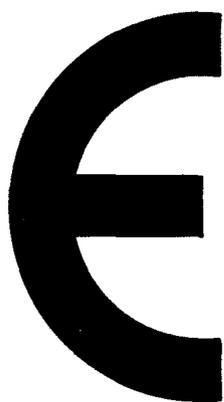


Bulletin

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BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

European Coal and Steel Community
European Economic Community
European Atomic Energy Community

Commission of the European Communities
Secretariat-General
Brussels

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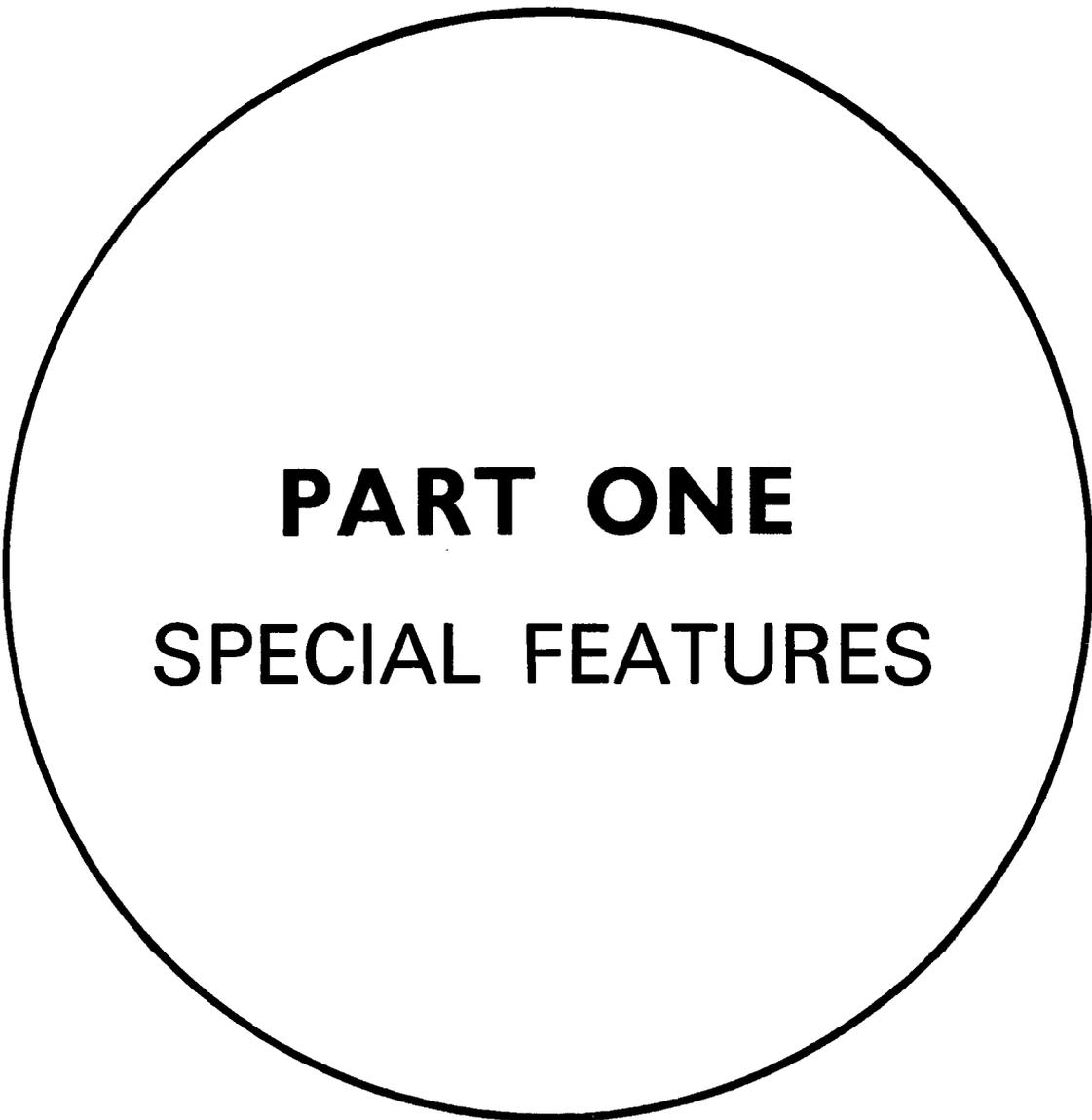
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PART ONE

SPECIAL FEATURES

Standardized abbreviations for the designation of certain monetary units in the different languages of the Community:

- BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge**
- LFR = Franc luxembourgeois**
- DKR = Dansk krone**
- FF = Franc français**
- DM = Deutsche Mark**
- LIT = Lira italiana**
- HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)**
- UKL = Pound sterling**
- IRL = Irish pound**
- USD = United States dollar**

1. Iron and steel: Anti-crisis measures for 1980

1.1.1. The measures to weather the crisis in the Community iron and steel industry—adopted in 1977¹ and the renewed or extended for the past year in December 1978²—have largely been retained for 1980, though they have been relaxed on certain points, as in fact recommended by the Commission in its Communication³ to the Council on 9 November.

This was the outcome of the Council meeting on 18 December (consultation or assents as required by the ECSC Treaty) and of the decisions taken by the Commission before the end of the year. But consideration of certain items (social aspects, the question of ferrous scrap and the budgetary aspects) was deferred until January.

There are two main preoccupations behind the anti-crisis measures finally adopted for 1980. First, they take account of the difficult position of certain firms, since the improvement on the steel market is only relative; second, some of the 1979 measures, notably those relating to prices, have been eased somewhat. The main provisions of the new measures are summarized below.

Internal market

Minimum prices

1.1.2. The main rules here are as follows:

(i) suspension, from 1 January 1980, of the minimum prices for concrete reinforcing bars and merchant bars, with the proviso that during that period, if certain conditions are fulfilled before the end of June, the Commission can reintroduce the minimum prices by means of a simplified procedure, the Council having authorized it to do so at its meeting on 18 December;

(ii) minimum prices to be retained for coils;
(iii) stockholders will still have to charge ex-stock prices no lower than producers' list prices for coils and for hot sheet and hot strip, the latter two products being produced from coils;

(iv) producers and stockholders will still have to issue certificates of conformity in respect of the minimum price for coils.

Having consulted the Council on 18 December, the Commission, on 27 December, adopted a Decision⁴ fixing minimum prices for coils and imposing certain obligations on producers and stockholders.

This Decision again fixes minimum prices for coils, but it relaxes some of the restrictions. Thus the Commission will no longer intervene in the terms of contracts for the delivery of wide hot-rolled strip to be re-rolled or used for producing tubes or cold sections. Producers and users will be free to set their own prices by negotiation.

The Commission may, if necessary, impose restrictions on discounts, which must in any case be notified, to see that they do not run counter to the objectives of the steel pricing policy.

The minimum price for coils was increased slightly: 1% on the ECU price which rises from 251 to 253.5 ECU per tonne. This pivot price was converted into each of the national currencies at the average rates of the ECU for November. So, allowing for the movements of the different currencies the new minimum prices for coils, compared with where they stood on 1 January 1979, show a fall of

¹ Bull. EC 12-1977, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.4.

² Bull. EC 12-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

³ Bull. EC 11-1978, points 2.1.13 to 2.2.8.

⁴ OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979.

1.5% as expressed in Deutschmark and 0.6% as expressed in sterling, and a rise of about 2% as expressed in French francs, Belgian and Luxembourg francs and Dutch guilders and of 4.5% as expressed in Lire.

Guide prices

1.1.3. The Commission will continue to publish guide prices for the main iron and steel products. The prices published for 1 January 1980¹ reflect the increase in production costs in 1979, though this increase was by no means uniform but varied from product to product and from market to market. The increases applied to the ECU pivot prices used in calculating the January 1979 guide prices were therefore varied as follows:

- (i) 3% up for all flat products (wide hot-rolled strip, hot-rolled strip, plate and sheet other than wide strip and quarto sheet, fine cold sheet);
- (ii) 6% up for concrete reinforcing bars;
- (iii) 7% up for small merchant bars and small sections;
- (iv) 8% up for large merchant bars and large sections.

As before, the Commission is urging producers to undertake to adhere to these guide prices. The prices have been published in ECU for the first time. It is up to the producers to transpose them faithfully into their price lists in national currency and, if need be, adjust them to fluctuations in their currency.

External aspect

Arrangements with non-Community countries

1.1.4. On 18 December the Council asked the Commission to negotiate arrangements

with non-member countries, as it did in 1978 and 1979. This brief admits certain less stringent measures than in 1979. The Commission hopes to conclude arrangements at an early date with the main exporters to the Community, namely Spain, Japan, Australia, four EFTA countries (Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden) and five State-trading countries (Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Czechoslovakia). The possibility of arrangements with other countries will be considered later depending on the circumstances.

Surveillance and anti-dumping procedures

1.1.5. The Commission Recommendation² of 6 September will continue to apply to relations with non-member countries. As previously, disruptive cheap imports from countries with which the Community does not have arrangements will be a matter for anti-dumping procedures.

New basic prices

1.1.6. At the end of 1979 the Commission published a new list of basic frontier prices applicable from 15 January 1980 in the Official Journal.³ The prices for ordinary steels are up by between 2 and 5% on last year's prices. Heavier increases were put on prices of special alloy steels by reason of the sharp rise in the cost of most alloy metals. The average increase for these steels comes out at 16%. Some of the measures applied here were also relaxed since the list of steels involved does not cover certain special alloy steels.

¹ OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979.

² OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

³ OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979.

2. EEC-ASEAN cooperation agreement

1.2.1. The end of 1979 saw a major development of both political and economic significance: the completion of the negotiations for a cooperation agreement between the Community and the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

This agreement is the first of its kind concluded between the Community and a group of five non-associated countries represented by a single negotiator. It reflects the progress achieved in the relations institutionalized in 1972 between the Community and the five ASEAN countries, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

This non-preferential agreement, which will run for five years, is of an evolutionary and flexible nature, and is designed to strengthen and diversify the economic ties between the two groups of countries. The text,¹ worked out in the course of exploratory talks in December 1978 and the beginning of March this year, was finalized at two negotiating sessions which took place in November, with certain reservations on the part of some delegations. These were subsequently withdrawn, and on 18 December the Council gave its approval to the agreement, which had already been accepted by the ASEAN countries' Standing Committee on 15 December. The official signing ceremony is to take place in Kuala Lumpur early in March.

The content of the agreement

1.2.2. The purpose of the agreement is to give a major boost to the commercial, economic and development cooperation which already exists between the two groups of countries on a non-contractual basis, and these three types of cooperation form the main planks of the agreement.

The agreement provides that the parties shall, in their commercial relations, accord each other most-favoured-nation (MFN) treatment in accordance with the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). As regards Thailand, however, which is not a GATT member, a protocol annexed to the agreement defines the reciprocal scope of the MFN obligations in relations with that country.

A Joint Cooperation Committee will meet at least once a year. It will supervise the operation of the agreement, and take any steps needed to achieve the agreed aims.

Commercial cooperation

1.2.3. In the field of commercial cooperation, the new agreement provides as follows:

'The Parties undertake to promote the development and diversification of their reciprocal commercial exchanges...;

The Parties agree to study ways and means of overcoming trade barriers, and in particular existing non-tariff and quasi tariff barriers, taking into account the work of international organizations;

The Parties shall in accordance with their legislation and in the conduct of their policies:

(a) cooperate at the international level and between themselves in the solution of commercial problems of common interest including trade related to commodities;

(b) use their best endeavours to grant each other the widest facilities for commercial transactions;

(c) take fully into account their respective interests and needs for improved access for manufactured, semi-manufactured and primary products as well as the further processing of resources;

¹ OJ C 18 of 24.1.1979.

(d) bring together economic operators in the two regions with the aim of creating new trade patterns;

(e) study and recommend trade promotion measures likely to encourage the expansion of imports and exports;

(f) seek in so far as possible the other parties' views where measures were being considered which could have an adverse effect on trade between the two regions.'

Economic cooperation

1.2.4. In the economic sphere, the agreement provides that the parties, in the light of the complementarity of their interests and of their long-term capabilities, should develop their cooperation in all fields they deem suitable.

'Among the objectives of such cooperation shall be: the encouragement of closer economic links through mutually beneficial investment; the encouragement of technological and scientific progress; the opening up of new sources of supply and new markets; the creation of new employment opportunities.

As means to such ends, the Parties shall as appropriate encourage and facilitate *inter alia*: a continuous exchange of information relevant to economic cooperation as well as the development of contacts and promotion activities between firms and organizations in both regions; the fostering, between respective firms, of industrial and technological cooperation, including mining; cooperation in the fields of science and technology, energy, environment, transport and communications, agriculture, fisheries and forestry.'

In addition the Parties will strive to improve the existing favourable investment climate *inter alia* through encouraging the extension, by and to all Member States of the Community and by and to all member countries of ASEAN, of investment promotion and protection arrangements which endeavour to apply the principle of non-discrimination, aim to ensure fair and equitable treatment and reflect the principle of reciprocity.

Development cooperation

1.2.5. The Community, recognizing that ASEAN is a developing region, undertakes in the agreement to support the effects of the five countries concerned by carrying out specific projects designed to accelerate the growth of the ASEAN members and of the region as a whole. In this connection, the agreement stipulates that:

'The Community will take all possible measures to intensify its support, within the framework of its programmes in favour of non-associated developing countries, for ASEAN development and regional cooperation. [It] will cooperate with ASEAN to realize concrete projects and programmes, *inter alia*, food production and supplies, development of the rural sector, education and training facilities and others of a wider character to promote ASEAN regional economic development and cooperation. The Community will [also] seek a coordination of the development cooperation activities of the Community and its Member States in the ASEAN region especially in relation to ASEAN regional projects. The Parties shall encourage and facilitate the promotion of cooperation between sources of finance in the two regions.'

From the creation of ASEAN to the agreement with the Community

1.2.6. The negotiation of a cooperation agreement between the Community and ASEAN can be seen as the culmination of a process lasting over twenty years, which saw the creation of ASEAN, the establishment of contacts with the Community, the gradual strengthening of those initial ties between the two groups of countries, and now the consolidation of cooperation in a formal agreement.

The origins and development of ASEAN

1.2.7. The Commission has published a pamphlet giving an account of the origins

and development of ASEAN and its economic and political importance.

'The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established at Bangkok on 8 August 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. According to the ASEAN declaration, the aims of the Association are essentially to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development of the region, to promote regional peace and stability on the basis of respect for justice and the rule of law, and to promote active cooperation and mutual assistance on matters of common interest ... Of all the regional bodies that have emerged in South-East Asia to date, ASEAN has had the greatest impact and has proved to be the most enduring.

During its first decade of existence ASEAN initiated regional cooperation in a wide variety of fields. However, the Bali Summit of February 1976—the first summit meeting of heads of government in the history of ASEAN—really marked a breakthrough in the development of the Association with the signature of the Declaration of ASEAN Concord and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation.

As regards economic affairs, the Declaration of ASEAN Concord spelled out the aims of the Association: intensified cooperation in the production and preferential supply of basic commodities, particularly food and energy, the establishment of large-scale ASEAN industrial plants, the expansion of trade particularly through the establishment of preferential trading arrangements, and joint approaches not only to international commodity problems and other world economic problems but also in dealing with other regional groupings and individual economic powers, for example in seeking improved access to their markets. It was also decided to set up a permanent secretariat in Jakarta. Since the Bali Summit, there have been follow-up meetings of Economic Ministers and Foreign Ministers, as well as a second summit in Kuala Lumpur in August 1977.

