

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

# BULLETIN

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ticipation systems to adopt has to be the subject of consultations between the trade unions represented in the companies or their in-company representatives (works council etc.) and the management of the company concerned, with the aim of reaching an agreement.

The Committee declines from expressing a view in this Opinion on the difficult and, in places, controversial legal issues of the SE's legal basis. But it wonders whether it is advisable, in an area which has such significant implications for the social dimension of the future internal market, to split up the rules into two legal acts having a different legal status and push through decisions of principle on worker participation and taxation policy by a qualified majority. This contradicts the idea of having a uniform and indivisible legal scheme and requires yet another process of extensive justification by the Commission. This applies all the more because it is to be expected that the present solutions may provide guidelines for further EC projects, such as the Fifth Company Law Directive on the structure of national PLCs and worker participation arrangements.

*This Opinion, adopted by 105 votes for, 25 votes against and 24 abstentions, was drawn up in the light of the paper drawn up by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services. The Chairman was Mr Kazazis (Greece — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Petersen (Germany — Employers).*

## 2. DECLINING INDUSTRIAL AREAS (Own-initiative Opinion)

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion**<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of this Opinion on declining industrial areas is to contribute to the Commission's efforts to identify the most effective policies and measures to achieve the conversion of Objective 2 areas.

Even though the list of regions and areas selected as being eligible under Objective 2 was not published until March 1989, making it impossible for the Committee to comment on the operation of the reformed structural Funds from any practical experience, answers to a questionnaire and two study visits to Charleroi in Belgium and Saarland in the Federal Republic of Germany have allowed the

<sup>1</sup> CES 376/90.



*Left to right: Mr Masprone, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee, with Mr Pandolfi, Vice-Chairman of the Commission.*

The procedure for formation of a European Company by merger is based largely on the third company law Directive (78/855/EEC), supplemented to take account of the cross-border aspect of the draft 10th Directive. The title on capital, shares and debentures has been revised in the light of the second Directive (77/91/EEC). The title on company structure offers a choice between a single board system and a two-tier system, in line with the amended proposal for a fifth Directive on the structure of public limited liability companies.

For annual and consolidated accounts, the statute refers to the fourth (78/660/EEC) and seventh (83/349/EEC) Directives, retaining the options left to the Member States in these two Directives. The statute no longer contains any provisions on groups, because there is at present no need for specific rules for the European Company in this area.

Winding-up, liquidation and insolvency procedures have not yet been harmonized. The proposal contains specific provisions on winding-up and liquidation. For insolvency, cessation of payments and conversion, the European Company is subject to the law of the Member State in which it has its registered office.

The company will be subject to the tax law of the country in which it has its registered office. Losses suffered by its permanent establishments abroad can be offset against its profits.

2. The proposal for a Directive is based on Article 54 (3) (g) of the EC Treaty. It covers the position of employees of the European Company. Employees are to play a part in supervision and in the definition of strategy. The company must select one of three models of participation:

1. worker participation in the supervisory board or management board;
2. a separate body for staff representation;
3. another form of participation agreed by the boards of the founder companies and the representatives of their employees.

The proposal also covers the election of workers' representatives, worker representation at factory level, and workers' access to the company's capital and results.

*A specific aid policy to encourage R&D and demonstration activities relating to agricultural and forestry production for non-food industrial and energy purposes.*

The Committee would stress that R&D and demonstration activities relating to agricultural and forestry production for non-food industrial and energy purposes may eventually provide (possibly long-term) solutions for Community agriculture. These activities must therefore be significantly stepped up.

Here provision must also be made for new contractual and other instruments to set in motion targeted experimental schemes which will serve as a practical guide for farmers, processing businesses and industrial consumers. For instance, considerable benefits could be reaped from large-scale demonstration projects, spanning a minimum five to 10 year period, designed to ensure the continuous production of agricultural raw materials and develop specific processing techniques and practical industrial uses. Throughout these experimental schemes it will be necessary to offset any additional costs involved as compared with rival traditional products.

The Committee also feels that the scale of financial and other efforts required must not be assessed solely in terms of the profits to be expected in the fairly long-term future. The cost/profit assessment must also take account of the predicted social, regional, environmental and other benefits.

Here the Committee recommends that account be taken not only of Community research funding but also of the structural Funds: ERDF, EAGGF (Guidance Section) and Social Fund.

The Committee also recommends increased funding for R&D and demonstration activities in the forestry and timber sector, which it has found to offer an extensive range of opportunities for industrial and energy uses.

The required action in the field being studied also presupposes that more careful attention is given to coordination among related R&D and demonstration activities, as well as between closely interlinked Community and national research programmes.

*This Opinion, adopted by a large majority (1 vote against) was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Sub-Committee on Research and Technology/Agricultural and Forestry Resources. The chairman was Mr Romoli (Italy — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr De Tavernier (Belgium — Various Interests) and the co-rapporteur was Mr Boddy (United Kingdom — Workers).*

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<sup>1</sup> CES 376/90.

Committee to make the following specific recommendations for a more effective operation of EC regional policy.

- (i) Priority should be given to the creation of jobs in all programmes and financial actions taken by the EC structural Funds, and special emphasis should be placed on creating employment for unemployed young people and the long-term unemployed.
- (ii) Consistency should be ensured between EC horizontal policies and regional development measures.
- (iii) A more substantial commitment of funds to the Objective 2 regions should be necessary in order to reduce internal disparities in unemployment rates between regions.
- (iv) The reconversion of the declining areas should be based on the development of endogenous resources via integrated development programmes.
- (v) Productive investment should be favoured in relation to investment in infrastructure.
- (vi) The principle of 'additionality' should be effectively respected by Member States.
- (vii) Priority should be given to studies and research into the effectiveness of regional measures assisted by structural Funds.
- (viii) Partnership should be supplemented by consultation of employers' and employees' representatives at all stages.

Arising from the experiences of Charleroi and Saarland the Committee stresses that active involvement of socio-economic agents will be necessary to achieve the objective of cohesion, as has been the case in Charleroi, and that the high level of cross-border cooperation in Saar-Lor-Lux has been a fundamental factor in facilitating economic regeneration and must serve as an example.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Regional Development and Town and Country Planning. The Chairman was Mr Vasco Cal (Portugal — Workers). The rapporteur was Mr Christie (United Kingdom — Workers).*

### 3. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (Own-initiative Opinion)

#### **Gist of the Committee Opinion**<sup>1</sup>

The Community is in a position to offer Eastern Europe certain options for the flexible development of its economic structures and social balance. This does not mean monolithic capitalism, but rather an economy in which private, public and cooperative businesses all operate according to the laws of the market and free competition, based on clear rules and with respect for the freedom of businesses, workers and citizens.

