meantime as rating for grants, and the Commission accordingly on 12 January 1968 approved the commitment of 206 975.5 units of account in all to cover 13 projects in connection with burns.

Sub-Committee on Steelworks

39. The Sub-Committee on Steelworks (i.e. steelmaking plant proper) met in Düsseldorf on 10 January 1968, and finalized a joint research programme on solidification of molten steel. Four national research establishments and some ten steel plants are to take part; the four main aspects to be gone into are effervescence, deoxidation and formation of inclusions, the propagation of the solidification front, and the special case of large forging ingots.

Energy policy

Measures to aid the coal industry

40. Under the High Authority's Decision No. 3/65 of 17 February 1965, concerning the Community system of State aid to the coalmining industry, the Member States are required to declare to the Executive by 1 November of each year all financial assistance they propose to grant to the industry, in direct or indirect form, in the course of the following calendar year.

The Belgian Government in a letter of 20 December 1967, supplemented and amended by a second letter of 16 January 1968, furnished particulars of the assistance it planned to give during 1968 to the Belgian coal industry. The French Government similarly wrote on 28 December, and again on 5 January, indicating what assistance it intended to provide for the Charbonnages de France in the coming year. The corresponding information was supplied by the German Government on 8 January 1968, and by the Dutch Government on 15 January.

The European Parliament

Debate and Resolution on the state of the Community coal industry

41. The European Parliament, viewing with concern the course of developments in the European coal sector, and having regard also to the various steps taken at national level in the matter of energy policy, on 24 January 1968 debated in some detail the problems of the Community coal industry. M. Leemans (Christian Democrat group, Belgium) submitted an interim report on behalf of the Energy, Research and Atomic Problems Committee, and members offered comments on the main elements of and possible approaches to energy policy.

M. Bergmann (Socialist group, Germany) advocated more comprehensive planning for the collieries. M. Bousch (European Democratic Union, France) drew members' attention once again to the importance of security of supply and of Europe's having its own independent sources of energy. M. Hougardy (Liberal and allied group, Belgium) urged the co-ordination of coal production policies. M. Burgbacher (Christian Democrat group, Germany) submitted a four-point plan for coal consumption and marketing. M. Rossi (Liberal and allied group, France) said the Community would have no coal policy at all if it did not establish an energy policy as well. M. Springorum (Christian Democrat group, Germany) listed the basic long-term requirements for European coal and emphasized that action must be taken forthwith. Mme Gennai Tonietti (Christian Democrat group, Italy) pointed to the social and economic considerations governing coal production, and stressed the importance of the Community's possessing a sufficient flow of cheap energy. M. Raedts (Christian Democrat group, Netherlands) said there must be long-term planning of the supply of solid fuels. M. Oele (Socialist group, Netherlands) called for social co-ordination, to safeguard the welfare of the colliery labour force. M. Pedini (Christian Democrat group, Italy), as chairman of the Energy, Research and Atomic Problems Committee, informed the House that a general report on energy policy was in preparation for the autumn session.

M. Haferkamp, on behalf of the European Commission, outlined to the House the focal elements around which it was hoped to construct a Community coal policy within the framework of a common energy policy.

The object would be, firstly, to guide the future movement of coal production, if possible by issuing estimates, so that the collieries could have a proper idea of the share they were expected to contribute to the Community's energy supply; this would involve the concentration of coal-winning on the most efficient pits. The second main aim would be to co-ordinate the arrangements introduced by the national authorities separately to aid their own coal industries, and bring them into line with the objectives of the common energy policy. It would also be part of the scheme to promote a common stance in the matter of commercial policy, with regard both to intra-Community and to external trade.

In conclusion, M. Haferkamp said the Commission proposed to submit a medium-term programme of technical research relating, among other things, to productivity and operational dependability in coal extraction, and to the possibility of devising new uses for coal.

At the close of the debate the House passed a Resolution, the main points from which are appended.

Agricultural policy

Council session

42. At its session of 22 and 23 January 1968, the Council held an initial exchange of views, based on a report drawn up by the Commission, on the problems of the economic situation of the milk sector in the Community and possible measures to improve the balance between production and marketing. A summary of the Commission's report is given in section 54 c).

The Council agreed to consult the European Parliament about the Commission's proposed regulations on the common organization of the markets in milk and milk products and in beef and veal, respectively.¹

The Council also considered veterinary matters. After an exchange of views on the draft resolution concerning measures to implement a Community veterinary policy, and on the progress so far achieved with regard to the creation of a Veterinary Committee, the Council instructed the Committee of Permanent Representatives to continue its work on the subject.

With regard to the Community programmes, the Council examined in detail the problems connected with the programmes for the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), and instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue its work, so that the Council might discuss this item again at one of its next meetings.

The Council also instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the Commission's proposal for a regulation fixing the maximum amounts of refunds to be granted to producers for sugar used in the chemical industry, if necessary on the basis of an amended proposal.

Lastly, the Council briefly considered the following items:

- i) The establishment of a common organization of the market in live plants and floricultural products;
- ii) The fixing of a common quality standard for flower corms, bulbs and tubers;
- iii) The fixing of quality standards for fresh cut flowers and foliage.

Common organization of agricultural markets

Cereals and rice

43. On 13 January 1968, the Commission adopted a regulation fixing the corrective amounts for "Blue Belle" and "Fortuna" rice and for brokens of the "Fine de Turquie", "Glutinous C3" and "Glutinous A1" varieties.²

¹ See "Proceedings in the European Parliament" below.

² Official gazette No. L 12, 16 January 1968.

This regulation supplements Regulation No. 469/67/CEE because new qualities of rice and new varieties of broken are now being offered on the world market.

Beef and veal¹

44. On 17 January 1968 the Commission adopted a decision laying down implementing provisions, for Germany, with regard to special intervention measures in the beef and veal sector.²

On 23 January 1968 the Council adopted two regulations concerning the following Community tariff quotas:

- i) 22 000 tons of frozen beef and veal (CCT heading ex 02.01 A II);³
- ii) 20 000 head of heifers and cows of certain mountain breeds (CCT heading ex 01.02 A II).³

For the year 1968 the tariff quota of 22 000 tons of frozen beef and veal is divided between the Member States as follows: Germany, 2 200 tons; France, 1 000 tons; Italy, 15 000 tons; Netherlands, 2 500 tons; BLEU, 1 300 tons.

For the year 1968 the tariff quota of 20 000 head of heifers and cows is divided between the Member States as follows: Germany, 10 000 head; France, 2 500 head; Italy, 7 500 head.

Pigmeat

45. On 23 January 1968 the Council adopted a regulation supplementing Regulation No. 213/67/CEE establishing the list of representative markets for pigmeat in the Community, as regards the Luxembourg markets.⁴

In addition, on 24 January 1968, the Commission fixed the sluice-gate prices and levies for pigmeat for the period 1 February - 30 April 1968.⁴

Milk and milk products¹

46. On 22 December 1967 the Commission adopted a second decision concerning the sale of butter from private stocks to processing industries in Belgium.⁵ Under this regulation, Belgium is authorized to grant aid, until 31 March 1968, for the sale of 1 000 tons of butter to Belgian processing industries; this is butter which, during the 1967/68 milk year, was the object of intervention measures of the kind referred to in Article 21(3) of Regulation No. 13/64/CEE. The aid in question may not exceed 157 u.a. per 100 kg of butter.

¹ See below for the proposals concerning cattle products (meat and milk) at the single market stage.

² Official gazette No. L 34, 7 February 1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 23, 26 January 1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 21, 25 January 1968.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 18, 22 January 1968.

Eggs and poultry

47. The Commission adopted several regulations fixing the supplementary amounts for:

- i) Certain eggs in shell;¹
- ii) Certain products in the egg sector;²
- iii) Egg albumin and milk albumin other than dried;³
- iv) Certain products in the poultrymeat sector.⁴

In addition, on 22 January 1968, the Commission fixed the export refunds for eggs, poultrymeat and shell eggs exported in the form of goods not listed in Annex II of the Treaty, for the period beginning 1 February 1968.⁵

Wine

48. On 11 January 1968, the Commission adopted a regulation amending Regulation No. 26/64/CEE on the keeping up to date of the viticultural land register.⁶ Under Regulation No. 26/64/CEE the viticultural land register was to be completely rewritten every ten years and kept up to date, in the interim, by statistical surveys produced by annual sample checks. Since it is, above all, the statistics relating to the areas planted with vines that need to be continually revised, it seemed advisable to use, instead of statistical sample surveys, a system involving annual declarations concerning the planting and uprooting of vines — hence the present regulation.

Approximation of legislation

49. On 23 January 1968 the Council adopted a directive on the approximation of the Member States' legislation concerning the classification of wood in the rough.⁷

Financing the common agricultural policy

50. At its 21st meeting the Fund Committee was consulted on the financial aspects of the projects for aid from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF, for the year 1967, and on the financial resources available. Of the 303 projects submitted, 30 were withdrawn by the applicants, 19 were deemed inadmissible, and 12 were found not to fulfil the required conditions. Of the 242 projects eligible for aid, 153, totalling 26 039 369 u.a. were selected; the remaining 89 projects cannot be aided by the

¹ Official gazette No. L 11, 13 January 1968.

² *Ibid.* No. L 12, 16 January 1968.

³ *Ibid.* No. L 13, 17 January 1968.

⁴ *Ibid.* No. L 17, 20 January 1968.

⁵ *Ibid.* No. L 20, 24 January 1968.

⁶ *Ibid.* No. L 9, 12 January 1968.

⁷ *Ibid.* No. L 32, 6 February 1968.

Fund because sufficient financial resources are not available. The proposed aid (in u.a.) is distributed as follows:

Improvement of production structures	14 472 832	(75 projects)
Improvement of marketing structures	10 728 958	(71 projects)
Mixed projects	837 579	(7 projects)
Total	<u>26 039 369</u>	<u>(153 projects)</u>

In addition, the Committee unanimously endorsed the draft regulation concerning applications for payments on account from the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF. In this connection, it decided that at its next meeting it would consider how the lack of conditions governing eligibility for intervention might affect the establishment of applications for payments on account, and how this difficulty might be overcome.

Conditions of competition in agriculture

51. Acting under Article 93(3) of the Treaty, the Commission has expressed its opinion on aids granted for reforestation in France. These measures did not provoke any special comment from the Commission, which simply reserved its right to change its opinion subsequently in the light of the common provisions that might be adopted with regard to policy on aids for forestry investment.

Application of Article 93(1) of the Treaty to existing agricultural aids

52. Acting under Article 93(1) of the Treaty, the Commission has expressed its opinion on 44 aids currently given in the six Member States in respect of cereals, fruit and vegetables, oils and fats, pigmeat, eggs and poultrymeat. These aids were examined by the Working Party on conditions of competition in agriculture, at five meetings in June and July 1967. Taking into account the views expressed at these meetings, the Commission has expressed itself on more than 40 types of existing aids.

In acting thus, the Commission's aim was to do away rapidly with the distortions of competition caused by the existence of State aids directly linked with the products listed above, leaving aside for the moment such aids as concern production or marketing structures. The Commission accordingly devoted most of its attention to aids whose amount depends on area, prices, quantities produced, or number of trees, seedlings or animals.

The Commission therefore fixed its opinion in the light of these considerations and, at the beginning of January, informed the Member States of its conclusions.

The action taken for the aforementioned sectors, or pending for other products which will soon circulate freely within the Common Market, is in correlation with the establishment of a common organization of markets and free movement of goods between Member States.

In 1968 the Commission intends to continue this action under Article 93(1) of the Treaty with regard to all the sectors for which existing aids have been notified by the Member States.

Commission proposals for cattle products (milk and meat) at the single market stage

53. On 21 January 1968 the Commission submitted to the Council proposals for two regulations establishing single markets in milk and milk products and in beef and veal, together with a proposed regulation on liquid milk.

At the same time, it submitted a report on the economic situation of the milk sector, at the Council's request.

These proposals are summarized below.

Milk and milk products

54. The proposed regulations will replace Regulation No. 13/64/CEE, which will be rescinded at the end of the transitional period, envisaged as being the beginning of the 1968/69 milk year, under the Council resolution of July 1966.

By 1 April 1968 the system of common prices for milk and milk products will come into force and a single internal Community market will be established for these products, as provided for in the aforementioned resolution.

Consequently, in the final stage of the common organization of markets in the milk sector, as for other common organizations, the restrictions on intra-Community trade will be abolished and uniform levies charged at the Community's external frontiers and uniform refunds granted for exports to non-member countries. The procedures for fixing the common prices have to be established, as also Community arrangements and measures connected with intervention.

The various measures to ensure a balanced market, mentioned in the Council resolution of July 1966, must also be implemented.

a) The proposed regulation establishing a common organization of the market in milk and milk products retains a large number of the features of the arrangements at present in force, duly adapted to the common price system. The proposal falls into four parts:

- i) The price system;
- ii) The intervention system;
- iii) The trading system;
- iv) General provisions.

Prices. The target price for milk is to be fixed annually on the common date decided upon for all products subject to the common organization of markets, i.e. before 1 August; it will be fixed by the procedure laid down in Article 43(2) of the Treaty, i.e. on a proposal of the Commission and after the European Parliament has been consulted.¹

Certain decisions concerning the alignment of prices, which are at present taken by the Member States within limits set by the Council, will henceforth be taken by the Council itself. A single intervention price for butter, applicable during the milk year, will be fixed annually, as also the Community threshold prices for "pilot"

¹ See "Proceedings in the European Parliament" below.

products. In view of the diversity of milk products, the principle of dividing them into groups, already embodied in the present arrangements, is maintained.

Intervention. On the internal market, the objective is to arrive at the target price and achieve a balance between supply and demand for the various milk products; the overall situation of these has therefore to be considered and, in accordance with the Council resolution of 24 July 1967, the support at present given for some of them has to be supplemented by extending the Community intervention measures designed to replace national provisions.

Thus, the regulation provides for a reduction in the price of liquid and powdered skimmed milk for animal feeding.

A similar provision is made for casein processed from skim milk, because of the conditions governing the binding of the duty on this product in GATT.

For butter, criteria are laid down by which the Council will establish the general intervention system. Their aim is to maintain the competitive position of butter on the market and ensure that storage is as rational as possible. Intervention may take the form either of purchase by the public intervention agency or of aids for private storage.

The regulation also lays down the principles governing the scale of butter bought by the intervention agencies, and allows special measures to be taken when stocks become too large to be sold on normal terms during one marketing year.

There are also provisions concerning the way butter is to be manufactured and labelled. The provisions concerning labelling include the introduction of a control mark for butter which meets special requirements.

In accordance with the aforementioned Council resolution, general rules are to be adopted by the Council concerning intervention measures for Parmigiano-Reggiano and Grana Padano cheeses.

These possible types of action of the internal market are supplemented by provisions stating that the Council may adopt appropriate measures to deal with special situations. When production is high for seasonal reasons, support may be given for products that are not normally the object of such measures, and when there are structural surpluses of milk fats, steps may be taken to avoid over-production of butter and therefore to expand intervention for this product.

Trade with non-member countries. The proposal retains the provisions — common to all the market organizations — concerning import licences valid throughout the Community, the conditions relating to processing traffic, and the procedure for recourse to the safeguard clause (for all of which the Community organs are competent), and special provisions to be applied in the event of shortages.

A single levy applicable throughout the Community will be fixed for each of the pilot products. The levy will apply to "assimilated" products in the same group. An exception is made for products under heading 04.01 — which include liquid milk — until 31 December 1969, the duties of the common customs tariff being charged until that date.

As regards butter, it is laid down that only butter which fulfils the quality requirements applying to butter produced within the Community may be imported.

Export refunds, designed to cover the difference between prices in the Community and those current in international trade, may be granted by the Management Com-

mittee procedure, in accordance with general rules to be adopted by the Council. For each product the refund is the same throughout the Community and may be differentiated according to the various destinations.

General provisions. Most of the provisions at present in force are maintained. This is the case as regards the Management Committee procedure, the exchange of information between the Commission and the Member States, the application of the financing regulations, and the applicability of the principle contained in Articles 92-94 of the Treaty where aids to production and trade in milk products are concerned.

In accordance with the Council resolution of July 1967, an exception is provided for: until 31 December 1969, the Council may allow degressive national aids in respect of butter in the Netherlands and Germany, and for certain cheeses in Germany. In addition, Luxembourg is authorized to grant milk producers a degressive subsidy until the end of the 1973/74 milk year.

b) The aim of the proposed regulation concerning products under CCT heading 04.01 (liquid milk) is to allow for the special circumstances of these products, particularly the decisive part they play both in the formation of agricultural incomes and in consumers' basic nutrition.

The proposal contains the principles on which the common policy for the products in question will be based: arrangements must be such as to allow the largest possible quantity of milk to be used in this form; to this end, they must guarantee both high-quality supplies that will meet the needs of consumers and regular deliveries at prices that take into account both the possibilities of demand and the economic interests of producers and distributors.

In order to attain these objectives:

i) The characteristics of the products in question have been defined, particularly the fat content of liquid milk. The latter term covers whole milk, with a fat content of 3.5% (a relatively large increase in fat content compared with the present situation in the Member States); partially skimmed milk, with a fat content of 1.5-1.8%; and skimmed milk. With this range of products, it should be possible to meet the needs of consumers.

ii) With regard to the quality of the products in question, it is laid down that their production and marketing must conform both to the provisions governing the health of the cattle population and to the minimum requirements that milk must fulfil in order to be used as liquid milk, processed by dairies or otherwise treated. Arrangements are also made for dairies to be licensed before they can market liquid milk.

iii) Provisions are laid down under which the amount paid for milk delivered to dairies will depend upon the quality.

iv) A system of long-term contracts between dairies and their suppliers and customers may be instituted in order to ensure regularity of supplies and take into account the economic interests of producers.

v) The Council will be able to decide upon exceptional measures, either to facilitate the adoption of the new arrangements or to allow for the special circumstances of regions where the milk industry is not very highly developed.

vi) The Member States will be able to fix maximum prices for certain liquid milks, with the possibility of regional differentiation.

vii) Until 31 December 1969, the Council will also be empowered to lay down transitional measures.

c) To supplement these two proposals, the Commission thought it necessary to draw up a report on the economic situation of the milk sector in the Community, containing information on the scope of the problems posed by the steady increase in production in a particularly important sector of agriculture and suggesting certain steps that might be taken at once to reduce the costs this will involve in the 1968/69 marketing year.

At present production exceeds consumption, and this disparity will increase in future, giving rise to substantial surpluses of butter.

The first part of the report examines the present situation as regards production, trade and consumption. This is followed by an analysis of the factors that have determined the trend in these three fields, and forecasts are made regarding the probable trend during the first few years of the common policy.

The second part lists a number of short-term measures that might be taken in order to reduce the present sizeable stocks of surplus milk fats (between 130 000 and 150 000 tons) and the surpluses likely to result from regular production in future; the latter are likely to amount to at least 40 000 tons of butter per year. This means that the following additional quantities of butter will have to be disposed of :

1968/69: 140 000 tons; 1969/70: 180 000 tons; 1970/71: 220 000 tons.

In order to remedy this situation, the following measures are suggested:

i) During a certain period of the year, refrigerated butter might be offered for sale at a price lower than that of fresh butter;

ii) The sale of refrigerated butter for a limited period might be supplemented by measures that would make butyric fat for cooking available to consumers at a price approximately the same as that for other edible fats;

iii) Since the high price of fresh butter limits the amount consumed by certain social categories and groups, action might be taken to make stored butter available to these groups at a price considerably lower than that of fresh butter;

iv) For the manufacture of milk feed for calves, it might be made compulsory to use milk powder with a fat content increased to 6%.

