

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

BULLETIN

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Brussels - No 1/1987

The Bulletin reports every month (10 issues yearly) on the activities of the Economic and Social Committee, a Community consultative body. It is edited by the Secretariat-General of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities (2 rue Ravenstein, B-1000 Brussels) in the official Community languages.

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Catalogue number: ESC 87-005-EN

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1987

Catalogue number: EX-AA-87-001-EN-C

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Printed in Belgium

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243rd Plenary Session

The Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities held its 243rd Plenary Session at its headquarters in Brussels on 28/29 January 1987. The meeting was presided over by the Chairman, Mr Fons Margot.

This session was attended by Mr Leo Tindemans, Belgian Minister for External Relations and President-in-Office of the Council, who presented the programme of the Belgian Presidency.

Summary of statement by Mr Margot, ESC Chairman

In his introductory address to the ESC Chairman, Mr Fons Margot, stressed the importance of recent events.

‘There was first of all the realignment of parities made necessary by the fall in the value of the dollar. Apart from the impact of this realignment on relative competitiveness — which it has been possible to minimize — the trend in the dollar is threatening to complicate the forthcoming GATT negotiations.

In this context I should like to draw attention to the Committee’s Opinion of 22 May 1986 on the coming GATT negotiations, in which we stressed *inter alia* the connection between the commercial and the monetary aspects and called for the GATT negotiations to be backed up with efforts to achieve greater monetary stability.

It is not without some concern that we have followed the discussions between the EC Commission and the US administration on the sanctions which the USA felt it necessary to impose as a result of the impact of Spanish and Portuguese accession on American agricultural exports. Without wishing to make any comment at this juncture on the compromise needed to prevent the looming trade war, I hope that, as the Committee urged in its Opinion of 18 September 1986 on the Community’s relations with the USA and Japan, the EC will be recognized as a fully-fledged partner in the discussions’.

In conclusion the Chairman expressed the wish that:

‘Our relations, not only with the USA but other countries as well, will form the subject of an ongoing dialogue based on objective information and mutual understanding’.



Mr Tindemans, currently President of the Council, attended the Committee's Plenary Session. He is seen here (on the right) with Mr Margot, the Committee's Chairman.

Excerpts from statement by Mr Tindemans, Council President-in-Office

Mr Tindemans said that the Belgian Presidency would work relentlessly to combat unemployment and to get the economy back into top gear.

Belgium did not see the Community as a mere free trade area but as a close-knit economic, and in the future political, entity.

The Belgian Presidency would give top priority to implementing the European Act, and in particular the new provisions on cooperation with the European Parliament, improved decision-making at the Council with the wider use of qualified majority voting and more managerial and executive powers for the Commission.

The second major plank in the Belgian programme would be what President Delors had colourfully described as the Community's *rendez-vous* with itself, i.e. its own resources or funding arrangements, the common agricultural policy and the structural funds.

Unemployment would be the major item on the social policy front. The solution lay in the strategy for growth and employment which the Committee had endorsed. Belgium would therefore support social dialogue and Commission lobbying of national governments and the social partners on this area. Belgium would also home in on the Commission's concrete proposals and exploit every opportunity to promote consensus. Without a rapid rethink on behaviour and policies, the Community would still be plagued with double-figure unemployment in 1990. This was unthinkable.

Social dialogue would also receive attention at Community level.

In conclusion Mr Tindemans listed the main planks of the Belgian Presidency's strategy on employment:

- (i) promotion of new businesses;
- (ii) greater labour market efficiency;
- (iii) training for young and adult workers;
- (iv) effective measures to combat long-term unemployment.

Attention would also be given to improving working and living conditions, to ironing out the social security problems of migrant workers, to funding problems, demographic trends and the new poor.

Debate

During the debate, members of the Committee expounded to Mr Tindemans, and through him to the Council, the aspirations and anxieties of the various interest groups.

