



*European Communities  
Commission  
Press Release*

20 Kensington Palace Gardens  
London W8 4QQ  
Telephone: 01-727 8090

EMBARGO: 15.00 HOURS  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1976

January 6, 1976

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND - COMMISSION  
APPROVES 3RD AND 4TH, 1975 ALLOCATIONS OF GRANTS:  
TOTAL OF 221 MILLION u.a. (£92m) : UK RECEIVES 79 MILLION u.a. (£33m)

The Commission announced today its decision on the third and fourth series of applications for 1975 for assistance from the European Social Fund for the retraining of workers in the Member States. These appropriations include a sum of 42.5 mua (£17.7m) for training or retraining young workers under 25, and bring the total of grants for the 1975 budget up to 365.4 mua (£152m). The UK has received approximately 9.3 mua (£39m) during 1975. The corresponding figures for 1973 and 1974 were £23.9m and £25.8m.

---

The bulk of this latest financial aid is destined for development area retraining assistance, under Article 5 of the Social Fund. Of the 148.96 mua (£62m), provided under this heading, Britain will receive 61.21 mua (£25.4m).

The remainder of the assistance, 72.2 mua (£30m) falls under Article 4, aimed on the one hand at assisting the adaptation of workers leaving or being retrained within specific industries, e.g. textiles and agriculture, and on the other hand at assisting priority categories, i.e. migrants, the handicapped, and (by a Council of Ministers decision in July 1975) young workers under 25.

Assistance to the UK

Out of a total allocation of 17.7 mua (£7.1m) for migrants in the EEC, the UK will receive 12.2 mua (£5.1m), which will finance half of Department of Education programmes for special education facilities for the children of Commonwealth immigrants.

The 5.3 mua (£2.2m) grant towards the training of young workers goes towards programmes run by the Training Services Agency and the Man-made Fibres Industry Training Board, and is in addition to 5.3 mua (£2.2m) to come from Article 5 allocations.

These grants are to help finance assistance given to firms which undertake to increase their apprenticeship schemes for young people who have finished school, but whose lack of suitable professional qualifications leaves them without jobs.

The main allocation for assistance to handicapped persons' retraining in the UK of 6.2 mua (£2.6m) also comes under Article 5.

Other Examples of Assistance

Examples of the help given by the Social Fund in other sectors and other member countries include the financing of facilities for farmers and agricultural workers in Italy to train for additional employment, to help stem the drift from the land; assistance towards retraining for workers in the printing industry in Holland where technical changes are calling for reduction in manpower; and assistance in Ireland towards retraining inshore fishermen in modern fishing techniques.

European Social Fund - Commitments decided for 1975  
(3rd and 4th Series Only - in m.u.a.)

| Country       | Art. 4       |                       |              |                  |              | Art. 5                         |              | Summary Totals |               | Overall Total |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
|               | Youth        | Agri-<br>cul-<br>ture | Tex-<br>tile | Handi-<br>capped | Migrants     | Regions<br>&<br>Tech. Progress | Handicapped  | Art. 4         | Art. 5        |               |
| Belgium       | 1.75         |                       |              | .02              | .01          | 1.69                           | .66          | 1.78           | 2.35          | 4.13          |
| Denmark       | .85          | -                     |              | -                | -            | 4.48                           | 3.33         | .85            | 7.81          | 8.66          |
| Germany       | 8.26         | -                     |              | 12.83            | 0.89         | 9.73                           | 2.14         | 21.98          | 11.87         | 33.85         |
| France        | 7.79         | 0.62                  |              | .50              | 1.89         | 24.48                          | 6.20         | 10.80          | 30.68         | 41.48         |
| Ireland       | .34          | 1.39                  |              | .13              | -            | 1.19                           | 1.47         | 1.86           | 2.66          | 4.52          |
| Italy         | 12.91        | .63                   |              | -                | 2.10         | 21.36                          | .98          | 15.64          | 22.34         | 37.98         |
| Lux.          | -            | -                     |              | -                | -            | -                              | .03          | -              | .03           | .03           |
| Netherlands   | .34          | .62                   |              | -                | .64          | 6.98                           | 3.03         | 1.60           | 10.01         | 11.61         |
| U.K.          | 5.25         | -                     |              | .23              | 12.21        | 55.02                          | 6.19         | 17.68          | 61.21         | 78.80         |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>37.48</b> | <b>3.26</b>           | <b>-</b>     | <b>13.71</b>     | <b>17.74</b> | <b>124.93</b>                  | <b>24.03</b> | <b>72.20</b>   | <b>148.96</b> | <b>221.16</b> |

- N.B. 1. These figures are provisional. Definitive figures will be available for the full year at a later date.  
2. These provisional figures do not take account of modifications requested by member States in November/December 1975. The total amount carried forward alone amounted to about 15 m.u.a. for Article 4 and 30 m.u.a. for Article 5.