The historic events in Eastern Europe must in no way jeopardize or slow down the process leading to the Community's unification, the completion of the internal market and the achievement of economic and monetary union.

At the present juncture the Commission could usefully be asked to play a greater role in coordinating Western aid, as has rightly already occurred in the case of Poland and Hungary.

Priority must indeed be given to developing and modernizing the agricultural sector. However, we must not underestimate the agricultural potential of most of these countries, which will become our competitors on European and world markets.

Regarding measures taken, the Section warmly endorses the setting-up of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development. It sees this as supplementing the work being planned by the European Investment Bank, which has fewer resources available for Eastern European countries.

The 'association treaties' which the Community has only loosely talked about so far, could undoubtedly be a vital tool for increasing integration of the two main areas of Europe. The content of these 'association treaties' should vary according to the characteristics of the country concerned.

The Community's social objectives mean that the integration process should not be seen simply as a business opportunity for one side, with hand-outs for the other side. The process should benefit both workers and entrepreneurs East and West, in terms of

<sup>1</sup> CES 381/90.

employment, living standards and social rights. When granting aid, loans and other concessions, the Community should also encourage the right to free association and collective bargaining, in order to ensure that the fruits of economic development are fairly distributed among workers.

Finally, alongside the official action decided by the institutions, relations between EC socio-economic organizations and their opposite numbers in Eastern Europe (where they exist) are in several respects an important channel of communication and assistance. Industrial, agricultural, banking, trade union, commercial, cooperative and other organizations can offer the benefit of their experience, assist with vocational training, and in some cases even cooperate in joint economic initiatives.

It would also be useful to establish direct contact between the Economic and Social Committee and the main representatives of socio-economic bodies in Eastern Europe. The Committee hopes to see economic and social councils set up in Eastern Europe as soon as possible, to give a voice and a role to the new groups which will emerge from the reform and restructuring process.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, less 7 abstentions, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for External Relations, Trade and Development Policy. The Chairman was Mr Neto da Silva (Portugal — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Briganti (Italy — Various Interests).*

#### 4. USE OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES (Own-initiative Opinion)

**Increasing the use of agricultural and forestry resources in the non-food industrial and energy sectors: prospects opened up by research and technological innovation**

##### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

This Opinion is primarily based on the information collected by the Sub-Committee on Research and Technology/Agriculture and Forestry at the two hearings held on 19 January and 26 to 27 June 1989 for the purpose of consulting representatives of the scientific, industrial, agricultural and forestry groups directly concerned and

<sup>1</sup> CES 380/90.

employers' and trade union organizations on the current state of know-how and possible and probable medium-term prospects for the production and utilization of agricultural and forestry resources as raw materials in the non-food industrial and energy sectors.

The Opinion consists of three parts. In the first part, the Committee makes a number of general comments on the reasons justifying intensified use of agricultural and forestry resources for non-food purposes and outlines the broad prospects. The second part reviews certain specific sectors: starch and sugar, oils and fats, biofuels and forestry products. Lastly, the Committee puts forward a set of recommendations regarding the prospects opened up by research and technological innovation and the prerequisites for that purpose.

In the Committee's view, increased deployment of agricultural and forestry resources for purposes other than food is one way in which the Community can safeguard the future of agriculture, and rural society in general, as it is currently in the throes of radical upheaval. The potential economic, social, regional and environmental benefits to be reaped by the Community are a further argument. The Committee therefore calls for a sustained R&D and demonstration drive and a dynamic technological innovation policy. Nor can the overall cost/benefit ratio be conceived purely in terms of the anticipated eventual profitability of investment, even if positive financial results could be one consideration. In particular, account should be taken of the anticipated social benefits.

The Committee would point out in particular that:

- (i) certain technological innovations, notably application of biotechnologies, open up new prospects through the development of agricultural and forestry products tailored to certain non-food industrial and energy uses, thereby providing one possible answer to land set-aside problems and the agricultural and rural desertification process liable to result within the Community. However, the Committee would point to the need to avoid intensified farming techniques inflicting damage on the countryside, and thereby endangering the agricultural fabric and harming the environment;
- (ii) agricultural raw materials usable by non-food industries and the energy sector are both biodegradable and renewable (hence satisfying environment protection criteria) and therefore preferable to some raw materials (especially fossil-based) or petrochemical-based synthetic raw materials. The

- greenhouse effect and the volume of non-degradable waste would be diminished significantly;
- (iii) the use of local agricultural and forestry products will assist in securing safe and diversified energy supplies for the Community.

The Committee therefore feels that opportunities for increasing the scope for industrial and energy uses of agricultural and forestry products must be seized. Here R&TD plays a key role which is bound to increase in the future. However, suitable measures are vital to boost impact and facilitate speedy application of results, while taking account of experiences elsewhere in the world.

The Committee therefore puts forward recommendations on three fronts:

#### **Better organized and targeted Community research**

The data collected while this Opinion was in preparation and the review of specific sectors contained in Part Two have highlighted the decisive role of R&TD in securing and expanding non-food outlets.

Concentration of Community action on key areas, a more integrated approach and closer coordination with national activities are, however, a prerequisite in view of the cost and complexity of research and the wide range of know-how required.

One major advance in this direction is the forthcoming presentation, in connection with the implementation of the framework programme for Community activities in the field of R&TD (1990-94), of a specific research programme in the agricultural and agri-industrial sector grouping research activities concerning the use of agricultural and forestry resources for industrial and energy purposes.

The Committee would recommend that research activities proposed as part of this programme be underpinned by sectoral surveys of basic know-how and tailored to clearcut aims and set deadlines, in close liaison with all partners in the same sector.

However, this programme cannot compensate for the absence of a strategy. The Committee strongly recommends the framing of a strategy integrating R&D work on the use of agricultural and forestry resources for non-food industrial and energy purposes into all relevant Community policies (agriculture, industry, social, regional, trade, environment and energy) over the next 10 to 15 years. This strategy must generate a policy identifying, on the

basis of established criteria, priority activities and the respective roles of the Community and the Member States. The required funding must also be estimated.