The third part of the report gives an initial overall estimate of the financial cost of the above provisions, which would amount to 800 million u.a. for the milk sector as a whole in 1968/69.

Beef and veal.

55. The Commission's draft regulation on the common organization of the market in beef and veal, which will replace Regulation No. 14/64/CEE, comprises a price system, a system of trade with non-member countries, and general provisions.

Prices. The provisions concern the fixing of guide prices for beef and veal, and Community measures to support the market.

Two guide prices are fixed each year: one for calves and one for grown cattle. These prices do not constitute a guarantee but indicate the target to be aimed at: they are determined in the light of the prospects for the development of beef and veal production and consumption, the situation on the market in milk and milk products, and past experience.

Intervention. The intervention system for the single market stage fulfils the criteria laid down by the Council at its session of 22-26 July 1966:

- i) The Community intervention system must not impede the development of trade within the Community;
- ii) The aim of the intervention measures must be to help to stabilize both producer and consumer prices;
- iii) In order to ensure effective market support, the intervention system will have to be adjusted to the development of prices for the different categories of cattle and meat in the principal regions of the Community.

During the transitional period and under Regulation No. 14/64/CEE, intervention measures were taken by the Member States and were optional. Only France and Germany intervened on their own markets in the way provided for by this regulation. From 1 April 1968, intervention will be compulsory and will apply to the whole Community whenever the price recorded on its representative markets (weighted average for the Community) is less than 93% of the guide price.

When this price is less than 98% of the guide price, it will however be possible for intervention measures to be taken at one or more places within the Community, so as to ensure that a sudden price collapse does not spread to other parts of the Community.

These measures may take the form either of aid for private storage or of purchases by intervention agencies (Regulation No. 14/64/CEE already provided these two forms of intervention).

In order to encourage professional and inter-professional action, measures may be taken to adapt production more effectively to demand.

Trade with non-member countries. From 1 April 1968, the common customs tariff will be applied and the intra-Community customs duties and any intra-Community levies abolished. Goods will then circulate freely within the Community, subject however to the provisions contained in the directive on health protection.

Where imports from non-member countries are concerned, protection will be assured on the one hand by the customs duty, and on the other by a uniform levy.

However, as provided under Regulation No. 14/64/CEE, the levy on live cattle and on beef and veal, fresh and chilled, salted or in brine, dried or smoked, will not be imposed when the prices recorded on Community markets are equal to or higher than the guide price plus 5%, and only half of the levy will be imposed when prices in the Community fall between the guide price and 105% of that price.

In order that the system of protection may have a certain permanence, it is laid down that a minimum may be fixed both for the price recorded and for the import price.

The levy on live cattle will be calculated in the same way as under Regulation No. 14/64/CEE, but with the difference that the Community price will be equal to the price recorded on representative markets in the Member States weighted according to the size of the cattle population in each Member State. The levy on beef and veal, fresh and chilled, salted or in brine, dried or smoked, will be equal to the levy on live cattle adjusted by a coefficient.

The provisions allowing for protection against non-member countries whose prices are abnormally low to be increased have been maintained. They stipulate that, when the prices recorded on the most representative markets of non-member countries are not determinant for the offer prices free to the Community frontier, and when the offer prices of goods from non-member countries other than those whose markets have been chosen in determining the import price are abnormally low in relation to the latter, a special import price attracting a higher levy can be established vis-à-vis these non-member countries.

Where frozen meat is concerned, the Commission started out from the principle that the market for this was distinct from that for live cattle and fresh meat. On several occasions, it has in fact been found that the prices of live cattle and fresh or chilled meat followed a different trend from those of frozen meat. For this reason, the Commission proposes that the levy on frozen meat should be permanent and, for the principal types, equal to the difference between:

- i) A price derived from the guide price by the application of a coefficient;
- ii) The world market price of frozen meat plus the customs duty and by a flat-rate amount representing the essential importing cost.

The levy for secondary types of frozen meat will be calculated from the levy on carcasses by the application of a coefficient.

Lastly, the Commission considered that the processing industries needed to be given better opportunities for obtaining supplies of frozen meat, in view of the situation of the beef and veal market. For this reason, arrangements can be made for the levy on frozen meats intended for processing and presented in the form of fore quarters or boned meat to be temporarily reduced or suspended, provided that the effect of this measure will not be to prevent the sale of frozen meat obtained through intervention.

For the quotas of 20 000 head of mountain cattle from Austria and 5 000 head of mountain cattle from Switzerland, and for the quota of 22 000 tons of frozen meat, account will be taken of the maximum rates of customs duty bound in GATT.

In addition, for live cows intended for processing under customs control, account will have to be taken not only of the maximum rate of the bound customs duty but also of the Community's obligations arising out of the agreement concluded with Denmark.

In future the refunds granted for exports to non-member countries will be fixed for each product in a uniform way for the whole Community.

As before, and except where the new regulation states otherwise or this provision is waived by the Council, the imposition of any customs duty or charge with equivalent effect, and the application of any quantitative restriction or measure with equivalent effect, will be prohibited. A safeguard clause is also provided to allow all necessary measures to be taken at Community level to mitigate any difficulties that might arise as a result of imports and would be likely to jeopardize the objectives of the market organization in the beef and veal sector.

General provisions: These contain guarantees for the free movement of goods within the Community, and require the Member States to provide the Commission with information. They also provide for a Management Committee for beef and veal to be set up, and determine how it shall function.

By the Management Committee procedure, measures may be taken to resolve any difficulties that may arise during the changeover from Regulation No. 14/64/CEE to the new regulation.

Lastly, it is stipulated that all intervention measures shall be eligible for aid from the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF, subject to conditions of eligibility to be laid down by the Council.

Proceedings in the European Parliament

Debate and resolution on the proposed regulation concerning agricultural producers' groups

56. The report from the Committee on Agriculture was introduced by M. Bading (Germany, Socialist) who stressed the importance of producers' groups for structure policy, the rationalization of marketing and the orientation of production. Speaking for the Socialist group, M. Vredeling (Netherlands) then declared that subsidies to the said groups should be given not only at national but also at Community level.

M. Sabatini (Italy) on behalf of the Christian-Democrat group, said that producers' groups had an important part to play in improving the conditions of sale, whilst M. Baas (Netherlands, Liberal and allied group) expressed serious reservations on certain points in the Bading report, particularly as regards the amount of the subsidies and the regularization of production.

After two other short addresses by M. Estève (France, EDU) and M. Brouwer (Netherlands, Christian Democrat), the Commission's point of view was put by M. Mansholt, its Vice-President. The European Executive considered that the success of producers' groups depended to a great extent on the part they would be given to play in an overall structure policy. As to whether the list of products to be covered by the regulation in question ought to be an exhaustive one or not, the speaker said he favoured some limitation but that a procedure should be laid down whereby other products could be added later on if necessary.

In addition, M. Mansholt spoke against the idea of national subsidies being replaced more or less automatically, from 1 January 1970, by Community subsidies paid for by the EAGGF; he did not, however, rule out the possibility of this being done later on, but within the context of Community programmes.

At the end of the debate, the Parliament passed a resolution stating, among other things, that it considered the creation of producers' groups was an important feature of structure policy, and that these groups deserved to be given more importance in future, along with price policy.

Proposed regulation on the common organization of the market in pigmeat

57. Speaking for the Committee on Agriculture, M. Richarts (Germany, Christian Democrat) commented briefly on its report, and endorsed the proposal made by the Commission on the European Communities for a regulation amending Regulation No. 121/67/CEE establishing a common organization of the market in pigmeat.

He regretted, however, that the Parliament had had to express its opinion in such a short debate. A resolution on this proposal was adopted.

During the debate, M. Coppé, a member of the Commission, thanked the European Parliament on behalf of the Commission, for the understanding attitude it had shown.

Debate and resolution on the common policy for the fishing industry

58. The rapporteur of the Committee on Agriculture, M. Kriedemann (Germany, Socialist), said that the subject under discussion was not an official Commission proposal but, rather, general ideas concerning the actual bases and objectives of any future common policy for the fishing industry. He stressed the diversity of the situations in the various Member States and the complexity of the problems involved, adding that the social aspects of these questions were also very important.

These aspects were dealt with in greater detail by M. Vredeling (Netherlands, Socialist), who spoke on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Health Protection.

For the Socialist group, M. Gerlach (Germany) confined himself to asking the Commission a few questions about possible measures involving financial intervention by the Community.

M. Baas (Netherlands), speaking for the Liberal and allied group, regretted that the subsidies granted to the fishing industry in the various Member States had served to increase structural differences and led to further distortion of the conditions of competition. He stressed the need to establish a common fisheries policy without delay.

On behalf of the EDU group, M. Estève (France) concurred with the ideas expressed in the Kriedemann report, but had some reservations about the advisability of speeding up concentration in the fishing industry. Furthermore, since intervention by the EAGGF was envisaged, he wondered how the Fund would function in this field and what its contribution would be.

M. Oele (Netherlands), expressing the views of the Socialist group, thought that, in elaborating a common fisheries policy, account should be taken of the situation of the industry in the countries that had applied to join the Communities. He also urged that oceanographic research be included in any common policy.

M. Sabatini (Italy, Christian Democrat) pointed to the implications for his own country of competition from fishery products from the southern Mediterranean countries, and M. Boscary-Monsservin (France, Liberal and allied group) urged the Commission to complete its proposals without further delay.

M. Mansholt, Vice-President of the Commission, said that the Commission would soon be in a position to submit proposals for regulations concerning a common fisheries policy.

He added that the Commission hoped that, after the Parliament had had an opportunity to examine them in detail, these regulations could be adopted by the Council before 1 July 1968, the date on which they ought then to enter into force. M. Mansholt stressed that it was not simply a question of establishing a market policy, which would also involve price guarantees and price stabilization, but that a policy of structural development in this industry ought also to be encouraged.

It was, however, not yet possible to say exactly how much the operation of a common fisheries policy of this kind would cost the Community.

Moreover, the Vice-President of the Commission thought that not only the views of the candidates for membership of the Community but also those of the other countries concerned in the matter ought to be heard and taken into account.

M. Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission and the member with special responsibility for Social Affairs, spoke briefly to point out that the Commission attached particular importance to the social problems of the fishing industry.

At the close of the debate, the Parliament adopted a resolution on the basic principles for a common fisheries policy.¹

Debate and resolution on the proposed regulation concerning the Guidance Section of the EAGGF

59. The interim report on the Community programmes for the Guidance Section of the EAGGF was presented by M. Baas (Netherlands, Liberal and allied group), on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture. He began by pointing out that any real structure policy ought to aim at improving the economic position of agricultural enterprises, the marketing of their produce and opportunities for obtaining capital. The rapporteur also stressed the many social aspects of the problem and the need to consider human beings before all else.

Many members of the Parliament spoke: MM. Boscary-Monsservin (France) and Starke (Germany) of the Liberal and allied group; MM. Dröcker (Germany), Vredeling (Netherlands), Kriedemann (Germany), Delhousse (Belgium) and Burger (Netherlands) for the Socialist group; MM. Van der Ploeg (Netherlands), Lücker (Germany), Sabatini (Italy), and Westerterp (Netherlands) for the Christian Democrat group.

In reply, the Vice-President of the Commission, M. Mansholt, first of all challenged the view expressed by MM. Vredeling and Kriedemann that the opinion embodied in the interim report was not sufficiently elaborated for the Council to be able to take a final decision on the matter at present.

With regard to the Commission's basic programme for structural development, which was expected to be ready by the spring of 1968, the speaker said that this would be a very detailed study in which an attempt would be made to forecast and define the long-term role and position of agriculture in European society. In conclusion, M. Mansholt expressed the hope that the Parliament would have a fruitful debate on this programme.

In the resolution that it adopted at the end of the debate, the European Parliament expressed the view that agricultural structure policies ought, generally speaking, to form part of the general policy for regional development. The Parliament also considered that the process of structural reorganization had made it necessary for the Community to take measures concerning supplementary vocational training, retraining and resettlement) it held, therefore, that the Council ought to take a decision, without further delay, on the proposals on these matters worked out by the Commission.

With regard to the tasks of the Member States and of the Community respectively, the Parliament thought that the former ought to retain the responsibility for implementing the necessary structural reorganization measures but that it was for the

¹ Extracts from this resolution are given in the Annex.

Community, among other things, to guide production, define objectives in the setting of a Community policy on agricultural structure, establish precise standards where policy on aids was concerned, and promote a regional development policy.

Concerning the Community programmes as instruments of structure policy, the Parliament considered that, by defining the criteria governing the granting of aid from the EAGGF, these should help to determine the orientation of the Community's structure policy. Moreover, special attention should be given to the Community programmes to develop agricultural regions which are backward or in difficulties.

During the same session, the Parliament passed two other resolutions, concerning the contribution from the EAGGF to offset losses due to African swine fever and the conditions governing aid from the EAGGF (supplementing Regulation No. 17/64/CEE).¹

Transport policy

German programme to implement a transport policy for 1968 to 1972 (Leber Plan)

60. On 31 January 1968 the Commission, by virtue of the prior examination and consultation procedure, issued a recommendation concerning the following German draft laws:

- i) Draft law relating to taxation of freight transport by road;
- ii) Draft law amending the law relating to freight transport by road;
- iii) Draft law amending the law on commercial inland water transport;
- iv) Draft law amending the law on passenger transport.

When passed, these laws will implement the "Programme of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for a Transport Policy for 1968 to 1972" (Leber Plan).

The German Government had brought these draft laws to the attention of the Commission on 30 November 1967. On 9 and 10 January 1968 the Commission held consultations with the Member States.

The Commission shares the German Government's view that the serious situation of the transport sector calls for rapid and effective measures. It recognizes that the German programme comprises a set of measures designed to improve the situation. Some of these would, however, increase the present discrepancies between the Member States' national policies and would not be in line with the general conception behind the common transport policy. Others would also be likely to alter the terms of trade to an extent prejudicial to the common interest. Lastly, some might prove to be incompatible with the EEC Treaty.

The Commission therefore considers it necessary to recommend to the German Government that it amend some parts of its programme, but without abandoning the idea of an overall conception. The programme must, however, dovetail with the common transport policy.

¹ See Chapter on "The European Parliament".

The Commission recommends the Federal Republic of Germany to abandon the special charge on freight transport and the ban on transporting certain categories of long-distance freight by road. These provisions ought to be replaced by a charge for the use of road infrastructures and by measures to make the German Federal Railways more competitive. Arrangements for road transport undertakings to contribute to the costs of infrastructure, and greater commercial freedom for the railways, particularly as regards price formation, would help substantially, and in a way consistent with the free play of market forces, to relieve congestion on the roads and place the German Federal Railways on a sounder footing.

Where competition is concerned, the tax on transport would not be neutral in its effects and would not help to create a system of charges for the use of infrastructures. The difference in treatment envisaged for transport on own account and commercial transport, respectively, will in any case have to be eliminated by the beginning of 1970, in accordance with the Council's 1965 decision on the harmonization of the conditions of competition in transport.

A ban on certain form of transport is incompatible with the objectives of the common market. It would reduce the productivity of German and foreign transport enterprises, and would have serious consequences for the development of certain sectors of the economy. The exceptions that might be made for German seaports would favour trade between non-member countries to the detriment of intra-Community trade. These disadvantages would be even greater if the exceptions were combined with tax benefits.

The Commission also recommends the Federal Republic of Germany to offset the costs arising from the obligation to provide regular public transport in the framework of the authorizations granted for specific long-distance transport operations and for passenger transport.

Lastly, the Commission recommends the Federal Republic of Germany not to introduce the tariff arrangements envisaged for international transport by inland waterway.

Such arrangements would conflict with the concept of price policy agreed upon by the Council in the summer of 1965. Regulations governing capacity are an effective way of countering the erosion of prices where inland water transport is concerned. This was the aim of the Commission's proposal of November 1967.

In addition, the Commission reserves its right to examine, in the light of the fundamental ban on State aids, the procedures for granting advantages under the draft law relating to taxation of freight transport by road and of the bonuses it is proposed to give when inland water transport vessels are broken up.

From this point of view, the Commission has no objection of principle to the steps envisaged by the German Government to encourage the scrapping of vessels.

Work connected with the Council decision of 14 December 1967

61. On 30 January 1968, following the undertaking it gave at the Council's transport session on 13 and 14 December 1967, the Commission, acting under Article 149, second paragraph, of the EEC Treaty, amended its initial proposals concerning the harmonization of provisions relating to duty-free entry for fuel contained in the tanks of commercial motor vehicles and the elimination of double taxation on motor vehicles engaged in international transport.

The first of these amendments provides for the progressive liberalization of provisions governing duty-free entry of fuel. It starts out by consolidating the present arrangements, in that it stipulates that the quantity of fuel which may be imported free of duty must not be less than the smallest quantity at present allowed, i.e. 50 litres. It is laid down that this quantity shall be progressively increased in the light of the alignment of national charges on gas-oil, on which the Commission will be submitting a proposal to the Council before 1 July 1968.

The purpose of the second amendment is to provide a temporary solution to the problem of eliminating double taxation, based on the principle that commercial motor vehicles registered in one Member State will have to pay the taxes and charges on vehicles applicable in another Member State during the time they spend in that State; for the same period they will, however, be exempt from the taxes and charges applicable in the country of registration. This solution will demand close administrative collaboration between the Member States; the relevant implementing provisions are guided by the concern not to make the control formalities at frontiers more cumbersome.

Information provided by the Dutch Government under Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty

62. The Dutch Government has sent the Commission a note concerning the measures to be taken to re-organize inland water transport within the framework of the Foundation for the development and re-organization of small- and medium-sized enterprises; these measures are guided by the principles previously adopted for the breaking up of small inland waterway vessels used in the north of the Netherlands.

The Commission rendered its opinion on 19 January 1967. It notes that the Dutch Government's draft budget for 1968 included a subsidy of Fl 2 million to be used, within the framework of a regulation that has yet to be worked out, to encourage both the closing down of small- and medium-sized inland water transport undertakings and the development of such enterprises.

The Commission notifies the Dutch Government that its communication amounts to information in the sense of Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty, and that it reserves its right to comment on the substance of the question when the Dutch Government has furnished it with the draft regulation envisaged and with all other information necessary for an assessment of aid arrangements under the Foundation in question.

The Commission has informed the other Member States that it was waiting for further information before expressing an opinion.

Technical harmonization

63. The Working Party on standards for inland waterway vessels, which is composed of experts from the national standards institutes, met in Brussels on 15, 16 and 17 January 1968.

The Working Party began by putting the draft standardization documents into their final form; having been approved at this meeting, these will become official national standards. The drafts concern ventilators, fair-leads with rollers, wherry cranes, cables, boarding ladders, signal masts, hatch covers, embarkation planks and gangways, and wherries.

The Working Party then examined draft standards for the lines of propeller shafts and coupling devices for shaft lines; new drafts will have to be worked out on the basis of the consensus reached at the meeting.

Lastly, various draft standards for piping were approved by all the delegations.

Consultative Committee on Transport

64. The Consultative Committee on Transport met in plenary session on 23 and 24 January 1968. It made a preliminary examination of a draft opinion submitted by a group of rapporteurs and concerning "practical criteria for defining situations of uneconomic competition in transport".

The Committee will meet again in plenary session on 28 and 29 February 1968 in order to render its opinion on this question.

French - German - Luxembourg tariff for direct road transport (Luxembourg, 19 January 1968)

65. At a meeting held in Luxembourg on 19 January 1968, representatives of road hauliers' organizations in Germany, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands examined the classifications of goods envisaged by the three schemes for international road tariffs (French-German-Luxembourg, French-Dutch and German-Dutch), with a view to seeing how they could be harmonized.