Mr Ceyrac (France — Employers) was disappointed about the lack of attention given to the Committee in the cooperation procedure established under the Single European Act.

Mr Staedelin (France — Chairman of the Workers Group) observed that the trade unions had given their support to the completion of the internal market provided this was not confined to goods but became also a genuine 'social area'. There could be no social dialogue without the social partners and the support of European legislation was needed for this.

Mr de Tavernier (Belgium — Various Interests) drew attention to the problems of farmers and the need for an adequate reform of the CAP.

Mr Aparicio Bravo (Spain — Employers) stressed the importance of the Single European Act and the completion of the internal market, and Mr Arets (Belgium — Employers) cited the employment agreements between the social partners in Belgium as an example for Europe.

Mrs Rangoni-Macchiavelli (Italy — Various Interests) stated that for the construction of Europe it was essential to listen to the voice of consumers.

The positive effect on employment resulting from the development of small and medium-sized enterprises was stressed by Mr Goris (The Netherlands — Various Interests), who asked the Council for positive support for this type of firm.

Mr Houthuys (Belgium — Workers) suggested that the strategic cooperation process include tripartite meetings (employers — workers — government). Mr Vanden Broucke (Belgium — Workers) said that the outcome of the strategy — labour-market flexibility, introduction of new technologies — often had an adverse effect on workers and should be offset by social measures such as training and the 35-hour week.

Mr Romoli (Italy — Employers) voiced the Committee's disappointment with the refusal of the Council to free the proposed funds for the Community outline technological R&D programme.

Mr Moreland (United Kingdom — Employers) called for prompt, firm action leading to establishment of an air transport policy.

Mr Briganti (Italy — Various Interests) said that the Council should take account of the problems not only of the ACP countries but also of the Latin America and Mediterranean countries. The enormous debts which had been run up by a number of Third World countries were of concern to the Community.

ADOPTION OF OPINIONS

1. SPRINT

'Proposal for a Council Decision modifying Council Decision 83/624/EEC concerning a plan for the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer (Sprint)' (COM(86) 483 final)

Gist of the Commission document

The present proposal constitutes an extension and a revision of the Plan for the Transnational Development of the Supporting Infrastructure for Innovation and Technology Transfer (Council Decision 83/624), on which the Committee already adopted an Opinion in 1983.¹

The Commission proposes to:

- (a) extend the plan for a period of two years until the end of 1988;
- (b) revise the amount deemed necessary for the implementation of the plan by increasing it to 21 m ECU to take into account the enlargement of the Community, the two-year extension period and the updating of the priorities of the programme;
- (c) revise the title so that the plan should now be known as the Strategic Programme for Innovation and Technology Transfer — definition phase or Sprint;
- (d) update the list of priority actions by adding four new actions and eliminating one.

The Commission, moreover, has attached an explanatory Communication to its proposal for a decision explaining the reasons for the envisaged extension and revision, and in the same document submits its second annual progress report on the working of the plan since 1983.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion²

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted this Opinion. The Committee strongly endorses the aim of the Sprint programme (Strategic Programme for Innovation and Technology Transfer) and feels that the programme is a wholly justified case of Community intervention in an area of proven additionality respecting the principle of avoiding interference in what the Member States should and must do for themselves in their own interest.

¹ OJ C 33 of 7 February 1983.

² CES 92/87.

It feels however that the Sprint programme is important enough to warrant proposals of a wider nature as soon as is practicable, not least in view of the campaign to achieve an internal market by 1992, and that the level of funding therefore should become more ambitious.

The Committee considers it essential that the working parties within the Sprint programme, which have been set up to encourage the exchange of information and experience between the Member States and the Commission, should include representatives of small or medium companies involved in innovation and technology transfer.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, chaired by Mr Kazazis (Greece — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr de Normann (United Kingdom — Employers).