The five ASEAN countries have a total population of 250 million, slightly less than the European Community (260 million). This compares with just over 300 million for both the 20 countries of Latin America and the 57 countries of Africa, the Carib-

bean and the Pacific associated with the Community through the Lomé Convention. South-East Asia is the fastest growing region in the world. Within ASEAN itself the annual rate of growth of GNP in real terms between 1973 and 1978 varied from 6.8% to 7.9%, compared to the Community's growth rate of less than 3%. In addition to its rapidly expanding domestic market, the region is exceptionally rich in natural resources. It is the principal supplier of natural rubber (80%), abaca fibres (80%), tropical hardwoods (75%), palm oil (60%) and coconut (50%), as well as being a significant producer of oil, tin, copper, sugar, coffee, tobacco and rice.'

Development of Community-ASEAN relations

1.2.8. The first contacts between the Community and ASEAN took place in 1972, but it was only from 1976, and more particularly following the first ministerial meeting in November 1978,¹ that the idea of an agreement was mooted, as the Commission pamphlet notes:

'The first move to bring about closer relations between the two organizations came from the ASEAN side and was the result of fears about the effect on some of their countries' export trade of the loss of Commonwealth preference on the United Kingdom market following British accession to the Community. In June 1972 the ASEAN countries set up a Special Coordinating Committee of ASEAN Nations (SCCAN) consisting of the Ministers of Trade, and the ASEAN Brussels Committee (ABC) composed of the ASEAN ambassadors to the Community. An ASEAN delegation under the Indonesian Trade Minister visited Brussels to establish a dialogue with the Commission which welcomed this approach. It was agreed to maintain regular contact through the ABC for the purpose of discussing trade problems and the implementation of the Community's Generalized System of Tariff Preferences, which had been sing-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1978, points 1.4.2 to 1.4.5.

led out in the Joint Declaration of Intent as the main instrument for dealing with the trade problems arising out of enlargement.

Since 1972 a regular dialogue has been maintained between the Commission and the ASEAN countries. Sir Christopher Soames, Commission Vice-President responsible for external relations, twice visited the ASEAN region and took part in SCCAN meetings in Bangkok in September 1973 and in Jakarta in September 1974. Following the conclusion of the Community's Commercial Cooperation Agreement with India in December 1973 ... the Commission sounded out the ASEAN countries as to whether they were interested in concluding similar agreements with the Community. They all replied that they preferred to develop their relations with the Community on a regional basis, which meant waiting till ASEAN's institutional development made it possible to envisage a cooperation agreement between the Community and ASEAN as a group ... At the Jakarta meeting of the ASEAN Trade Ministers attended by Sir Christopher Soames in September 1974 it was agreed to set up a Joint Study Group (JSG) composed of representatives of the Commission and of the five ASEAN governments. The agreement was formalized ... in May 1975 ...

The JSG met for the first time in Brussels in June 1975, subsequently at Manila (December 1976), at Brussels (October 1977) and at Bangkok (May 1978). Its discussions have ranged from the improvement of the Community's generalized system of preferences (GSP) and international commodity problems to the transfer of technology and investment.

The first meeting between the European Community and ASEAN was held at Brussels on 20 and 21 November 1978 and was attended by the Foreign Ministers of the two sides together with President Roy Jenkins and Vice-President Wilhelm Haferkamp of the Commission. Following an exchange of views ... the ... Ministers reaffirmed in their final Declaration¹ their support for a new international economic order and agreed to cooperate constructively in future meetings within the North-South Dialogue, including UNCTAD V at Manila (May 1979). The Ministers also placed special emphasis on the need for commodity agreements and for the establishment of a Common Fund.

They ... expressed joint concern at the continuing problem of the Indochinese refugees which called for resettlement efforts by the international community.

Above all the Ministers agreed that exploratory discussions on the content of a possible cooperation agreement should be started.¹

The negotiations proper took place in Brussels on 8, 29 and 30 November, and resulted in the finalization of the cooperation agreement between the two parties.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

3. Customs union: assessment of achievements in 1979 and programme for 1980

Customs union: 1980 programme

1.3.1. The programme of work to be undertaken in the customs field in 1980—in the light of the results obtained in 1979—is the subject of a communication presented to the Council, and also to Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, on 31 December.

This is the first time that the Commission has prepared a record of the achievements of the past twelve months and drawn up priorities for the coming year, in line with the undertakings it gave in March in its 'multiannual programme for the attainment of the customs union'.¹ This programme—the major political significance of which has already been stressed—laid down the basic objectives which should guide the Community in the establishment of a genuine customs union and set out clearly the measures to be taken to that end.

Achievements in 1979

1.3.2. The Commission communication describes the achievements of the past year in the following terms:

'In many respects, 1979 was a year rich in achievements. A great deal of work was done by the customs administrations of the Member States in close contact with the Commission and this gave a new impetus to the Council as regards the attainment of the customs union. This spirit of cooperation which came to the fore during the first phase of implementation of the multiannual programme constitutes the necessary foundation for the continued harmonization of customs legislation and the consequent fulfilment of one of the essential conditions for the establishment of a genuine single market.

The achievements, constituted on the whole by the adoption of proposals which had been pending before the Council for several years, made up to a considerable extent for the cumulative delay in the establishment of Community customs legislation. This will lead to a more uniform application

of the Common Customs Tariff in the Community and to the accomplishment of an important step towards the attainment of the customs union.

... This first report justifies amply the drawing-up of annual priorities and of the programme as a whole. It is many years since the Community has achieved such good overall results in the customs field.

It should be emphasized, moreover, that the Commission has remained in close contact with the customs administrations of the Member States in respect of its day-to-day activities in the customs field, be they concerned with the Committees on Rules, which have prepared a large number of implementation provisions (several hundred such provisions were adopted, particularly in the field of textiles), with quota management in accordance with the common commercial policy, with the preparation of the integrated customs tariff of the European Communities (TARIC) and of a list of chemical products (mentioned in the priorities for 1979) or with the training of officials responsible for teaching Community matters in each Member State.

In particular, there is constant activity in the area of Community transit in order to simplify procedures and make the common market more of a reality for the European citizen. In 1979, this activity brought about the adoption of measures enabling proof of the Community nature of road vehicles to be established by means of registration information, obviating the need to produce documents. In addition, a number of proposals have been made which are intended to simplify the documents used in the verification of use and destination of goods, to facilitate the movement of empty packages and to improve, with respect to their functional operation, the provisions designed to free users, under certain conditions, from the obligation to present packages at outgoing and incoming customs posts.

Furthermore, the Commission has pursued coordination between Member States in order to arrive at the establishment of common positions in respect of international organizations in the customs field, particularly the Customs Cooperation Council.

¹ OJ C 84 of 31.3.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

Certain other measures have been implemented: a working party on the use of computers in the customs field has been created at Community level and contacts with the customs administrations of the Member States should enable the *ad hoc* working party responsible for the examination of the practical application of Community customs legislation to commence its work shortly.

Finally, the Commission, on behalf of the Community, brought to a successful conclusion the negotiations in the Tokyo Round on the Agreement on customs valuation. This should provide a neutral, uniform and equitable system for calculating the customs value of goods.¹

Priorities for 1980

1.3.3. In accordance with the procedure adopted in March in its multiannual programme for the attainment of the customs union, the communication transmitted by the Commission to the Council, Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee at the end of December sets out a number of measures to be implemented as a matter of priority,¹ giving the following grounds for the choices made:

'... The priority measures for 1980 have been drawn up in the overall perspective of the attainment of the customs union as defined in the multiannual programme. They are founded essentially on the dual imperative of ensuring homogeneity of trade arrangements between the Community and non-member countries and of pursuing the work of simplifying, indeed abolishing customs checks and formalities in intra-Community trade. The goal of ensuring an equal standard of legal protection throughout the Community is also accorded particular attention among the priority measures.

The Commission emphasizes once again that the aim of ensuring the homogeneity of customs rules in relations with the outside world responds to a number of needs. Apart from the fact that the unity of rules is, together with the common cus-

oms tariff, one of the cardinal features of a customs union, Community procedures and arrangements constitute, by reason of their direct impact on external trade and internal industrial activities, the expression of the Community's customs policy. In this context, the example of the rules of origin as the basis for the application of the various preferential regimes is telling.

Furthermore, numerous Community measures forming part of other common policies such as commercial or agricultural policy could not be implemented in conditions which are, of necessity, uniform and efficient without being founded on customs rules which are not only Community rules but are also applied in much the same way, even as to detail, in all the Member States.

In order to develop the homogeneity of trade arrangements between the Community and non-member countries, the Commission will transmit to the Council proposals containing the basic Community principles which will replace those set out in national legislation in those areas where customs provisions exist only at a national level. The task of drawing up a coherent set of Community customs rules must be pursued in order to arrive at a European customs code. The proposals for a regulation to replace the directives governing the so-called economic customs procedures such as the inward processing procedure will provide the foundations of the code.

The pursuit of the goal of harmonizing customs legislations will facilitate increasingly the tasks of Community undertakings active throughout the Community and will contribute to closer cooperation between such undertakings by encouraging division of labour within the Community.

Finally, although a set of homogeneous customs rules applied in relations with the outside world is clearly not enough by itself to create a genuine single market—this requires substantial progress in other sectors such as taxation, transport, statistics and currency—it is nevertheless an indispensable prerequisite. In effect, in so far as each Member State is convinced by the unification of legislation that all trade with non-member countries is governed by the same rules whatever the place of

¹ Point 2.1.19.

4. Annual report on the agricultural situation in the Community

Customs union: 1980 programme

importation in the Community, the maintenance of checks and customs formalities at internal frontiers loses its *raison d'être*.

The process of unification contributes therefore to the removal of barriers between national markets, as well as to the constant activity intended to simplify those checks and formalities which still remain necessary in intra-Community trade because of insufficient progress in fields other than customs.

In other words, this process creates the conditions in which Community producers may benefit to a greater degree from the advantages offered by a vast common market, as do their competitors in economic zones of similar size. This rationalization will of necessity be accompanied by a development of administrative cooperation between the customs administrations and between them and the Commission with a view to improving the operation of the customs union and intensifying efforts to combat fraud.

All these measures, drawn up in response to the objectives mentioned above, will favour the elimination of the causes of distorted treatment or deflection of trade to the detriment of economic operators in any of the Member States and will contribute to the task of dismantling barriers between national markets with a view to the establishment of a genuine single market. Their implementation will create the conditions necessary for healthy competition between undertakings in order to establish effective Community preference and thus to contribute to an upturn in economic activity in the Community...'

1.4.1. The Community harvest in 1979 was a good one, but did not reach the sometimes exceptional levels of 1978; agricultural incomes are likely to increase slightly but the trend will differ according to Member State. As in previous years, however, the common agricultural policy encountered some difficulties in 1979: economic and monetary disparities within the Community, imbalance on agricultural markets, milk in particular, differences in income from region to region. These are some of the conclusions drawn in the Annual Report on the Agricultural Situation in the Community for 1979, adopted by the Commission. As in previous years, this report serves as a basis for drawing up the proposals for agricultural prices and certain related measures for 1980/81.

General situation

1.4.2. The rapid increases in oil prices upset the Community's slow recovery from the economic recession and caused an increase in the rate of inflation and a slow down in economic growth; agriculture was, of course, also affected. For the second year running, however, food prices contributed to limiting inflation.

In early 1979 food prices increased by only 7.5%, compared with 8.7% for non-food items and 8.9% for consumer prices as a whole.

The European Monetary System came into effect on 13 March and, on 9 April, the ECU was introduced for the purposes of the common agricultural policy. Setting up the EMS rendered exchange rates more stable, which

¹ 'The Agricultural Situation in the Community. 1979 Report' (published in conjunction with the 13th General Report on the Activities of the European Communities).

was of benefit to agriculture. It was possible to make a reduction of some two thirds in the divergence between the most widely-differing monetary compensatory amounts; the divergence between the highest MCA (Germany) and the lowest (France) is now only about 13.5 points as from December 1979, instead of almost 40 points one year ago.

There were excellent results on the world agricultural markets. The world cereals harvest is expected to reach a new record of about 1 500 million tonnes, as the record output (+ 4%) in the United States partly made up for the fairly poor harvest in the Soviet Union (- 25%). As for protein crops, a record soya harvest of about 93 million tonnes is expected and sunflower and colza production should also be very high. Prices for these products were quite firm largely on account of high import requirements in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Although world sugar production is below the level of consumption, sugar prices are expected to remain low since stocks are very high. Live-stock products—milk and milk products, pig-meat and beef and veal—are also rising again.

Agricultural structures

1.4.3. The evolution of agricultural structures in the Community is continuing. The total number of farms is falling steadily but at a lower rate than in previous years. In most Member States this fall is mainly occurring amongst the smaller farms (up to 20 ha).

Some 80% of the total annual labour units (ALU) in the Community's agriculture comes from family labour. However, 36% of farmers can be classified as full-time farmers, in the sense that all their working time is

devoted to the farm; 56% are mainly occupied in farming, in so far as they devote more than 50% of their working time to this activity. Full-time farmers occupy 66% of the total utilized agricultural area (UAA).¹ A substantial number of small farms are run by elderly farmers; 21% of farms and 13% of the total UAA are accounted for by farmers aged over 65. The corresponding figures for farmers between 55 and 65 years of age are 23% and 21% respectively.

Since land mobility is the *sine qua non* for any effective structural reform, these figures cannot be overlooked. There are difficulties, however, in the way of land mobility and the steady increase in the price of agricultural land which has taken place in recent years is not the least of them.

Between 1973 and 1977, 78 000 farm development plans were implemented within the Community under the Council Directive of 17 April 1972 on the modernization of farms.²

Experience in applying the structural Directives has shown that, in spite of the effect of the Directives on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas, the Community's agricultural structures policy is not equal to solving the basic problems of many less-favoured regions. This is why the Council has approved certain regional structural policy measures intended to eliminate specific obstacles to the development of some regions (in particular, Mediterranean regions). For the same purpose, new development programmes have been put forward for various Community regions.

¹ UAA: utilized agricultural area.

² OJ L 96 of 23.4.1972, and Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chap. I.

Consumers and producers

Consumers

1.4.4. During 1978 consumers were affected by the general economic situation, with the feeble recovery continuing from 1978 (GDP + 3%), a still high inflation rate (8%) and a persistently high rate of unemployment (5.5% of the workforce).

Per capita consumption of food products was influenced, as in previous years, by harvest results, price and income trends and the slow but steady changes in consumer habits.

Community agricultural policy continued to ensure security of supply of most key food products. Prices within the Community were relatively stable and the gap between Community and world market prices did not change substantially from the previous year. During 1979 there was also a sharp increase in the number of specific measures in favour of consumers or certain categories of consumers.

Producers

1.4.5. Agricultural production in 1979 was satisfactory. The cereal harvest was 113 million tonnes, which is only 2.6% below the record figure of 1978.

The sugar harvest, on the other hand, was 2.1% higher than in the previous year. With regard to specialized crops, last autumn's harvests suggest that wine production will be 164 million hectolitres (as against 132 million in 1978) and that quality is excellent; there is no substantial change in fruit and vegetables, hops, seeds and other specialized crops. Milk production increased by a further 2.4%, beef and veal by 3.4% and pigmeat by about 5%.

The chief features of 1979 from a producer point of view are as follows: the value of final production increased by 8.6% in 1978 and by 9.9% in 1977; it is estimated that the increase in 1979 will have been comparable (8.9%).