During this first meeting a large number of discrepancies in the classifications of goods contained in these three projects were eliminated.

The European Parliament: oral questions on the common transport policy

66. The European Parliament's agenda for 23 January 1968 included two oral questions with debate: Nos. 10/67 and 14/67 addressed to the Commission and to the Council of the European Communities, on progress with the establishment of the common transport policy.

These two questions mainly concerned the Member States' political intentions with regard to the establishment of a common transport policy, time-limits for the adoption of the many proposals pending before the Council, and the action recently taken by certain Member States with regard to transport.

The President of the Council, M. Bettencourt, the President of the Commission of the European Communities, M. Rey, and M. Bodson, the member of the Commission with special responsibility for transport, were present at this debate.

The first speaker, M. Laan, Chairman of the European Parliament's Transport Committee, expressed the latter's anxiety at the disappointing development of the common policy, despite the agreement reached in the Council in June 1965 on the transport rates proposal which had seemed to suggest that concrete progress could be made rapidly. The Council meeting of December 1967 did, however, provide fresh grounds for hope. The Transport Committee nevertheless questioned the usefulness of the

time-table fixed by the Council in its decision of 14 December last, and hoped for some explanations concerning the entry into force of a general policy which, alone, could prevent the adoption of partial measures.

M. Bettencourt, President-in-office of the Council, said that the harmonization of transport policy posed a vast problem because of the geographical circumstances of the Member States and the complexity of transport networks in the Community.

In view of the economic importance of the common transport policy, the Council of Ministers however decided, at its meeting of 13 and 14 December 1967, that the time had come to advance by settling certain urgent problems for which the broad outlines of possible solutions were already apparent. The agreement reached on that occasion concerned a number of measures which seemed well-balanced on the whole and would have to be put into practical effect within a specified time. A time-table was worked out for this purpose.

The principal tasks for the Council concerned arrangements for harmonizing certain social provisions in the field of road freight transport, the necessary regulation for which will be adopted by 1 July 1968 at the latest, and provisions on the rules of competition and certain aids to the sector in question. The latter measures will also be adopted by 1 July 1968.

The Council will subsequently deal with other items which it had been decided would be given priority.

After describing the proposed measures in detail, M. Bettencourt concluded by saying that the proposed time-table was certainly a close one, but that this very fact showed the Council's determination to achieve rapid progress. He was convinced that 1968 would be an important year for transport because it would be the first in which the common policy would really begin to take effective shape.

M. Bodson, a member of the Commission of the European Communities, said that he was pleased not to have to stand before the Parliament empty-handed.

Coming directly to the heart of the problems, M. Bodson said the Commission shared the Parliament's opinion that the delay had mainly been due to the lack of any political will among the Member States prior to the Council meeting of December 1967.

At that meeting, a welcome change had, however, occurred. The new spirit clearly manifest on that occasion would have to be maintained and help to overcome the obstacles arising from the divergent transport policies of the six Member States.

As for the Commission, it would be called upon when the time came, to show initiative and submit constructive proposals with a view to arriving at positive agreements.

The very full time-table fell into two parts: one concerning the Council's obligations, and the other those of the Commission. In this connection, M. Bodson said he was sure that the Council would carry out its commitments, as also would the Commission.

After three members of the Parliament had commented on the remarks of the Council and Commission representatives, M. Laan again took the floor, and stated among other things, that the Transport Committee would hold itself in readiness for the future discussions with the Commission of the European Communities. He also hoped that the

Council would do everything possible for the implementation of the substantial programme outlined in the decision of 14 December 1967.

At the close of the debate, the Parliament adopted a resolution stressing its firm desire to see a common transport policy worked out and implemented, as an essential feature of the Common Market. The Parliament urged that the measures taken should provide a Community solution to transport problems and requested the Commission and the Council to see that the Member States did not introduce any measures, at national level, that might jeopardize the implementation of the common transport policy.¹

¹ The text of the resolution is given in the Annex to this Bulletin.

VI. External activities

GATT

67. A start was made on GATT's future work programme, which had been decided upon at the twenty-fourth session in November 1967, by the Special Group on Tropical Products and the Agricultural Committee.

The Special Group on Tropical Products, which was set up in 1962 and which the Contracting Parties decided should be reactivated in order "to examine problems affecting trade in tropical products, and to report on ways and means of overcoming these problems", held a short meeting on 17 January 1968. Pending the results of the United Nations New Delhi Conference on Trade and Development, which is dealing with problems closely linked with aspects of trade for which GATT has responsibilities in this field, the Special Group agreed that the GATT Secretariat should make an inventory of all pertinent documentation concerning the products on which the Group has already done work in the past and the "tropical" nature of which is undeniable, namely: cocoa, tea, coffee, spices, tropical woods and bananas.

The Agricultural Committee, set up at the twenty-fourth session in connection with the future programme of work, met on 18 and 19 January 1968 to organize the preparations for carrying out its mandate, which is: "to examine the problems in the agricultural sector, and to explore the opportunities for making progress in the attainment of the objectives of the General Agreement in the agricultural field. The examination will cover all agricultural products important in international trade. This examination shall prepare the way for subsequent consideration of positive solutions which can be mutually accepted by all Contracting Parties concerned. It will bear on all relevant elements of agricultural trade and production policies".

Considering that in order to examine and analyse the problems arising in agricultural trade it was necessary to have the fullest and most up-to-date information on the subject, the Committee deemed that its first task was to obtain such information. It requested the GATT Secretariat to collate all past documentation available from GATT, FAO and OECD, and replies and information from the Governments on the basis of a very detailed questionnaire drawn up by the Committee at the meeting. This questionnaire concerns nearly all aspects of domestic policies on production, support measures, prices, trade and consumption.

In order to keep the work within manageable limits, the Committee agreed to confine it to products important in international trade. For this purpose it drew up a basic list of products or main groups thereof. The list is not limitative and subsequently any country may put forward a case for extending the survey to other products. The basic list covers: cereals, milk products, beef and other meats, the main fruits and vegetables, raw tobacco, oleaginous products and wine.

The Governments will be expected to answer the questionnaire for all the products listed by 15 April.

The GATT Special Group on Dairy Products met in Geneva from 18 to 22 January 1968. On the basis of the programme that it has drawn up, the Working Party decided to make a start, at its next meeting in March, on a study of the production

situation for the chief milk products and certain measures which might relieve the present difficulties of some milk products on the world market.

The Community, whose stake in the matter of production and trade in these products is well known, is taking part in this work.

MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

European Parliament debate and resolution

68. On 24 January 1968 the European Parliament held a debate, which ended with the adoption of a resolution, on the results of the Kennedy Round and the conclusions to be drawn therefrom. The debate clearly showed the satisfaction of the members at the new pattern of negotiations, which had enabled the Community, represented by the Commission, to speak as a body and the Member States to maintain a Community position.

M. Rey, the President of the Commission of the European Communities, speaking at the end of the debate in place of M. Deniau, a fellow-member of the Commission, said that M. Kriedemann's report to the Parliament gave a very clear account both of the achievements of the Kennedy Round and of those aspects which were to some extent disappointing.

Among the favourable aspects were the extent of the tariff reductions and the Community's situation in relation to the United States. The Community lagged behind the United States on the military and scientific planes, but it could be considered an equal in the matter of trade.

Among the disappointments, M. Rey singled out the shortcomings in the matter of agriculture and in respect of relations with the developing countries, towards which a collective responsibility existed, and the subject of non-tariff obstacles to trade, on which negotiations were still in the opening stages.

In conclusion M. Rey said that the task of the Community's negotiators had been facilitated in the final six months as the Council had allowed them sufficient freedom of negotiation. He considered such freedom of negotiation indispensable and wished to say so public in the Parliament as he had already done in the Council.

At the end of the debate the European Parliament adopted a resolution in which it drew up a balance-sheet of the Kennedy Round negotiations and outlined some future possibilities.¹

BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

United Kingdom

69. In its *aide-mémoire* of 28 September 1967 the UK Government had proposed an extension of the agreement concluded on 10 September 1963 between the United Kingdom and the Community on the suspension of customs duties on tea, maté and

¹ Extracts from the resolution are to be found in the annex.

tropical woods, which was due to expire on 31 December 1967. On 21 December 1967 the Council adopted a decision to extend the agreement until 30 June 1969 by exchange of letters. On the same day the President of the Council appointed M. Hijzen the Community's plenipotentiary for the exchange of letters with the UK Mission, which took place on 21 December 1967 between M. Hijzen and H.E. Sir James Marjoribanks, Head of the UK Mission to the European Communities.

United States

70. When Mr. Katzenbach, US Under Secretary of State, visited the Commission on 4 January 1968, the Americans expressed the wish that there should be consultations with the Community on certain of the measures by which the Administration in Washington planned to put the United States payments balance on a sounder footing.

On 16 January 1968, having considered the matter and with the agreement of the Member States, the Commission informed the US Mission to the European Communities that it was ready to hold consultations with the US authorities on behalf of the Community as soon as mutually convenient.

Algeria

71. On 8 January 1968 a delegation from Algeria confirmed the Algerian request for negotiations with the Community. An account of the visit was forwarded to the Council.

Missions of non-member countries

72. The competent institutions of the European Communities have given their *agrément* to the appointment of H.E. Ambassador M. Pirasteh as new Head of the Iranian Mission to the European Communities.

The competent institutions of the European Economic Community have given their *agrément* to the appointment of H.E. Mr. J.C. de Graft-Johnson as Head of the Ghanaian Mission to the EEC.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Western European Union

73. The WEU Council of Ministers met in Brussels on 29 and 30 January 1968. As is the custom, the Commission of the European Communities was invited to attend the part of the meeting dealing with economic matters, which took place on the second day. The Commission was represented by M. Martino, who reviewed the Community's economic situation in 1967 and the outlook for 1968.

The meeting centred on the problem of relations between the Communities and the European countries that had applied for membership, in particular the United Kingdom. The Ministers stated their Governments' views on possible co-operation between the Communities and these countries, given the lack of agreement at the meeting of the Council of the Communities on 18 and 19 December 1967. They referred in particular to the Benelux plan, which calls for consultations between the EEC and applicant countries and co-operation in fields not covered by the Treaties establishing the Communities. The Benelux plan has been accepted by the United Kingdom.

Council of Europe: meeting of the Consultative Assembly

74. The Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe held the third part of its 19th Ordinary Session in Strasbourg from 29 January to 2 February 1968, with Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (Labour, United Kingdom) in the chair.

Several Ministers took part in the debates. M. Bettencourt, French State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, presented the customary report of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. M. Rubinacci, Italian Minister for Co-ordination of Scientific and Technological Research, reviewed the results of the second European Space Conference which he had presided over in Rome in July 1967. Mr Wedgwood Benn, UK Minister of Technology, dealt with the widening of European scientific and technological co-operation. M. Abdul Monem Rifai, Jordanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, spoke on Middle-East problems. Two Ministers took part in the legal debate: M. Heinemann, Federal German Minister of Justice, and Sir Elwyn Jones, UK Attorney General. M. Gruber, State Secretary in the Austrian Federal Chancellor's Office, presented the ninth report on the activity of the European Nuclear Energy Agency.

During this part of the session, the Consultative Assembly dealt with technological and space problems as well as with economic, political, legal and agricultural matters.

The Assembly also had a more specifically political debate centred on problems linked with the enlargement of the Communities and the situation in Greece.

On the enlargement of the Communities, the Consultative Assembly reiterated its position as stated on 27 September 1967 in favour of the opening of negotiations as soon as possible between the EEC and the countries applying for membership. The majority of the speakers were of the opinion that only such negotiations would make it possible to overcome the various difficulties in the way of the United Kingdom and the other candidates. Two resolutions were adopted on the subject.

On the situation in Greece, the Consultative Assembly had a long and lively debate, which was concerned largely with questions of procedure. At the end of this debate it adopted a resolution with 66 votes for, one against and 30 abstentions.

By this resolution, the Consultative Assembly decided to consider spring 1969 as the deadline by which a democratic and parliamentary regime should again be functioning in Greece.

DEVELOPMENT AID

Extension of suspension or temporary reduction of customs duties on products exported by the developing countries

Certain spices and sports articles

75. At its session of 21 December 1967,¹ the Council decided, on the basis of Article 28 of the Treaty, to extend for 18 months (from 1 January 1968 to 30 June 1969) the suspension or temporary reduction of CCT duties on certain spices and sports articles in accordance with the Council Decision of 3 December 1963,² which had been renewed by the Council Decisions of 23 December 1965³ and 7 December 1966.⁴

In addition, the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the Community meeting in the Council decided, on the basis of Article 24 of the Treaty, that from 1 January 1968 the Member States would suspend or reduce their customs duties on most of the products concerned by the decision referred to above.

These measures are proof of the Community's desire to continue to meet the needs of the developing countries as far as possible.

Debate in the European Parliament on the UN Conference on Trade and Development in New Delhi

76. On 24 January 1968 the European Parliament held a debate on preparations for the second session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (New Delhi, 1 February to 25 March 1968).

A resolution⁵ was adopted at the close of the debate.

The Rapporteur of the Committee on External Trade Relations, M. Pedini, referred the house to the text of his report. He asked, however, that the Commission's representative should give an assurance that, whenever it could, the Commission would speak at the New Delhi Conference in the name of the Community.

M. Westerterp, on behalf of the Christian Democrat group, supported the proposed resolution. He pointed out that the present structure of world trade no longer corresponded to the development needs of the poor countries. He wanted to see the resolution forwarded, once it was adopted, to the UNCTAD Secretary-General, so that all those taking part in the New Delhi Conference should be informed of the European Parliament's attitude.

M. Kriedemann, on behalf of the Socialist group, approved the resolution. He looked forward to the success of the Community's negotiators and recommended that the Commission should not hesitate when it was necessary "to take the plunge".

¹ Official gazette No. L7, 10 January 1968.

² *Ibid.* No. 190, 30 December 1963 and No. 10, 19 January 1967.

³ Bulletin 2-1966, Ch. III, sec. 59 and official gazette No. 4, 8 January 1966.

⁴ Bulletin 2-1967, Ch. V, sec. 59 and official gazette No. 10, 19 January 1967.

⁵ Extracts from the resolution are to be found in the annex.

M. Triboulet, on behalf of the European Democratic Union, said that he was in agreement with both the report and the resolution. He asked the Commission of the European Communities to do all it could to see that the Community played a full part in the New Delhi Conference.

M. Triboulet thought that the developing countries' real problem was that of commodities, i.e. tropical products. These products must be purchased at a price worth while for the producer. However, the Community was alone in making a considerable effort to stabilize the prices of tropical products.

He went on to say that M. Pedini had shown very clearly in his report that, by supporting prices, the Community was benefiting not only producers but also purchasers.

M. Triboulet concluded by expressing the hope that more attention would be paid at New Delhi to the voice of the Six than to empty, demagogical speeches.

The member of the Commission of the European Communities with special responsibility for external relations, M. Martino, said that the Commission had to take various viewpoints into accounts: that of the Committee on Agriculture, that of the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar, and that of the Commission on External Trade Relations, whose views had been expressed in M. Pedini's report, which had been warmly approved by the Commission.

M. Martino then enumerated some points for which he considered the outlook favourable at the New Delhi Conference: agreements on certain commodities, tariff preferences for manufactures and semi-manufactures of the developing countries as a whole, agreement on supplementary financing to alleviate the effects on development plans of any unforeseeable decrease in export earnings. But there were, he thought, many other points on which agreement would be far more difficult, such as liberalization of commodity trade, commercial relations between countries with different economic and social systems, aid to less developed countries, sea transport and the food problem.

The speaker then reviewed the Commission's activities. It had taken part in all the preparatory work for UNCTAD II and had at all times endeavoured to facilitate the adoption of positions common to the Member States; as for tariff preferences to be granted to the developing countries as a whole, the Commission had made several proposals, particularly in favour of the less developed countries, which it thought should enjoy special conditions as to the duration of preferences and application of safeguard measures.

In concluding his address, M. Martino said the Commission appreciated the request that it should speak in New Delhi on behalf of the Community. He pointed out, however, that the Commission would not be the only spokesman of the Europe of the Six, since it would share this responsibility with the Member State in the chair at the Council.

The essential point, he concluded, was that the next session of UNCTAD should yield positive results. The Commission undertook to do everything it could to ensure that this would be so.

Technical assistance

77. At its 21st session, on 22 and 23 January 1968, the Council approved the third report drawn up by the Technical Assistance Group, which had been set up by the Council Decision of 19 October 1960 to promote active co-operation between the Member States and the Commission and to seek common solutions to the special problems of technical assistance for the developing countries.

The third report covers the period from April 1965 to April 1967.

The Council agreed to forward the report to the European Parliament for its information.

VII. The Community and the associated States

EUROPEAN STATES

Turkey

78. On 21 December 1967,¹ the Council of the European Communities decided, on the Commission's proposal and in view of the obligations arising from Article 3 of the provisional protocol to the Ankara Agreement, to open and allocate a Community tariff quota for unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco refuse (CCT heading 24.01) originating in and shipped from Turkey.

In accordance with this decision, the quota in question — which for 1968 totals 17 615 tons to be imported at zero duty from 1 January 1968 — is divided into two instalments. The first, which amounts to 14 975 tons, is broken down immediately among the Member States as follows:

Federal Republic of Germany	11 081 tons
France	1 198
Italy	450
Netherlands	1 048
BLEU	1 198

The second instalment — 2 640 tons — forms a reserve on which each Member State may draw — after notifying the Commission and in so far as the stock permits — successive shares equal to a maximum of 15% of its original share the first time and 7.5% on subsequent occasions. The use of this right, however, is subject to the utilization of at least 90% of each successive share.

If by 25 October 1968 any Member State has not exhausted its original share, it shall put back into the reserve at least the non-utilized part in excess of 20% of the amount of the original share. Each Member State shall inform the Commission of its actual imports; the latter shall keep an account of quotas opened and establish how far the reserve has been drawn upon. It shall ensure that the final drawing on the reserve is limited to the balance available by notifying the Member State last to draw of the exact size of the balance.

On the same date the Council, in view of the fact that the Association Council had established, by Decision No. 2/67 of 19 December 1967, a list and detailed description of wines with a view to implementing Decision 1/67², also adopted a decision³ relating to quality wines originating in and shipped from Turkey.

79. -At its session of January 1968 the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the implementation of Article 6 of the provisional protocol to the Ankara Agreement. While approving the measures taken to facilitate Turkey's exports to the Community, it recommended that negotiations be pursued in order to create a favourable situation for those products in respect of which agreement had not yet been reached.

¹ Official gazette L 7, 10 January 1968.

² Council Decision No. 67/756/CEE and Regulation No. 973/67/CEE of 8 December 1967, on the implementation of certain provisions of the EEC-Turkey Association Council's decision relating to the implementation of Article 6 of Protocol No. 1 to the Ankara Agreement, were published in official gazette No. 301, 12 December 1967.

³ See official gazette No. L 7, 10 January 1968, which also gives this list of wines and accompanying description.

ASSOCIATED AFRICAN STATES AND MADAGASCAR (AASM) AND
ASSOCIATED OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES (OCT)

European Development Fund

Situation of the Second Fund at 1 January 1968

80. Since the second European Development Fund (EDF), the cornerstone of financial and technical co-operation with the associated States, began operations three and a half years ago, the EEC Commission has taken 223 financing decisions on commitments totalling nearly 462 million units of account.

As 730 million units of account (provided from the budgets of the EEC countries) has been allotted to the EDF for five years' operations, its normal total of annual commitments should be some 125 million units of account — which leaves a reasonable reserve against price fluctuations.