2. AMENDMENT SIXTH VAT DIRECTIVE

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 77/388/EEC on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes in respect of the common value-added-tax scheme applicable to small and medium-sized businesses' (COM(86) 444 final)

Gist of the Commission document

Article 24(8) of the sixth VAT Directive stipulates that at four-yearly intervals, starting on 1 January 1982, and after consultation of the Member States, the Commission shall report to the Council on the application of the provisions of this article concerning the special VAT scheme applicable to small and medium-sized businesses.

The Commission attaches to this report, where necessary, proposals for improving the special scheme for small businesses, for adapting national systems as regards exemptions and graduated VAT relief, and for adapting the limit of 5 000 ECU mentioned in paragraph 2(a) of Article 24.

Having submitted such a report, the Commission is currently proposing an amendment of Article 24 of the sixth VAT Directive (Directive 77/388/EEC of 17 May 1977, OJ L 145 of 13 June 1977).

The Commission's proposal comprises two parts. The first deals with problems concerning the exemption limit and the second with the special scheme for small businesses.

The aim of the proposal is to make management easier both for administrations and for taxable persons, and to facilitate control and collec-

tion of the tax, whilst preserving the economic neutrality of the specific schemes for small businesses.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion with no votes against and one abstention. While welcoming the Commission proposal in principle the Community considers that it is not a suitable instrument for attaining the goal envisaged.

The Committee thinks that the Member States ought to be given a freer hand in taxing small and medium-sized businesses. This would enable each Member State to take account of these businesses' specific situations.

In addition, the Commission feels that the distortions of competition between Member States are not a reason for standardizing the rules applicable to businesses with a turnover of less than 35 000 ECU, because businesses of this size play an insignificant part in cross-frontier trade in goods and services.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Economic, Financial and Monetary Questions, chaired by Mr Goris (Netherlands — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Broicher (Germany — Employers).

3. WINE

'Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) on the common organization of the market in wine' (COM(86) 460 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

In 1981, the Council granted money for research into the common organization of the wine market for the period 1982-85, at the end of which the Commission was to draw up a report to enable the Council to decide on what measures should be taken. The aim of the research was to find new market outlets for vine products. It was found, in particular, that grape must was ideally suited for feeding to sheep and cattle. The Commission is therefore proposing that the Council grant aid for concentrated musts used in animal feed. This aid will not exceed that given to wine intended for preventive distillation, so the budgetary

¹ CES 95/87.

effect of the move should be neutral. In addition, the aid should not create distortions of competition with products traditionally used in animal feed nor lead to an artificial increase in the Community's wine potential due to the over-production of grape must solely for feeding to animals. For this reason, the Commission is proposing that a limit be placed on the total volume of grape must intended as animal feed.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion by a large majority with one vote against. The Committee welcomes the proposal, which is a further attempt to curtail distillation by promoting a new market outlet for grape musts.

The Committee wonders whether this outlet is really important since it is still at the experimental stage. The Committee believes that the natural target for wine-producing is wine. The wine market can be improved in particular by genuine discipline as regards production, a campaign against adulteration and steps to lower taxes and excise duties which are discouraging wine consumption in some Member States.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture, chaired by Mr Lopez de la Puerta (Spain — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Yverneau (France — Various Interests).

4. SWINE FEVER

'Proposal for a Council Decision introducing supplementary Community financial measures for the eradication of classical swine fever'

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 80/1095/EEC laying down conditions designed to render and keep the territory of the Community free from classical swine fever'

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 80/217/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever'

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 72/461/EEC as regards certain measures relating to swine fever' (COM(86) 555 final)

¹ CES 94/87.

Gist of the Commission proposal

The efforts made by all Member States in recent years, especially 1983 and 1984, have brought the situation back under control and reduced the incidence of classical swine fever to a level which augurs well for future eradication measures. In addition, one consequence of the establishment of vaccination zones in areas where pig production is densest has been that movements of animals and their holdings have been subject to stringent controls. It is essential that the benefits of these efforts and experience should not be lost. They should be used as a basis for successfully eradicating swine fever from the Community and achieving the objectives set in 1980 under a five-year supplementary scheme.