In addition, the Community has a key part to play in adopting suitable measures to foster active participation by agri-forestry groups (including many small firms) in the relevant research activities, and closer cooperation between agri-forestry and industrial firms and research centres.

Efforts must also be stepped up to disseminate and make optimum use of research findings, particularly in the agricultural sector, so as to involve this sector closely in the technological innovation process which will play a part in shaping its future.

#### **Development of sectoral partnerships and framing of programming instruments**

The hearings organized by the Sub-Committee have highlighted some cases of cooperation, particularly between certain chemical industries and agricultural sectors for the purpose of pinpointing new outlets. Such cooperation must be consolidated and expanded as part of an effective agri-industrial policy tailored to pre-established joint aims.

Here the adoption of a new starch and sugar regime in 1986 mentioned in Part Two of the Opinion, is an example of the type of measure to be adopted under this policy so as to increase outlets for industrial use of agricultural and forestry products. The regime adopted has helped to sharpen the competitiveness of Community industrial users of starch and sugar, besides boosting investment.

This regime was largely due to the joint efforts of the industrial and agricultural sectors concerned. Continuation and consolidation of such cooperation is clearly essential to convince industrial users of the continuity and reliability of this new regulatory framework and to foster the creation of a lasting climate of confidence.

In the Committee's view, such cooperation should not be an isolated example but a key factor in developing all non-food industrial and energy outlets for agricultural and forestry products. It therefore recommends closer partnership in all sectors concerned so that greater account can be taken of the requirements and constraints of each partner.

Here the Community can provide vital impetus and provide a framework for regular consultations between industry and agri-forestry groups.

*A specific aid policy to encourage R&D and demonstration activities relating to agricultural and forestry production for non-food industrial and energy purposes.*

The Committee would stress that R&D and demonstration activities relating to agricultural and forestry production for non-food industrial and energy purposes may eventually provide (possibly long-term) solutions for Community agriculture. These activities must therefore be significantly stepped up.

Here provision must also be made for new contractual and other instruments to set in motion targeted experimental schemes which will serve as a practical guide for farmers, processing businesses and industrial consumers. For instance, considerable benefits could be reaped from large-scale demonstration projects, spanning a minimum five to 10 year period, designed to ensure the continuous production of agricultural raw materials and develop specific processing techniques and practical industrial uses. Throughout these experimental schemes it will be necessary to offset any additional costs involved as compared with rival traditional products.

The Committee also feels that the scale of financial and other efforts required must not be assessed solely in terms of the profits to be expected in the fairly long-term future. The cost/profit assessment must also take account of the predicted social, regional, environmental and other benefits.

Here the Committee recommends that account be taken not only of Community research funding but also of the structural Funds: ERDF, EAGGF (Guidance Section) and Social Fund.

The Committee also recommends increased funding for R&D and demonstration activities in the forestry and timber sector, which it has found to offer an extensive range of opportunities for industrial and energy uses.

The required action in the field being studied also presupposes that more careful attention is given to coordination among related R&D and demonstration activities, as well as between closely interlinked Community and national research programmes.

*This Opinion, adopted by a large majority (1 vote against) was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Sub-Committee on Research and Technology/Agricultural and Forestry Resources. The chairman was Mr Romoli (Italy — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr De Tavernier (Belgium — Various Interests) and the co-rapporteur was Mr Boddy (United Kingdom — Workers).*

## 5. DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINUING TRAINING

**Proposal for a Council Decision proposing the adoption of a Community action programme for the development of continuing vocational training (Force)  
[COM(89) 567 final]**

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

The programme comprises a common framework of general principles which the public authorities in the Member States undertake to promote and a series of transnational measures to be implemented at Community level. It covers the period from 1 July 1990 to 31 December 1993. The estimated cost, up to 1992, is ECU 88 million.

The strategy proposed in order to attain the ambitious objectives which the Community has set itself is based on a dynamic process which will proceed in three complementary directions:

- (i) solemn declaration of the right to vocational training, under the Community Charter of Fundamental Social Rights;
- (ii) adoption of a new Joint Opinion on education and training, in the context of the social dialogue at Community level;
- (iii) decision on a Community action programme.

### **Objectives of the programme**

The action programme is designed to involve all the parties concerned (firms, training bodies, the two sides of industry, public authorities) and focus their efforts on the following objectives:

Every worker in the European Community must have access to vocational training and the opportunity to continue such training throughout his or her working life. In the conditions governing access to vocational training, there shall be no discrimination based on nationality.

The competent public authorities, firms, or the two sides of industry, each within its sphere of competence, should ensure the setting-up of continuing and permanent training systems enabling every person to undergo retraining (in particular through leave for training purposes) in order to improve his/her skills or acquire new skills, especially in the light of technical developments.

### **Content of the programme**

The action programme comprises:

- (i) a common framework of general principles, which the public authorities of the Member States undertake to promote. The objective is significantly to improve access to continuing vocational training for all workers, strengthen existing provisions and ensure access for the least-qualified workers as well as guaranteed equality of treatment with regard to such access. The aim will be convergence of the activities of the Member States in this sphere;
- (ii) a series of transnational measures, to be implemented at Community level, which will seek to promote innovative partnerships with a view to encouraging investment in training; to support, by means of projects and exchanges, innovation in continuing vocational training and the transfer of innovative measures; and to ensure the monitoring and analysis of the development of training systems and skills. Such transnational measures are intended to back up and supplement the measures taken by and in the Member States.

### **Transnational measures**

With a view to providing a significant Community boost to Member States' efforts to promote continuing vocational training and to ensure a real Community value-added component to measures developed by and in the Member States, the Commission will implement the following transnational measures:

- (a) support for innovative partnerships seeking to promote investment in continuing vocational training;
- (b) support for innovation in continuing vocational training;
- (c) analysis, monitoring and assessment of measures to develop continuing vocational training and improve access to such training; forecasting of developments in terms of skills and occupations;
- (d) supplementary support measures (technical assistance and assessment of the programme).

## Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>

The Committee approves the proposed programme and stresses the importance of continuing vocational training in managing the consequences of economic and social change.

In its general comments, the Committee emphasizes the important role of the two sides of industry at all levels and the need to promote transnational projects.