The second European Development Fund, which began operations following the entry into force of the Yaoundé Convention, on 1 June 1964, has therefore committed each year an amount approximately corresponding to the average available to it annually.

This situation has occurred at the same time as operations in the field have gathered momentum. In 1967, the total sum actually paid out under the first and second Funds reached about 115 million units of account.

In view of the usual time-lag between commitments and disbursements, the annual average of aid contributed regularly by the European Community to the economic and social development of the 31 overseas states, countries, territories and departments associated with the EEC, will, for six years at least, be about 120 million units of account.

Analysis by sector of commitments of the first and second EDF
(1 January 1968)

Sector	First EDF		Second EDF	
	in u.a.	in %	in u.a.	in %
Rural modernization	141 527 000	24.3	222 790 000	48.2
Infrastructure	252 079 000	43.5	157 192 000	34.1
Education and training	113 436 000	19.5	45 706 000	9.8
Health	50 460 000	8.7	26 792 000	5.8
Industrialization and industrial production	3 828 000	0.6	5 907 000	1.3
Miscellaneous	19 920 000	3.4	4 000 000	0.8
Total	581 250 000	100	461 887 000	100

Second EDF commitments broken down by beneficiary countries
and associated territories
(January 1968)

	in '000 u.a.	in '000 Frs. CFA
<i>A A S M</i>		
Burundi	13 719	3 386 576
Cameroon	26 939	6 649 973
Central African Republic	18 002	4 443 848
Congo (Brazzaville)	13 733	3 390 032
Congo (Kinshasa)	37 905	9 356 363
Ivory Coast	47 471	11 718 359
Dahomey	17 789	4 391 268
Gabon	17 144	4 232 048
Upper Volta	16 787	4 143 921
Madagascar	46 686	11 524 579
Mali	15 693	3 873 864
Mauritania	13 605	3 358 435
Niger	19 961	4 927 432
Rwanda	10 860	2 682 305
Senegal	45 006	11 109 866
Somalia	14 877	3 672 432
Chad	29 452	7 270 315
Togo	5 133	1 267 097
<i>OCT/Overseas departments</i>		
Netherlands Antilles	8 947	2 208 594
Comoro Islands	976	240 929
French Territory of the Afars and Issas	625	154 283
Guadeloupe	375	92 570
Guiana	150	37 028
Réunion	8 102	2 000 003
New Caledonia	4 066	1 003 704
French Polynesia	869	214 515
St. Pierre and Miquelon	466	115 033
Surinam	1 176	290 299
Aid not distributed or not broken down	25 373	6 262 520
	461 887	114 018 191

Financing decisions

81. On 12 January 1968, following endorsement by the EDF Committee, the Commission of the European Communities approved seven fresh decisions to finance projects from the resources of the second EDF. The decisions covered 11 287 000 units of account,¹ of which 9 431 000 u.a. is in the form of grants and 1 856 272 u.a. represents loans on special terms.

¹ 1 unit of account = 1 US dollar.

(1) Ségou-Markala road, Mali: 420 million Mali francs, or about 851 000 u.a. The scheme is to improve and asphalt the 35-km road between the town of Ségou and the centre of Markala, providing a link between Mali's main road system and an agricultural area which is one of the most important on account of the industrial-scale crops being promoted by the Niger Office (rice, cotton, sugar, etc.). The scheme is part of the programme for developing the communications system in Mali, which being an inland country must have main roads connected with countries having outlets to the sea on the one hand and with a modernized domestic network on the other. Since 1960 the EDF has already played a large part in carrying this programme through by financing 864 km of asphalted road costing a total of 27 000 000 u.a.

(2) Development of intensive cotton growing in Siné-Saloum, Senegal: 661 243 000 Frs. CFA or about 2 679 000 u.a. It is planned to introduce the cultivation of rain-grown cotton in the Siné-Saloum area and to extend the cotton programme which was launched in 1965 and is now being carried out in eastern Senegal and in Upper Casamance on EDF credits. The project provides for the cultivation of 7 900 ha over a four-year period (1968-1972). It is part of a diversification scheme, financed by the EDF, for the Senegalese economy; in addition to this particular programme, the scheme includes important measures to encourage the growing of sugar-cane, rice, bananas and other crops (fruit, tomatoes, groundnuts and sisal).

(3) Coconut scheme, Madagascar: 1 005 million Malagasy francs, or some 4 071 000 u.a. Under the scheme 4 050 ha will be planted with coconut plants in the Sambava area at the north end of Madagascar's east coast. The EDF aid, which will cover a nine-year period, will be used mainly for preparing the land, putting down nurseries, planting and tending coconut palms, and providing technical installations. Full production is expected to be 8 100 tons per annum. In addition to the EDF's contribution, the Malagasy Government will provide 28 million Malagasy francs for the scheme. About 800 families totalling some 4 000 persons will be involved in the plantation. As the copra produced is intended for local consumption it will mean a sharp reduction in the island's oleaginous products deficit and an appreciable cutback in imports.

(4) Provision of classroom furniture for 90 primary classes, Somalia: 571 000 Sh. So., or about 80 000 u.a. Furniture and fittings will be provided for 90 primary classrooms recently built in Somalia as part of a school-building programme financed mainly out of the country's own resources. At practical level the EDF's aid will enable a further 2 800 pupils to be given schooling. The EDF has already provided a total of some 4 million u.a. to finance the building and equipping of schools in Somalia.

(5) Construction of harbour sheds at Paramaribo, Surinam: 1 856 272 u.a., or some 3 500 000 Surinam guilders, granted in the form of a loan on special terms. Under the scheme three transit sheds, part of which will be used for passenger arrivals and departures, and three bonded warehouses will be constructed in the new harbour of Paramaribo. These buildings form the logical completion of the improvements being made in the new harbour of Paramaribo with aid totalling 6 895 000 u.a. from the first EDF.

(6) Fifth annual instalment of production aid programme, Central African Republic: 175 million Frs. CFA, or some 709 000 u.a. This instalment will be used for supporting cotton prices and for the structural improvement of cotton and coffee

growing. The latter consists mainly of supplying fertilizers and insecticides and equipment needed to apply them.

(7) Treatment of seeds and preservation of crops, Upper Volta: 257 million Frs. CFA, or about 1 041 000 u.a. The aim of the scheme is to carry out a campaign throughout Upper Volta against insects, rodents and plant parasites which attack seeds and crops. The campaign will be financed by the EDF for a period of three years and five months and thereafter by the Upper Volta Government. It will fall into two parts: information and instruction and the distribution of chemicals. At present crop losses caused by insects, rodents and parasites are very high — an estimated 10% in value of the country's agricultural produce.

These new financing decisions bring the total commitments of the second EDF since it began operations to about 473 174 000 u.a. for 230 financing decisions. The figures do not include either expenses incurred in supervising the execution of the project or the EDF's own financial and administrative costs.

Scholarships, in-service training and symposia

82. On the Commission's initiative a meeting of the ambassadors of the 17 Associated African States and Madagascar was held in Brussels on 9 January 1968. The ambassadors and officials from the Commission examined and discussed the results of the scholarship programme for the 1966/1967 academic year, the present position with regard to this year's programme and the preparation of applications for 1968/1969.

In-service trainees from the AASM were taken on an educational tour of the Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin from 29 January to 3 February 1968.

Three symposia were organized by the Commission in January, two in Brussels and one in Montélimar. There were 67 participants, 19 of them nationals of countries not associated with the Community.

Debate in the European Parliament on the problems of the EEC/AASM association

Results of the fourth meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association

83. On 22 January 1968 the European Parliament debated and adopted a resolution¹ on the results of the fourth meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association held in Strasbourg on 4-7 December 1967.

M. Aigner, rapporteur of the Committee on relations with the African States and Madagascar, said that the Parliamentary Conference of the Association had shown that regional agreements are the only really valid means of co-operation between nations. World agreements were of no value if regional equilibrium was not ensured.

He emphasized the importance of renewing the association when the Yaoundé Convention expired, and said that the associated countries had suggested to the Community that the European Investment Bank re-examine from a slightly different

¹ The full text of this resolution is given in the Annex to this Bulletin.

angle its attitude with regard to credit. It could be said that the Parliamentary Conference of the Association implied equal rights and understanding between the continents. Europe was not there merely to give but also to receive.

M. Colin, on behalf of the Christian Democrat group, felt that it was a good idea that the European Parliament should hear an exhaustive report of this kind on the Parliamentary Conference of the Association so that the Parliament — and through it the people of Europe as a whole — could appreciate what was being done under the Yaoundé Convention. A sort of Euro-African Community was being built up and it was giving new direction and a new meaning to co-operation between industrialized and developing countries. It was only right to give attention to the efficient working of the institutions of the association in view of what had already been achieved. And such attention implied concern for the future of the institutions, in other words, for the renewing of the association.

In conclusion M. Colin urged that serious negotiations should begin on 1 June 1968 and that they should be brought to a conclusion in good time so as to avoid a break in continuity.

Speaking on behalf of the Socialist Group, M. Metzger too stressed the urgency of renewing the association agreement and the importance which attached to the prolongation of the Convention. What was needed, he said, were schemes to enable the associated countries now receiving our help to help themselves. They need to be helped to avoid importing unnecessarily and to expand production so as to become independent of outside supplies. This called for investment in economic activities which would exploit their natural resources.

Referring to the possibility of extending the Convention to other African countries, to the English-speaking countries of Africa, for example, M. Metzger said this trend was to be encouraged. Great Britain still maintained close links with her former African colonies. Europe as a whole should cultivate its relations with the African continent.

M. Troclet said that the association was highly appreciated by all the associated countries. The European Community could therefore feel legitimate satisfaction of the association revealed, however, that although much of value had been accomplished, it did not always fit into an overall pattern. He trusted that a general development programme would be drawn up and supervised and that there would be an end to piecemeal schemes.

Turning then to an idea first put forward three and a half years ago by M. Pedini, M. Troclet said that the Community should think in terms of renewing the Yaoundé Convention for a period of more than five years, since five years was inadequate for planning and executing a balanced long-term action programme.

M. Bass said the question was not whether the Yaoundé Convention should be renewed or not but rather which was the best way to go about it. The economic interest of developing countries had to be taken into account whatever happened.

M. De Broglie associated himself with the conclusions of the report; he agreed in particular that the marketing of goods produced by the associated countries would have to be rationalized and that these countries would have to be helped to "create their own income and capital". The institutional machinery set up under the Yaoundé Convention must be reinforced. There must be dialogue at regional level to strengthen the institutions brought into being by the Convention.

M. Armengaud said that the present political difficulties between European countries must not be allowed to have a deleterious effect on relations with the associated countries or to penalize some of them.

He then turned to certain problems which had been troubling him since his recent talks with M. Prebisch (UNCTAD) and M. Katzenbach, US Under Secretary of State. M. Armengaud urged the Commission to make its views on development aid more clearly heard. This was important and fundamental to world stability. Aid should not be in the classic form of free gifts but rather take the more modern form recommended at the Parliamentary Conference in Strasbourg.

He asked the Commission to try to exert pressure on the Council of Ministers so that Europe would appear to stand for something in the eyes of the Third World.

In view of the vast problems involved, M. Thorn urged a further debate later in the year on the essential features of Community policy with regard to developing countries. The association begun in Yaoundé was a success and something of which Europe could be proud, but it was now at a critical stage since the question of renewing the Convention had arisen. He referred to the concern this was causing in the associated countries, which were afraid, for a third time, that misunderstandings between the Six would have painful consequences for them. They must be assured that this would not be so. Europe was making every effort to close the ranks but it also had a duty to renew its endeavours to help the associated countries and to see the task through to its conclusion.

M. Triboulet, on behalf of the European Democratic Union, referred to the importance which France attached to development aid. Dialogue with these countries was essential to keep them aware of the need for development.

He analysed the merits of regional aid, which must be regarded as an essential step on the way to worldwide aid. The European Development Fund encouraged economic planning in the African States. The speaker referred to schemes organized by France to train African and European officials as specialists in economic planning.

If European investors were to take an interest in the developing countries of Africa, they were entitled to political guarantees. The more the Six join forces to insure against political risks, the more they will be able to guarantee European capital investments in these countries.

In conclusion M. Triboulet said that the European Democratic Union was in favour of renewing and strengthening the association agreement. Development aid was a duty and an honour for the European Community.

M. Martino, member of the Commission of the European Communities, spoke in place of M. Rochereau who was absent on a study tour of Surinam and the Dutch West Indies. He said that the importance of the problem had been clearly defined in the reports of M. Troclet and M. Armengaud to the fourth Parliamentary Conference and in M. Aigner's report to the Parliament that day.

He did not intend to formulate any judgment in the matter or add to what had already been said. The Commission was considering the problems posed and was well aware that the real difficulty was to establish true co-operation between peoples with different backgrounds and different economic capabilities. The fourth Parliamentary Conference was, he said, another corner-stone in the structure we were trying

to build. M. Poher, the President of the European Parliament, had said that the way to Yaoundé had been opened in Strasbourg in 1961 and it was only fitting that another Strasbourg meeting should lead to the renewal of the Convention. The Executive Commission could not but approve these words.

M. Aigner, rapporteur of the Committee on relations with the African States and Madagascar, thanked the various speakers for their constructive criticisms of the draft resolution. He thanked the Commission for co-operating with the Parliamentary Committee and expressed his gratitude to M. Thorn, who was the very embodiment of co-operation between Europe and Africa.

VIII. Institutions and organs

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Session of 8 January

On 8 January the Parliament held an extraordinary session in Luxembourg to formulate its opinion, within the time-limits prescribed by the Treaties, on the European Communities' draft supplementary budget for 1967 and on the 1968 draft research and investment budget of the European Atomic Energy Community, submitted to it by the Council on 14 December 1967.

The President-in-office of the Council, M. Bettencourt, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic, M. Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, and M. Coppé, member of the Commission, were present.

After hearing the report presented by M. Spénale (France, Socialist) speaking for the Finance, Administration and Accounts Committee, on the Communities' draft supplementary budget for 1967, the Parliament noted that no amendment had been suggested, and that the draft was therefore definitely agreed. The Parliament unanimously adopted the resolution on the budget, and noted that the extra expenditure involved could be covered by foreseeable surplus credits, so that there was no reason to increase Member States' contributions.

The Parliament then heard M. Battaglia (Italy, Liberal) rapporteur for the European Atomic Energy Community's draft research and investment budget for 1968. M. Battaglia expressed his anxiety about the situation, adding that, since the Council had been unable to give an exact assurance as to the date on which the multi-annual research programme would be adopted, the Assembly could not agree the interim draft budget as submitted. The Finance Committee proposed that the credits originally asked for by the Commission from the Communities be reintroduced into this budget.

M. Bettencourt, President of the Council, stated that he was aware of the difficulties, and pointed out that the real debate on the substance of the 1968 budget would begin once the Council had taken new programme decisions, as it was agreed should be done before 18 June 1968.

In the subsequent debate the spokesmen of the different political groups expressed their anxiety about the slowness and hesitation in making the necessary decisions in this sector. M. Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, said that, although the situation was in fact difficult, responsibility for it could not be laid at the door of any of the Institutions. The only possible solution in the circumstances was to establish a transitional programme in 1968 pending adoption of a new multi-annual programme.

M. Coppé replied to certain questions about budgetary procedure and the situation of Euratom's current finances.

At the close of the debate the Parliament adopted a resolution on the Euratom research and investment plan for 1968, in which it noted that this draft budget jeopardizes "most of the action undertaken in the second research and investment

programme¹ and asked for an amendment involving the addition of a Title 7 to the budget (i.e. a Chapter 70) providing for 40 million u.a. of budgetary commitments and 30 million u.a. of payment authorizations with the following heading:

"Initial allocation for a multi-annual research and investment programme".

Session of 22-26 January 1968

The Parliament met in plenary session from 22 to 26 January 1968, under the chairmanship of M. Poher. In his opening speech, the President of the Parliament paid tribute to the late M. Merten (Germany, Socialist) who died recently and had been a member of the European Parliament since March 1965.

The President also paid tribute to the late M. Hammes, President of the Court of Justice, who died on 9 December 1967, two months after the expiry of his mandate.

Speaking on behalf of the European Parliament, the President expressed its condolence to the families of those who lost their lives in the earthquakes in Sicily, to the Italian Parliament and Government, and to the provisional Government of Sicily.

The Parliament heard the annual report on the economic situation in the Community in 1967 and the outlook for 1968, presented by M. Barre, Vice-President of the Commission.² There was an important debate, with speeches by the spokesmen for the various political groups, by numerous members, and by the President of the Commission, on the results of the Council's discussions on the United Kingdom and other applications to join the Community.³

During this session, the Parliament also dealt with agricultural problems (particularly in connection with the common fisheries policy), as well as with matters connected with the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), transport policy, social affairs, administrative and budgetary questions and the statute of service for officials of the European Communities.

Lastly, the Parliament debated the present situation and future prospects of Euratom. It also expressed concern about the future of the coal industry in the Community.

The debates and resolutions on these matters are dealt with in earlier chapters of this Bulletin.

The Parliament also dealt with the following matter:

The European university (oral question, without debate).

The agenda of 24 January included M. Dehousse's oral question, without debate, to the Commission of the European Communities, concerning the European university (No. 15/67).

M. Dehousse read out his question as follows:

"Two important articles by M. André Piettre, Professor of the Paris Law Faculty, and a subsequent correction by M. Etienne Hirsch, former President of the Commission of Euratom (all published in recent numbers of "Le Monde") have again drawn attention to the problem of the European university.

¹ See annex for this resolution.

² The text of M. Barre's speech is given in Ch. I of Bulletin 2-1968.

³ See Ch. I of this Bulletin. Presidents Rey's address was published in Bulletin 2-1968, Ch. I.

As is well known, the creation of this university has been blocked for several years in the Council of Ministers of the Communities because of the opposition of one Member State.

The Commission is requested to take the following action in public session:

- (1) Communicate to the European Parliament all information in its possession concerning the present state of this problem;
- (2) Make a declaration stating its exact position in the matter.

The technological backwardness of the six countries in relation to the large powers, especially the United States of America, is a reality beyond all question. Keeping the United Kingdom outside the Communities will, no doubt, increase it still more. This being so, does the Commission not regard it as a duty to act energetically to bring the Council finally to decide to follow up the formal undertaking in Article 9(2) of the Euratom Treaty?"

With reference to this article of the Euratom Treaty, M. Dehousse thought that now was the time to revive the question of the European university, and requested the Commission of the European Communities to take the initiative again. No progress had been made since the proposal put forward by the Interim Committee in the years 1959-60. There was no need to be discouraged by a possible veto from one Member State, as the Euratom Treaty clearly provided that the Council should decide by qualified majority on a Commission proposal. A right of veto could only operate if a Member State's essential interests were at stake. He could not imagine that any Government could adopt the view that the creation of a European university called the interests of a country into question.

Replying for the Commission, Vice-President Hellwig summarized the work already done at Community level, and the separate reports and proposals up to the time of the summit meeting in Bonn, in 1961. The 1965 crisis had then obviously led to an interruption of the negotiations.

The Commission is, however, still endeavouring to advance the plan for a European university, and is as convinced as ever of the necessity of joint endeavours to increase university education as an essential basis for progress in science and technology. The Council of Ministers' discussions and the decisions of 31 October 1967 have strengthened the Commission in their view that the founding of a European university should be examined among the measures now called for to meet the requirements of the scientific, technological and cultural development of Europe in the field of education.

In connection with the results of the current studies, the Commission stressed that it remained free to examine whether it wanted again to make use of its right of proposal under Article 9(2) (opinions differed in the Council on the interpretation of this Article). However, all the Council members would then have to agree with the Commission's interpretation of this clause of the Treaty.