The Commission therefore considers that current measures must be considerably reinforced and steps taken to revert to a normal situation with no more emergency vaccination, while maintaining controls over animal movements and extending certain restrictions on domestic trade in potentially contaminated meat from virus-carrying stock without clinical symptoms. Measures must be based on extensive tests to detect virus carriers in areas still under threat. Finally, in view of the improvement in the situation in those Member States where the disease has been eradicated, steps should be taken to allow them to enjoy the safeguards hitherto granted to Denmark, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion unanimously. The Committee endorses the proposed extension of the programme to rid the Community of classical swine fever in order to align the animal health situation in the Community. This will promote intra-Community trade and boost exports of pigs and pigmeat to non-EC countries.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture, chaired by Mr Lopez de la Puerta (Spain — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Wick (Germany — Employers).

¹ CES 91/87.

5. FRESH MEAT/FEES

'Proposal for a Council Directive laying down the health rules for fresh meat and the level of the fees to be charged in respect of such meat pursuant to Directive No 85/73/EEC' (COM(86) 576 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission takes the view that if consumers are to be guaranteed a high level of health protection, producers are to be able to work under uniform health rules and existing distortions of competition are to be reduced, the principle of uniformity between meat produced for the domestic market and meat intended for intra-Community trade has to be extended to cover the provisions governing the *ante* and *post mortem* health inspection of slaughter animals. Such a move is also necessary to enable checks for residues and hormones to be carried out in a satisfactory manner. Consequently the same minimum level of inspection fees should be fixed for both meat produced for the domestic market and meat intended for intra-Community trade.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted this Opinion and approves the Commission's proposal. It would like to see a high uniform level of consumer protection established in both intra-Community trade and trade on the Member States' domestic markets.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Agriculture, chaired by Mr Lopez de la Puerta (Spain — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Wick (Germany — Employers).

6. TOWER CRANES

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 84/534/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound power level of tower cranes' (COM(86) 491 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

The purpose of the proposed Council Directive is to amend Directive 84/534/EEC so as to back up the level for sound power in the environment set in 1984 (which has remained unchanged) by the introduction of

¹ CES 90/87 final.

provisions on the permissible sound power level at the operator's position, as well as determining a method for measuring this level.

The Commission proposal mainly relates to Article 1 (scope) and Article 3 (level and label), besides adding an Annex Ia which specifies the measuring method on the basis of Annex II to Directive 79/113/EEC.

The Commission's intention is to reduce the proposed sound power level after a period of five years. This period should enable manufacturers to make allowance for the lower level and, if required, modify their tower crane design.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion unanimously. The Committee is in agreement with the Commission's approach but asks the Commission to specify that the field of application of the amending Directive concerns tower cranes with an operator's position fixed to the structure of the tower crane, and not for example, remote control operated tower cranes.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, chaired by Mr Kazazis (Greece — Employers). The rapporteur was Mr Pearson (Ireland — Employers).

7. INTERNATIONAL ACCESS TO THE COURTS

'Proposal for a Council Recommendation relating to ratification by Member States of the Convention of 25 October 1980 designed to facilitate international access to the courts' (COM(86) 610 final)

Gist of the Commission proposal

This is a proposal for a Council Recommendation calling on those Member States which have not signed and ratified the 1980 Hague Convention to facilitate international access to the courts to do so.

This will:

- (i) help bring about the 'People's Europe';
- (ii) facilitate tourism.

¹ CES 98/87.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion¹

The Committee approves the Commission's proposal. It considers, however, that the Commission should:

- (i) try and get the Member States to adhere to the Hague Convention in a 'uniform' manner (i.e. without variations in reservations);
- (ii) encourage non-Member States to adhere to the Convention;
- (iii) establish a deadline date for adhesion to the Convention, which if not observed should be followed by the introduction of an alternative juridical instrument.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for the Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs, chaired by Mr Jaschick (Germany — Various Interests). The rapporteur was Mr Lancastre (Portugal — Employers).