This results from an increase in output and the rise in farm prices. Farm incomes will probably increase slightly in 1979 but the pattern will differ according to Member State. Farm incomes have broadly maintained their position compared with incomes outside agriculture. There are, however, substantial regional divergences: these covered a spread from 1 to 6 in France to 1 to 3 in Italy in 1978. The Community continued its cautious prices policy which began in 1977, in order to establish a better balance between supply and demand in sectors suffering from structural surpluses, such as milk in particular. The general increase in common prices decided upon by the Council, without taking into account changes in 'green rates' averaged 1.3% for 1979/80, compared with 2.1% and 3.9% in the two previous years.

Financial aspects

1.4.6. In 1978, expenditure by the Community and the Member States to finance Community and national agricultural policies amounted to about 22 500 million European units of account (EUA). Of this total amount the EAGGF bore almost 9 000 million EUA, of which 8 700 million was for the Guarantee Section, i.e. for the operation of the common organizations of the market. The Community share in total expenditure on agricultural policies rose from 35% in earlier years to nearly 41% in 1978.

Total national and EAGGF expenditure (less agricultural levies), that is about 20 200 mil-

lion EUA, represented in 1978 about 1.3% of the Community's gross domestic product (GDP).

In 1979, expenditure by the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF was 10 300 million EUA, 20% more than in 1978. This increase was mainly accounted for by milk, cereals, oils and fats (increased expenditure on aid), sugar (major export effort), beef and veal, and fruit and vegetables (increased intervention). However, expenditure dropped in the tobacco sector and on monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs), although these still represented 770 million EUA or 7% of total expenditure.

The appropriations in the 1978 Budget for the Guidance Section of the EAGGF amounted to 473.5 million EUA (the 1979 figure was 569.2 million). During 1978, the Council Regulation of 15 February 1977¹ made it possible, for the first time, to finance a common measure to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed.

Outlook

1.4.7. The 1980s will require a constant effort in agricultural policy to re-establish or maintain a balance between market supply and demand. On markets with a deficit (timber, oilseeds) measures to stimulate production will be required, but on markets with structural surpluses (milk) measures will have to be taken to increase consumption and limit production. The achievement of balance implies a search for solutions under international agreements, particularly for the problems posed by substitute products.

A policy designed to cope with the problem of surpluses, together with an increase in production costs on account of inflation, could

squeeze farm incomes. This effect could be countered by an increase in labour productivity which would make it possible to maintain or even increase incomes. In view of the unemployment throughout the economy and the fact that, in some areas, there are already too few young farmers, an increase in labour productivity will depend to a decisive extent on the number of old farmers who give up farming and, accordingly, on an improvement in the system for aid at present granted to old farmers to encourage them to retire.

Since there are surpluses in many sectors it will be impossible to cope with the problems posed by incomes in some regions by means of a general increase in prices. Effort will have to be focused on a structural policy which is more effective and flexible and special measures (specific programmes for agricultural development and/or integrated programmes under which improvement of farming is only one part of a development plan) will have to be implemented for less-favoured regions.

¹ OJ L 51 of 23.2.1977.



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN DECEMBER 1979**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary union

European Monetary System

European Monetary Fund

2.1.1. The progress made by the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks concerning the establishment of the European Monetary Fund was the subject of interim reports presented by the Chairmen of the two Committees to the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) meeting in Brussels on 17 December.

The Chairman of the Monetary Committee stated that his Committee's initial reflections had covered three closely related fields: the characteristics and use of the ECU; the consolidation of the credit mechanisms; and the functions and institutional structure of the European Monetary Fund (EMF). The Committee of Governors of the Central Banks, for its part, planned to discuss problems relating to the EMF at the beginning of 1980.

The setting up of the European Monetary Fund, as part of the European Monetary System, was referred to in the Conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council held in Bremen on 6 and 7 July 1978¹ and is provided for in the Resolution on the establishment of the EMS adopted by the European Council in Brussels on 5 December 1978.² Finally, the Council Regulation of 18 December 1978 relating to the EMS³ stated that 'not later than two years after the start of the system,⁴ the existing arrangements and institutions would be merged into a European

Monetary Fund' to replace the European Monetary Cooperation Fund (EMCF); however, responsibility for administering the new monetary system was entrusted initially to the latter.

Replacement of the EUA by the ECU: Commission proposals

2.1.2. On 13 December the Commission transmitted to the Council four proposals concerning the replacement of the EUA by the ECU in various Community fields of activity: the General Budget; all Community legal instruments; aid under Article 42 of the ACP-EEC Lomé Convention; and matters covered by the ECSC Treaty.

The aim of the proposed Regulations and Decisions is to avoid having to use two units of account in Community activities—the EUA and the ECU—which, although based on the same principles, might acquire different values, since one is subject to revision and the other is not. The Commission, which has always worked towards the use of a single unit of account in the Community, therefore proposes that the EUA be replaced by the ECU, which has been the EMCF unit of account since 1 January 1979 and the common agricultural policy unit of account since 9 August 1979. The Council is asked to adopt three of these proposals and to give its assent to the fourth.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 1.5.2 (IV — Annex).

² Bull. EC 12-1978, point 1.1.11 (A, 1.4).

³ OJ L 379 of 30.12.1978.

⁴ The EMS came into being on 13 March 1979 following the European Council meeting in Paris: see Bull. EC 2-1979, preliminary chapter.

Economic situation

Annual report on the economic situation in the Community

Adoption by the Council

2.1.3. On 17 December¹ the Council adopted the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and the economic policy guidelines for each Member State for 1980, which the Commission had presented to it in October.² The Economic and Social Committee had given its opinion³ on this report at its plenary session on 24 and 25 October and Parliament had given its opinion⁴ on 14 December.

Follow-up to the European Council meeting in Dublin

2.1.4. On 17 December the Council discussed the economic and financial follow-up to the European Council in Dublin on 29 and 30 November.

The Council noted that the annual report and economic policy guidelines for 1980, which it had just adopted,⁵ already took account of the European Council's discussions on the economic situation in the Community.

As regards convergence and budgetary questions, the Council noted that the Commission would in due course be submitting the proposals requested of it by the European Council.

Finally, the Council made certain procedural arrangements to enable it to carry out the brief issued by the European Council with

regard to examination of the Commission communication on adjustment of the common agricultural policy with a view to striking a better market balance and rationalizing expenditure.⁶

Monetary Committee

2.1.5. The Monetary Committee held its 256th meeting in Brussels on 14 December, with Mr Van Ypersele in the Chair. It continued its discussions on the future European Monetary Fund and examined, as part of its regular review, economic and monetary developments in the United Kingdom.

Economic Policy Committee

2.1.6. The Economic Policy Committee held two meetings in Brussels in December:

(i) its 86th meeting, on 3 December, with Mr Tietmeyer in the Chair; the Committee held a discussion with employers' and trade union representatives on the economic outlook as described in the Commission's annual report; Mr Tietmeyer reported orally to the Council on 17 December on the main points made by those taking part;

(ii) its 87th meeting, in its reduced medium-term composition, on 13 December, with Mr Leonard in the Chair; the meeting considered medium-term economic policy problems in France.

¹ OJ L 17 of 23.1.1980.

² Bull. EC 10-1979, points 2.1.3 and 2.1.4.

³ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.3.85.

⁴ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

⁵ Point 2.1.3.

⁶ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

2.1.7. On 20 December the Council adopted a new Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning units of measurement. This repeals the Directive of 18 October 1971,¹ as amended by the Directive of 27 July 1976.² Pursuant to this Directive the Council should be taking a Decision concerning a number of imperial measurement units.

The new Directive lays down clear rules on dual indications and combines all the Community rules on measurement units into a single text. It was not possible this year to take a definite position on whether or not certain particularly important imperial units such as the foot, the yard, the pint, the gallon, the ounce and the pound are to be retained. The Council will have to rule on this by the end of 1989. Certain units, which under the 1976 Directive were to have been abolished at the end of 1979, have been temporarily reprieved (the millimetre of mercury, the poise, the stokes, the yard, the square yard and the therm). The new Directive will come into force on 1 October 1981.

2.1.8. On 31 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to rear-view mirrors for two- or three-wheeled motor veh-

icles (vehicles with a maximum design speed of more than 25 km/hour). The proposal would make it compulsory for two-wheeled vehicles with a maximum design speed not exceeding 80 km/hour to have one rear-view mirror, while two-wheeled vehicles with a maximum design speed exceeding 80 km/hour and all three-wheeled vehicles would have to have two rear-view mirrors. The design requirements are the same as those laid down by the Directive of 1 March 1971³ on rear-view mirrors for motor vehicles with at least four wheels.

*

2.1.9. At its session on 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee gave its Opinion⁴ on the Commission proposal⁵ to the Council of 18 December 1978 concerning certain types of simple pressure vessels.

Foodstuffs

2.1.10. On 1 December Parliament delivered its Opinion⁶ on the Commission proposal⁷ of 18 April concerning emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners and gelling agents which may be used in foodstuffs.

2.1.11. At its session of 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee gave its Opinion⁸ on two proposals for Regulations relating to the trade arrangements for products not included in Annex II to the EEC Treaty.⁹

¹ OJ L 243 of 29.10.1971.

² OJ L 262 of 27.9.1976.

³ OJ L 68 of 22.3.1971.

⁴ Point 2.3.55.

⁵ OJ C 37 of 10.2.1979 and Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.8.

⁶ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

⁷ OJ C 115 of 8.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.9.

⁸ Point 2.3.56.

⁹ OJ C 259 of 13.10.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.11.

Free movement of persons; freedom to provide services

Removal of restrictions

Midwives

2.1.12. On 18 December the Council agreed on two Directives, one on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of qualifications for midwives and measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and the freedom to provide services, and the other on coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to the activities of midwives. It also decided to set up an Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives and agreed to amend its Decision of 16 June 1975¹ establishing a Commission of Senior Officials on Public Health.

Hitherto there have been two basically different schools of thought in the Member States as to what a midwife is and does. In some countries the conventional idea has been that the midwife, working independently, practises a medical profession of limited competence. In others she has generally been regarded as primarily a doctor's assistant at childbirth and for pre- and post-natal care. This basic difference has been reflected in the widely differing ways in which midwives have been trained.

Though they do not establish a single contour for the profession in the Community, the Directives define the activities which midwives must at least be allowed to perform, on their own responsibility, in each Member State. They also lay down minimum training requirements and will leave appreciable differences between training provided in one

country or another. But unlike the Directives adopted for doctors,² nurses,³ dentists⁴ and veterinary surgeons,⁵ not all qualifications which satisfy the minimum training requirements will be recognized as they stand. The Directives allow Member States to make recognition of certain qualifications subject to proof of additional practical experience gained in the country from which they come. One advantage of this new method, necessitated by the hitherto wide divergences between national laws is that it will not place too heavy a burden on the Member States in their efforts to adapt their training, particularly on the financial front.

Lastly, the Directives contain provisions, already adopted in other Directives, relating to settling in and to requirements as regards proof of good character or good repute and conditions governing use of the title and training required.

Public health

2.1.13. The Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health met on 4 and 5 December to discuss the application of the Directives on nurses responsible for general care³ and, in particular, the liaison which ought to be established between Member States' health authorities. The Committee also reviewed progress made in transposing the Directives on dentists⁴ into national legislation, which

¹ OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975 and Bull. EC 6-1975, point 2272.

² OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975.

³ OJ L 176 of 15.7.1977 and Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.1.21.

⁴ OJ L 233 of 24.8.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.14.

⁵ OJ L 362 of 29.12.1978 and Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.14.

Table 1 — *Number of doctors, who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another, whose authorization to practise was issued in 1978*

	FR of Germany	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark
Total	272	48	1	89	16	8 ³	470	47	12
<i>Nationals of:</i> FR of Germany	3	5	—	14	—	1	20	6	2
France	35	6	—	—	2	4	12	—	2
Italy	58	5	1	2	4	1	34	1	3
Netherlands	40	4	—	10	4	—	18	1	0
Belgium	26	21	—	36	4	—	10	—	1
Luxembourg	35	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
United Kingdom	53	5	—	26	2	2	8	39 ¹	3
Ireland	5	—	—	1	—	—	365 ²	—	0
Denmark	17	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1
<i>Who qualified in:</i> FR of Germany	—	8	—	20	1	1	22	—	3
France	—	—	1	—	5	4	14	—	2
Italy	—	6	—	2	4	1	36	—	3
Netherlands	—	4	—	—	4	—	20	—	0
Belgium	—	22	—	38	—	—	10	—	1
Luxembourg	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	—	6	—	27	2	2	—	—	3
Ireland	—	—	—	2	—	—	365	—	0
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	0

¹ Some doctors not of British nationality may be included, since they are registered under the 1927 agreement with the United Kingdom authorities concerning the registration and control of doctors and no account is taken of nationality, but only of entry in the United Kingdom register.

² Some doctors not of Irish nationality may be included, since they are registered under the 1927 agreement with the Irish authorities concerning the registration and control of doctors and no account is taken of nationality, but only of entry in the Irish register.

³ All Luxembourg medical students have to obtain their medical training abroad; the number of Luxembourg students who have established themselves in their home country after receiving their training abroad has therefore not been included in the table. The number of Luxembourg citizens who obtained their basic qualification in a Community country and were authorized to practise in Luxembourg in 1978 is 11 of which: 8 in France, 2 in Belgium and 1 in the FR of Germany.

must be completed by 29 January 1980. An account was then given of the work being done by the Commission to integrate specific training of general practitioners in the context of the Directives on doctors,¹ following the guidelines proposed by the Committee last April and the opinion from the Advisory Committee on Medical Training.²

Lastly, as in 1978,³ the Committee considered the movement of doctors within the Community. Table 1 shows the number of Member States' doctors who have obtained authorization to practise in a Member State other than the one in which they qualified.

Industry: restructuring and conversion

Steel

Anti-crisis measures for 1980

2.1.14. The 1979 measures to weather the crisis in the Community iron and steel industry have largely been retained for 1980,⁴ though they have been relaxed on certain points, as in fact recommended by the Commission in its Communication⁵ to the Council on 9 November.

Forward steel programme for first quarter of 1980

2.1.15. On 19 December the Commission adopted, at its second reading, the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1980, approved by ECSC Consultative Committee on 18 December.⁶

The programme⁷ assumes steel consumption of 29.5 million tonnes—about 1% up on the corresponding quarter of 1979—and output of 34.5 million tonnes. The indifferent pros-

pects for growth in 1980, marked by mounting inflation, higher prices for oil and declining activity in certain big steel-consuming industries in the Community such as the motor industry, suggest that 1980 will be a very gloomy year for steel.

For 1979, production of crude steel is expected to reach 140 million tonnes, 5.6% up on the 132.6 million tonnes produced in 1978.

Industrial loans

2.1.16. The Commission decided, pursuant to Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, to grant a loan of Lit 46 000 million to Dalmine SpA (Milan).

It also decided to grant two loans of FF 215 million and FF 102 million to Usinor, Paris. These new loans are a token of the Community's commitment to the restructuring of firms which are endeavouring to create new and more competitive areas of activity by concentrating on the most efficient production units.

The Commission also approved a loan of UKL 1.4 million to Barworth Flockton Ltd for a project designed to improve the company's competitive position and thus help with the restructuring now going on in the British special steels industry.

Textiles

2.1.17. On 20 December⁸ the Council adopted an *ad hoc* Regulation allowing the

¹ OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975.

² Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.14.

³ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.11.

⁴ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.13.

⁶ Point 2.3.67.

⁷ OJ C 13 of 17.1.1980.