As M. Dehousse was not satisfied with the Commission's answer, he called for further action by the latter and asked for a complete progress report on the creation of a European university to be sent to the Parliament. He rejected the linking of this plan with the work of the Maréchal Group, since he had never maintained that the creation of a European university represented the only, or a sufficient, means of making up Europe's leeway in scientific research in relation to America. The European university was one of the greatest aims which had been set at the beginning, and it had to be achieved in any case.

Vice-President Hellwig explained his statements in the sense that he had connected the creation of the European university with the Council of Ministers' decisions with the idea of finding, in this way, the allies essential for the execution of this great plan. The Commission did not intend to abandon its predecessor's interpretation of Article 9 of the Euratom Treaty as pertaining to this matter. Any fresh initiative had to be well-timed and adequately prepared. The new Commission could not, however, be reproached with undue negligence after six months in which it had been confronted with a host of unsettled problems. The Commission was ready to furnish the Parliament with information about the different phases of the development of the project.

Resolutions

During this session, the European Parliament adopted the following resolutions:

External relations

- i) Resolution on the decisions taken by the Council of the Communities on 19 December 1967 with regard to the applications for membership from the United Kingdom and other European countries;
- ii) Resolution on the results of the Kennedy Round and the conclusions to be drawn from them;
- iii) Resolution on preparations for the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Common agricultural policy

- i) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal submitted to the Council by the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation amending Regulation No. 121/67/CEE establishing a common organization of the market in pigmeat, as regards transitional measures;
- ii) Resolution on the basic principles for a common fisheries policy;
- iii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the EEC Commission's proposal to the Council for a regulation concerning agricultural producers' groups and unions thereof;
- iv) Resolution on Community programmes for the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund;
- v) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal submitted to the Council by the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation concerning the contribution from the EAGGF to offset losses incurred as a result of African swine fever in Italy during 1967;
- vi) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal submitted to the Council by the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation waiving and supplementing Article 20 of Regulation No. 17/64/CEE on the conditions governing aid from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund.

Association with Turkey

Resolution on the application of Article 6 of the provisional Protocol annexed to the Ankara agreement.

Association with the African States and Madagascar

Resolution on the results of the fourth meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association held in Strasbourg from 4 to 7 December 1967.

Tax questions

Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal submitted by the Commission to the Council for a directive instituting a common method for calculating the average rates mentioned in Article 97 of the Treaty.

Transport policy

- i) Resolution on progress in implementing the common transport policy;
- ii) Resolution expressing the European Parliament's opinion on the proposal submitted by the EEC Commission to the Council for a regulation on the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions.

Coal industry

Resolution on the situation of the coal industry in the Community.

Social affairs

- i) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals submitted by the EEC Commission to the Council for:
 - a) a regulation on the application of social security provisions to wage-earners and their families who move from one Community country to another;
 - b) a Council decision extending Article 51 of the EEC Treaty to the French overseas departments;
- ii) Resolution expressing the opinion of the European Parliament on the draft recommendation of the Commission of the European Economic Community concerning a Community definition of disablement attracting entitlement to benefit.

Administrative affairs, budgetary matters and statute of service

- i) Resolution expressing the European Parliament's opinion on the first chapter of the proposal submitted to the Council by the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation fixing the statute of service for officials of the European Communities and the conditions applicable to other agents of the Communities;
- ii) Resolution expressing the European Parliament's opinion on the second chapter of the proposal submitted to the Council by the Commission of the European Communities for a regulation fixing the statute of service for officials of the European Communities and the conditions applicable to other agents of the Communities, and introducing special temporary measures applicable to the officials of the Commission;
- iii) Resolution concerning consultation of the Parliament by the Council on the section relating to the European Parliament in the preliminary draft budget of the Communities for the 1968 financial year.

Euratom

Resolution on the present situation and future prospects of Euratom.

COUNCIL

21st session (on agriculture)

The Council of the European Communities held its 21st session on 22 and 23 January 1968, under the chairmanship of M. Edgar Faure, the French Minister of Agriculture.

The Council discussed the following subjects:

Milk and milk products;

Veterinary problems;

Community programmes for the Guidance Section of the EAGGF;

Beef and veal;

Extension of Regulations Nos 361/67 and 127/67;

Pigmeat;

Sugar used in the chemical industry;

Implementation of Regulation No. 160/66;

Growing plants.

Details of these discussions are given under the heading "Agricultural policy", Ch. V.

COURT OF JUSTICE

Cases pending

Case 1 / 68 — Commission of the European Communities v. French Republic

On 10 January 1968 the Commission filed a suit with the Court of Justice, requesting it to declare that the French Republic had infringed one of its obligations under the EEC Treaty by not respecting the EEC Commission's decision of 23 September 1966 which amended the system of aids for the purchase of gliders (decision under Article 93(2)).

Case 2 / 68 — Commune of Ispra v. Commission of the European Communities

On 25 January 1968 the Court of Justice received a suit filed by the commune of Ispra against the Commission, requesting cancellation of a negative decision given by the Commission against that commune, refusing to verify for fiscal purposes materials used in the construction of the Ispra Centre.

ECSC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The ECSC Consultative Committee held its 118th meeting in Luxembourg on 25 January 1968, with M. Taccone, the senior member, in the chair.

In accordance with its rules of procedure, the Committee elected its Bureau and appointed its standing committees for the business year 1968-69. The Bureau was made up as follows:

Chairman, M. Jacques Ferry (steel producers, France)

Vice-Chairmen, M. Taccone (steel consumers, Italy); M. Van Berk (coal workers, Netherlands)

Officers, M. Dohmen (coal workers, Netherlands); M. Hayot (coal consumers, Luxembourg); M. Peeters (coal producers, Belgium).

M. Peeters was appointed chairman of the General Objectives Committee, M. Capanna (steel producers, Italy) of the Market and Prices Committee, M. Van Berk of the Labour Problems Committee and M. de la Vallée-Poussin (coal consumers, Belgium) of the Research Projects Committee.

The new Chairman's remarks on assuming office were to the effect that the lasting preservation of the two industries could be achieved only in the context of a long-term policy, of which they could not afford to disregard any of the elements having a bearing on the structural situation. The regroupings, reconversions and specializations which had become necessary, whether with respect to technology, to location or to marketing, could not now, at any rate during a certain period of adjustment, be allowed to proceed purely on the basis of the kind of economic intelligence assembled in the days of the free-market economy. Decisions to invest, with the acts of choice these involved, remained the enterprises' own responsibility, but it was essential that such decisions be properly guided by and dovetailed into a policy taking into the fullest possible account both economic and social considerations, to say nothing of the regional aspects entailed.

M. Ferry also stressed the urgency of the work on the merger of the Treaties. He said it was imperative that the new charter of the Common Market "should provide those responsible for its implementation with the instrument of a genuine industrial policy, whether general or sectoral, and leave them free of any cumbersome and over-formal approach when certain safeguard provisions were to be applied for a limited period and without violating the fundamental principles of the Institution."

The agenda of the session also called for discussion of M. Colonna di Paliano's verbal report, at the session of 14 December 1967, on the iron and steel industry, the full text of which had later been passed to the Members of the Committee. Certain points stemming from this report were raised; they concerned prices, investment policy, energy consumption and cost, and the basic decisions called for in the special field and at regional level.

It was decided that at its next or an early subsequent session the Committee would discuss in detail the report in general and the particular points raised. The Committee fixed the dates of its ordinary sessions, which will be held on 26 March, 14 June, 17 September and 13 December 1968.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Committee held its 67th plenary session in Brussels on 24 and 25 January 1968 under the chairmanship of M. Major.

During this session, the Committee adopted the following opinions:

1. Opinion on the proposal for a directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation concerning publicity for branded pharmaceuticals.

This opinion was adopted unanimously (79 votes).

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 28 June 1967.

2. Opinion on the proposal for a directive introducing freedom of establishment and freedom to supply services in respect of self-employed activities of architects.

This opinion was adopted by 75 votes, with 3 abstentions.

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 6 June 1967.

3. Opinion on the proposal for a directive on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other qualifications relating to self-employed activities of architects.

This opinion was adopted by 55 votes to 10, with 12 abstentions.

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 6 June 1967.

4. Opinion on the proposal for a directive to co-ordinate laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to self-employed activities of architects.

This opinion was adopted by 67 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions.

The Council had referred this proposal to the Committee on 6 June 1967.

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

Staff movements

ECSC Director-General retires

M. Dinjeart, Director-General of Administration and Finance, left the ECSC on 21 January 1968 on reaching retiring age. The Commission conferred on him the rank of honorary Director-General.

The Commission received M. Dinjeart on this occasion, and M. Rey referred to his long administrative career and spoke of his devoted service since 1952, first to the High Authority and later to the Commission of the European Communities. He recalled that M. Levi-Sandri, Vice-President and M. Coppé, member of the Commission, had spoken of the outstanding professional and human qualities shown by M. Dinjeart in the service of the European Communities at a dinner given by them in his honour in Luxembourg on 15 January 1968.

Retirement

M. René Morizon, head of the Personnel Directorate of the Directorate-General for Administration left the EEC on reaching retiring age.

M. Morizon was involved from the outset with the establishment of a personnel section and he later assumed administrative responsibility for all officials and other employees of the Commission.

Budgetary matters

On 11 December 1967, as part of its annual review of salaries under Article 65 of the Statute, the Council decided to amend the coefficients used to adjust the salaries of officials and other employees of the Communities.

Under this decision, the coefficients for Brussels and Luxembourg were increased as from 1 January 1968 from 112.5 to 117.5%, which represents a 4.4% increase in salaries.

Commission memoranda to the Council on its proposed authorized establishment

On 24 January 1968 the Commission submitted to the Council a memorandum containing its proposals for its authorized establishment for 1967/1968 as part of its internal reorganization programme.

The explanatory memorandum points out that because of the difficulties posed by the application of the provisions of the Merger Treaty and in particular those dealing with the creation of a single administration of the three Communities, a thorough and detailed study had to be undertaken by the Commission.

In view of the tasks which still fall to the three Communities' former institutions (the provisions of the three Treaties are still fully applicable) and all the aims to be fulfilled as part of the normal development of the Community and to ensure balanced growth at a later stage, the Commission had to indicate, as a first step, the areas of responsibility to be confided to a single individual. The structure of the various administrative units then had to be remodelled and arrangements made for the redistribution of available staff.

This enormous reorganization scheme was conducted with two aims in view — to ensure that enough staff would be available in the various sectors of activity for the work to be done, and to bring to a successful conclusion the rationalization of administrative services entrusted to the Commission while respecting the provisions on the transfer of certain services to Luxembourg.

It is quite clear that these two aims were bound to clash in practice. Rationalization seemed — apart from reassignment of duties, internal reorganization and improvements in the flow of work and working methods — to imply in theory a certain reduction in the numbers employed. But in order to allocate enough qualified staff to the various sectors of activity the Commission would have to fill vacancies — since requests for increased staff submitted by the three former Executives had only been partially acceded to by the budgetary authorities (the "merger" argument being at the root of their conservative attitude) — and in addition provide increased staff for departments coping with a growing volume of work.

Faced with these conflicting claims, the Commission, which was very anxious that its rationalization effort should produce concrete results, decided to make the largest possible cuts in staff; these would affect high-level responsible posts in the first instance, and then all other posts.

It was soon seen that the limits in which these reductions operated were very narrow. Several services, and not the smallest ones, were not affected in any way by the merger (for example, the Directorates-General for Agriculture, Development Aid, Internal Market, and services dealing with Approximation of Legislation, etc.) and their staff could not be reduced — quite the contrary! In practice, of a

Based on the establishment approved for 1967

Category	Posts		Permanent posts in the Supply Agency
	Permanent	Temporary	
A/1	36 ⁽¹⁾	—	—
A/2	114 ⁽²⁾	6	1
A/3	283 ⁽³⁾ (⁽⁴⁾)	4	—
A/4	312 ⁽⁶⁾	1	2
A/5	355	—	1
A/6	189	—	—
A/7	130	—	—
A/8	} 45	—	—
Total		1 464	11
B/1	261	—	—
B/2	278	—	1
B/3	312	—	—
B/4	95	—	1
B/5	35	—	—
Total	981	—	2
C/1	291	—	1
C/2	477	—	1
C/3	988	—	1
C/4	178	—	—
C/5	26	—	—
Total	1 960	—	3
D/1	129	—	—
D/2	105	—	—
D/3	29	—	—
D/4	3	—	—
Total	266	—	—
LA/3	4	—	—
LA/4	24	—	—
LA/4	46	—	—
LA/5	75	—	—
LA/5	79	—	—
LA/6	134	—	—
LA/7	104	—	—
LA/8	1	—	—
Total	467	—	—
Grand Total	5 138	11	9

(1) One post of adviser (hors classe) will be re-graded as A2 when the present holder leaves.

(2) Including two A/1 in a personal capacity.

(3) Including two A/2 in a personal capacity.

(4) Seven A/3 posts will be re-graded as Principal Administrator posts when the present holders leave or are re-assigne

European Communities for 1968

New authorized establishment, approved by the Council

Posts		Of which permanents posts in the Supply Agency	Supernumerary posts to be suppressed once they fall vacant
Permanent	Temporary		
23	—	—	—
95 ⁽⁶⁾	9	1	—
253 ⁽⁷⁾	5	—	—
312 ⁽⁶⁾	1	2	—
340	—	1	7
178	—	—	—
161	—	—	13
—	—	—	—
1 362	15	4	20
254	—	—	5
257	—	1	9
285	—	—	13
86	—	1	6
29	—	—	2
911	—	2	35
285	—	1	—
459	—	1	—
954	—	1	—
170	—	—	—
20	—	—	—
1 888	—	3	—
127	—	—	—
102	—	—	—
25	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
254	—	—	—
4	—	—	—
24	—	—	—
46	—	—	—
75	—	—	—
79	—	—	—
134	—	—	—
104	—	—	—
1	—	—	—
467	—	—	—
4 882	15	9	55

g nine A/3 posts in a personal capacity; this applies to officials entitled to A/3 grading by virtue of the ruling of the stice in Cases 20 and 21-63, 79-63 and 82-63.
g 6 A/1 posts in a personal capacity.
g 2 A/2 posts in a personal capacity.

total of 120 A/2 posts and 287 A/3 posts, 47 A/2 and 107 A/3 posts could not be touched. Reduction had therefore to centre around the remaining 73 A/2 posts (61% of the total) and 181 A/3 posts (63%).

It was also necessary, however, to draw on these posts for transfers to increase Commission and the Council but which particular importance is attached by the Commission and the Council but which were far from being adequately staffed. This was the case with "General and Technological Research" (especially since the Council meeting of 31 October 1967), "Energy", "Fiscal Matters", "Development Aid", "Regional Policy" and "Economic and Financial Affairs" (on which many calls are made by the Medium-term Economic Policy Committee).

The establishment was discussed at length with financial experts from the Member States (the Council's Budget Committee) and later in the Committee of Permanent Representatives. Following these discussions the Commission made a small number of amendments to its original memorandum. The revised establishment is to be approved by the Council in February 1968 and then submitted to the European Parliament with the 1968 draft budget.

The new authorized establishment and the establishment at the time of the merger are compared in the tables above. Staff reductions effected as a result of the Commission's reorganization can be clearly seen.

IX. European Investment Bank

Loan Contracts

Italy

The European Investment Bank has concluded with the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno six loan contracts totalling the equivalent of 19.5 thousand million lire (31.24 million units of account), intended for the financing of the projects listed below, to be carried out in Sicily and in the south of the Italian mainland.

a) *Reinforcement and modernization of the telephone system in Sicily and Calabria*

The project will be executed by the "SIP — Società Italiana per l'Esercizio Telefonico", the concessionary company of the telephone service.

In particular, it entails the construction of 100 new automatic urban exchanges, as well as the enforcement of the urban and trunk networks managed by the concessionary company. This will make it possible to extend the telephone service to 117 000 new subscribers in Sicily and Calabria in three years (1968-70), representing an increase of about one third by comparison with the situation at the end of 1967. At that date, the telephone density was 8 per 100 inhabitants in Sicily and 4.3 per 100 inhabitants in Calabria. The execution of the project will enable this density to be increased to 10.5 for Sicily and 6 for Calabria.

The economic development of Calabria and Sicily is to a large extent conditioned by the improvement of the infrastructure and, in particular, of the communications. In this respect, the project is of especially great interest, since the planned investments concern largely the poles and zones where a development campaign is in progress (in Sicily: Priolo, Patti, Syracuse, Gela; in Calabria: Rossano Calabro and the Crotona area). Its execution will hence contribute in particular to facilitating the establishment of new activities in the two regions concerned.

The Bank is participating in the financing by a loan for an equivalent of 10 thousand million lire (16 million units of account); the fixed investments of the project amount to 48 thousand million lire (76.8 million units of account).

b) *Milk processing and packaging establishment at Catania (Sicily)*

The project will be carried out by the "GALA S.p.A", Catania, which belongs to the leading Sicilian industrialist in this sector.

An initial construction stage, embarked upon in January 1966, was rapidly completed and the first installations were already commissioned in the second half of 1966. The favourable trend in sales of products during the first season led the promoter to pass on immediately to a second stage, entailing the reinforcement of the reception, processing and packaging plants, and the extension of the general services of the dairy. This second stage forms the project financed by the Bank. It is planned to be completed by the end of 1968. When the work is finished, the establishment will have an effective packaging capacity of approximately 23 million per year of pasteurized milk and approximately 25 million per year of sterilized milk.

The execution of the project will contribute both to enhancing the value of the island's agricultural production and to ensuring that local consumers are supplied with a product offering qualities of hygiene which are especially necessary in a hot climate.

After completion of the project, the new establishment will employ about 110 people.

The Bank is contributing to the financing of the fixed investments, which amount to 1.25 thousand million lire (2 million units of account), by a loan for an equivalent of 625 million lire (1 million units of account).

c) *Wine processing and packaging establishment at Catania (Sicily)*

The project will be executed by the "SABEA, Società Alimentari Bevande e Affini S.p.A.", Catania.

This project is due to the initiative of two Italian industrialists who have acquired a reputation in the soft drink distribution sector in Southern Italy.

The SABEA factory will have a production capacity of 50 000 hl/year. It is planned that in an initial stage the establishment will produce about 15 000 hl of table wines and 10 000 hl of typical wines (guaranteed vintage).

This initiative, which aims at up-grading Sicilian wines locally, offers an obvious economic interest for the island.

The project will lead to the creation of about 30 jobs.

The fixed investments of the project amount to 815 million lire (1.3 million units of account). The Bank's loan is for an amount equivalent to 375 million lire (0.6 million units of account).

d) *Plant for the production of phosphoric acid at Gela (Province of Caltanissetta — Sicily)*

In addition to the phosphoric acid unit, the factory will comprise installations for the production of sulphuric acid on the basis of concentrated sulphur ore from the Sicilian mines.

This initiative is the result of joint efforts, on the one hand, by the Sicilian Region and on the other, by two industrial groups — one private, Montedison, and the other public, ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi). The project will in fact be executed by the "Industria Siciliana Acido Forforico — ISAF S.p.A.", a recently incorporated company with registered office at Palermo, the capital of which is held by the SOCHIMISI, a company associated with the Sicilian Mining Board, the Sincat, associated with Montedison, and the ANIC, of the ENI group.

The new plant will produce, in normal operation, 330 000 t/year of 100% sulphuric acid and 120 000 t/year of phosphoric acid. The sulphuric acid production will require approximately 113 000 t/year of pure sulphur, corresponding to about 600 000 t/year of rough ore.