The specific comments relate to the following points, in particular:

- (i) the need for precise terminology and concepts;
- (ii) access to continuing vocational training for workers from non-Community countries and the need to avoid discrimination;
- (iii) the problem of access to continuing vocational training for all interested parties and existing obstacles;
- (iv) rules governing leave of absence for training;
- (v) the 'preventive' and 'remedial' functions of continuing vocational training;
- (vi) the financing of the Community programme;
- (vii) the development of new, modern educational techniques in the context of continuing vocational training;
- (viii) the advisability of establishing a European network of business and further training bodies;
- (ix) the creation of 'additional' Community qualifications.

In conclusion, the Committee stresses that continuing vocational training is only one stage in an overall educational process. Its success thus depends on a certain minimum level of educational attainment and the acquisition of basic occupational skills during initial training. It then becomes an important means of improving employment prospects, although it cannot in itself solve all the problems of the labour market. Labour-market policy must therefore be designed to create the conditions which will allow continuing vocational training to provide genuine opportunities rather than resulting in demotivation.

*This Opinion, adopted by 112 votes for, 1 vote against and 12 abstentions, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Social, Family, Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Chairman*

<sup>1</sup> CES 378/90.

*was Mr Carroll (Ireland — Workers). The rapporteur was Mr Nierhaus (Germany — Workers).*

## 6. TRANSPORT RESEARCH PROGRAMME (EURET)

**Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a specific research and technological development programme in the field of transport (Euret)**  
[COM(89) 557 final]

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

In its Decision 85/516/Euratom, EEC, the Council adopted a framework programme of Community research and technological development (1987-91), including activities in the transport sector.

Article 130K of the Treaty also provides that the framework programme is to be implemented through specific programmes developed within each activity.

Completion of the Community-wide internal market is inconceivable without a Community transport system capable of responding to the resulting increase in demand, in both volume and qualitative terms, for all types of transport.

Against this background, research with an added Community dimension contributing towards the standardization of equipment and systems, and directed towards common objectives, is vital.

The Community must therefore frame a comprehensive transport research programme to take the place of the piecemeal, small-scale schemes of the past (e.g. the Drive programme, designed primarily to improve road safety).

Euret encompasses 11 research themes centred on three sub-programmes:

- (1) Optimum transport network exploitation
  - (i) cost-benefit and multi-criteria analysis for new road construction;
  - (ii) European rail traffic management conception;
  - (iii) design and assessment of a vessel traffic management system;
  - (iv) trials in automated air/ground data exchange for air traffic management systems in Europe;

- (v) study on the controller working position in air traffic management systems in Europe.
- (2) Optimum logistics
- (i) economic scenario and demand projections for Community freight transport;
  - (ii) economic and technical research into the transfer of goods. Demand and evaluation of rapid transfer;
  - (iii) optimization of manpower in maritime transport;
  - (iv) taking human factors into consideration in man/ship systems.
- (3) Reduction of harmful externalities
- (i) improved methods for evaluating the road safety of car and trailer trains;
  - (ii) assessment of the driving safety of possible truck and trailer combinations.

The programme is to be implemented in the shape of shared-cost research contracts, concerted actions and assessments.

Programmes are open to universities, research organizations and industrial companies, including small and medium-sized enterprises, individuals of any combination thereof established in the Community. As a rule projects must be transnational.

For shared-cost contracts, Community participation will generally be 50% of total expenditure but this percentage may be varied according to the nature and stage of development of the research. In respect of universities and research institutes carrying out projects, the Community may bear up to 100% of the additional expenditure involved.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion**<sup>1</sup>

The Committee would welcome a proposal for a comprehensive transport research programme and, indeed, believes that such a programme is overdue.

The Committee does not believe however that this proposal satisfies this requirement and is concerned that the sum involved (ECU 25 million) is clearly minute in terms of overall transport expenditure and investment and small even in relation to current

<sup>1</sup> CES 377/90.

transport research expenditure by both public and private research organizations at a Member State level. Indeed it seems strange that the funding for a comprehensive transport research programme is less than that for a specific transport-based research programme such as Drive. Further, the development of this funding appears to be almost as a residue from the current framework programme rather than as a result of a clearly defined, cohesive and strategic programme for transport research. Consequently the Committee believes the programme will be very limited in its effectiveness and is no substitute for a well thought out and developed Community transport research programme.

The ESC questions the extent to which the proposed programme has taken into account:

- (a) the future demand for transport and the consequential priorities for research;
- (b) the avoidance of duplication by the Member States in the field of transport research;
- (c) the increasing gap between infrastructure provision and demand;
- (d) safety, energy and environmental priorities.

In view of the critical comments above the Committee believes that the content and presentation of the programmes in the Annexes is unclear and insufficient. It proposes that the Commission withdraw the current proposal for redrafting and subsequent re-submission.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously less 1 abstention, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr Smith (United Kingdom — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Moreland (United Kingdom — Various Interests).*

## 7. CIVIL AVIATION — MUTUAL ACCEPTANCE OF LICENCES AND QUALIFICATIONS

**Proposal for a Council Directive concerning mutual acceptance of professional licences and qualifications for the exercise of functions in civil aviation**  
[COM(89) 472 final]

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

1. The proposed directive aims at harmonizing, on the basis of stringent criteria regarding safety and technical reliability, the rules relating to the professional qualifications of persons employed in civil aviation. It concerns all categories of civil aviation personnel, the taking up and pursuit of whose profession are governed by both national and international regulations: flying crew, as well as personnel employed in aircraft maintenance, air traffic control, flight operations and aeronautical station operations.
2. The Commission is proposing a system for the mutual recognition of qualifications validated by the Member States, provided that at the very least they meet the requirements laid down in edition 8 of Annex 1 to the Chicago Convention (Convention on International Civil Aviation). This new edition of Annex 1, which has taken effect on 16 November 1989, represents a high level of qualification which overall will lead to a genuine improvement in the situation in Europe. From the point of view of international law, it will serve as a reference and a recommendation to the contracting parties to the Chicago Convention. At Community level, its incorporation in a Directive will give it the force of Community law.
3. The present proposal for a Directive introducing procedures which will make it easier to meet the obligation of mutual acceptance by Member States of equivalent licences and qualifications obtained in other Member States of the Community should enter into force from 1 July 1990.
4. However, in order to realize for civil aviation the objectives of the Treaty of the free movement of labour it would — because of the specific characteristics in this sector — be necessary to arrive at the full recognition of licences issued by Member States. Such recognition can only be achieved if requirements and training standards in all Member States are at the same high level, since otherwise safety might be at risk. This will have to be achieved by the end of the transitional period, and at the latest by 31 December 1992, to meet the date of the completion of the internal market.

## Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>

The Committee endorses the Directive's objectives of mobility and safety and the drawing-up of minimum professional standards, and welcomes the decision to use, for the purposes of provisional recognition, and with effect from 1 July 1990, the standards laid down in Annex 1 to the Chicago Convention.

The Committee welcomes the Commission's proposal that, in the first phase, minimum conditions for the issue of licences should be aligned with the requirements laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), whilst in the second phase minimum professional requirements and training will be stipulated with regard to training in safety only.

As regards the consultation process, the Committee believes that there should be strict mechanisms for canvassing opinions. These vehicles for consultation already exist in the form of the joint and consumer advisory committees and the Member States' institutional representative bodies. By-passing these institutions or setting up *ad hoc* consultative bodies could be wasteful.

Finally, the field of application of the proposal should be clearly defined and should also include cabin crews (air hostesses and stewards).

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously less 5 abstentions, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr Smith (United Kingdom — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Velasco Mancebo (Spain — Workers).*

## 8. HIRED VEHICLES/AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIVE 84/647/EEC

**Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive  
84/647/EEC on the use of vehicles hired without  
drivers for the carriage of goods by road  
[COM(89) 430 final]**

### Gist of the Commission document

1. Directive 84/647/EEC on the use of vehicles hired without drivers for the carriage of goods by road requires the Council to re-

<sup>1</sup> CES 374/90.

examine two provisions of the Directive which allow the Member States:

- (a) to exclude own-account carriage from the scope of the Directive, and
- (b) to lay down a minimum hire period.

2. The Commission judges that the time is ripe for these two restrictive clauses to be abolished. It sees such a move as offering economic advantages both for professional operators and for consignors operating vehicles on their own account. In particular the Commission takes the view that:

- (a) very short-term vehicle hiring is particularly advantageous, *inter alia*, in coping with demand peaks, seasonal or unexpected demand and the need to replace temporarily unavailable vehicles;
- (b) the possibility of hiring vehicles for operations on their own account would discourage industrial firms which have chosen this form of transport from buying their own vehicle fleets and thereby taking work away from hauliers operating for hire or reward.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee welcomes the Commission proposal. It feels, nevertheless, that the proposal should be examined as part of a global approach to transport policy.

The Committee also feels that the Commission should re-examine the question of vehicles hired with drivers in the context of the freedom to provide transport services and with drivers' interests in mind.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr Smith (United Kingdom — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Marvier (France — Various Interests).*

<sup>1</sup> CES 375/90.

## 9. PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF ACUTE HUMAN POISONING

**Draft Council Resolution on improving the prevention and treatment of acute human poisoning**  
[COM(89) 505 final]

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

Acute human poisoning is a serious public health problem in the Community. A large number of toxic substances circulate freely, and the completion of the internal market can only increase this.

The poison centres of one country are not necessarily able to identify the toxic substances contained in preparations from another Member State.

A Commission survey of the functioning of poison centres in the Community revealed disparities in data collection and the availability of antidotes. The Commission therefore feels that harmonization measures are needed. These will pay special attention to border areas, where trade and the need for information are greater.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee notes the manifold differences in the toxicological infrastructure in Member States.

To ensure that the Resolution is effective, it is essential to expand (1) cooperation with the World Health Organization and (2) contacts with countries of the European Free Trade Association and Central and Eastern Europe.

Member States should ensure that adequate funds are available to develop the necessary toxicological surveillance and prevention infrastructure, and establish effective arrangements for the supply of antidotes.

Encouragement should be given to the compilation of a database for poison control centres indicating both natural poisons and commercially available chemical poisons. Parallel to the existing system of compulsory labelling for dangerous preparations, a system

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<sup>1</sup> CES 368/90.

should be set up to inform the public directly of the risks and action to be taken in the event of poisoning.

Finally, it is vital to promote consumer education and information even in schools and to give adequate publicity to poison control centres.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs. The Chairman was Mr Jaschick (Germany — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Gomez Martinez (Spain — Workers).*

## 10. SALMONIDS

**Proposal for a Council Decision introducing a Community financial measure for the eradication of infectious haemopoietic necrosis of salmonids in the Community**

[COM(89) 502 final]

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

The aim is to determine the infection rate in the Community by organizing an epidemiological enquiry. The results will enable the Commission to assess the situation and, if necessary, propose measures for elimination from Community territory of a disease which is a constant threat to the productivity of the Community fisheries sector.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee endorses the Commission proposal, and stresses the importance of this measure given the existing lack of information about the extent and seriousness of IHN within the Community.

Alongside a few specific comments, the Committee voices the general reservation that some Member States may have insufficient resources available at national level to ensure that the survey is sufficiently comprehensive for its results to be meaningful.

<sup>1</sup> CES 369/90.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr da Silva (Portugal — Workers).*

## 11. PREVENTION OF PATHOGENS IN ANIMAL FEEDSTUFFS

**Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down the veterinary rules for the disposal and processing of animal waste, for its placing on the market and for the prevention of pathogens in feedstuffs**  
[COM(89) 509 final]

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

The aim is to harmonize the rules for disposal of cadavers, slaughter by-products and other animal waste in order to prevent the spread of pathogens in the environment.

The Commission proposes that the Member States set up a system of collection and sterilization — which most of them already operate — for the destruction of animal waste. However, burning or burial will be allowed where this manner of disposal is preferred for practical reasons.

The door is thus left open for the profitable utilization of animal waste while at the same time ensuring that human and animal health is protected.

It will be possible to lay down derogations, in particular to take into account new technological developments.

Finally, rules are laid down for feedstuffs in order to reduce the spread of pathogens in the animal production chain. Manufacturers of feedstuffs are to control production in accordance with rules laid down in directives for the hygienic production of feedstuffs.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee welcomes the proposal. It assumes that the proposed criteria are of a high standard and will thus ensure adequate consumer protection.

<sup>1</sup> CES 370/90.