⁸ OJ L 326 of 22.12.1979.

man-made fibre industry to benefit from Community aid for industrial reorganization and conversion under Article 375 of the 1978 budget. This aid will support the efforts now being made to secure an economic improvement in this industry, which include reducing production capacity in textile fibres.

On 26 December, acting in pursuance of this Regulation, the Commission decided to grant the above aid to part-finance sixteen projects, most of them in Italy, Belgium and France. Total eligible investment and total Community aid are in the region of 175 million EUA and 14 million EUA respectively.

Commerce and distribution

2.1.18. The third full meeting of the Committee on Commerce and Distribution was held on 6 December, with Mr Davignon in the chair. After reviewing the first year's work it decided to set up a nine-member Standing Committee, to secure closer liaison between the Commission and the representatives of European commerce and to prepare meetings more thoroughly. Various procedural arrangements were adopted to improve the exchange of information.

Customs union

1980 programme for the attainment of the customs union

The objectives

2.1.19. Under the multiannual programme for the attainment of the customs union¹ the

Commission sent a communication² to the Council on 31 December concerning its 1980 programme also transmitted to Parliament and to the Economic and Social Committee—containing an account of the achievements of 1979 and setting out the priority objectives for 1980.²

In the light of the objectives it has defined, the Commission specifies the priority measures, namely the main proposals to be adopted by or sent to the Council.

The fields covered by the proposals include the following: formulation of new Community rules on the valuation of goods for customs purposes; Community definition of the customs declarant; introduction of uniform customs arrangements for stores for aircraft, etc.; participation by the Community in international customs conventions; harmonization of procedures for the export of goods; establishment of a Community system of reliefs from customs duty; temporary admission; improvement of the Community transit system; simplification of the temporary movement of goods in the Community.

Common Customs Tariff

Tariff applicable from 1 January 1980

2.1.20. On 20 December the Council adopted a Regulation³ updating the Common Customs Tariff; this updated version of the CCT will be applicable from 1 January 1980. The main changes in the new tariff relate to:

¹ OJ C 84 of 31.3.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

² Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3.

³ OJ L 342 of 31.12.1979.

- (i) amendments arising from the GATT negotiations: concessions in the agricultural and industrial sectors and for civil aircraft;
- (ii) amendments arising from the application in 1979 or from 1 January 1980 of certain Regulations on the common organization of agricultural markets;
- (iii) the advisability of clarifying certain texts and ensuring better concordance between the various language versions;
- (iv) the introduction of the ECU to replace the u.a. in the expression of certain specific customs duties or as a criterion of limitation within certain tariff headings or subheadings (04.04 — cheese and 22.05 C — wine).

Classification

2.1.21. On 6 December the Commission adopted a Regulation¹ designed to ensure the uniform application of the Common Customs Tariff nomenclature in respect of the classification of goods falling within subheading 13.03 C III of the Common Customs Tariff.

On 20 and 21 December it also adopted six Regulations determining the conditions under which certain goods are eligible upon importation for a favourable tariff arrangement by reason of their end-use.

The first two Regulations are concerned respectively with fresh table grapes of the variety Emperor (*Vitis vinifera* c.v.) falling within subheading 08.04 A I a) of the Common Customs Tariff² and flue-cured Virginia type, light-air-cured Burley type (including Burley hybrids), light-air-cured Maryland type and fire-cured tobacco falling within subheading 24.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff.²

On 21 December the Commission adopted two other Regulations² amending for the second time the basic regulation of 4 July 1977³

determining the conditions under which certain goods are eligible upon importation for a favourable tariff arrangement by reason of their end-use and also the Regulation of 7 December 1977⁴ concerning certain categories of aircraft and ships. Both these texts are designed mainly to extend current Community provisions to products covered by the agreement on trade in civil aircraft concluded as part of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations.

Lastly, on 21 December the Commission also amended its Regulation of 4 July 1977 on seed³ (subheadings 07.01 A I, 10.05 A and 12.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff) and adopted a Regulation on natural sodium nitrate and natural potassic sodium nitrate² (subheadings 31.02 and 31.05 A III a) respectively of the CCT.

Economic tariff matters

Suspensions

2.1.22. On 20 December the Council decided⁵ to suspend at the level of 9%, for the first six months of 1980, the autonomous duties on a number of species of fish for processing.

2.1.23. On 11 and 18 December the Council also adopted Regulations on:

- (i) the total or partial suspension, as appropriate, of the duties laid down in the Common Customs Tariff for a number of

¹ OJ L 311 of 7.12.1979.

² OJ L 341 of 31.12.1979.

³ OJ L 171 of 9.7.1977.

⁴ OJ L 314 of 8.12.1977.

⁵ OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

Table 2 — 1980 tariff quotas

Description	Quota volume (in tonnes, unless otherwise indicated)	Quota duties (%)	Initial allocation	Reserve
			(in tonnes, unless otherwise indicated)	
Ferro-silicon	5 500	0	5 250	250
Ferro-silico-manganese	15 000	0	14 250	750
Ferro-chromium containing not more than 0.10% by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not more than 90% by weight of chromium (super-refined ferro-chromium) ¹	2 300	0	2 200	100
Ferro-chromium containing a quantity of between 3% and 4% by weight of carbon ¹	120 000	0	109 600	10 400
Certain handwoven fabrics, pile and chenille ²				
— of silk or waste silk	2 200 000 EUA	0	1 062 600 EUA	1 137 400 EUA
— of cotton	2 000 000 EUA	0	1 480 500 EUA	519 500 EUA
Certain hand-made products	10 000 000 EUA	0	6 228 000 EUA	3 772 000 EUA
Cotton yarn and fabrics falling within heading Nos 55.05 and 55.09; machine-made carpets falling within subheading ex 58.01 A, originating in Turkey: ³				
— cotton yarn (55.05)	1 077	0	832	245
— fabrics of cotton (55.09)	2 536	0	2 044	492
— machine-made carpets (ex 58.01 A)	194	0	159	35
Certain plywoods of coniferous species ⁴	700 000 m ³	0	670 000 m ³	30 000 m ³
Top quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal ⁵	21 000	20	21 000	—
Frozen beef and veal ⁵	50 000	20	50 000	—
Frozen buffalo meat ⁵	2 250	20	2 250	—
Silver hake (<i>Merluccius bilinearis</i>) ¹	2 000	8	1 700	300
Frozen cod fillets ¹	10 000	8	8 300	1 700

¹ O J L 340 of 31.12.1979.² O J L 313 of 10.12.1979.³ O J L 319 of 14.12.1979.⁴ O J L 326 of 22.12.1979.⁵ O J L 336 of 29.12.1979.

products intended to be incorporated in the construction of aeroplanes of an unladen weight exceeding 15 000 kg or to be used for the maintenance or repair of aeroplanes of an unladen weight exceeding 15 000 kg or for aeroplanes or helicopters of an unladen weight of 2 000 kg to 15 000 kg. This Regulation will be applicable from 1 January to 30 June 1980;¹

(ii) the total suspension of the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties for certain types of electronic memories (EPROMS) with a capacity of 32 K bit or 64 K bit, for the first six months of 1980.²

2.1.24. Lastly, on 18 December, the Council adopted a Regulation totally or partially suspending CCT duties on agricultural products originating in Malta;³ the products may be imported into the Community at a reduced or zero rate of duty up to 31 December 1980.

Tariff quotas

2.1.25. On 6 December the Council adopted two Regulations⁴ on an autonomous increase for 1979 in the duty-free quota for raw silk (not thrown)—raised to 4 400 tonnes from the 4 200 tonnes fixed initially by the Regulation of 12 December 1978⁵—and the similar quota for newsprint—opened by the Regulation of 16 November 1978⁶ and raised from 2 500 000 tonnes to 2 700 000 tonnes.

2.1.26. On 20 December the Council increased for the second time the Community quota for newsprint for 1979.³ The volume of 2 700 000 tonnes was raised to 2 740 000 tonnes, the amount of this autonomous increase being allocated to the reserve established initially.

2.1.27. On 3, 10 and 20 December the Council adopted Regulations opening, allocating and administering autonomous or contractual Community tariff quotas for 1980 for the products listed in Table 2, p. 28.

Generalized tariff preferences

2.1.28. In 1980 the Community will continue to apply to the developing countries an improved system of generalized tariff preferences (which were first implemented on 1 July 1971) and to that end the Council adopted on 10 December eleven Regulations and two Decisions⁷ on the opening from 1 January 1980 of the tariff preferences to which it had given its agreement on 20 November,⁸ as follows:

(i) five Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of tariff quotas for twelve categories of industrial products, cocoa butter, soluble coffee, preserved pineapples and raw or unmanufactured flue-cured Virginia type tobacco;

(ii) one Regulation opening preferential ceilings for industrial products, accompanied by special administrative arrangements in respect of the maximum amounts;

(iii) two Regulations opening preferential ceilings for industrial products and for raw or unmanufactured tobacco other than of the Virginia type;

¹ OJ L 388 of 31.12.1979.

² OJ L 322 of 18.12.1979.

³ OJ L 334 of 28.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 315 of 11.12.1979.

⁵ OJ L 354 of 18.12.1978.

⁶ OJ L 324 of 18.11.1978.

⁷ OJ L 328 of 24.12.1979.

⁸ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.14.

(iv) one Regulation on textile products originating in developing countries and/or territories;¹

(v) one Regulation on jute or coir products;¹

(vi) one Regulation laying down a preferential system for processed agricultural products (falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the CCT);

(vii) two Decisions opening tariff quotas or preferential ceilings for iron and steel products (ECSC).

Community import surveillance

2.1.29. On 10 December the Council adopted a Regulation² opening and providing for the administration of a Community preferential ceiling for certain petroleum products refined in Turkey and establishing Community supervision of imports thereof. The ceiling, which is set at 458 000 tonnes, is valid from 1 January to 31 December 1980.

2.1.30. On 10 December the Council adopted under the EEC-EFTA Agreements a number of Regulations³ establishing indicative ceilings and Community supervision for imports of certain products originating in Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden (1980).

2.1.31. On 20 December it adopted a Regulation⁴ establishing ceilings and Community surveillance in respect of imports of certain products originating in Portugal, also for 1980.

Origin

Application of 1980 generalized tariff preferences

2.1.32. On 20 December, under the 1980 scheme of generalized tariff preferences, the Commission adopted four implementing Regulations⁵ on the definition of the concept of originating products.

As in previous years the first Regulation defines the rules of origin governing products from developing countries; certain features of the 1979 rules have been changed in an attempt to find a satisfactory solution to a number of administrative problems which have arisen between the EEC and the EFTA countries granting the preferences. The other three extend the concept of originating products (cumulative origin) to benefit the following three groups of countries: the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Central American Common Market (CACM) and the Andean Group countries.

General legislation

Duty-free entry

2.1.33. On 12 December the Commission laid down provisions⁶ for the implementation of two Regulations⁷ adopted by the Council on 8 May concerning the importation free of Common Customs Tariff duties of:

¹ OJ L 332 of 27.12.1979.

² OJ L 319 of 14.12.1979.

³ OJ L 330 of 27.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

⁵ OJ L 349 of 31.12.1979.

⁶ OJ L 318 of 13.12.1979.

⁷ OJ L 134 of 31.5.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, points 2.1.37 and 2.1.38.

- (i) articles for the use of handicapped persons;
- (ii) educational, scientific or cultural materials.

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2.1.34. On 14 December Parliament issued an opinion¹ on the proposal for a Regulation setting up a Community system of reliefs from customs duty sent by the Commission to the Council on 15 March. At its plenary session held on 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion² on two Commission proposals to the Council, one on the harmonization of procedures for the exportation of goods and one amending the 1977 Regulation on Community transit procedure.

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Termination of prohibited horizontal agreements

Removal of obstacles to sales and marketing

2.1.35. The Commission has completed its investigation into a complaint about the transport of cauliflowers to Germany filed by road hauliers.

The arrangement complained of was an agreement between Cerafel³ and the Union des Expéditeurs et Exportateurs du Nord-

Finistère on the one hand and STEF⁴ on the other, requiring members to use refrigerated railway trucks to ship cauliflowers to Germany at certain times of the year. Failure to comply with this obligation meant a stiff fine.

This constituted a restriction on competition far in excess of what was necessary to achieve the desired aim of improving the quality of the exported product. Dealers were deprived of all freedom of choice in the matter of transport. This situation was all the more serious in that transport by lorry was in fact cheaper. The agreement therefore made the products more expensive and prevented road hauliers from competing with STEF.

In response to Commission representations the parties have terminated the agreement and replaced it by a system of trade incentives. The Commission has therefore terminated proceedings in this case.

It has also noted that groups of Breton vegetable growers and dealers⁵ have put an end to the arrangements restricting access to auction sales which the Commission had found by Decision of 2 December 1977⁶ to constitute infringements of the EEC's competition rules.

¹ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

² Points 2.3.57 and 2.3.58.

³ Comité Economique Régional.

⁴ Société Française de Transports et Entrepôts Frigorifiques.

⁵ Société d'Investissements et de Coopération Agricoles (SICA), Saint-Pol-de-Léon; Union des Expéditeurs et Exportateurs en Fruits et Légumes du Finistère, Saint-Pol-de-Léon; Société Interprofessionnelle des Producteurs et Expéditeurs de Fruits, Légumes, Bulbes et Fleurs d'Ille-et-Villaine (SICA-SIPEFEL), Saint-Méloir-des-Ondes; Syndicat des Expéditeurs et Exportateurs en Légumes et Pommes de Terre Primeur de la Région Malouine, Saint-Méloir-des-Ondes.

⁶ OJ L 21 of 26.1.1978; Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.46.

Promotion of permissible forms of cooperation

Authorization of long-term supply agreements

2.1.36. On 7 December the Commission took a Decision authorizing fourteen contracts for the supply to the United Kingdom of raw cane sugar produced in various overseas countries and territories. The buyers under the agreements, which were concluded between 1975 and 1977 for an initial term ending in mid-1980, are Tate & Lyle Refineries Ltd (UK) and Manbré Sugars Ltd (UK), both now members of the same group; the sellers come from eleven ACP States, two overseas countries and territories and India. The sellers undertake to supply to the buyers certain quantities of cane sugar each year in accordance with terms laid down in the individual agreements. This sugar is imported by the buyers into the United Kingdom, where it is refined for sale in the common market. The agreements have been concluded under Protocol No 3 to the first Lomé Convention (ACP sugar), by which the Community undertakes to import specified quantities of cane sugar each year from the ACP countries.

The contracts are not in breach of the Community's rules on competition although the selling and purchasing obligations involved are somewhat similar to a reciprocal exclusivity arrangement between the parties concerned. In practice, however, the agreements have little impact on either the marketing or the sources of supply for third parties. Within the common market the only other major suppliers of raw cane sugar are the French Overseas Departments.

The bulk of what they export to the Community is supplied under contract to French

refineries. If other buyers in the Community require supplies from the cane sugar undertaken to be sold into the EEC under Protocol 3, it is available from a balance of such cane sugar not covered by these long-term agreements. There is not likely to be a significant change in the situation in the near future.

The agreements in question do not lead to a significant restriction of competition in the common market within the meaning of Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty.

Renewal of a decision authorizing cooperation

2.1.37. On 12 December the Commission renewed until 31 December 1986 its Decision of 27 June 1967¹ and 21 December 1973² exempting from the prohibition on restrictive practices arrangements for cooperation between a large number of medium-sized marine paint manufacturers in the Community and elsewhere, all of whom belong to the Transocean Marine Paint Association.