8. ERASMUS

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting the European Community action scheme for the mobility of university students (Erasmus)' (COM(86) 756 final/2)

Commission proposal

The proposal was previously submitted to the Committee on 23 April 1986 and was unanimously endorsed.²

The Erasmus programme was discussed in Council, whereupon the Commission withdrew its proposal and subsequently resubmitted it in its original form, in view of the general approval expressed at the London Summit of 5-6 December 1986.

Gist of the Committee's Opinion³

The Economic and Social Committee adopted this Opinion unanimously. The Committee reaffirms its support, in precisely the same terms as set out in the previous Opinion, for the Erasmus proposal on promoting student mobility throughout the European Community, recognizing the flexible nature and effectiveness of the programme which directs the major proportion of funds to non-administrative activities.

¹ CES 89/87.

² OJ C 189 of 28 July 1986.

³ CES 93/87.

The Committee regrets the delay that arose in Council on this enlightened initiative and strongly urges the full adoption of the programme in its original form: budgetary coverage and levels of financial support to those students involved need to be implemented as quickly as possible in accordance with the general endorsement of the proposal expressed at the European Summit in London on 5 and 6 December 1986.

This Opinion was drawn up in the light of the paper produced by the Section for Social, Family, Educational and Cultural Affairs, chaired by Mr Carroll (Ireland — Workers). The rapporteur was Mr Pearson (Ireland — Employers).

External relations

The Chairman's activities

The Chairman, Mr Margot, accompanied by the Secretary-General, Mr Louet, paid an official visit to Spain from 21 to 23 January 1987.

During their stay they visited Bilbao, where they talked to Mr José Miguel De La Rica (the President) and around 30 members of the Company Directors Circle, the Basque trade union organizations ELA-STV, and journalists. In Vitoria, they met the President of the outgoing Basque Government. In Madrid they talked with employers' and trade union representatives, the Vice-President and members of the Spanish Economic and Social Council, at a dinner hosted by the Association of European Journalists (President: Mr Carlos Luis Alvarez), with the UGT and CC.OO trade union organizations, with an economic journal (for the purpose of compiling an article on the Economic and Social Committee), and with social interest groups. The Chairman and the Secretary-General also attended the official opening of the 'Circulo de Informacion comunitaria' at the Alava Chamber of Commerce.

On 16 December 1986 the Chairman attended a luncheon for Mrs Chalker, United Kingdom Minister of State with responsibility for European affairs.

On 19 December he attended a colloquium organized in Brussels by the Belgian Business Federation to discuss future prospects under the Belgian Presidency.

On 8 January he talked with Mr Schepers, Institute of Public Administration, in Brussels.

On 16 January he met Mr Croll, President of Cogeca, in Brussels.

On 19 January, Mr Margot talked with Mr Massaut, President of the International Confederation of Managers, in Brussels. The same day he also met Mr Stavaux of the small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) task force of the Commission of the European Communities.

Other activities

During the month of January three European Commissioners visited the Economic and Social Committee headquarters in Brussels to attend section meetings.

On 6 January 1987 Mr Clinton Davis, the Commissioner in charge of environmental matters, took part in a meeting of the Environment Section on which occasion he gave a talk on Community environmental policy in 1987.

On 13 January, Mr Matutes, Commissioner with special responsibility for financial affairs, attended a section meeting of the Section for Financial Questions when he delivered a speech on Commission policy on the financing of large infrastructure projects of common interest.

On 16 January Mr Cheysson, the Commissioner responsible for External Relations, took part in a meeting of the Committee's External Relations Section and spoke to it about relations between the Committee and the countries of the East and South Mediterranean Basin.