The ESC considers that the safety provisions for plantworkers must also be harmonized. This is in the interest of both the workers and the undertakings.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Wick (Germany — Employers).*

## 12. GAME MEAT/RABBIT MEAT

### **Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) concerning game meat and rabbit meat [COM(89) 496 final]**

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

The aim of the proposal is to harmonize the health rules for rabbit and game meat. This harmonization is necessary for the following reasons:

- (i) to have a uniform health guarantee throughout the Community in order to ensure both free circulation of all goods and a high level of protection of animal and public health;
- (ii) to reduce the distortion of competition between producers established in different countries of the Community;
- (iii) to combat the infectious diseases present in wild life that could be transmitted to domesticated animals.

The general and specific measures proposed are as follows:

- (i) environmental control of infectious and parasitic diseases of game animals and rabbits;
- (ii) rules for veterinary inspection of game meat and rabbit meat;
- (iii) hygiene rules for processing of game meat and rabbit meat;
- (iv) conditions to be imposed on equipment of establishments producing game meat and rabbit meat, in order to ensure hygienic operation.

It should be stressed that the Commission will shortly present the health rules applicable to meat products prepared with game meat and rabbit meat, the health rules on their importation from third countries and the rules on detection of residues in farmed game meat and meat of domestic rabbits.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee is of the opinion that it would be more realistic to differentiate more between wild and farmed game. It believes that the following principles would be more practicable and acceptable:

- (a) all game for intra-Community trade must comply with the appropriate red and white meat hygiene rules and be health marked;
- (b) there should be a derogation to allow Member States to permit the sale of traditional hung and handled rabbits, hares and birds which have been shot in the wild;
- (c) the carcasses of wild shot deer which have been eviscerated in the field should be inspected secondarily in the game larder, and not allowed to go into intra-Community trade.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Murphy (Ireland — Workers).*

### **13. IMPORT OF FRESH POULTRYMEAT AND GAME BIRDS**

**Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade and imports from third countries of fresh poultrymeat and fresh meat of reared game birds**  
[COM(89) 507 final]

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

The proposal provides, first, for harmonization of the rules governing the animal health aspects of intra-Community trade in fresh poultrymeat and fresh meat of reared game birds, and, secondly, for Community arrangements in respect of imports from third countries.

With regard to the first objective, the proposal sets out requirements which will encourage intra-Community trade, whilst preventing the spread of contagious diseases. More specifically, fresh meat from an area which is the subject of a ban imposed on

<sup>1</sup> CES 371/90.

grounds of animal health protection will not qualify for the health mark specified in the Community rules.

With regard to the second objective, a number of animal health standards are laid down which will apply to third countries from which fresh poultrymeat and fresh meat of reared game birds may be imported into the Community.

The new measures will apply from 1 November 1990. This is advisable in view of the need to introduce harmonized control measures against contagious diseases — Newcastle disease in particular — which affect poultry. These will shortly be presented by the Commission.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee fully appreciates the Commission initiatives which aim to facilitate intra-Community trade while at the same time assuring a high and adequate level of safeguards and protection of public health and animal health.

It would, however, be imprudent to attempt to prepare an Opinion on this proposal for a Regulation until the impact of the unpublished proposals for control measures on Newcastle disease in the proposed Regulation can be assessed.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Murphy (Ireland — Workers).*

## **14. PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN**

**Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down general health rules for the production and placing on the market of products of animal origin and specific health rules for certain products of animal origin**  
[COM(89) 492 final]

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

The Proposal lays down general principles applicable to all products of animal origin for human consumption, which should be

<sup>1</sup> CES 372/90.

respected in order to protect public health. Besides these principles which should be met during production and marketing, specific rules are proposed concerning hygienic production of products of animal origin which will not be covered by specific Community rules on particular products (in particular: products other than fresh meat, poultrymeat, meat products, heat-treated milk, egg products, fish and fish products, game and dairy products).

To emphasize the responsibility of manufacturers, they are to be obliged to apply the principles of hazard analysis of critical control points (HACCP) and to carry out tests to ensure production under controlled conditions in order to avoid public health problems caused, for example, by insufficient heating or recontamination.

Procedures are to be laid down for close cooperation between manufacturers and competent authorities on the one hand, and between the Member States and the Commission on the other, particularly in the event of serious threats to public health.

Consignments which are considered a public health risk must be withdrawn from the market, and measures taken to eliminate the source of the risk. In the case of marketing in another Member State the consignments concerned should be withdrawn in close cooperation between the competent authorities in the Member States of production and destination. Rules would be established by the Commission after an opinion has been obtained from the Standing Veterinary Committee (Regulatory Committee formula).

Procedures are also proposed for coordinating action at Community level when serious health problems associated with products of animal origin (e.g. environmental pollution leading to the heavy contamination of such products) occur in certain parts of the Community. After notification of the problem to the Commission, it may be decided at Community level (possibly after on-the-spot inspection by Commission representatives) that the measures taken by the relevant authority in respect of animal products should be amended for health reasons. This system should replace measures which might currently be taken by the Member States of destination. In exceptionally serious circumstances, and in particular if the Member State concerned finds it impossible to apply the measures required, the Commission may authorize other Member States to take appropriate measures on their own behalf.

The list of serious health problems to which the new system would apply should be established by the Commission.

In order to encourage hygienic production it is also proposed that the Commission be empowered to establish guidelines which will be additional to the legal requirements, to help industry and trade to ensure the safety of products of animal origin.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion**<sup>1</sup>

The Committee supports the proposal in principle, but feels that certain changes are needed because:

- (i) the proposal is incomplete: no list is provided of products covered or not covered;
- (ii) the proposal cuts across and is in parts incompatible with the Directives on the official control of feedstuffs and on indications or marks identifying the lot to which a foodstuff belongs;
- (iii) there is no requirement for educating farmers, managers and operatives in hygienic practices.

The Committee therefore wishes the proposal to be delayed.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Gardner (United Kingdom — Employers).*

<sup>1</sup> CES 373/90.

## **Representation and impact of the Economic and Social Committee**

### **Official visit to Ireland from 6 to 10 March**

A delegation from the Economic and Social Committee, comprising Mr Alberto Masprone, Chairman, Mr Thomas Jenkins and Mr Hovgaard Jakobsen, Vice-Chairmen of the Committee, and Mr Jacques Moreau, Secretary-General, paid an official visit to Ireland.

The delegation was received by Dr P. J. Hillery, President of Ireland, Mr Charles Haughey, Taoiseach (Prime Minister), Mr Gerard Collins, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr A. Reynolds, Minister for Finance, Mr M. Woods, Minister for Social Welfare, Mr B. Ahern, Minister for Labour, and Mr J. Walsh, Minister of State.