The new enterprise represents the first concrete achievement promoted by the Sicilian Mining Board in conjunction with the efforts made since the creation of the European Economic Community, at the community, national and regional levels, to facilitate the solution of the problem of the Sicilian sulphur mines by the creation of new activities. A review of the mines is now in progress. Those which are considered suitable for reorganization have just been entrusted to the SOCHIMISI.

At the end of the modernization period, their production is to be absorbed for the greater part by the new plant, located close to the mining area. In this way, a regular outlet will be provided for this production, in favourable competitive conditions, as the ore will not be burdened by considerable transport costs.

The project represents, first and foremost, a contribution towards the solution of the employment and economic development problems existing in Sicily — and in particular in the three provinces of Enna, Caltanissetta and Agrigento, where sulphur mining is concentrated. In these provinces, which are the worst off in the island and among the poorest in Italy, the employment possibilities offered to the inhabitants depend almost exclusively on mining operations and on extensive and meagre agriculture.

The fixed investments of the project amount to 9.5 thousand million lire (15.2 million units of account). The Bank is contributing to their financing by a loan equivalent to 4.37 thousand million lire (7 million units of account).

e) *Establishment for the manufacture of medium-diameter welded steel tubes at Taranto (Apulia)*

The project will be executed by "Dalmine S.p.A.", of Milan, a company with a capital of 25.2 thousand million lire (40.3 million units of account), which forms part of the group of enterprises controlled by Finsider — Società Finanziaria Siderurgica S.p.A., a holding company which manages the iron and steel participations of the IRI-Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale.

The project will contribute towards filling the gap existing in the tube production range of Dalmine and the Finsider group, which are not at present equipped for the manufacture of medium-diameter welded tubes. Customers' requirements in this field are thus met by supplying seamless tubes, whereas less expensive welded tubes could suffice in many cases. The new installations will meet this need and will at the same time release part of the existing seamless tube capacity.

Furthermore, the project will lead to a valorization of the flat products manufactured by the steel complex of the Finsider group in the vicinity of which it will be established. It thus forms part of the efforts made by the group to step up the degree of integration of its production units and to adapt its structure to the necessities of world competition.

Lastly, bearing in mind the repercussions of transport costs, the site chosen for the establishment appears to be particularly appropriate, owing in particular to the market prospects offered to medium-diameter tubes by the expected development of water, gas and oil supply equipments in the Mezzogiorno and the countries of the Mediterranean basin.

The plant will produce, operating at normal pace (one shift), 80 000 t/year of medium-diameter tubes. Its execution will make it possible to create about 100 jobs.

The fixed investments of the project amount to 6 thousand million lire (9.6 million units of account). The Bank is contributing to their financing by a loan equivalent to 2.75 thousand million lire (4.4 million units of account).

f) *New plant for production of mixtures based on lead tetramethyl at Bussi (Pescara)*

The project will be executed by the recently incorporated "Società Italiana Additivi per Carburanti S.p.A. (SIAC)", the registered office of which is at Pescara. The

company's capital is held by Montedison and a British company, Associated Octel Company Limited.

The new plant will produce, in normal operation, 8 000 t/year of antiknock mixtures based on lead tetramethyl.

Antiknock mixtures based on lead alkyls — lead tetramethyl (LTM) and lead tetraethyl (LTE) — are used to increase the octane number of the motor spirit; their production depends upon a complex and extremely advanced technology which has been mastered by a very small number of highly specialized enterprises, of which Octel is the only one in Europe. The collaboration between Montedison and Octel, which has already made it possible to improve the efficiency of SIAC's present plant producing LTE-based mixtures, will afford SIAC the possibility of producing mixtures based on lead tetramethyl, and will contribute to the development of the Italian economy owing to the fact that the new product will replace imports — mainly from the United Kingdom and the United States — and that an export current will be created.

The number of people employed in the new plant will amount to 58.

The Bank is contributing to the financing of the fixed investments of the project, amounting to 3.2 thousand million lire (5.12 million units of account), by a loan for an equivalent of 1.4 thousand million lire (2.24 million units of account).

The rate of interest on the loans is 6.5% per annum. The term of the loans varies between 10 and 12 years.

For the first of these projects, the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno is re-lending directly to the SIP company the amounts lent by the Bank; for the other five, it passes on the amounts to the enterprises through the intermediary of the competent institutes, i.e., the Istituto Regionale per il Finanziamento alle Industrie in Sicilia — IRFIS, and the Istituto per lo Sviluppo Economico dell'Italia Meridionale — Isveimer, which are also participating in the financing.

The loans are guaranteed by the Italian Government. The guarantee agreements were signed by M. Giulio Pastore, Minister for Extraordinary Operations in the Mezzogiorno.

Turkey

In application of the outline contract and its supplement, signed with the Republic of Turkey on 2 February and 29 November 1967, respectively, reserving for the current year an overall amount of 15 million units of account for the financing of industrial projects submitted by the Turkiye Sinaî Kalkınma Bankası (Turkish Industrial Development Bank), the European Investment Bank has decided to allocate the equivalent of 5.69 million units of account to the four following projects:

a) *Construction of a corrugated board and packaging box factory near Istanbul*

The project will be executed and operated by the Turkish limited company Mukavva Sanayii Ve Ticaret, assisted by a specialized German enterprise. The factory's capacity will be 30 000 t/year.

The annual production of corrugated board and cardboard boxes in Turkey is insufficient to meet the demand which, as it remains unsatisfied, turns towards imported articles or to other types of packaging which are often less appropriate. The creation of the planned factory therefore corresponds to a need of the Turkish economy which will continue to grow in future years. By ensuring the full coverage of demand, the new project will make it possible to eliminate imports.

The fixed investments of the project are estimated to be £T 19.5 million (2.15 million units of account). The Bank is contributing to the financing by a loan for an equivalent of 0.74 million units of account.

b) *Extension of a spinning for synthetic and artificial fibres, located at Istanbul*

The project will be executed and operated by the Turkish limited company Aksu Iplik Ve Dokuma Fabrikalari.

At present, the demand for synthetic yarns in Turkey is much higher than the supply. Furthermore, the workshop which the Bank intends to finance will produce yarns comparable from the point of view of quality with woollen yarns, but definitely cheaper. These two aspects confer a certain economic interest on the project.

The workshop's production capacity will be 300 t/year of fibres and will rise to 1 000 t/year.

The fixed investments are estimated to be £T 9.7 million (1.07 million units of account) and the Bank is contributing to the financing by a loan for an equivalent of 0.45 million units of account.

c) *Execution of a workshop for the production of nylon-6 discontinuous fibres in a factory located at Bursa*

The project will be executed and operated by the Turkish limited company SIFAS Sentetik Fabrikalari, in which the International Finance Corporation (Washington) holds a participation. The German company BASF (Ludwigshafen), which is also a shareholder, is providing the technical assistance.

The workshop's production capacity will be 2 100 t/year, with a gauge of 1.5 or 3 deniers, on the basis of monomeric caprolactam.

Nylon-6 discontinuous fibres are still comparatively unknown in Turkey. However, a remarkable increase is being recorded throughout the world in consumption of these fibres in the wool textile industry for the manufacture of mixed wool-nylon yarns, but more especially for the manufacture of carpets and moquettes. It may be estimated that annual demand in Turkey will rapidly attain 1 500 - 2 000 tons, without taking into account that of the carpet industry which is difficult to estimate but which could reach an interesting level, in view of the fact that the use of carpets is very widespread in Turkey.

The fixed investments of the project are estimated to be £T 43.3 million (4.77 million units of account) and the Bank is contributing to the financing by a loan for an equivalent of 2 million units of account. This loan is the second granted by the Bank to the SIFAS company.

d) *Construction of a cement works at Hereke, on the Gulf of Izmit*

The project will be executed and operated by the Turkish limited company Nuh Cimento Sanayii.

The annual production capacity will be 420 000 t of ordinary Portland cement, by dry process.

The Turkish government has forecast in its second five-year plan (1968-72) that domestic cement production should increase from 4.4 million tons in 1967 to 9.9 million tons in 1972, i.e., from 135 kg to 250 kg per inhabitant. The project is therefore a contribution towards the achievement of the target of the plan.

The fixed investments of the project are estimated to be £T 90 million (10 million units of account) and the Bank is contributing to the financing by a loan for an equivalent of 2.5 million units of account.

The European Investment Bank is performing these operations within the framework of its Special Section for the account of Member States, by virtue of the mandate conferred upon it with a view to the application of the Financial Protocol appended to the Association Agreement between the European Economic Community and Turkey.

Ivory Coast

The Commission of the European Communities and the European Investment Bank, in its capacity as mandatory of the Communities responsible for the management of the loan, concluded in Brussels on 11 January 1968, with the Régie du Chemin de Fer Abidjan-Niger "RAN", a contract for a loan to the equivalent of 6.012 million units of account (approximately 1 500 million francs CFA) to be granted under special conditions from the resources of the European Development Fund.

The project consist of modernizing the lay-out and replacing the track of a 150-kilometre section in the Ivory Coast (between Agboville and Dimbokro) of the railway line linking Abidjan with Ouagadougou. This section, the present lay-out of which has obsolescent features, is fitted with equipment which has exceeded the limit of wear and tear. It forms a bottleneck which is detrimental to the safety and regularity of traffic on the main transport axis linking the Ivory Coast with Upper Volta. The commissioning of the planned new line is bound to yield a number of considerable advantages in respect of the safety and speeding-up of trains, which will lead to savings in operations and maintenance of the rolling stock and the track, as well as to an increase in the traffic capacity.

The project will be executed by the Régie du Chemin de Fer Abidjan-Niger "RAN", an inter-State institution of industrial and commercial character having legal personality and financial autonomy, which manages and operates the railways located on the territory of the Ivory Coast and Upper Volta.

The total cost of the project is 7.7 million units of account (1 920 million francs CFA). The term of the special loan will be 20 years (with a period of grace of 4 1/2 years) and it will bear interest of 3% per annum. The loan is guaranteed by the Republic of Ivory Coast. The RAN is also participating in the financing of the project by means of its own resources.

The guarantee contract was signed by H. E. M. Koffi Aoussou, Ambassador, Representative of the Republic of Ivory Coast to the European Communities.

Miscellaneous

The President of the Commission visits the Belgian Government

M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission, accompanied by M. Albert Coppé, a member of the Commission, paid an official visit to the Belgian Government on 16 January 1968. After a conversation with the Prime Minister, M. Paul Vanden Boeynants, M. Rey and M. Coppé had a long discussion with M. Pierre Harmel, Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Renaat Van Elsslande, Minister of European Affairs, and members of their staffs.

The Commission and its President had been received by His Majesty King Baudouin at the end of 1967.

Visit by M. Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission, to the United States

M. Fritz Hellwig, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, has visited the United States on the invitation of the US Government. Before joining M. Jean Rey, who had arrived in Washington on an official visit on Monday 5 February, M. Hellwig visited various scientific establishments, among them the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and had discussions with M. Seaborg, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and other personalities in the fields of technology and atomic energy.

Catastrophe in Sicily: Commission's telegram to the President of the Italian Republic

On the occasion of the earthquake that devastated certain areas of Sicily, the President of the Commission of the European Communities, M. Jean Rey, sent the President of the Italian Republic, M. Giuseppe Saragat, the following telegram:

"Deeply distressed by the catastrophe in Sicily, I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency the sorrow of the Commission of the European Communities and to express our feelings of solidarity.

My colleagues and myself grieve with the Italian people and send our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families."

Visits to the Associated States

Ivory Coast

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Ivory Coast, a country associated with the Community, M. Rochereau, a member of the Commission, paid a visit to Abidjan. He was accompanied by M. Hendus, Director-General for Development Aid.

At a ceremony attended by the President of the Republic, His Excellency M. Houphouët-Boigny, by members of the Government and by the Ambassadors of the six Member States of the Community, M. Rochereau took part in the inauguration of two major projects carried out with the aid of the European Development Fund: at Eloka, the first oilworks under the oil-palm plan, and a secondary college for girls at Cocody.

Surinam-Netherlands Antilles

At the invitation of the Governments of Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles, which are parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands associated with the EEC, M. Rochereau, a member of the Commission, visited these two countries from 16-26 January 1968. During the visit important EDF schemes were inaugurated (a road and the port of Paramaribo).

Visits of AASM personalities to the Commission

On 21 December 1967 the EDF administrative authorities received M. Naimbaiye, the Chad Minister of Agriculture, to discuss agricultural projects submitted by Chad which are being examined or implemented.

A delegation from Gabon, led by the Minister of Planning, M. Kassa-Mapsi, was received by the EDF on 10 January 1968. The main topic of discussion was the project for the Basse-Obiga-Lastourville road, which is very important for the transport of timber.

On 26 January 1968 the EDF held a meeting with a Malagasy delegation led by M. Rabemananjara, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Miadana, Minister of Finance. The delegation presented the programme of major operations for 1968-69, which was prepared by the Malagasy Government to cover the transition between the first and second five-year plans. The programme will be largely financed by the private sector.

Visit by M. Boerma - FAO Director-General

The new Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, M. Addeke Hendrik Boerma, was received by the Commission of the European Communities on 29 January 1968.

Discussions were held on points of interest to the two organizations, in particular those concerning world agreements and food aid. M. Jean Rey offered a dinner in M. Boerma's honour at Val Duchesse.

Crafts and small businesses: Meeting arranged by the Commission

Under the chairmanship of M. Colonna di Paliano, a member of the Commission, a meeting has been held in Brussels between leaders of the Union of Master-Craftsmen of the EEC (UACEE) and Commission officials concerned with crafts and small businesses. The purpose was to discuss current problems related to industrial policy,

competition and the effects of concentration on crafts and small business and, more generally, those aspects of economic, regional, social and tax policies affecting these enterprises.

The President of the UACEE, M. Wild, and the representatives of the various countries stressed the importance of small and medium-sized firms, which currently account for 40% of all wage-earners in EEC, their position in the world of today and the problems calling for a solution in each of the six countries. M. Wild drew attention to the matter of a permanent link between businessmen and the Commission's staff and the importance attached by the former to the administrative unit responsible for matters concerning them.

M. Colonna di Paliano said that the definition of a Community industrial policy would have to take into consideration not only sectoral problems in the strict sense but also the characteristics peculiar to small firms. He proposed to the UACEE leaders that a further working session should be held at the end of September or early in October.

Trade union news

ICFTU

On 28 January 1968, the Executive Committee of the Confederations of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) of the six countries of the European Community met in Milan, with M. L. Rosenberg in the chair. Being in favour of extending the Community to all the democratic countries of Europe, the Committee "condemned the attitude of the French Government, which, by opposing the opening of negotiations with the United Kingdom, Denmark, Norway and Ireland, prevents the seeking of ways and means by which those countries might become members". The Executive Committee therefore stressed — in accordance with the terms of the Treaty — the need for rapidly opening negotiations on membership, since this was the only method of ensuring development towards political unity.

IFCTU

The Executive Body of the European Organization of the IFCTU held its 30th session on Thursday 18 January 1968 with M. A. Cool, President of the Organization in the chair. It regretted that, as a result of one Member State's refusal, the Council of the European Communities had not been able to take any decision on the opening of negotiations with the United Kingdom or the other countries that had applied for membership of the Community. The unsuccessful Council meeting of 19 December 1967 not only meant that the desirable goal of an enlarged Community would be delayed, but incited certain Member States in favour of such an enlargement to mark time in promoting the internal development of the Community. It was regrettable that this tendency should have manifested itself at the meeting in the Council of Social Affairs Ministers of the European Communities on 21 December 1967.

However justified the disappointment at the Council's failure to reach a conclusion, it was more important than ever to go ahead with the complete integration of Europe in order to build up an economic union with political union as the ultimate aim.

The devaluation of the pound and the American measures to redress the US balance of payments should be examined thoroughly in view of their consequences for Europe's economic and social development, in particular as regards employment and the danger of deflation. Such a study on a European plane should be undertaken by the Community authorities.

ANNEX

RESOLUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

(Session of 8 January 1968)¹

Resolution on the draft research and investment budget of the European Atomic Energy Community for the financial year 1968

The European Parliament,

Having regard to the draft research and investment budget of the Community established by the Council for the financial year 1968,

Having been consulted by the Council in accordance with Article 177 of the Euratom Treaty and Article 21 of the Treaty of 8 April 1965,

Having regard to the report of the Committee for Finance, Administration and Accounts,

a) Whereas, with the total amount of the budgetary commitments fixed at 45 196 000 u.a., and the amount of the payment authorizations fixed at 87 995 000 u.a., it will only be possible, at most, to continue the Community's own activities; and whereas almost all of the eighteen sectors of research included in the second five-year programme of research and training will therefore be neglected, and whereas research contracts with third parties will also be neglected;

b) Whereas the draft budget established by the Council for the year 1968 reduces by almost 50 % the already very small appropriations proposed by the Commission of the Communities in the preliminary draft budget;

1. *Considers* that this draft research and investment budget established by the Council for the year 1968 jeopardizes most of the activities embarked upon under the second five-year programme of research and training;

2. *Notes* that the delays that have occurred, in the last three years, with regard to the submission of the research and investment budget have faced the Parliament with the difficult situation of rendering its opinion after the date laid down in Article 177 of the Treaty establishing the EAEC and in circumstances such that it has not been able to make the parliamentary institution's contribution to the formation of the Community will which is expressed through the budget;

3. *Regrets* that this situation has been further aggravated by the fact that the Commis-

sion of the European Communities has not discussed with the Parliament the interim research programme which the Council has established for the financial year 1968 only, and that the Commission has not carried out, in good time, a study of the appropriate solutions for a multi-annual Community research programme;

4. *Considers* that the provisional solution now adopted by the Council, after a period of uncertainty which has already lasted two years, again jeopardizes the Community's research activities, alters their substance, reduces their significance and increases the financial cost and intellectual disadvantages stemming from the interruption of activities already started;

5. *Notes* that the Council has not even given a precise commitment concerning the date on which it proposes to take the necessary decisions with regard to Community research;

6. *Holds* that the Parliament must participate in the establishment of the Community research programmes in order, above all, to ensure that the spirit and letter of the Treaty establishing the EAEC are respected;

7. *Urges* the Executive to propose a supplementary draft research and investment budget before 30 June 1968;

8. *Considers* itself obliged to amend the draft research and investment budget established by the Council since, in view of the small appropriations envisaged and the lack of a serious research programme, the draft budget cannot ensure the maintenance of normal activities and the development of Community research;

9. *Stresses* that the Council has adopted towards the multi-annual programme for Community research a dilatory attitude which the parliamentary institution responsible for the development of the Community finds hard to accept;

¹ Official gazette No C 3, 22 January 1968.

10. *Considers* that the explanatory memorandum attached to the preliminary draft budget and the unsubstantial nature of the arguments contained therein provoke serious doubt as to whether the institutions responsible are willing to get the Community's activities under way again within a short and specified time;

11. *Considers* it necessary to provide forthwith for resources sufficient to give body to the draft budget and thus constitute an initial contribution, in the form of budgetary commitments and payment authorizations, towards the research programme that must be launched before 30 June 1968;

12. *Decides* to amend the draft research and investment budget, and adds a sum of 40 million u.a. to the budgetary commitments and 30 million u.a. to the payment authorization;

13. *Reserves* its right to pass a final judgment on the responsibilities of the institutions

with regard to the Community budget, and intends to examine first of all and in detail, the initiatives taken by the Commission and the decisions of the Council of the European Communities with regard to a multi-annual research programme;

14. *Instructs* its President to transmit the draft budget, thus amended, to the Council of the European Communities in accordance with Article 177(3) of the EAEC Treaty, together with the present resolution and the minutes of the session held this day;

15. *Requests* the Council to inform it of the result of its deliberations on the draft budget thus amended and on the present resolution;

16. *Instructs* its Committee on Finance, Administration and Accounts to examine the result of these deliberations and to submit a report to it on the subject.