The Association's object³ is to help its members remain truly competitive internationally on the specialized market for marine paints, which entails stocking marine paints manufactured by the same process at the largest possible number of ports. The members have accordingly agreed to manufacture paints of the same quality using the same formulae, and to distribute them under a single Transocean trade mark. Each member is given a territory—its home country, sometimes with the addition of other countries—on which it must concentrate its marketing efforts, but

¹ OJ 163 of 20.7.1967.

² OJ L 19 of 23.1.1974; Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2118.

³ OJ C 252 of 6.10.1979.

the members are not allowed to hinder parallel imports from other territories. The Association holds a combined Community market share of about 10%.

Having considered the situation on the marine paint market the Commission concluded that, on balance, the cooperation within Transocean is still economically justified. Medium-sized firms are enabled to vie with other major suppliers of marine paints and thus to improve the industry's competitive potential.

Renewal of a decision authorizing a joint-selling agreement

Groupement européen du manganèse

2.1.38. The Commission has extended until 31 December 1984¹ its Decision of 2 October 1974² authorizing under Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty an agreement to form the Groupement européen du manganèse (GEM) for five years.

The GEM consists of three French firms—Société Nouvelle des Aciéries de Pompey (SNAP), Compagnie Universelle d'Acétylène (CUA) and Société Française d'Electro-Métallurgie (Sofrem)—and one Portuguese firm—Eurominas Electrometalurgia (Eurominas).

The main aim of the Group is the distribution of ferromanganese produced by Eurominas. During the five years of the agreement the ferromanganese sold by GEM on the Community market accounted for approximately 1% of annual Community consumption.

Distribution

Prohibition of exclusive purchasing arrangement

2.1.39. On 5 December the Commission took a Decision enjoining the Cooperatieve Stremsel-en Kleursel-fabriek, Leeuwarden, and its members, most of the Dutch cheese manufacturers, to put an end to the restrictions on competition set out in the cooperative's rules. The Cooperatieve produces almost all the rennet³ and colouring agents⁴ used for cheese in the Netherlands on behalf of its members. It sells not only to its own members, but also to outside cooperatives.

Its Rules impose upon members an obligation to purchase all their rennet and colouring agents from the Cooperatieve. The purchasing obligation, which the members of the Cooperatieve have to observe otherwise a fine can be imposed on them, is further strengthened by a provision that any member infringing the rules may be expelled and required to pay a sum proportional to the quantity of rennet purchased each year. Moreover, the sum is also due in the event of resignation which prevents, or at least discourages, members from producing their own rennet. Since the Cooperatieve accounts for over 90% of the Dutch market, these arrangements prevent producers of rennet and colouring agents for cheese from other Member States from penetrating the Dutch market.

¹ OJ L 24 of 31.1.1980.

² OJ L 286 of 23.10.1974; Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2109.

³ Rennet is an enzyme extracted from the fourth stomach of calves; it curdles milk and is used in cheese-making.

⁴ Under Dutch law annatto and carotene are authorized for use in cheese-making.

The Commission feels that the advantages gained from the Cooperatieve's joint production, mainly improvement in the quality of rennet and cost-saving, could still be obtained if the members were allowed greater freedom of choice.

In this first Decision concerning the rules of a cooperative, the Commission has clarified the extent to which restrictions on members' rights are compatible with the rules on competition. Furthermore, this Decision confirms the Commission's long-standing objection to any form of partitioning of the common market.

Firms fined for preventing parallel imports

2.1.40. On 14 December the Commission imposed fines of 6 950 000 EUA on the following firms who had sought artificially to isolate a national market: Pioneer Electronic Europe NV,¹ Antwerp, 4 350 000 EUA (approx. BFR 175 million); Musique Diffusion Française, the French sole distributor, 850 000 EUA (approx. FF 5 million); C. Melchers & Co, the German sole distributor, 1 450 000 EUA (approx. DM 3.6 million); and Pioneer High Fidelity (GB) Ltd (formerly Shiro UK Ltd), the British sole distributor, 300 000 EUA (approx. UKL 200 000). Commission investigations in this case began when a complaint was filed by IFFLI SA, Metz, a French parallel importer.

At the instigation of Musique Diffusion Française these firms had engaged in two concerted practices preventing parallel imports into France of Pioneer equipment from Germany and the United Kingdom, where it was much cheaper. In 1975, for example, Pioneer's best-selling amplifier was

sold to the retail trade 27% cheaper in Germany than in France, and 38% cheaper in the United Kingdom.

Commission investigations revealed that Pioneer Electronic Europe had organized a meeting with its sole distributors, at which the question of parallel imports was discussed. Following this meeting as well as Pioneer Electronic Europe's intervention, the German sole distributor refused to meet a substantial order from a German dealer in the absence of an assurance that the products would not be exported. At the same time the British sole distributor entered into arrangements with Musique Diffusion Française and took measures affecting its main customers in order to prevent Pioneer equipment being re-exported from the United Kingdom to other Member States.

The concerted practices had the object and effect of isolating the French market for Pioneer hi-fi equipment. It is clear from a long series of Commission Decisions and from numerous judgments of the Court of Justice that this type of compartmentalization of the Community market constitutes a serious infringement of Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty. The practices hinder trade between Member States and jeopardize that unity of the common market which is one of the Treaty's fundamental objectives. But there are firms that steadfastly refuse to accept the Community as a single market; they take measures to preserve artificial price differentials for a given product as between different Member States, to the detriment of the consumer. The Commission accordingly felt obliged to impose heavy fines so as to force firms to abide by the rules of this single market.

¹ Pioneer Electronic Europe, the subsidiary of a Japanese multinational ranking among the world's leading suppliers of hi-fi equipment, is responsible for distributing Pioneer equipment throughout Europe.

Mergers

Vallourec — Tubes de la Providence

2.1.41. On 20 December the Commission, acting under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty, authorized two French steel tube producers, Vallourec, Paris, and Tubes de la Providence, Lexy, to pool their small-diameter welded steel tubes business in France in a new company to be called Valexy SA. The input products used for manufacturing the tubes are ECSC Treaty products, in this case strip and split coils, and about two-thirds of the total used annually (approximately 600 000 tonnes) are bought from firms within the Vallourec and Providence groups.

In examining this transaction, the Commission also scrutinized the welded steel tubes market, which is covered by the EEC Treaty. There are four other producers of small-diameter welded tubes in the Community which have a capacity at least as large as the combined capacity of Vallourec and Providence. There are also a large number of smaller producers. The degree of integration of markets for small-diameter welded tubes handled in business between Community manufacturing countries is quite high, and competition from substitute products, such as plastic or aluminium tubes, is keen. The Commission therefore concluded that the merger would not constitute abuse of a dominant position within the meaning of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty.

Usinor, Châtillon Neuves-Maisons, and Cockerill's Rehon works

2.1.42. In June the Commission adopted a Decision under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty authorizing the iron and steel companies

Usinor SA and Châtillon Neuves-Maisons SA to merge all their assets.¹ As a step in the restructuring of the French iron and steel industry, this merger led to the establishment of a single company under the name of Usinor SA.

On 17 December the Commission authorized Usinor SA to acquire the Rehon works from Cockerill SA. The acquisition is part of the process of restructuring the steel industry in the Longwy basin, and is the first move to concentrate all steelmaking activities there into a single unit. Cockerill's Rehon works is an integrated steel works producing mainly hot-rolled strip.

As a result of these two transactions the new Usinor group's production, on the basis of 1978 output figures, will account for approximately 11.5% of Community pig iron production, 8.5% of crude steel production, 8.5% of rolled steel production and 17.6% of strip production. It will rank third, fourth and first respectively among Community producers of these products.

Sacilor-Aciéries de Pompey

2.1.43. On 17 December the Commission authorized a merger between Sacilor SA and Société nouvelle des aciéries de Pompey (SNAP) as part of the process of restructuring the French steel industry.

SNAP was originally formed as the Société des aciéries de Pompey in 1870; it came into existence with its present name in 1968 following financial difficulties, and has a share capital of FF 71 million. The shares in SNAP are distributed between the Compagnie Industrielle et Financière de Pompey (CIFP)

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.34.

with 33.1% and the Société d'Intéressement et de participation (SIP) with 66.9%. SIP itself consists of CIFP with 21.1%, Usinor with 28.4%, Ugine Aciers with 21.1%, Creusot-Loire with 12.6%, Röchling-Burbach with 9.4% and Sideco, a subsidiary of the Groupement de l'industrie sidérurgique (GIS), with 7.4%. SIP's portfolio contains only the SNAP shares, and its sole activity is managing that holding.

SNAP mainly produces special steels. Its shares of output in the common market in 1977 were approximately 5.4% for special carbon steels and 1.4% for bearing steels, engineering steels and tool steels. Sacilor, on the other hand, mainly produces ordinary steels.

Sacilor SA — Davum SA

2.1.44. On 11 December the Commission authorized Sacilor SA to acquire 85% of the shares in Davum SA, a steel stockholder.

In 1978 Davum had sales totalling FF 3 200 million. It covers the French market through subsidiaries and principal depots at Bruyères, Meyzieux and Woippy, and through secondary depots at Lille, Nantes, Poitiers and Toulouse. The market share accounted for by these suppliers can be estimated at 9.6% of the French steel stockholder market. The Sacilor Group's stockholder business, handled by three specialized subsidiaries, accounted for 9% of that market in 1978. It follows that the aggregate market share of all the firms concerned, which following this acquisition will be combined in the Sacilor Group, is 18.6% of the French ex depot stockholder market. In 1978 combined deliveries represented approximately 5.2% of apparent consumption of steel products in France, which totalled around 15.5 million tonnes.

Ita-Tubi

2.1.45. In February 1979 the Commission adopted a Decision under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty authorizing Italsider to acquire the entire share capital of Ita-Tubi.¹ In December Cantieri Metallurgici Italiani, Naples, a member of the Falck Group, and La Magona d'Italia, Florence, requested authorization to acquire shares of 40% and 20% respectively in Ita-Tubi.

The Commission found that this transaction would result in Cantieri Metallurgici Italiani, La Magona d'Italia and Italsider having joint control over Ita-Tubi, but decided to authorize it as it satisfied the tests of Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty.

The Commission's assessment under Article 86 of the EEC Treaty showed that the Falck Group produces high-quality tubes mainly for the engineering industry and different from those produced by Ita-Tubi, while la Magona d'Italia does not produce tubes. Accordingly this transaction does not constitute abuse of a dominant position.

Procedural decisions

Two firms fined for producing incomplete documentation

2.1.46. On 20 December the Commission took a Decision pursuant to Regulation No 17 fining two Italian firms—Fabbrica Pisana, Milan, and Fabbrica Lastre di Vetro Pietro Sciarra, Rome—for presenting business records in incomplete form during investigations carried out at their offices by Commission officials with written authorization.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.25.

These investigations were carried out at the offices of the first firm in Milan in May and July 1978 and in the offices of the second firm in Rome in June 1978. On each of these occasions the firms presented incomplete business records despite the fact that the Commission representatives had drawn their attention to Article 15(1) of Regulation No 17, which lays down the penalties which the Commission may impose in such cases.

The investigators asked to see any records of meetings and files of correspondence relating to contacts and agreements with other manufacturers and full records of correspondence exchanged with any firm appointed to manage such agreements (the name of the management firm was explicitly mentioned to Sciarra), but on each occasion the firms failed to present these files and agreements. Subsequently, however, the texts of such agreements and related correspondence were found by Commission representatives during an investigation carried out at the offices of the firm appointed to manage part of the agreements, thus fully confirming their existence.

The Commission accordingly fined both firms under Regulation No 17 for deliberately presenting incomplete documentation during an investigation. It rejected the arguments advanced by Pisana in its defence, namely that it had given the Commission investigators full access to all its offices and that the firm's representatives present at the time had no knowledge of the papers requested. The Commission considers that it is the responsibility of a firm under investigation to present the papers requested by Commission inspectors and to designate competent and fully-informed representatives to attend investigations.

State aids

General schemes

Italy

2.1.47. On 19 December the Commission decided¹ to initiate the procedure of Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of the Italian scheme of tax relief on employers' contributions to sickness insurance schemes.

In 1978 the Italian Government introduced a scheme under which the State took over part of the burden of employers' contributions which manufacturing firms and certain firms in the services sector had to pay on behalf of their staff to sickness insurance schemes. The reduction is LIT 24 500 per month for each male employee; for female employees, employers are exempt from payments to sickness insurance schemes in respect of the first LIT 400 000 of wages and salaries per employee per month, which corresponds to a reduction of LIT 64 000, since the rate of contributions to the sickness insurance scheme is set at 16% of wages and salaries.

The Commission considers that the greater amount of reduction for female workers constitutes a State aid within the meaning of Article 92(1) of the EEC Treaty by favouring firms with a predominantly female labour force, notably in the textiles, clothing, footwear and leather industries. The Commission also considers that this is a purely stop-gap operating aid which does not qualify for any of the derogations in Article 92(3) from the rule that aid is incompatible with the common market.

¹ OJ C 13 of 17.1.1980.

The Italian Government, the Governments of the other Member States and interested third parties have accordingly been invited to submit their comments.

Regional aids

France

2.1.48. On 21 December the Commission decided to initiate proceedings under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of an amendment to the French regional development aid scheme.¹

The measure in question, laid down in Section 2 of the Investment Assistance (Productive Industry) Act of 3 July 1979, provides for an increase in the amount of depreciation which firms may claim in respect of fixed assets acquired or created with the aid of regional development premiums (PDR). The Commission's decision was based on a number of considerations. Firstly, it was not informed of the scheme in sufficient time to enable it to submit its comments, as required by Article 93(3); secondly, the amendments entail a substantial increase in the intensity of aid represented by PDR premiums, but the French Government has provided no justification on social and economic grounds nor has it allowed the scheme to be scrutinized for compatibility with the common market. Lastly, this increase in allowable depreciation brings with it a danger that the ceilings laid down for regional aids in the Commission's principles of coordination² may be exceeded in certain regions in the North and East of France.

Industry aids

Steel

2.1.49. On 18 December the Council, following discussions lasting around eighteen months, gave its assent³ under Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty to the draft Decision presented to it by the Commission on 8 May and resubmitted in a revised form on 2 February 1979, with a view to introducing a Community discipline for aids to the steel industry.

The object of these rules is to establish a framework ensuring that aid which is necessary to help the industry through the current crisis is compatible with Community policy for the steel industry and does not restrict competition between Member States to an extent contrary to the common interest.

The proposal had been blocked by opposition from a number of Member States, despite the Commission's attempts to convince them of the importance of these rules. The Commission therefore welcomes the Council's unanimous assent, enabling it to adopt a Decision in the very near future. The rules will apply to specific industry aids; at the same time the Council has taken note that the Commission intends to apply a similar discipline to general and regional aids. The rules will apply equally to any aid factor in the funds allocated to public steel undertakings.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2132.

² Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.1.34.

³ OJ C 14 of 18.1.1980.

Textiles

France

2.1.50. On 5 December the Commission initiated¹ the procedure of Article 93 (2) of the EEC Treaty in respect of a draft Decree notified by the French Government amending the aid scheme for the textiles and clothing industries in France.

According to the draft, the aid scheme would be funded by a single parafiscal charge levied by the VAT machinery; the aid would be used to finance joint research by the various technical centres operated by the industries and to facilitate the modernization of textile and clothing firms with a view to improving competitiveness.