The visit included meetings with leading figures from the Confederation of Irish Industry, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, the Federation of Irish Employers and the Chambers of Commerce. Discussions were also held with the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA), the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers' Association (ICMSA), the Young Farmers' Association (Macra Na Feirme), the Rural Community Development Association (Muintir na Tire) and the Irish Countrywomen's Association.

The delegation also met the Oireachtas (House of Representatives and Senate) Joint Committee and Secondary Legislation and the National Economic and Social Council.

### **Official engagements of the Chairman and the Secretary-General of the Committee**

1 March, discussions with Commissioner Mac Sharry

2 March, AIP conference (Associação Industrial Portuguesa — Portuguese Industrial Association), followed by discussions with the Portuguese Prime Minister, Mr Annibal Cavaco Silva.



*From left to right: Mr Masprone, Committee Chairman, talking to Mr Gerry Collins, Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, during the official visit of the Irish Presidency.*

2 March, speech by Mr Moreau at a seminar organized by the 'Stratégie et Avenir' (Strategy and Future) Association, attended by business and trade union leaders (Saint Dizier — France).

2 March, reception hosted by the bureau of the Champagne-Ardennes Economic and Social Council (Chalons-sur-Marne region).

8 March, lunch given by the EC Commission to a delegation from the Languedoc-Roussillon Economic and Social Committee (France).

9 March, meeting of the Secretaries-General of the Community institutions.

12 March, meeting with representatives of the Italian Construction Industry Association.

19 March, discussions with Mr Di Roberto, Permanent Representative of Italy to the EC, Ambassador extraordinary.

20 March, reception hosted by the Federation of Austrian Industry.

21 March, reception hosted by the Région Centre Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Orléans)

21 March, discussions with Mrs Janine Goetschy, research officer with the Confédération nationale de Recherches scientifiques (National Confederation for Scientific Research), commissioned by the French Ministry for Research and Technology to draft a report on links between occupational sectors in Europe.

22 March, Eurelectric seminar on The Electricity Industry and the Internal Energy Market.

28 March, discussions with a delegation from CNEL (Consiglio nazionale dell'economia e del lavoro — National Economic and Employment Council).

28 March, meeting with Mr Piehl, Director at Cedefop (European Centre for Development of Vocational Training).

28 March, discussions with Commissioner Papandreou.

30 March, meeting with a delegation from the Midi-Pyrénées (France) Economic and Social Committee.

30 March, General Assembly of the European Secretariat for the Liberal Professions.

30 March, ceremony to mark the signing of the Charter for Cooperation between Savings Banks.

## Visits

The following organizations visited the Economic and Social Committee in March:

- 5 March: Deux-Sèvres (Administrative district' France)
- 6 March: Wirtschaftsunioren Saarland (Young businessmen and managers from Saarland) (FRG)
- 7 March: Languedoc-Roussillon Economic and Social Council (France)
- 7 March: Barcelona University (Spain)
- 8 March: INRAP — Institut national de recherches et d'applications pédagogiques (National Institute for Research and Applied Education Techniques) — Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry (Group of teachers and archivists in agriculture education) (France)
- 8 March: French Ministry of Youth and Sports (senior civil servants)
- 9 March: Greenhill College (United Kingdom)
- 12 March: 'Nicolas Bremonnier' technical and vocational schools (France)
- 13 March: University of Essex (United Kingdom)
- 14 March: Enfield College (United Kingdom)
- 14 March: Bernom College of Higher Commercial Studies (France)
- 15 March: Handelshøjskole Syd — Southern Denmark Business School (Denmark)
- 15 March: SJVD (Denmark)
- 15 March: Harvard Fellows (United Kingdom)
- 16 March: Socialdemokratiet — Lejre (Denmark)

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- 19 March: French General Association for 'retraites par répartition' (AGRR) (proportional pension scheme)
- 19 March: Hogeschool West-Brabant (Faculty of economics/administrative studies) (Netherlands)
- 20 March: King's College London — University of London (United Kingdom)
- 20 March: United World College of the Adriatic (Italy)
- 20 March: Ile-de-France — Agricultural mutual benefit association (France)
- 21 March: Interprofessional national union for employment in industry and commerce (Unedic) (France)
- 21 March: The London School of Economics and Political Science — University of London (United Kingdom)
- 21 March: Diputación foral de Bizkaia (Spain)
- 22 March: Cambridge Regional College (United Kingdom)
- 22 March: Institut für Bergbauwissenschaften der Technischen Universität Berlin (Institute for mining technology — Technical University of Berlin) (FRG)
- 23 March: Witten Savings Bank (FRG)
- 23 March: Bildungsdienst und Sozialwerk des DBB (Training and Welfare Service of the German civil servants' trade union) (FRG)
- 26 March: South Tyneside College (Economic Studies) (United Kingdom)
- 26 March: Oxford Polytechnic School of Planning (United Kingdom)
- 28 and:  
29 March: CNEL (Consiglio nazionale dell'economia e del lavoro) (National Economic and Employment Council) (Italy)
- 30 March: Quaker Council for European Affairs (Belgium)
- 30 March: EDF/GDF (French Electricity and Gas Companies) (France)
- 30 March: Dundee University (United Kingdom)

# Provisional future work programme

## April Plenary Session

### OPINIONS

#### *Section for Social Affairs*

European Foundation for Training  
[COM(90) 15 final/3]

Tempus (Trans-European mobility programme for university studies)  
[COM(90) 16 final/2]

#### *Environment Section*

Import of certain furs  
[COM(89) 198 final]

Municipal waste water treatment  
[COM(89) 518 final]

Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances (11th amendment)  
[COM(89) 665 final — SYN 239]

#### *Industry Section*

Approximation of laws relating to machinery  
[COM(89) 624 final — SYN 233]

Simple pressure vessels  
[COM(89) 636 final — SYN 232]

Electrically operated lifts  
[COM(89) 638 final — SYN 234]

#### *Energy Section*

Euratom health protection — radioactive waste shipment  
[COM(89) 559 final]

Development of a Eurotra system  
[COM(89) 603 final]

*Section for Agriculture*

Organic production of agricultural products  
[COM(89) 552 final]

Expenditure in the veterinary field  
[COM(89) 666 final]