Resolution on the decisions of the Council of the Communities of 19 December 1967 concerning the applications for membership received from the United Kingdom and other European countries

(Session of 22-26 January 1968)¹

The European Parliament,

i) Having regard to the decisions arrived at by the Council of the European Communities on 19 December 1967 in respect of the applications for membership presented by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway;

ii) Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Political Committee and, in particular, its *communiqué* of 12 December 1967;

1. *Deplores* that the position adopted by a member Government, against the unanimous opinion of the Commission, has prevented the mere opening of negotiations, through which it would have been possible to ascertain whether or no the requisite conditions were met for accepting or rejecting the applications for membership or for an agreement on other forms of participation in the European Communities, all the more so as none of the Member States raised any fundamental objection to the enlargement of the Communities;

a) Considering that, according to the letter and the spirit of the Treaties of Paris and

Rome, the European Communities are explicitly open to all democratic European Communities are explicitly open to all democratic European States that are prepared to fulfil the necessary obligations;

b) Considering that if the European Communities were not enlarged, this would condemn the present six Member States and democratic Europe as a whole to a position of political and economic inferiority in relation to the USSR and the United States and, thus, seriously injure the general interests of Europe and the world;

c) Considering the unanimous feeling of the peoples of the European Communities who all aspire to a consolidation of Community life that would ensure peace and progress in freedom for the peoples and enable Europe to play an active and beneficial part in world affairs;

2. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the normal operation of the Communities and to

¹ Official gazette No C 10, 14 February 1968.

safeguard their achievements as well as the advance towards full economic union;

3. *Requests* the Council and the Commission, in accordance with the decision to keep on the agenda the applications for membership in question, persistently to pursue their efforts with a view to overcoming the present disagreement between the Governments and the Member States, and to keep Parliament informed at regular intervals;

4. *Invites* the Governments of the Member States to take advantage of the readiness evinced by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway to establish Community relations with the Six, in order to bring about

new forms of European Communities with responsibilities for military and political affairs as well as science and technology, so as to foster, at the appropriate moment, the creation of the United States of Europe to which all the nations aspire and which represents the ultimate aim envisaged by the authors of the Paris and Rome Treaties;

5. *Hopes* that, in accordance with the engagement entered into at their meeting of 29 and 30 May 1967 in Rome, the Heads of State or Government of the Communities will meet again so as to reduce divergent views and implement Community policy in the sense prescribed by the Paris and Rome Treaties;

[...]

Resolution on the outcome of the Kennedy Round of negotiations and its implications

The European Parliament,

a) Having regard to the outcome of the Kennedy Round of trade and tariff negotiations in Geneva;

b) Having regard to the Report of the Committee on External Trade Relations and to the Opinion of the Agricultural Committee;

1. *Recalls* its Resolutions of 21 June 1967¹ and of 29 November 1967²;

2. *Notes* with satisfaction that it was possible to conclude the GATT negotiations on time and that appreciable results were achieved;

3. *Is gratified* that the material contribution of the European Economic Community and the personal efforts of its representatives were decisive factors in the successful outcome of the negotiations;

4. *Finds* that this contribution was only possible because the Community — represented by the EEC Commission — acted as a single unit and because the Council of Ministers gave the Commission the powers they needed as the negotiations progressed;

5. *Is gratified* to note — for it is a fact of fundamental importance in the promise it holds out for the future — that the negotiating methods advocated or endorsed by the Community, and which it will be possible to improve even more, superseded the conventional approach to tariff negotiations;

6. *Is satisfied* that an appreciable cut in customs duties, affecting a large proportion of the world's trade in industrial products, was achieved and that those areas of industrial production which raise special trade or tariff problems for some or all the industrialized nations have become much smaller and much easier to identify;

7. *Recalls*, however, that the importance of non-tariff trade obstacles has, as a result, assumed greater importance and expresses regret that no real progress was made towards eliminating them;

8. *Is particularly glad* that the tariff cuts agreed upon have eased trade relations between the EEC and EFTA;

9. *Realizes* that the Kennedy Round did not measure up in full to the needs and wishes of the developing countries as regards world trade in industrial products, but is glad that the developing countries, too, will derive some benefit from the results achieved; it considers that the special benefits extended to them are justified, particularly the immediate implementation of the tariff cuts and the decisions concerning food aid;

10. *Finds* it very regrettable that similar results were not achieved, either in practice or as regards the principles involved, for trade in

¹ Official gazette of the European Communities, No 157, 16 July 1967, p. 19.

² *Ibid.* No 307, 18 December 1967, p. 15.

agricultural products, even though it was openly acknowledged that the conventional approach to tariff negotiations on a product-by-product basis would not produce any progress here either;

11. *Regrets* that the Community's proposal to discuss the level of aid granted to agriculture by certain Member States of GATT was not adopted;

12. *Further regrets* that the EEC's proposals for a worldwide agreement covering several primary agricultural products were not accepted by the other parties to the negotiations; it hopes, however, that the Community, and the Commission in particular, will continue to pursue these objectives;

13. *Is gratified* to note that acceptable results were achieved regarding a large number of agricultural products, but points out that these results were partly made possible through the Community's concessions;

14. *Is willing*, in this connection, to await developments and hopes that the consultation and safeguard clauses that have been provided for will be applied to preclude any serious disturbance of the Common Market;

15. *Stresses* that the initial practical effects of the tariff cuts will be slight, the full effect not registering for some time; it hopes, therefore, that the implementation schedule may be brought forward;

16. *Hopes*, therefore, that the legislative bodies of the United States will soon create

the necessary conditions to ensure that the agreements regarding chemicals which were only accepted subject to reservations because the US Government did not have sufficient room to negotiate in Geneva, may become fully operative;

17. *Hopes* that no GATT member will take any measure that would reduce the results achieved in Geneva or throw doubt on the good will that prevailed throughout the long and arduous negotiations and made it possible to achieve positive results despite opposition from certain groups in each of the individual States;

18. *Pledges* its support for the political forces, in all the GATT Member States, that are aware of their duty to liberalize world trade in the interest of all nations;

19. *Urges* that GATT be maintained as an independent organization where the problems that will still hamper world trade after the tariff cuts have been applied may be tackled without delay;

20. *Requests* the Council and the Commission of the European Communities to lend their support to future efforts to improve world trade in the same spirit that enabled them to make a decisive contribution to the success of the Kennedy Round;

21. *Regrets* that the Council did not consult the European Parliament before concluding the Geneva Protocol;

Resolution on preparations for the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The European Parliament,

[...]

1. *Considers* it essential for the Europe of the Six to present a united front at the second session of the United Nations Trade and Development Conference;

2. *Asks* that the European Commission be called upon to act as spokesman for the Member States at the Conference as regards all those areas that already come within the

exclusive purview of the Community (tariff policy, agricultural policy, association treaties or trade agreements);

3. *Urges* that the Member States work out a common position concerning other sectors of Community interest and that this position be expressed by a single spokesman;

4. *Trusts* that attention may be drawn at the Conference to the work the Community has already done to help the economically backward countries, particularly in connection with:

- i) The Association with the African States and Madagascar;
- ii) The reductions in the common external tariff resulting from the Kennedy Round;
- iii) The undertakings given under the Food Aid Convention;
- iv) The substantial deficit in the Community's balance of trade with the developing countries, the EEC being the world's largest importer of primary commodities;

5. *Asks* that, pursuant to Protocol No. 4 of the Yaoundé Convention, the Community take effective steps to co-ordinate its position with that of the Associated African and Malagasy States;

6. *Again urges* the need to lay down the principles of a common trade policy, at least as regards relations with the developing countries;

7. *Considers* that until such a policy is worked out and put into effect, the Community and its Member States should act at the New Delhi Conference by reference to the following principles:

- i) Continuing to pursue the present customs policy of the Association with the African States and Madagascar on tropical products until such time as it may be possible — while guaranteeing at least equivalent concessions to the Associated States — to extend tariff preferences to the developing countries;

- ii) Acceding to the request of the developing countries that the reductions in customs duties on their exports, agreed on at the Kennedy Round, should take effect at once;

- iii) Securing a reduction in the consumer taxes charged on some tropical products or at least, as a first step, freezing the income from these taxes at its present level where these taxes amount to an obstacle to the consumption of the products in question in that they increase the selling price;

- iv) Giving maximum support to any move to improve the marketing of products originating in the developing countries;

a) In the sector of primary commodities:

- i) Promoting the conclusion of world agreements for each commodity with a view to organizing the markets in products typical of the tropical regions;

- ii) Taking steps to eliminate short-term price fluctuations in the case of products which meet with competition from synthetics in the industrial countries and also fostering a

reduction in production costs by increasing productivity;

- iii) Allowing easier access to the industrial country markets in the case of agricultural products similar to or competitive with those of the developing countries, in particular sugar and vegetable oils and fats, through the conclusion of world agreements providing for common discipline for the exporting and importing countries and granting special advantages to the developing countries;

b) In the sector of manufactures or semi-manufactures:

- i) Granting tariff preferences which shall not be discriminatory and not based on the reciprocity principle but pay due regard to the differences in the degree of development reached in the countries of the Third World, this in conjunction with other industrial States and coupled with the setting up of effective safeguard machinery;

c) In the sector of the regional integration of the developing countries:

- i) Securing maximum support for any move to promote co-operation between the developing countries or to foster their regional integration;

- ii) Ensuring particularly that the Community's experience in regional integration is harnessed to the service of economic progress in the Third World through the medium of appropriate technical assistance initiatives;

d) In the sector of food aid:

- i) Achieving an agreement on the practical implementation of the World Food Aid programme which emerged from the Kennedy Round, seeing to it that this helps in the execution of development plans in the beneficiary States;

- ii) Going beyond the Convention signed as part of the International Wheat Agreement concluded in Rome in August 1967 and extending food aid to cover other products, such as albumin of animal origin;

8. *Trusts* that in financing development, provision will be made, in particular, for:

- i) An increase in the funds made available by the industrial States for combating underdevelopment and strengthening the bodies responsible for collecting, managing and allocating these funds;

- ii) The introduction of a system of financial measures to offset the effect, on the balances of payments of the developing countries, of sudden changes in the prices of the primary commodities;

iii) The reconstitution of the International Development Association and an increase in its financial resources;

iv) The setting up of an international system to guarantee investments in the developing countries;

9. *Makes an urgent appeal* to all countries taking part in the Conference to shoulder

their full responsibilities as far as they are concerned in combating economic underdevelopment;

10. *Asks* its Committee on External Trade Relations to continue closely to follow the development of the Community's trade relations with the developing countries and particularly to submit a report on the outcome of the New Delhi Conference;

Resolution embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the draft recommendation of the Commission of the European Economic Community concerning a Community definition of disablement giving entitlement to benefit

The European Parliament,

[...]

1. *Welcomes* the Commission's intention to address a recommendation to the Member States concerning a Community definition of disablement giving entitlement to benefit;

2. *Stresses* the importance of and the need for a Community definition of disablement, not only to prevent the development of even greater divergences in the Member States' laws and regulations in this field but also with a view to their progressive harmonization;

3. *Considers* that the legal basis of this recommendation lies in the Preamble to the Treaty and in its Articles 117, 118 and 155;

4. *Agrees* with the Commission that the premature decline of physical or mental powers constitutes a special social risk that must be covered by disablement insurance;

5. *Accepts* with approval the distinction between partial and total disablement, and the provision by which the degree of earning capacity used as a criterion for disablement is reduced from two thirds to one half, because these measures:

a) have already proved their worth in three Community countries (Germany, France and the Netherlands);

b) allow a larger number of workers whose earning capacity is reduced to find new unemployment than has been the case hitherto;

c) make it possible for occupational re-training to be given early enough to have a chance of success;

6. *Attaches* importance to the statement that this recommendation is made "without prejudice to more favourable national provisions";

7. *Considers*, however, that it is a mistake, for reasons of principle, to justify the recommended distinction between partial and total disablement by the strained labour market situation, among other things, and believes that even if, in any Community regulations governing disablement insurance, account has to be taken of labour market requirements, considerations of economic expediency cannot be decisive in this matter;

8. *Agrees* that the insured person's remaining capacity for work should be taken as a criterion for determining the extent to which his earning capacity has been reduced, due account being taken of his general condition, his age and his physical and mental powers, as also of his professional aptitudes and knowledge, including that acquired during any occupational re-training;

9. *Endorses* the Commission's proposal to apply the definition of disablement in a uniform manner to both wage-earners and salaried workers;

10. *Considers* it reasonable for a worker to be granted a disablement pension even if his disablement results from the worsening of a sickness or infirmity which he had before;

11. *Is convinced* that a recommendation is an instrument which leaves the Member States sufficient latitude to adapt their legislation on disablement insurance to their financial possibilities;

12. *Proposes* that the Commission maintain permanent contact with the Member States

concerning the experience gained by them as regards re-training measures to reintegrate workers into professional life, so that the results achieved in this field by certain Member States may be made available to the others;

13. *Urges* the Member States to inform the Commission, every other year, of progress made, so that it may be able to follow developments continually and to approach the Member States, where necessary, in order to

ensure compliance with the recommendation, and hopes that the Commission's annual social reports will regularly describe the situation in this field;

14. *Endorses* the Commission's draft recommendation, subject to the remarks and proposed amendments contained in the present report;

[...]

Resolution on the coal industry in the Community

The European Parliament,

[...]

3. *Regrets* that the divergences of interests that have emerged in the Council have been so profound that it has been possible in ten years to create, by the 1964 Protocol of Agreement, no more than a minimum of coal policy measures;

4. *Appeals* to the Council's and Commission's spirit of European responsibility so that, in the period between the mergers of the Executives and of the Treaties, they may launch new energy policy activities without delay;

5. *Requests* that proposals be submitted — if possible immediately — to ensure the co-ordination of national coal policies at Community level;

[...]

8. *Considers* that, through European co-operation, adaptation of the production capacity of the coal fields to possible outlets must be so devised, as regards both quantities and kinds of coal, that the Community's deposits

may cover part of its energy requirements, even in the distant future;

[...]

10. *Deems it necessary*, between now and the merger of the Communities, to stabilize production in the coalfields by Community decisions ensuring that supply commitments at present undertaken by the producer countries will be met by commitments to buy on the part of the consumer countries;

11. *Considers* that a Community aid policy, including the promotion of coal research and allowing for the future prospects of the coalfields, is an important foundation for the common coal policy;

[...]

13. *Requests* that, under the new treaty, the treatment accorded to all sources of energy be identical and in line with the Protocol of Agreement and, in particular, that provision be made thereunder for a common commercial policy with regard to energy;

[...]

Resolution on the basic principles of a common fisheries policy

The European Parliament,

[...]

3. *Agrees* with the Commission that the elaboration of a common fisheries policy is necessary, not only because it was envisaged in the Treaty establishing the EEC but also

because this common policy is just as essential for the establishment of a viable common market as is the common agricultural policy;

4. *Requests* the Commission, therefore, to submit the necessary proposals for regulations in the near future in order that, without pre-

judice to the detailed examination which will have to be made of these proposals, the regulations may enter into force within the prescribed time-limits;

5. *Believes* that measures need to be taken to organize the fishing industry, for reasons similar to those that determined developments in the framework of the common agricultural policy; such measures are also essential in the fields of market policy, structure policy, social policy and commercial policy, and they must be harmonized with, or complete, one another;

6. *Draws attention* to the fact that a very large proportion of the people who live by fishing work and live in conditions that are not compatible with the concepts inherent in a modern social organization. Large numbers are trying, with insufficient means, to earn their living by fishing because there are no other possibilities of employment open to them. In elaborating a common fisheries policy, which — as laid down by the Treaty — will also have to contribute to the social security of those employed in the industry, it will be necessary to bear in mind that many social problems cannot be solved by such a policy alone, and that solutions of a completely different kind will also have to be found to them under a regional development policy, particularly by encouraging efforts to create new employment;

[...]

8. *Considers* that, as soon as a common fisheries policy is established, national promotion measures must be so enacted or readjusted that they do not influence conditions of competition in the Community in conflicting ways. Such measures must be designed above all to improve the structure of production, marketing and processing and the social situation. It is essential for the implementation of a common fisheries policy to mobilize public funds from national and Community sources, and this in accordance with Community criteria; in this connection, special attention should be devoted to encouraging appropriate forms of co-operation for small independent enterprises;

9. *Calls upon* the Commission to undertake without delay the harmonization of the national provisions governing quality, hygiene, definitions, declarations, etc.; hopes, in particular, that the Council of Ministers will devise a procedure to speed up the adoption of the necessary decisions; expressly emphasizes that it is also for the common fisheries policy to abolish rapidly all the discriminatory provisions that restrict the present rights of fishermen and fishing enterprises, when established in the Community, to fish in Member States' territorial waters and fishing areas and land the catch in their fishing ports. This also

implies the elimination of any discrimination against the trade and the processing industry as regards access to markets;

[...]

12. *Agrees* with the Commission that the stabilization of markets and prices is absolutely essential both for the economy at large and the immediate interest of those employed in the fishing industry. Measures to attain this objective must be explicitly laid down under the common fisheries policy. The general rules concerning the creation of producer groupings must be adapted to the special situation of this branch of the economy;

[...]

15. *Is of the opinion* that a common fisheries policy must be established rapidly, particularly because this is the only basis on which the Community can co-operate effectively in the work of the international organizations and defend its own interests — a particularly important point where measures to maintain and safeguard fishing reserves are concerned.

Moreover, only the Community, which is incomparably better equipped to offer adequate compensation in exchange for certain concessions, can cope with the severe restrictions that have had serious consequences for certain Member States in the exercise of their traditional fishing rights. These restrictions are due, on the one hand, to unilateral extension of non-member countries' territorial waters and fishing areas and, on the other, to discriminatory measures taken against the Member States by associated States;

[...]

17. *Is convinced* that, in trade with non-member countries, a common fisheries policy is a necessary pre-condition if the Community's interests as regards fishing and the supply of fish and processed products are to be safeguarded. Within the framework of the common commercial policy, measures will therefore have to be taken which complete, in respect of the outside world, the intra-Community provisions designed to stabilize markets;

[...]

19. *Endorses* the Commission's proposal for the creation of a joint consultative committee whose task will be to give the Commission its opinion on all problems that arise for employers and workers in the fishing industry;

[...]

22. *Emphasizes* therefore that, on the essential points, it shares the Commission's views regarding the common fisheries policy;

[...]

Resolution on the progress made with the establishment of
the common transport policy

The European Parliament,

Having regard to the reply from the Commission of the European Communities to oral question No. 10/67 on progress made with the establishment of the common transport policy,

Having regard to the work on this question done by the Council and Commission of the European Communities in recent months,

Recalling its resolution of 22 June 1967 regarding delays encountered in the implementation of the common transport policy¹ and the speeches by representatives to which this question has since given rise during a number of debates held in plenary session in the European Parliament,

1. *Reiterates* its firm desire to see a common transport policy worked out and implemented without delay, because it regards it as an essential feature of the common market, which must be fully liberalized by 1 July of this year;

2. *Notes* that at its session of 13 and 14 December 1967, the Council of Ministers demonstrated its will to put an end to the inaction that has prevailed for years with

regard to the common transport policy, and hopes that, in pursuance of the decision it took during that session, the Council will adopt all the measures envisaged, in accordance with the agreed timetable and after consulting the European Parliament;

3. *Assumes* that, in their work, the Council and Commission will be inspired by the need to provide an overall Community solution to the problems that arise in the transport sector, and that this solution will be based on the Council decisions of 22 June 1965 and 20 October 1966;

4. *Requests* the Commission and the Council to see, meanwhile, that the Member States do not take any measures, at the national level, that may jeopardize the implementation of the common transport policy;

5. *Assures* the Commission and the Council of its willingness to do everything in its power to ensure that the decisions required to implement the common transport policy can be adopted as soon as possible;

[...]