From 19 to 21 January an Economic and Social Committee Study Group, set up to consider the needs of the 'less-favoured island regions', visited Las Palmas, Tenerife and La Gomera in the Canary Islands. This Study Group, consisting of 20 members, is preparing an Opinion for presentation to the March Plenary Session. The group was headed by Mr Della Croce (Italy) and included the rapporteur of the Opinion, Mr Vassilaras. In the course of the visit two press conferences were held, one in Tenerife on 20 January and the other the following day in Las Palmas.

The Sub-Committee on 'Radiodiffusion' made an information visit to London on 20 January where it was received by both the BBC and IBA (Independent Broadcasting Authority) at their respective headquarters.

On 27 January Mr Hilken, a Committee member, took part in the Consumers' Forum which was organized by the European Bureau of Consumers' Unions (BEUC) in Brussels within the framework of the Berlin Green Week.

**European Year of the Environment:
Economic and Social Committee conference
(Luxembourg, 30 March to 1 April 1987)**

To mark the European Year of the Environment the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities is holding a conference in Luxembourg on 30 March to 1 April on: Qualitative growth and consumption: a strategy for improving the environment.

The conference, to which 300 participants have been invited, will take place under the patronage of HRH Grand-Duke Jean of Luxembourg. The discussions will be inaugurated by the Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee of the EC, Mr Fons Margot. Participants will include: Mr Jacques Santer, President of the Luxembourg Government; Mr Robert Krieps, Luxembourg Minister for Justice, the Environment and Culture; Mrs Miet Smet, President of the Council of the European Communities and Belgian State Secretary for the Environment; Sir Henry Plumb, President of the European Parliament and Mr Stanley Clinton-Davis, EC Commissioner for the Environment.

Representatives of the EC institutions, economic and social interest groups and regional authorities will consider a number of questions, such as: what kind of growth is needed for an improved environment? What kind of regional and transfrontier cooperation should be encouraged to respond effectively to pollution problems? How can the quality of production be improved to meet the demands of consumers and improve the environment? How can the need for new technologies be reconciled with need to improve the employment situation?

Professor Umberto Colombo, Chairman of ENEA (Rome) will speak on 'The future of industrial society in the context of a healthy environment'. Professor Jean-Marie Pelt, Chairman of the European Ecology Institute of the University of Metz (France) will speak on the subject of 'Environmental issues in the Saar/Lorraine — Luxembourg (Grand-Duchy) — Luxembourg (Belgium) — Rhineland/Palatinate region'.

The Plenary Session will be chaired by Mr Jaschick, Chairman of the ESC Environment Section. Findings will be presented by the Rapporteur-General, Professor Jean-Marie Pelt.

New consultations

Since the last Plenary Session the Economic and Social Committee has been consulted on the following questions:

'Supplement, in respect of mercury originating in sectors other than the chlor-alkali industry, to Annex IV to the Convention for the Protection of the Rhine Against Chemical Pollution' (COM(86) 710 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the inspection and verification of the organizational processes and conditions under which laboratory studies are planned, performed, recorded and reported for the non-clinical testing of chemicals (good laboratory practice)' (COM(86) 698 final)

'Draft Council Decision adopting a plan of action 1987-89 concerning the information of the public and the training of members of the health professions as part of the 'Europe against cancer' programme' (COM(86) 717 final)

'Proposal for a Council Regulation on action by the Community relating to the environment' (COM(86) 729 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 84/538/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound power level of lawnmowers' (COM(86) 682 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending for a first time Directive No 83/183/EEC on tax exemptions applicable to permanent imports from a Member State of the personal property of individuals' (COM(86) 584 final/2)