**OWN-INITIATIVE OPINIONS***Agriculture Section*

Melted animal fat, greaves and rendering by-products (Additional Opinion)

*External Relations Section*

EC Mediterranean Policy (Additional Opinion)

**INFORMATION REPORT***External Relations Section*

GATT/Uruguay-Round

**May Plenary Session****OPINIONS***Environment Section*

Discharge of dangerous substances into the aquatic environment  
[COM(90) 9 final]

Medicinal products for human use

– Legal status for supply of medicinal products  
[COM(89) 607 final – SYN 230]

– Labelling of medicinal products and package leaflets  
[COM(89) 607 final – SYN 231]

*Industry Section*

Art. 85 (3) exemptions in the insurance sector  
[COM(89) 641 final]

Medicinal products for human use

– Wholesale distribution  
[COM(89) 607 final – SYN 229]

Air pollution by motor vehicle emissions  
[COM(89) 662 final – SYN 240]

Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres  
[COM(89) 13 final – SYN 243]

In order to encourage hygienic production it is also proposed that the Commission be empowered to establish guidelines which will be additional to the legal requirements, to help industry and trade to ensure the safety of products of animal origin.

### **Gist of the Committee Opinion <sup>1</sup>**

The Committee supports the proposal in principle, but feels that certain changes are needed because:

- (i) the proposal is incomplete: no list is provided of products covered or not covered;
- (ii) the proposal cuts across and is in parts incompatible with the Directives on the official control of feedstuffs and on indications or marks identifying the lot to which a foodstuff belongs;
- (iii) there is no requirement for educating farmers, managers and operatives in hygienic practices.

The Committee therefore wishes the proposal to be delayed.

*This Opinion, adopted unanimously, was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture and Fisheries. The Chairman was Mr Laur (France — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Gardner (United Kingdom — Employers).*

<sup>1</sup> CES 373/90.

*External Relations Section*

EC/EFTA relations

**July Plenary Session****OPINIONS***Economic and Financial Section*

Excise duties

[COM(89) 551-525-526-527 final]

*Social Section*

Social developments in 1989

*Environment Section*Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances —  
7th amendment 64/548

[COM(89) 575 final — SYN 227]

Minced and comminuted meat

[COM(89) 671 final]

*Industry Section*

Social economy

[SEC(89) 2187]

Motor vehicle glazing dimensions pneumatic tyres

[COM(89) 653 final — SYN 236, 237, 238]

*Transport Section*

Member States' relations with railways: public service

[COM(89) 564 final]

Air transport — Relations with third countries

[COM(90) 17 final]

Operation of air cargo services

[COM(90) 63 final]

Road haulage

[COM(90) 64 final]

**OWN-INITIATIVE WORK***Economic and Financial Section*

Economic situation mid-1990

*External Relations Section*

Final phase of the GATT/Uruguay Round negotiations

**INFORMATION REPORT**

EC relations with the countries of Eastern Europe

**September Plenary Session****OPINIONS***Agriculture Section*

Live bivalve molluscs  
[COM(89) 648 final]

Placing on the market of fresh meat  
[COM(89) 673 final]

Placing on the market of fresh poultrymeat  
[COM(89) 668 final]

Placing on the market of fishery products  
[COM(89) 645 final]

Placing on the market of raw milk and milk-based products  
[COM(89) 667 final]

Placing on the market of products of animal origin  
[COM(89) 670 final]

Placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products  
[COM(89) 655 final]

Meat-based products  
[COM(89) 669 final]

**OWN-INITIATIVE WORK***Economic and Financial Section*

13th Council Directive on company law concerning takeover and other general bids (Additional Opinion)

*Environment Section*

Environmental policy — a fundamental aspect of economic and social development (Additional Opinion)

*Agriculture Section*

Use of agricultural products for non-food purposes (Additional Opinion)

*Section for Agriculture*

Organic production of agricultural products  
[COM(89) 552 final]

Expenditure in the veterinary field  
[COM(89) 666 final]

**OWN-INITIATIVE OPINIONS***Agriculture Section*

Melted animal fat, greaves and rendering by-products (Additional Opinion)

*External Relations Section*

EC Mediterranean Policy (Additional Opinion)

**INFORMATION REPORT***External Relations Section*

GATT/Uruguay-Round

**May Plenary Session****OPINIONS***Environment Section*

Discharge of dangerous substances into the aquatic environment  
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[COM(89) 662 final — SYN 240]

Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres  
[COM(89) 13 final — SYN 243]

## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AND BROCHURES

### Available from the ESC

#### *General documentation*

The other European Assembly (CES 89-003)  
Leaflet on the ESC

#### *Opinions and studies*

Europe and the new technologies (1986) (ESC 89-004)  
Disadvantaged island regions (July 1988) (ESC 88-009)  
Basic Community social rights (Opinion) (February 1989)  
Horizon 1992: The ESC supports the removal of fiscal frontiers (July 1988)  
(eight Opinions)  
Target date 1992: The ESC supports 'the new-frontier Europe' (June 1988)  
(seven Opinions) (ESC 88-010)

### Available from Gower Publishing Co. Ltd, 1 Westmead, Farnborough, Hants GU1 47RU

Community Advisory Committee for the Representation of Socio-Economic  
Interests (UKL 8.50)  
European interest groups and their relationship to the Economic and Social  
Committee (UKL 25)

### Available from Delta Publications, rue Scailquin 55, 1030 Brussels

The economic and social interest groups of Portugal (BFR 350)  
Action by the European Community through its financial instruments  
(Brussels, 1979) (BFR 425)  
The economic and social interest groups of Greece (BFR 350)  
The right of initiative of the ESC (BFR 400)

### Available from Kogan Page Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1

Directory of European agricultural organizations (UKL 39)

### Available from the EC Publications Office

Bulletin (monthly) (per issue: ECU 4.25; annual subscription: ECU 30.50)  
Annual Report 1988 (ECU 8.50)  
Effects of the CAP on the social situation of farmworkers in the European  
Community (Brussels, 1987) (ECU 3.40)  
European environment policy: air, water, waste management (Brussels,  
1987) (ECU 3.50)  
Community rail policy (ECU 7.40)  
EEC maritime transport policy (Brussels, June 1986) (ECU 3.40)  
EEC air transport policy (October 1985) (ECU 5.50)  
GATT — towards a new round (Opinion) (Brussels, 1986) (ECU 2.20)  
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