Environmental aids

Germany

2.1.51. On 21 December the Commission decided to terminate the procedure of Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty which it had initiated in respect of a German Act providing for levies on waste water (Abwasserabgabengesetz).²

In deciding to initiate the procedure, the Commission considered that the Section of the Act giving automatic exemption for three years from the payment of levies in return for an undertaking to construct a purification plant constituted a State aid within the meaning of Article 92 (1) of the EEC Treaty and did not qualify for exemption from the rule that such aids are incompatible with the common market.

However, after close scrutiny of the measure, and in consideration of the comments submitted by the German Government, the Commission has now decided that the scheme does not constitute an aid within the meaning of Article 92(1) of the Treaty. The objective of the German Government in introducing the levy scheme is to bring pressure to bear on all those discharging waste water to make the necessary investment to combat pollution effectively; the rate of levy varies in accordance with the quantity and density of pollutants in the water discharged. If, at the end of the three-year period, a real reduction in the level of pollution has been registered after a firm has constructed and begun operating a purification plant, its levy will be reduced in proportion to the reduction in pollution obtained. If no improvement has been achieved, the full levy will be charged with retroactive effect.

State monopolies of a commercial character

Manufactured tobacco

France

2.1.52. On 5 December the Commission decided to pursue infringement proceedings against the French manufactured tobacco monopoly by sending a reasoned opinion after a further three months if contacts with the French authorities did not produce a satisfactory solution in the meantime.

¹ OJ C 317 of 18.12.1979.

² Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2117.

On 5 December 1978¹ the Commission had sent the French Government a letter giving notice of proceedings in which it expressed reservations as regards certain aspects of the retail distribution system, the method of approving suppliers, the imposition of fixed selling prices and the rules on advertising; on 30 July 1979, the French Government replied by sending the Commission a general memorandum on retail distribution and sales in France. This information did not enable the Commission to terminate proceedings in this case; they will be pursued unless the French Government takes measures to bring its scheme into line with the Treaty's rules on competition.

Italy

2.1.53. The Commission also took a Decision concerning the Italian monopoly of manufactured tobacco, sending a letter giving notice of infringement proceedings. The implementing provisions of the Act of 10 December 1975 relating to wholesale distribution, retail sales, and rules for purchase and payment of the tax seals have not yet been published. Discussions have however been held with the Italian authorities on a draft Decree, following which the Commission suggested, by a letter dated 26 July 1979, a number of amendments which would be required to make the Decree compatible with Treaty provisions. The Italian authorities' reply on 15 November did not enable the Commission to take a definite stance, without seeing the revised text of the draft Decree. The Commission has set a period of three months in which it will assess the conformity of the Italian Government's proposals with the Treaty's provisions and decide what subsequent action may be called for.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Stock exchanges and other institutions in the securities field

Particulars to be published on the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing

2.1.54. On 20 December, the Council approved the directive coordinating the conditions for the drawing-up, scrutiny and distribution of the listing particulars to be published when securities are admitted to official stock exchange listing; the Commission had put a proposal to the Council on 5 October 1972.²

This Directive is an important addition to that of 5 March 1979³ coordinating the conditions for the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing. Like the latter, it is designed to eliminate the obstacles to the listing of securities on stock exchanges in different Member States and appreciably to facilitate access to these different stock exchanges. It should also promote a greater degree of equivalence in the safeguards offered to investors by the securities listed on stock exchanges in the different Member States and so ensure that investors are protected more effectively. By promoting greater interpenetration of securities markets in the Member States, the Directive will thus contribute to the establishment of a European capi-

¹ Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.46.

² OJ C 131 of 13.12.1972 and Supplement 8/72—Bull. EC.

³ OJ L 66 of 16.3.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.52, and Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.6.1 to 1.6.3.

tal market, which is an essential aspect of economic and monetary union.

The Directive makes it compulsory for all the particulars set out in the annexes to the Directive to be published when shares, debt securities or certificates representing shares are admitted to stock exchange listing. The layouts for the listing particulars may be modified to take account of the characteristics of certain issuers (financial institutions), the nature of the securities (guaranteed debt securities, convertible or exchangeable debt securities or debt securities with warrants), the rate of issue (debt securities issued in a continuous or repeated manner) or particular operations (mergers or division of companies, takeover bids). The Directive also makes it possible to apply less strict arrangements to listing particulars in certain specific cases and in particular where the admission concerns shares offered to existing shareholders on a pre-emptive basis.

It also lays down rules regarding the scrutiny and publication of listing particulars and introduces arrangements for cooperation in these matters between the competent authorities in the Member States. Finally, it sets up a Contact Committee to facilitate the harmonized implementation of its provision by all Member States.

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Turnover taxes

Eighth VAT Directive; mutual assistance between national tax authorities

2.1.55. On 6 December the Council formally adopted three Directives¹ which it had

approved in principle on 16 October, namely the eighth Directive laying down arrangements for the refund of VAT to taxable persons not established in the territory of the country and the two Directives extending to VAT the scope of the Directives of 15 March 1976 and 19 December 1977 concerning mutual assistance.²

French overseas departments and the scope of the sixth VAT Directive

2.1.56. On 20 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for an eleventh Directive on the harmonization of turnover taxes. Its purpose is to exclude the French overseas departments from the scope of the sixth VAT Directive—common system of value added tax: uniform basis of assessment—adopted by the Council on 17 May 1977.³ The Commission sent this proposal to the Council following a judgment given by the Court of Justice on 10 October 1978⁴ in Case 148/77 (Hansen and Balle v Hauptzollamt Flensburg); the proposal is the expression of the implications of the judgment as regards taxation.

Tenth VAT Directive

2.1.57. On 14 December Parliament gave its opinion⁵ on the proposal⁶ for a tenth VAT Directive, presented by the Commission to the Council on 23 April, which is designed to

¹ OJ L 331 of 27.12.1979.

² Bull. EC 10-1979, points 2.1.38 and 2.1.39.

³ OJ L 145 of 13.6.1977 and Bull. EC 5-1977, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.4.

⁴ OJ C 263 of 7.11.1978 and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.57.

⁵ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

⁶ OJ C 116 of 9.5.1979.

clarify the provisions of the sixth Directive concerning the place of the supply of services in the case of the hiring out of movable tangible property.

Direct taxes

Income tax and non-resident employed persons

2.1.58. On 21 December the Commission placed before the Council a proposal¹ for a Directive concerning the harmonization of income taxation provisions with respect to freedom of movement for workers within the Community. This is designed to remove the disadvantages suffered by persons who, exercising their freedom of movement within the Community, find themselves penalized by the income tax treatment they receive as non-resident employed persons. The proposal's main provisions are:

(a) that frontier workers should be taxed in the Member State of residence, with credit being given for any tax withheld at source by the Member State of employment;

(b) that other non-resident workers should be taxed in the Member State of employment on terms no less favourable than those applied to resident workers;

(c) that income tax relief for payments such as insurance premiums and pension contributions should no longer be conditional upon the taxpayer being resident in the Member State granting the relief; payments made anywhere in the Community are to be treated alike.

Employment and social policy

Employment

Reorganization of working time and training/work experience schemes for young people

2.1.59. On 18 December the Council formally adopted the two major Resolutions on the reorganization of working time² and training/work experience schemes for young people³ approved on 22 November.⁴

Free movement of workers

2.1.60. The first outline agreements were signed in Brussels on 20 December, marking the launching of the second programme of exchanges of young workers set up by the Commission. The new programme, which was formally adopted by the Council on 16 July 1979,⁵ provides for a Community contribution towards the financing of long-term (four to eight months) or short-term (three weeks to three months) exchanges. The signature of these agreements, covering training periods for some 250 young workers, with representatives of five European-level organizations, signalled the opening of the second programme.

¹ OJ C 21 of 26.1.1980.

² OJ C 2 of 4.1.1980.

³ OJ C 1 of 3.1.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 2.1.41 and 2.1.42.

⁵ OJ L 185 of 21.7.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.59, and 7/8-1979, point 2.1.40.

Sectoral measures

Readaptation of workers in the ECSC industries

2.1.61. In December, acting under Article 56(2)(b) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided to contribute a total of 26 584 750 EUA towards the cost of retraining 11 751 workers affected by the closure or running down of a number of coalmines and iron and steel works in the Federal Republic of Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

2.1.62. The social problems which have arisen in industries covered by the ECSC Treaty—especially the iron and steel industry—were mentioned again at the instigation of Vice-President Vredeling, by the ECSC Consultative Committee¹ in Luxembourg on 18 December.

European Social Fund

Assistance from the Social Fund: third instalment, 1979

2.1.63. On 20 December the Commission approved the third batch of applications for assistance from the European Social Fund. These applications, which had been examined by the Fund Committee on 5 December, involve a total of 10 661 577 EUA. Assistance from the Social Fund thus granted will be used mainly to carry out programmes designed to improve the balance between men and women in the various trades by helping women to attend training courses for jobs in which women are currently under-represented.

2.1.64. In addition, aid was granted for pilot schemes pursuant to Article 7, amounting to 633 552 EUA from the 1979 Budget and 209 963 EUA from the 1980 Budget.

Social protection

Social security

2.1.65. Senior social security officials in the Member States met in Rome on 7 December at the invitation of the Italian Minister of Labour to discuss the concertation of social protection policies. The meeting considered the various national measures adopted to solve a number of problems which will have to be dealt with in connection with the reform of the Italian pensions system.

This was the first time an official request had been made for consultations of this kind on a proposal for the reform of social security legislation. The Commission's representatives hoped that this meeting would be followed up by other similar initiatives, thereby constituting a further step towards the concertation of social protection policies.

Combating poverty

2.1.66. The Commission decided to increase its financial contribution to the programme of pilot projects and studies to combat poverty by 81 752 EUA; this decision involves five projects submitted by the United Kingdom.

¹ Point 2.3.66.

Living and working conditions

Housing

2.1.67. Under the Eighth Scheme (first and second instalments) for financing the construction of low-cost housing for workers in the ECSC industries, the Commission approved building projects for a total of 1 672 173 EUA. This sum is earmarked for the construction of 727 dwellings in the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Industrial relations and labour law

Coalmining industry

2.1.68. On 11 December the Joint Committee for the Harmonization of Working Conditions in the Coalmining Industry, meeting in Luxembourg, elected Mr Bartle as Chairman for 1980 and Mr Jakob as Deputy-Chairman. The Committee exchanged opinions on social developments in each country, social security for miners, worker representation in undertakings and vocational training in the coalmining industry.

Health and safety

Health protection

2.1.69. On 17 December the Council approved a Directive on health protection standards for sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter in urban atmospheres.¹ The Commission had submitted a proposal in February 1976.²

2.1.70. On 10 December³ the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from exposure to lead and its ionizing compounds at work. This proposal, which is based on the Council Resolution of 29 June 1978⁴ on an action programme of the European Communities on health and safety at work, is the first specific proposal to be made under the framework Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work, transmitted to the Council by the Commission on 6 March 1979.⁵

The proposal lays down atmospheric exposure limits at work, limit values for certain human biological indicators (rates of lead in blood and rates of delta-aminolaevulinic acid in urine). Lastly, special provisions are made to limit exposure to lead and its ionizing compounds for pregnant women and to reduce to a minimum the transport of lead outside the place of work.

2.1.71. On 14 December the Commission adopted, for transmission to the Council, a draft Directive laying down basic measures for the radiation protection of persons undergoing medical examinations or treatment. A number of provisions concerning medical exposure were set out for the first time in the Council Directive of 1 June 1976, in implementation of the basic safety standards laid down in the Euratom Treaty.

The new draft Directive is designed to give practical effect to the general provisions of

¹ Point 2.1.79.

² Bull. EC 2-1976, point 2215.

³ OJ C 324 of 28.12.1979.

⁴ OJ C 165 of 11.7.1978.

⁵ OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

the basic safety standards. It should help bring about improvements in the radiological protection of patients and the general public without jeopardizing the benefits, whether diagnostic preventive or therapeutic, obtainable from radiation. The measures advocated, which would obviate inappropriate or excessive radiation exposure, will improve the quality and effectiveness of medical usage of radiation. Furthermore, such measures will generally result in savings to the Social Security Organizations.

2.1.72. A colloquium on quality assurance of toxicological data, organized by the Commission and the United States Environmental Protection Agency and attended by representatives of the OECD and the World Health Organization, was held in Luxembourg from 11 to 13 December. The main issues dealt with were the need to establish scientific standards, acceptable at international level, concerning programmes of toxicity tests.

Those present came to the conclusion that it was necessary to extend cooperation between toxicological laboratories on the basis of suitable international programmes in order to ensure the comparability and quality of the data gathered.

Safety and hygiene

2.1.73. The second symposium on accident prevention, organized by the Commission, was held in Luxembourg. It was attended by about 200 participants and dealt with the problems of organizing preventive action and the training of workers and supervisory staff.

2.1.74. The Mines Safety and Health Commission organized briefing sessions in Luxembourg for 24 senior members of miners' unions, which dealt with the improvement

of working conditions in modern underground mines, and in particular with dust and noise control and measures to improve mine climates.

2.1.75. On 21 December the Commission approved the allocation of 1 720 800 EUA for the financing of thirteen research projects under the ECSC research programme on mine safety of 21 December 1976.¹ These projects concern problems such as fires and underground combustion, explosions, rescue, surveillance, methods of working, electricity and metallurgy.

Regional policy

Financing operations

European Regional Development Fund

Fourth allocation for 1979: 538.62 million EUA

2.1.76. On 17 December the Commission approved the fourth and final allocation of grants for 1979 from the European Regional Development Fund totalling 538.62 million EUA. The aid has been allocated to 1 891 investment projects costing a total of 6 903.39 million EUA. The Commission approved the first three allocations for 1979 in January,² June³ and September.⁴

¹ OJ C 10 of 14.1.1977 and Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2224.

² Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.53.

³ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.54.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.40.

In accordance with the Regulation of 18 March 1975¹ establishing the ERDF, as amended by the Regulation of 6 February 1979,² the Fund Committee had approved these projects on 28 and 29 November, with the exception of a few for which an opinion could not be given. The Fund Committee had endorsed projects relating to France on 18 May 1978, 28 and 29 November 1978 and 12 July 1979. On 22 and 23 November 1979 and on 23 November 1978 (again concerning a project in France), the Regional Policy Committee had been consulted on the draft decisions for aid to infrastructure projects

costing more than 10 million EUA.

The approval of this new allocation (the seventeenth since the Fund was set up brings the total aid granted from 1975 to 1979 to 2 491 million EUA for 9 183 projects. However, as some grants were cancelled at the request of the Member States concerned, the amount actually committed was 2 463 million EUA, representing practically all the funds available for these five years.

A breakdown of the aid granted under this allocation is given in Table 3.

Table 3 — Grants from the ERDF (fourth 1979 allocation)

Member States	Number of grant decisions	Number of investment projects	Investments assisted (million EUA)	Assistance granted (million EUA)
Belgium	7	17	68.80	9.08
Denmark	7	37	33.23	4.58
FR of Germany	5	7	341.48	10.83
France	98	428	1 673.99	159.38 ¹
Ireland	5	49	89.00	18.01
Italy	58	1 102	3 669.05	182.93
Luxembourg	1	2	3.12	0.81
Netherlands	1	1	10.08	2.73
United Kingdom	48	248	1 014.64	150.27
Total	230	1 891	6 903.39	538.62

¹ The figure for aid granted to France is relatively large because decisions on projects presented by France are taken only once a year.

The total of 538.62 million EUA breaks down as follows:

(a) 365.15 million EUA to help finance 1 556 infrastructure projects required to develop industrial and tourist activities, comprising:

(i) 153.10 million EUA to help finance 30 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

¹ OJ L 73 of 21.3.1975.