'Proposal for a Council Directive relating to the transparency of measures regulating the pricing of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion within the scope of the national health insurance scheme' (COM(86) 765 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 76/116/EEC in respect of fluid fertilizers' (COM(86) 704 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the third time Directive 75/726/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning fruit juices and certain similar products' (COM(86) 688 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive on the official inspection of foodstuffs'
(COM(86) 747 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 71/305/EEC concerning the coordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts' (COM(86) 679 final)

'Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive No 79/693/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning fruit jams, jellies and marmalades, and chestnut purée' (COM(86) 613 final)

'Proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) amending for the 12th time Regulation (EEC) No 1837/80 on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat' (COM(87) 8 final)

'Proposal for a Council directive on the annual accounts of insurance undertakings' (COM(86) 764 final)

'Wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors' (COM(86) 777 final)

'Building materials' (COM(86) 756 final)

'Use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports, exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations (Caddia)'

'Temporary import of certain means of transport' (COM(87) 14 final)

'Exemption from VAT in respect of the definitive import of certain goods'
(COM(87) 21 final)

'Adult training in firms' (COM(86) 780 final)

Provisional future work programme

February 1987 Plenary Session

Opinions upon consultation

- Misleading products (COM(86) 499 final)
- Medical and health R&D programme (COM(86) 549 final)
- Europe against cancer programme (COM(86) 717 final)
- Protection of the Rhine (COM(86) 710 final)
- (Tedis) (COM(86) 662 final) electronic transfer commercial data
- Common Customs Tariff (COM(86) 466 final)
- Inter-regional air transport (COM(86) 424 final)
- Health protection — Euratom, Chapter III (COM(86) 434 final and final 3)
- Wine market (COM(86) 484 final)
- Broadcasting
- Caddia

Information report

- Health problems

Own-initiative Opinions

- Rail transport policy

Subsequent Plenary Sessions

- Tax exemption for permanent imports of personal property (COM(86) 584 final)
- Financing of major infrastructure projects (COM(86) 722 final)
- Protection of workers (COM(86) 296 final)
- Dangerous chemicals (COM(86) 362 final)
- Toy safety (COM(86) 541 final)
- Environment action (COM(86) 729 final)

SME action programme (COM(86) 445 final)
Introduction of common border posts (COM(86) 524 final)
Credit institutions own funds (COM(86) 169 final/2)
Distinctive marking (COM(86) 653 final)
Lawnmower sound power levels (COM(86) 682 final)
Road haulage (COM(86) 611 final)
Science and technology R&D (COM(86) 550 final)
Farm prices
Economic situation
Social developments
Good laboratory practice (COM(86) 698 final)
11th (ERDF) Report (COM(86) 545 final) European Regional
Development Fund
Building materials
Public works contract procedures (COM(86) 679 final)
Fruit juices (COM(86) 688 final)
Official inspection of foodstuffs (COM(86) 747 final)
Fluid fertilizers (COM(86) 704 final)
Transparency pricing of medicinal products (COM(86) 765 final)
Fourth environment programme (COM(86) 485 final)
Market access (COM(86) 595 final)

Own-initiative Opinions

Chernobyl
Transfrontier employment problems
Island region problems

Information reports

Development of upland areas
GATT

Appointment of a new Director-General at the ESC

The Council of Ministers of the European Communities has appointed Mr Adriano Graziosi as Director-General of the Economic and Social Committee, with effect from 1 January 1987.

Mr Graziosi, an Italian national, was born in Tunis in 1934. After taking a law degree at Leyden University (Netherlands), he entered the Commission language service on 1 March 1960. After a short period of secondment to the Directorate-General for Transport, he transferred to the Economic and Social Committee as administrator, acting as secretary for various specialized sections in turn before being appointed External Relations Adviser in 1974. In this capacity he was particularly active in furthering relations with national Economic and Social Councils and between ACP/EEC socio-economic groups, as well as being responsible for fostering closer ties between the ESC and the European Parliament.

On 1 July 1980 he was appointed Director, with responsibility for the Sections for External Relations, Agriculture and Energy and Research.

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