¹ See Annex to EEC Bulletin 8-67.

Resolution on the fourth meeting on the Parliamentary Conference of the Association
between the EEC and the AASM, held in Strasbourg from 4 to 7 December 1967

The European Parliament,

[...]

1. *Welcomes* the positive results of the parliamentary collaboration between the EEC and the Associated African States and Madagascar, and hopes that a more lively political discussion may develop between Europeans and Africans, within the framework of the Association;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions drawn in the reports by M. Armengaud and M. Troclet and accepted by the Parliamentary Conference in its resolutions of 5 and 7 December 1967;

3. *Recommends* the Commission and the Council of the Communities to do everything

necessary to attain the objectives set out in these resolutions;

4. *Draws attention*, more particularly, to the fact that in the two resolutions mentioned above the Parliamentary Conference:

a) *Recommends* the Community, its Member States and the Associated States to make preparations without delay for the renewal of the Association when the Yaoundé Convention expires, so that negotiations may actually begin on 1 June 1968 and be completed in good time, thus avoiding any discontinuity;

b) *Requests* the Community, its Member States and the associated States to do everything possible — in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Convention and, in particular, of its Protocol No. 4 — to ensure that,

during the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, efficient co-ordination of their policies is achieved, with due account taken of their mutual interests at the international level;

c) Expresses the hope that the partners in the Association will embark upon joint action to resolve the difficulties caused by fluctuations in tropical commodity prices, since the problem of the level of these prices and of their regularization ought to be considered of prime importance in any realistic and coherent policy for co-operation between the signatories of the Yaoundé Convention;

d) Requests that an examination be made of the new provisions that will be required, when the present Convention expires, in order to create a stabilization Fund for the Association's tropical products;

e) Requests that appropriate measures be taken to avoid any delay in the functioning of the Association's institutional machinery, and welcomes the activity shown by the Associated

States within the Co-ordinating Committee with a view to arriving at concerted action;

f) Stresses the need to ensure that credits from the European Development Fund be distributed fairly, in order to promote the harmonious and balanced development of the Associated States as a group, in the context of short, medium and long-term planning; expresses the wish that the European Investment Bank will increase the effectiveness of its action in the context of its statutes, and earnestly hopes that, in agreement with the Commission, it will examine the general directives for its credit policy, in order to arrive at an optimum development policy;

g) *Recommends* the Associated States to continue their efforts with the aim of co-ordinating the various tasks and types of production among themselves by agreeing how they are to be distributed; to regard commercial promotion of their products in the EEC as a priority objective; and to reduce prime costs as much as possible;

[...]

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- Question écrite n° 166 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Organisation commune des marchés dans secteur des fruits et légumes No. 166 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Common organization of markets in the fruit and vegetables sector) No. C 1, 12.1.68
- Question écrite n° 198 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Cours des citrons italiens (No. 198 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Italian lemon prices) No. C 1, 12.1.68
- Question écrite n° 203 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Législation protectionniste des Etats-Unis d'Amérique visant à restreindre ou à empêcher les importations de marchandises (No. 203 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: United States protectionist legislation to restrict or prevent imports of goods) No. C 1, 12.1.68
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- Question écrite n° 191 de M. Müller à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Assurance-responsabilité civile des conducteurs automobiles lors du passage de la frontière (No. 191 by M. Müller to the Commission: Vicarious liability insurance of motor vehicle drivers when crossing frontiers) No. C 3, 22.1.68
- Question écrite n° 213 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Application de l'article 119 du traité de la CEE (No. 213 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Application of Article 119 of the EEC Treaty) No. C 3, 22.1.68

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- Question écrite n° 210 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Harmonisation de la taxe sur le chiffre d'affaires (No. 210 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Harmonization of turnover tax) No. C 5, 29.1.68
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- Question écrite n° 231 de M. Vredeling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : Application de l'article 95 du traité de la CEE (impositions) dans les pays de la Communauté [No. 231 by M. Vredeling to the Commission: Application of Article 95 of the EEC Treaty (charges) in Community countries] No. C 5, 29.1.68
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- Question écrite n° 236 de Mlle Lulling à la Commission des Communautés européennes. Objet : L'obligation de présenter un triptyque à la frontière de quatre Etats membres pour les caravanes et les remorques à usage professionnel (No. 236 by Melle Lulling to the Commission: The obligation of caravans and trailers in commercial use to present a triptyque at the frontiers of four Member States) No. C 5, 29.1.68
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- Décision de la Commission, du 12 janvier 1968, fixant les montants maxima de la restitution à l'exportation du sucre vers les pays tiers (Commission Decision of 12 January 1968 fixing the maximum amounts of the refund on exports of sugar to non-member countries) No. L 15, 18.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 19 décembre 1967, portant octroi à la République italienne d'un contingent tarifaire de 5 000 taureaux, vaches et génisses, des races de Schwyz, du Simmental et de Fribourg, autres que ceux destinés à la boucherie (Commission Decision of 19 December 1967 granting Italy a tariff quota of 5 000 bulls, cows and heifers of the Schwyz, Simmental and Fribourg breeds, other than for slaughtering) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 21 décembre 1967, portant octroi d'un contingent tarifaire supplémentaire à la République italienne pour les graines de betteraves à sucre, des variétés "Maribo", "Buszczinsky", "Janaz" et "Saroz" (Commission Decision of 21 December 1967 granting Italy an additional tariff quota for sugar-beet seed of the Maribo, Buszczinsky, Janaz and Saroz varieties) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 21 décembre 1967, fixant les montants maxima des restitutions pour certains produits laitiers exportés vers les pays tiers, sous la forme de marchandises ne relevant pas de l'annexe II du traité (Commission Decision of 21 December 1967 fixing the maximum amounts of the refunds on certain milk products exported to non-member countries in the form of goods not included in Annex II of the Treaty) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 21 décembre 1967, concernant la fixation des prix du marché mondial pour les sucres blanc et brut pour la période du 1^{er} janvier 1968 au 31 mars 1968 (Commission Decision of 21 December 1967 on the fixing of world market prices for white and raw sugars for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1968) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, relatif à l'écoulement en Belgique de beurre de stock privé à des industries transformatrices (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 on the sale in Belgium of butter from private stocks to processing industries) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, fixant les montants maxima de la restitution à l'exportation du sucre vers les pays tiers (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 fixing the maximum amounts of the refund on exports of sugar to non-member countries) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, fixant les montants maxima de la restitution pour le sucre blanc exporté vers les pays tiers sous la forme de marchandises ne relevant pas de l'annexe II du traité (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 fixing the maximum amounts of the refunds on white sugar exported to non-member countries in the form of goods not included in Annex II of the Treaty) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, relative à la fixation des moyennes arithmétiques des prélèvements agricoles envers les pays tiers servant de base pour le calcul du prélèvement compensateur institué en vertu de l'article 10 du traité (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 on the fixing of the arithmetical averages of agricultural levies applicable to non-member countries and serving as a basis for calculating the compensatory levy introduced in pursuance of Article 10 of the Treaty) No. L 18, 22.1.68
- Décision de la Commission, du 15 janvier 1968, autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à exclure du traitement communautaire les "concombres" de la position 07.01 ex O du tarif douanier commun originaires d'Espagne et mis en libre pratique dans d'autres Etats membres (Commission Decision of 15 January 1968 authorizing France, in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to exclude from Community treatment "cucumbers" from CCT heading 07.01 ex O originating from Spain and in free circulation in other Member States) No. L 19, 23.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 17 janvier 1968, fixant le montant maximum de la restitution valable pour les exportations de bovins vivants vers les pays tiers (Commission Decision of 17 January 1968 fixing the maximum amount of the refund on exports of cattle on the hoof to non-member countries)

No. L 19, 23.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 18 janvier 1968, portant fixation des prix servant au calcul du prélèvement envers les pays tiers dans le secteur de la viande bovine (Commission Decision of 18 January 1968 fixing the prices serving for calculating the levy applicable to non-member countries in the beef and veal sector)

No. L 19, 23.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à percevoir une taxe compensatoire à l'importation des "crustacés et mollusques préparés ou conservés" (crevettes), de la position ex 16.05 du tarif douanier commun, originaires des pays tiers et mis en libre pratique dans les pays du Benelux (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 authorizing France, in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to make a countervailing charge on imports of "crustaceans and molluscs, prepared or preserved" (shrimps and prawns), from CCT heading ex 16.05, originating from non-member countries and in free circulation in the Benelux countries)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant extension de l'applicabilité de sa décision du 5 octobre 1967 et autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à percevoir une taxe compensatoire à l'importation des "haricots secs non triés" de la position n° 07.05 ex A du tarif douanier commun, originaires de pays tiers et mis en libre pratique dans les pays du Benelux (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 extending the applicability of its Decision of 5 October 1967, authorizing France, in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to make a countervailing charge on imports of "ungraded dried beans" from CCT heading 07.05 ex A, originating from non-member countries and in free circulation in the Benelux countries)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, relative au recours de la République française à l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, concernant les "fruits autrement préparés (ananas) en emballages immédiats" de la position 20.06 B III ex b du tarif douanier commun, originaires de Malaisie et mis en libre pratique dans les autres Etats membres (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 on recourse by France to Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, concerning "fruit otherwise prepared (pineapples), in immediate packings" from CCT heading 20.06 B III ex b originating in Malaysia and in free circulation in the other Member States)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à exclure du traitement communautaire les "autres carreaux, pavés et dalles de pavement et de revêtement" de la position n° 69.08 du tarif douanier commun, originaires du Japon et mis en libre pratique en Allemagne (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 authorizing France, in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to exclude from Community treatment "glazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles" from CCT heading 69.08 originating in Japan and in free circulation in Germany)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à exclure du traitement communautaire les "laitues pommées" de la position n° 07.01 D I du tarif douanier commun, originaires d'Espagne et mises en libre pratique dans d'autres Etats membres (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 authorizing France in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to exclude from Community treatment "cabbage lettuce" from CCT heading 07.01 D I originating in Spain and in free circulation in other Member States)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, autorisant la République française, en vertu de l'article 115 alinéa 1 du traité, à exclure du traitement communautaire les "autres jouets, modèles réduits pour le divertissement" de la position 97.03 du tarif douanier commun, originaires du Japon et mis en libre pratique dans les autres Etats membres (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 authorizing France in pursuance of Article 115, first paragraph, of the Treaty, to exclude from Community treatment "other toys, working models of the kind used for recreational purposes" from CCT heading 97.03 originating from Japan and in free circulation in other Member States)

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 11 janvier 1968, portant octroi à la république fédérale d'Allemagne d'un contingent tarifaire pour les pruneaux (position n° 08.12 C du tarif douanier commun) [Commission Decision of 11 January 1968 granting Germany a tariff quota for prunes (CCT heading 08.12 C)]

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 16 janvier 1968, portant octroi d'un contingent tarifaire à la république fédérale d'Allemagne pour certains vins rouges naturels de raisins frais, destinés au coupage (position n° ex 22.05 B du tarif douanier commun) [Commission Decision of 16 January 1968 granting Germany a tariff quota for certain natural red wines of fresh grapes for blending (CCT heading ex 22.05 B)]

No. L 22, 25.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 19 janvier 1968, portant fixation des prix franco frontière pour les échanges intracommunautaires dans le secteur du lait et des produits laitiers (Commission Decision of 19 January 1968 fixing the free-at-frontier prices for intra-Community trade in the milk and milk products sector)

No. L 24, 27.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 19 janvier 1968, portant fixation des prix franco frontière pour les échanges avec les pays tiers dans le secteur du lait et des produits laitiers (Commission Decision of 19 January 1968 fixing the free-at-frontier prices for trade with non-member countries in the milk and milk products sector)

No. L 24, 27.1.68

Décision n° 38-67 de la Commission, du 21 décembre 1967, relative à l'autorisation des accords de spécialisation et d'achat et de vente en commun, conclus par deux entreprises sidérurgiques italiennes (Commission Decision No. 38-67 of 21 December 1967 concerning the authorization of joint purchase and sale and specialization agreements concluded by two Italian iron and steel firms)

No. L 24, 27.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 26 janvier 1968, portant fixation des prix franco frontière pour les échanges avec les pays tiers dans le secteur du lait et des produits laitiers (Commission Decision of 26 January 1968 fixing the free-at-frontier prices for trade with non-member countries in the milk and milk products sector)

No. L 26, 30.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la république fédérale d'Allemagne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par la "Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsvermittlung und Arbeitslosenversicherung (BAVAV)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Germany aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsvermittlung und Arbeitslosenversicherung — BAVAV)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la république fédérale d'Allemagne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par des "Landesversicherungsanstalten" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Germany aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the "Landesversicherungsanstalten")

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République française pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par le ministère des anciens combattants et victimes de guerre (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting France aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the Ministry for ex-Servicemen and War Victims)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par le "Ministero del Lavoro e della Previdenza sociale" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the Ministry for Labour and Social Security)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par le "Ministero del Lavoro e della Previdenza sociale" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the Ministry for Labour and Social Security)

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Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par le "Ministero del Lavoro e della Previdenza sociale" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the Ministry for Labour and Social Security)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l'"Associazione Nazionale Addestramento Professionale "Leone XIII" (ANAP)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the ANAP)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l'"Automobile Club d'Italia (ACI)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining operations carried out by the Italian Automobile Club — ACI)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l'"Ente autonomo di gestione per le partecipazioni del fondo di finanziamento dell'industria meccanica (EFIM)" (Commission Decision on 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the EFIM)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Ente Nazionale per l'Addestramento dei Lavoratori del Commercio (ENALC)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the ENALC)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Istituto nazionale per l'assicurazione contro gli infortuni sul lavoro (INAIL)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the INAIL)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Istituto nazionale per l'addestramento ed il perfezionamento dei lavoratori dell'industria (INAPLI)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the INAPLI)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Istituto per la ricostruzione industriale (IRI)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the IRI)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Istituto per la ricostruzione industriale (IRI)" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the IRI)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de rééducation professionnelle effectuées par l' "Opera nazionale per gli invalidi di guerra" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of vocational retraining activities carried out by the "Opera nazionale per gli invalidi di guerra")

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République fédérale d'Allemagne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de réinstallation effectuées par le "Bundesministerium für Vertriebene, Flüchtlinge und Kriegsgeschädigte" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Germany aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of resettlement activities carried out by the Federal Ministry for Expellees, Refugees and War Victims)

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 22 décembre 1967, portant octroi du concours du F.S.E. au bénéfice de la République italienne pour des dépenses relatives à des opérations de réinstallation effectuées par l' "Opera nazionale per gli invalidi di guerra" (Commission Decision of 22 December 1967 granting Italy aid from the European Social Fund for expenditure in respect of resettlement activities carried out by the "Opera nazionale per gli invalidi di guerra")

No. L 27, 31.1.68

Décision de la Commission, du 25 janvier 1968, portant fixation des prix servant au calcul du prélèvement envers les pays tiers dans le secteur de la viande bovine (Commission Decision of 25 January 1968 fixing the prices serving for calculating the levy applicable to non-member countries in the beef and veal sector)

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No. L 18, 22.1.68

Recommandation de la Commission, du 21 décembre 1967, adressée aux Etats membres en vertu des articles 155 et 115 au sujet du régime d'exportation à appliquer vers les pays tiers pour certains déchets et cendres de métaux non ferreux et des méthodes de coopération administrative entre les Etats membres (Commission Recommendation of 21 December 1967 to the Member States in pursuance of Articles 155 and 115 on the export arrangements applicable to non-member countries for certain non-ferrous metal waste and ash and methods of administrative co-operation between the Member States)

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Commission proposals to the Council

Proposition de règlement du Conseil relatif à la contribution du Fonds européen d'orientation et de garantie agricole à la réparation des dommages causés par la peste porcine africaine en Italie durant l'année 1967 (Proposal for a Council regulation on the contribution of the EAGGF to compensation for damages caused by African swine fever in Italy during 1967)

No. C 5, 29.1.68

Proposition de règlement du Conseil modifiant l'article 11 paragraphe 2 du règlement n° 23 portant établissement graduel d'une organisation commune des marchés dans le secteur des fruits et légumes (Proposal for a Council regulation amending Article 11(2) of Regulation No. 23 on the progressive establishment of a common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables)

No. C 5, 29.1.68

Proposition de règlement du Conseil modifiant le règlement n° 121/67/CEE portant organisation commune des marchés dans le secteur de la viande de porc concernant des mesures transitoires (Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation No. 121/67/CEE setting up a common organization of the market in the pigmeat sector, in respect of transitional measures)

No. C 5, 29.1.68

Proposition de règlement du Conseil portant dérogation et complément à l'article 20 du règlement n° 17/64/CEE relatif aux conditions du concours du Fonds européen d'orientation et de garantie agricole (Proposal for a Council regulation derogating from and supplementing Article 20 of Regulation No. 17/64/CEE on conditions for grant of aid by the EAGGF)

No. C 5, 29.1.68

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- Arrêt de la Cour de justice (Première Chambre), rendu le 12 décembre 1967, dans l'affaire 15-67 : Alois Bauer contre Commission des Communautés européennes (Judgment of the Court (1st Chamber) pronounced on 12 December 1967 in Case 15-67: Alois Bauer v. Commission of the European Communities) No. C 4, 24.1.68
- Arrêt de la Cour de justice, rendu le 5 décembre 1967, dans l'affaire 19-67 (demande de décision préjudicielle présentée par le Centrale Raad van Beroep) : Bestuur der Sociale Verzekeringsbank contre J.H. van der Vecht (Judgment of the Court pronounced on 5 December 1967 in Case 19-67 (request for a preliminary ruling by the Centrale Raad van Beroep): Bestuur der Sociale Verzekeringsbank v. J.H. van der Vecht) No. C 4, 24.1.68
- Arrêt de la Cour de justice, rendu le 30 novembre 1967, dans l'affaire 22-67 (demande de décision préjudicielle présentée par la Cour de cassation de France) : Caisse régionale de sécurité sociale du Nord-Est, Nancy, contre Robert Goffart (Judgment of the Court pronounced on 30 November 1967 in Case 22-67 (request for a preliminary ruling by the French Cour de Cassation): Caisse régionale de sécurité sociale du Nord-Est, Nancy, v. Robert Goffart) No. C 4, 24.1.68
- Arrêt de la Cour de justice, rendu le 12 décembre 1967, dans l'affaire 23-67 (demande de décision préjudicielle présentée par le tribunal de commerce de Liège) : S.A. Brasserie de Haecht contre consorts Wilkin-Janssen (Judgment of the Court pronounced on 12 December 1967 in Case 23-67 (request for a preliminary ruling by the Liège Commercial Court): S.A. Brasserie de Haecht v. M. Oscar Wilkin and Mme Marie Janssen) No. C 4, 24.1.68

CORRIGENDA

- Rectificatif au règlement n° 962/67/CEE de la Commission, du 7 décembre 1967, fixant les prélèvements applicables au riz et aux brisures (JO n° 299 du 8.12.1967) (Corrigendum to Commission Regulation No. 962/67/CEE of 7 December 1967 fixing the levies on rice and broken rice — Official gazette No. 299 of 8 December 1967) No. L 26, 30.1.68

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¹ The abbreviations after each title indicate the languages in which the documents have been published : f = French, d = German, i = Italian, n = Dutch, e = English.

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