² OJ L 35 of 9.2.1979.

(ii) 204.62 million EUA to help finance 1 440 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each;

(iii) 7.43 million EUA to help finance 86 infrastructure investment projects costing less than 10 million EUA each in the areas covered by the Directive on mountain and hill-farming and farming in less-favoured areas.

The infrastructure investments assisted by grants from the Fund involve a total of 4 679.83 million EUA.

(b) 173.47 million EUA to help finance 335 projects relating to industrial, artisan and service activities, comprising:

(i) 120.69 million EUA to help finance 15 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 52.78 million EUA to help finance 320 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each.

The industrial and services sector investments assisted by grants from the Fund involve a total of 2 223.56 million EUA.

Measures under the ERDF 'non-quota' section

2.1.77. In an opinion¹ delivered at its plenary session on 12 and 13 December, the Economic and Social Committee strongly endorsed the first specific Community measures—presented by the Commission to the Council on 16 October²—to be financed under the new 'non-quota' section of the European Regional Development Fund.

Environment and consumer protection

Environment

Environment matters before the Council

2.1.78. The Council met in Brussels on 17 December to discuss environmental matters; Mr Sylvester Barret, the Irish Minister for the Environment, was in the chair.

Several positive results were achieved: the Directive on groundwater³ was formally adopted, agreement was reached on a Directive concerning sulphur dioxide and suspended particulates⁴ and on a Decision on chlorofluorocarbons.⁵ An initial policy debate was also held on a proposal for a Directive concerning atmospheric quality standards in respect of lead;⁶ and the Council took note of several reports,⁷ two of them from the Commission.

Preventing and reducing pollution and nuisances

Air pollution

Sulphur dioxide and suspended particulates

2.1.79. After a thorough exchange of views, the Council recorded its agreement on a

¹ Point 2.3.59.

² Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.63.

³ Point 2.1.86.

⁴ Point 2.1.79.

⁵ Point 2.1.80.

⁶ Point 2.1.81.

⁷ Points 2.1.82, 2.1.87, 2.1.89, 2.1.91 and 2.1.92.

Directive concerning quality objectives for air with regard to sulphur dioxide and suspended particulates, proposed by the Commission on 25 February 1976.¹ This is the first Community Directive which sets out to regulate pollution of the air by SO₂ and suspended particulates by means of standardization. The Directive forms part of the Community action programme on the environment, and fixes limit values—pollution levels not to be exceeded—to apply throughout the Community from 1 April 1983, although an extension (up to 1 April 1993 at the latest) is possible for the improvement of certain more polluted zones; Member States then have to take the necessary action if certain limit values for the concentration of SO₂ and particulates in the atmosphere are exceeded.

The Directive invites the Member States to improve the quality of the air in the less polluted regions, and if possible to prevent any deterioration, by setting guide-values above the minimum level required for health protection and to take ecological aspects into consideration as well. It also provides for a common procedure for exchanging information in the area covered by the Directive and establishes reference methods for pollutant sampling and analysis; as it is recognized that various measuring methods are used, the Directive enables the Member States to employ, in addition to the reference methods, any other method which ensures that the prescribed obligations will be respected.

With a view to harmonizing at a later stage those measuring and sampling methods which are accepted, the Commission—together with the Member States—is launching a study programme on concurrent measurements, to verify and compare the results achieved from the various methods employed in the Member States. The Commission will make proposals for full harmonization over the next six years.

Chlorofluorocarbons in the environment

2.1.80. The Council approved a Decision relating to chlorofluorocarbons in the environment, thus completing the first stage in the establishment of Community rules on the utilization of fluorocarbons. The Commission had sent a proposal to the Council on 16 May 1979.¹

Under the Decision, each Member State must take all the appropriate measures required to ensure that its national industry does not increase its production capacity for chlorofluorocarbons F 11 and F 12 and that, by 31 December 1981 at the latest, that industry has achieved a reduction of at least 30%, compared with 1976 levels, in the use of chlorofluorocarbons in aerosols. The measures to be taken will be reviewed during the first half of 1980 in the light of available scientific and economic information. Parliament gave its Opinion on the Commission proposal on 14 December.³

Atmospheric quality standards for lead

2.1.81. On 17 December the Council held an initial policy debate on the Commission proposal⁴ of 24 April 1975 for a Directive concerning atmospheric quality standards in respect of lead.

The essential aim of the proposal is to establish a limit value for the lead content of the ambient air, expressed as a mean annual concentration, and to introduce a monitoring

¹ OJ C 63 of 19.3.1976 and Bull. EC 2-1976, point 2215.

² OJ C 136 of 31.5.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.80.

³ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

⁴ OJ C 151 of 7.7.1975 and Bull. EC 4-1975, point 2231.

scheme to see that this limit value is respected. All Delegations were concerned that the level of the limit-value should be appropriate and the emphasis should be on measures to protect human health, with ecological considerations also being taken into account.

Transboundary long-distance atmospheric pollution

2.1.82. The Council (Environment) heard a statement from Mr Natali on the signing by the Community and the Member States of the Convention on Long-distance Transboundary Atmospheric Pollution and the results of the high level meeting on the protection of the environment which was held in Geneva from 13 to 16 November under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Europe.¹

Water pollution

Protecting the waters of the Rhine

2.1.83. Meeting in Brussels on 13 December the delegation heads of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution decided to reduce the discharge of mercury into the Rhine basin and to carry out a thorough check on the agreed measures relating to the restriction of the thermal load on the Rhine. They also referred to the failure of the French Assembly to ratify the 1976 Bonn Agreement (pollution of the Rhine by chlorides) and took note of France's intention to respect as fully as possible the obligations resulting from that Agreement. Lastly, they decided to prepare the substance of a ministerial conference which would be devoted entirely to discussing the problem of reducing discharges of chlorides in Alsace.

2.1.84. On 17 December the Council (Environment) took note of a statement from the Dutch and German Ministers and of observations by the French Delegation and the Commission. Mr Natali stated that the Commission was aware of the importance of this matter and was ready, within the framework of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, to help find a solution which would be acceptable to the parties concerned, although the Community as such was not directly involved in these differences of view between the riparian States.

*

2.1.85. Parliament adopted three separate Resolutions on the subject of Rhine pollution on 14 December.²

Protection of groundwater

2.1.86. On 16 December the Council formally adopted a Directive concerning the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances,³ which it had agreed to in principle on 19 June.⁴

Oil spills at sea

2.1.87. On 17 December the Council took note of a Commission declaration on implementing the action programme of the European Communities with regard to the control and reduction of pollution caused by oil spills

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 2.1.60 and 2.2.28.

² OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

³ OJ L 20 of 26.1.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.56.

at sea, adopted after the wreck of the oil tanker *Amoco Cadiz*, and of the Commission's intention to transmit proposals to the Council as soon as possible.

*

2.1.88. At its session of 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion¹ on two Commission proposals for Directives, on limit valves one for discharges of mercury,² and the other for discharges of aldrin, dieldrin and endrin³ into the aquatic environment.

Accident hazards arising from certain industrial activities

2.1.89. On 17 December the Council took note of a statement from the Italian Delegation concerning the risks of major accidents which might be caused by certain industrial activities such as that at Seveso; the Delegation stressed that it thought it very important to take a decision quickly on the Commission proposal⁴ of 19 July for a Directive now being studied by the competent Council bodies.

Noise nuisances

2.1.90. On 6 December, following a discussion which took full account of the varying situations in the Member States, the Council approved the Directive on the limitation of noise emissions from subsonic aircraft, fixing 31 December 1986 as the deadline for use of aircraft without a noise certificate. A temporary exemption may, however, be granted, if the operator promises to replace substandard aircraft with others which comply with the more rigorous requirements by 31 December 1988 at the latest.

The provisions of the Directive allow registration of subsonic civil aircraft to be made subject to noise certification and to fix deadlines for the withdrawal of any civil aircraft without noise certification already entered on the register. Noise certification will only be granted to those aircraft complying with specifications at least equivalent to the standards fixed by the Chicago Convention, drawn up by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The Directive was formally adopted on 20 December.⁵

Motor vehicles

2.1.91. On 17 December the Council also took note of a declaration from the German Delegation on the reduction of noise and exhaust gases from motor vehicles. With regard to the first point, the German Delegation reminded the Council of its aide-mémoire of July and stressed the value of bringing Community efforts to fruition. As regards exhaust gases, it also invited the Commission to forward suggestions to the Council as soon as possible on 'ecological' vehicles for the 1980s.

Conservation of the environment and natural resources

Protection of whales

2.1.92. The United Kingdom Delegation made a statement to the Council on 17

¹ Point 2.3.60.

² OJ C 169 of 6.7.1979 and Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.59.

³ OJ C 146 of 12.6.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.82.

⁴ OJ C 212 of 24.8.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.57.

⁵ OJ L 18 of 24.1.1980.

December on the protection of whales, suggesting that the Council invite the Commission to put forward proposals designed to ban imports into the Community of whale products from 1 January 1982. The Delegations showed interest in the United Kingdom suggestion, and the Commission announced that it would put a proposal to the Council for a regulation as soon as possible, taking the Delegations' comments and all relevant factors into account.

Consumers

Protection and information of consumers

Accidents caused by consumer products

2.1.93. On 11 December the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal¹ for a Decision setting up a Community system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products. By means of such a system, and through the institution of some simple administrative machinery which could easily be integrated into existing structures, any Member State noting an acute and immediate danger arising from the use of a given product marketed in one or more of the Member States of the Community would immediately inform the other Member States and the Commission. This would enable the necessary measures to be taken promptly at various appropriate levels to protect consumers effectively against hazards to their health and safety.

Consumers Consultative Committee

2.1.94. On 14 December the Consumers Consultative Committee adopted an opinion on the price of pharmaceutical products calling for systematic enquiries to determine the

causes underlying price differences between the Member States, the regular publication of data collected by the statistical offices and, where applicable, measures to restore competition and bring down prices in the sector.

The Committee also endorsed the Commission proposal sent to the Council on 11 December for a Community system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products.² It expressed the wish that the system should not be restricted to notification of dangers to the health and safety of persons, but that the provisions in the second consumer programme relating to consumer information and procedures for withdrawing dangerous products from the market should be put into effect. It also called for all products to be brought within the system and for it to be extended from the outset to cover all non-member countries.

At the same meeting the Committee issued an opinion on the safety of toys, in which it expresses the view that harmonization in the sector should be total and that Member States should have the possibility of introducing or maintaining any national provisions that provide for stricter safety rules than those laid down in the Directive.

2.1.95. At its plenary session on 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered an opinion³ on the Community's new consumer action programme submitted by the Commission to the Council on 27 June 1979⁴ and on the proposal⁵ to amend the Directive of 27 July 1976⁶ on the approx-

¹ OJ C 321 of 22.12.1979.

² Point 2.1.93.

³ Points 2.3.61 and 2.3.62.

⁴ OJ C 218 of 30.8.1979, Bull. EC 6-1979, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.7, and Supplement 4/79 — Bull. EC.

⁵ OJ C 165 of 2.7.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.85.

⁶ OJ L 202 of 27.9.1976.

imation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products, submitted to the Council on 18 May.

Agriculture

Changes to the common agricultural policy

2.1.96. In the context of the budget questions concerning the agricultural sector the Council, meeting on 10 and 11 December, held a first policy debate on the Commission communication on changes to the common agricultural policy to help balance the markets and streamline expenditure.¹ Following the debate the Council agreed to make the following statement:

'The Council has noted with sympathy and understanding the reasons which have led the European Parliament within the framework of the budgetary procedure to propose changes in the Guarantee Section. The Council interprets the adoption by the Parliament of these proposed modifications as the will of the Parliament to indicate its preoccupations, faced with the financial consequences of persistent agricultural surpluses.

The Council shares this preoccupation and accepts that, provided that the fundamental principles of the common agricultural policy are not called into question, changes will be necessary. The Council agrees with the Parliament that early action by the Council is an essential step to secure a better balance within the agricultural section of the budget and within the budget as a whole.

The Council draws the attention of the Parliament to the fact that the Commission has recently made a number of proposals to this end.² The Council, having in mind the Parliament's proposals for modification, will examine the Commission's proposals urgently and with all the consideration that their importance involves so as to arrive at appropriate decisions in time for the beginning of the marketing years concerned.³

Measures in connection with the monetary situation

2.1.97. There was a further alteration in central rates, the second since the ECU was introduced into the common agricultural policy, following the devaluation of the Danish Krone within the framework of the EMS.²

While it was possible to avoid the consequences of this devaluation for the MCAs for currencies other than the Danish Krone, since the effect of the alteration in the central rates was slight, the alteration in the central rate of the Krone should have meant the introduction of monetary compensatory amounts for Denmark. Since the Council thought that this could be avoided by a corresponding alteration in the representative rate, it decided on 3 December to devalue the representative rate of the Danish Krone by 4.628%.³

The new representative rate applicable from 5 December (except in fisheries where it takes effect on 1 January) is fixed at 0.129477 ECU for one Danish Krone; the effect of this devaluation on prices in national currency is 4.852%.

2.1.98. The special rates used to convert the free-at-frontier reference prices for imported liqueur wines into national currency are in theory the exchange rates resulting from the central rates. These had to be altered with effect from 30 November by Commission Regulation⁴ of 12 December, following the alteration in the central rates due to the devaluation of the Krone; those Member States' currencies not maintained at any given moment within a spread of 2.25% were adjusted in line with fluctuations in the relevant exchange rates.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.1.

³ OJ L 309 of 5.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 318 of 13.12.1979.

2.1.99. At the request of the United Kingdom and Italian Governments the Council, on a proposal from the Commission, also decided on 14 December¹ on a 5% devaluation of the representative rates for the pound sterling and the Italian lira. The new rates of one pound sterling = 1.61641 ECU and 100 Italian lire = 0.0895255 ECU took effect on 17 December for all sectors, except fisheries (1 January 1980), cereals and eggs and poultrymeat (1 August 1980) and wine (16 December 1980).¹ However, the new Italian representative rate is not applicable for sugar and isoglucose until 1 July 1980 and for the pigmeat sector until 1 November 1980.

A summary of these devaluations and their effects is given in Table 4.

In view of the devaluation in the representative rate of the pound sterling and the Italian lira, the Commission on 14 December amended the Regulation laying down detailed rules for the application of the Council Regulation on the exchange rates to be used in agriculture,¹ and the Council Regulation of 28 September 1979 fixing the monetary compensatory amounts and certain coefficients and rates needed for their application.²

2.1.100. Since new representative rates and new activating prices had come into force on

16 December, the start of the wine year,¹ the monetary compensatory amounts in the wine sector had to be altered by the Commission.

2.1.101. Finally, since certain coefficients used to calculate the levies on derived products in the poultrymeat sector had been altered with effect from 1 January 1980, the MCAs also had to be altered.

Common organization of markets

2.1.102. On 7 December, the Commission adopted a Regulation³ fixing the prices to be used in calculating the value of agricultural products of all sectors in intervention storage on 31 December.

2.1.103. In the cereals sector, the Commission transmitted a communication to the Council on 6 December on the comparative costs of feed grains in Italy and in other regions of the Community. This study had been requested by the Council in connection with discussions on the 1979/80 agricultural

¹ OJ L 320 of 15.12.1979.

² OJ L 247 of 1.10.1979.

³ OJ L 312 of 8.12.1979.

Table 4

Currency	Representative rates		Devaluation (%)	Effect	
	Old	New		On MCAs (points decrease)	On prices (% increase)
UKL	UKL 1 = 1.70148 ECU 1 ECU = UKL 0.587724	UKL 1 = 1.61641 ECU 1 ECU = UKL 0.718655	5	- 5.5 ¹	+ 5.263
LIT	LIT 100 = 0.0942746 ECU 1 ECU = LIT 1 060.73	LIT 100 = 0.0895255 ECU 1 ECU = LIT 1 117.00	5.038	- 5.5 ²	+ 5.305

¹ Calculated on the basis of the reference period 14 to 20 November 1979.

² Calculated on the basis of the reference period 21 to 27 November 1979.

prices because, since the start of the common organization of the market in cereals, Italy had been authorized to reduce the levy applicable to certain imports of feed grains by an amount fixed by the Council (3.62 EUA to 6.04 EUA in 1979).

On 11 December the Council agreed to undertake a detailed review of the Commission's study before 31 March 1980. In the meantime, it gave its agreement to the Commission's proposal to prolong the current arrangements until then.

2.1.104. The Commission adopted two Regulations on sugar. On 4 December¹ it fixed the amount of the production levy for the 1978/79 sugar marketing year at 12.15 EUA per 100 kg; and on 5 December² it suspended the permanent invitation to tender to supply sugar at reduced prices for feeding to bees for the 1979 season.

2.1.105. There was considerable activity in the wine sector in December. On 11 December the Council approved the action programme³ to rationalize the market and restructure the wine sector. This programme contains several elements, the most important of which concerns structures and the market.

On the structures side, the measures planned are as follows:

- (i) prohibition on any new planting for the production of table wine up to 1985;
- (ii) definition of right to replant (eight years after grubbing);
- (iii) system of prior authorization for planting for the production of quality wines p.s.r. and notification in general of operations carried out;
- (iv) classification of land according to its natural suitability for wine-growing, application of this classification being required for the granting of structural aid;

(v) arrangements for those giving up wine-growing providing for three possibilities: temporary cessation for eight years (premium ranging from 1 813 to 3 022 ECU per hectare depending on productivity); definitive cessation with loss of right to replant (additional 2 418 ECU); renunciation of the right to replant suspended in France since 1976;

(vi) arrangements for ceasing agricultural work after giving up the vineyard annual premium of 363 ECU per hectare, up to a maximum of five hectares, for full-time farmers aged between 55 and 65; single premium of 604 ECU per hectare, up to a maximum of five hectares, for part-time farmers;

(vii) arrangements for restructuring vineyards as part of collective operations; operations covering more than 100 ha (table wine) and parcels of at least 2 ha (aid between 2 418 and 3 022 ECU per hectare);

The market side includes the following measures:

- (i) a minimum price fixed by the Council under specific conditions, i.e. when prices fall below 85% of the guide price for three consecutive weeks, all other intervention measures having been taken. The minimum price might be accompanied by a prohibition on marketing below this price and would be accompanied by obligatory distillation at the same price;
- (ii) additional wine deliveries: this is a type of obligatory distillation of wine, additional to the obligation to distil by-products (10%) applicable since 1976 in France when the harvest results in a surplus; an obligation of the same kind but at a lower rate might be imposed in Italy;
- (iii) aid for grape must used for certain purposes;

¹ OJ L 309 of 5.12.1979.

² OJ L 310 of 6.12.1979.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.6, and Supplement 7/78 — Bull. EC.

(iv) extension of the authorization for the addition of sucrose in aqueous solution up to 15 March 1984, but only within certain geographical zones in Germany proposed by the Commission and only for Riesling and Elbing;

(v) extension of the possibility of coupage of German red wines with imported red wines, subject to restrictive conditions, until 30 June 1984.

The financial consequences of these measures for the EAGGF, whose participation in certain cases may be as much as 40%, is estimated at about 315 million EUA for the whole programme.

2.1.106. Also in the wine sector, the Council on 11 December fixed the activating prices for table wines for 1979/80.¹

2.1.107. The Commission, after having drawn up the forward estimate for the 1979/80 wine-growing year,² which indicates that the harvest was a very abundant one (176 million hl), adopted two Regulations¹ on 14 December authorizing the conclusion of long-term private storage contracts for certain table wines and for grape must and concentrated grape must.

2.1.108. In the tobacco sector, the Commission issued an invitation to tender on 21 December for the sale for export of baled tobacco held by the Italian intervention agency, covering 13 464 tonnes of oriental tobaccos from the 1975 and 1976 harvests; this quantity represents about 40% of current stocks.

2.1.109. Since there has been a reduction in the quantities of skimmed-milk powder available on the market, which particularly affects manufacturers of compound feedingstuffs for calves, the Commission, in order to ensure supplies to this industry (which constitutes a

permanent outlet for skimmed-milk powder), adopted a Regulation on 10 December providing for the sale of skimmed-milk powder in public storage for more than a year, at the intervention price plus 0.40 ECU per 100 kg.

2.1.110. In the beef and veal sector, three Regulations entering into force on 1 January 1980 will implement the agreements concluded in connection with the Tokyo Round. These concern the management of quotas for frozen buffalo meat and for high-quality beef and veal, the export subsidies system for the annual quantity of 5 000 tonnes of beef and veal from the Community which may be imported into the United States and the advance fixing of the levy on frozen beef.

Structural policy

2.1.111. At its meeting on 10 and 11 December the Council agreed in principle to extend by one year, from 1 January 1980, certain provisions contained in the first of its socio-cultural Directives adopted on 17 April 1972,³ namely the one on farm modernization.

The extension will apply to temporary national aid and to the level of the interest rate subsidy for the modernization of Italian farms.⁴

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guidance Section

2.1.112. Under the Council Regulation of 5 February 1964,⁵ the Commission on 20

¹ OJ L 320 of 15.12.1979.

² OJ C 321 of 22.12.1979.

³ OJ L 96 of 23.4.1972 and Bull. EC 4-1972, Part One, Chapter I.

⁴ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

⁵ OJ 34 of 27.2.1964.

December granted aid of 17.7 million EUA from the EAGGF Guidance Section to 48 individual projects to improve production structures, using appropriations released as a result of the failure to implement certain projects which had received aid during previous years in Germany and Italy.

The projects can be broken down as follows: Federal Republic of Germany: DM 30 926 448 (12 459 540 EUA) for 26 projects; Italy: LIT 6 061 029 339 (5 295 927 EUA) for 22 projects.

2.1.113. Under the Council Regulation of 15 February 1977¹ on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed, the Commission adopted on 20 December a number of decisions granting aid from the EAGGF Guidance Section. A total of 225 projects received aid totalling 89.5 million

EUA; 66 of these are situated in the Mediterranean regions and received 46.3 million EUA in aid. The breakdown per Member State is shown in Table 5.

2.1.114. In December the Commission took a number of decisions on payment by the Guidance Section of various payments on account and reimbursements of expenditure incurred in recent years by the Member States in connection with structural policy measures. These decisions accounted for a total of about 88.1 million EUA broken down as follows (in million EUA):

FR of Germany:	22.2	France:	18.2
Ireland:	3.3	Netherlands:	6.9
Belgium:	1.1	United Kingdom:	32.9
Italy:	3.5		

¹ OJ L 51 of 23.2.1977.

Table 5 — Aid from EAGGF Guidance Section

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in EUA ¹
● Second instalment (normal funds)			
Belgium	9	BFR 95 718 404	2 392 087
Denmark	6	DKR 3 988 767	544 116
France	27	FF 44 901 241	7 733 713
FR of Germany	38	DM 27 285 157	10 992 550
Ireland	11	IRL 2 820 201	4 215 642
Italy	27	LIT 10 487 099 061	9 163 280
Luxembourg	1	LFR 8 505 853	212 569
Netherlands	11	HFL 10 516 472	3 813 591
United Kingdom	29	UKL 2 723 721	4 108 009
	159		43 175 557
● Mediterranean areas			
France	23	FF 51 782 119	8 918 864
Italy	43	LIT 42 809 897 569	37 405 871
	66		46 324 735

¹ The amounts in EUA are given as a rough guide.

Harmonization of legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.115. On 11 December the Council reached a consensus on a package of seven proposals for Directives concerning veterinary matters ranging from meat products to the fight against swine fever, tuberculosis, and brucellosis. Its formal approval is expected shortly.

Fisheries

Conservation and management of resources

Internal resources

2.1.116. The Council meeting on fisheries of 3 December gave its agreement to the adoption of interim measures for the first three months of 1980, together with its agreement in principle to a Community system of recording catches and notifying them to the Commission.

Under the Council Decision,¹ until 31 March 1980 the Member States will conduct their fishing activities in such a way as to take into account the total allowable catches (TACs) submitted by the Commission to the Council in its communication of 21 November with addendum and corrigendum of 30 November and the part of the TACs made available to non-member countries under agreements or arrangements made with them by the Community. The catches taken in the interim period will be offset against the allocations eventually decided upon by the Council for 1980.

As regards technical measures for the conservation and surveillance of fishery resources, Member States will apply the same measures as they applied on 3 November 1976, and other measures taken in accordance with the procedures and criteria of Annex VI to the Council Resolution of 3 November 1976.

The Council agreed that by 31 January 1980 it would adopt definitive TACs on the basis of Commission proposals and further consideration of relevant scientific, economic and social factors, and at the same time adopt the Community Regulation on the system of recording and notification of catches. The Regulation proposed by the Commission on this point,² i.e. the recording and notification of catches by vessels of Member States in Community waters, could have been adopted by the Council on 3 December if there had been an agreement in principle on the TACs proposed by the Commission; in particular it was because of the reservation entered by the Netherlands and France in respect of certain species that this agreement could not be concluded.

2.1.117. On 21 December, following the Council's decision of 3 December to set up, from 1 January 1980, a system for the recording and notifications of catches, the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation³ which includes several of the provisions of the proposals presented in 1977 and 1978 on the control of fishing by vessels of Member States in Community water (recording and notification of catches).

2.1.118. On 18 December the Commission decided that seven Danish national measures

¹ OJ L 312 of 8.12.1979.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.86.

³ OJ C 14 of 18.1.1980.

for the conservation of resources for 1979 were in compliance with Community rules. These limit catches in the Baltic Sea and in the North-East Atlantic. On 20 December the Commission also approved two Irish Ministerial Orders concerning the prohibition of herring fishing.

External aspects

2.1.119. As a result of a certain softening in the United Kingdom attitude, the Council meeting on fisheries on 3 December achieved some tangible results.

The Council adopted a Regulation¹ on the conclusion of the Fisheries Agreement with Canada valid for 1979, since the United Kingdom Delegation had lifted its reservation. Canada had made conclusion of this Agreement a prior condition to the continuation of negotiations on an agreement for 1980. The Council noted that the Commission will negotiate a new agreement; an arrangement will be agreed on to cover the first few months of the year so as to effect the transition between the two agreements. When the parties concerned had notified each other that the formalities needed for the agreement for 1979 to come into force had been completed, it came into force on 4 December.² Conclusion of the agreement for 1980 was the subject of proposals transmitted by the Commission to the Council on 21 December.

2.1.120. The Council also gave negotiating directives to the Commission for a Fisheries Agreement with the Republic of Seychelles and Mauritius. The purpose of this Agreement would be to retain fishing rights for fishermen from the overseas department of Réunion who traditionally fished in the waters which have become the fishing zones of those two countries.

2.1.121. Pending the result of consultations with the Spanish Delegation with a view to establishing a system of reciprocal fishing rights for 1980, which will continue in January, the Council agreed to extend until the end of January 1980 the validity of the licences granted to vessels flying the Spanish flag and valid until 31 December.

2.1.122. On 20 December the Council adopted a Regulation³ laying down certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of certain non-member countries in the 200 nautical-mile zone off the coast of the French department of Guiana.

2.1.123. Lastly, trilateral consultations between the Community, Norway and Sweden on fishing rights in the Skagerrak for 1980 continued in Brussels on 19 and 20 December without it being possible to reach an agreement. These consultations will continue in January 1980. Similarly, the bilateral consultations between the Community and Sweden and the Community and the Faroe Islands have not yet been concluded and will continue in January. In the meantime, from 1 January Community fishermen can no longer fish in the Faroe Islands' fishing zone or in the Swedish zone in the Baltic Sea.

Markets and structures

Common organization of the market

2.1.124. At its meeting on 10 and 11 December the Council fixed, on a proposal from the Commission, the Community prices

¹ OJ L 312 of 8.12.1979.

² OJ L 326 of 22.12.1979.

³ OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

for fishery products for the next fishing year, running from 1 January to 31 December 1980.¹ On average, prices were increased by about 2%.

The guide prices for herrings, Mediterranean sardines and mackerel applicable in 1979 were retained. For the majority of other species (cod, saithe, haddock, whiting, hake, etc.) the guide prices were increased by from 1 to 6%. On the other hand, the trend of the market for Atlantic sardines and anchovies led the Council to reduce prices by 4% and 7.5% respectively on the Commission's proposal. The producer prices for tunny intended for the canning industry were raised by 5%.

On the whole, the increases decided on by the Council should not have any effect on market prices, which in all probability will for most species remain higher than the withdrawal prices derived from the guide price.

2.1.125. On 20 December² the Council extended for six months, until 30 June 1980, the partial suspension proposed by the Commission of the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties applied to cod, haddock and hake. The duties are suspended at 9%. This decision is due to the fact that catches by the Community fleet are not at present sufficient to meet all the requirements of the Community's processing industry.

The Council has also suspended until 30 June 1980 the customs duties on imports of certain herring products: there is a total suspension for fresh or frozen herring fillets and a suspension at 5% for certain types of processed herring.

Structural policy

2.1.126. Under the Council Regulation of 15 February 1977³ on common measures to

improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed, the Commission decided on 21 December, to finance, as part of the second instalment for 1979, thirty investment projects relating to the processing and marketing of fishery products. The aid for these projects is about 3.4 million EUA.

Transport

Transport matters before the Council

2.1.127. The Council meeting (Transport) held on 6 December proved very constructive. The Ministers concluded a Supplementary Agreement relating to through international railway tariffs,⁴ adopted a Directive on certain types of tanker⁵ and recorded their agreement on all items on the agenda.

The success of the 6 December meeting paved the way for formal adoption on 20 December of a number of texts, including a compromise package designed to streamline the carriage of goods by road;⁶ the initiation of a consultation procedure concerning international action in the field of air transport;⁷ and the limitation of noise emissions from subsonic aircraft.⁸ The Council also considered the situation of railway undertakings⁹ and steps to be taken to improve it. There was wide-

¹ OJ L 320 of 15.12.1979.

² OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

³ OJ L 51 of 23.2.1977.

⁴ Point 2.1.122.

⁵ Point 2.1.138.

⁶ Point 2.1.128.

⁷ Point 2.1.135.

⁸ Point 2.1.137.

⁹ Point 2.1.133.

ranging discussion of the memoranda presented by the Commission in 1979 on the development of air transport services¹ and on transport infrastructure.²

Finally, Mr Burke, for the Commission made a general statement in which he urged the Council to take decisions quickly on the first Directive on the adjustment of national systems of taxing utility vehicles, on driving licences and on summer time. Referring to Parliament's 16 January Resolution on the state of the common transport policy and its further development,³ Mr Burke announced that he would be submitting a draft work programme during 1980 which would set out priorities for the period 1981 to 1983.

Inland transport

Operation of the market

Access to the market

2.1.128. On 20 December the Council adopted two Regulations, two Directives and two Decisions designed to streamline the carriage of goods by road between the Member States. The main points of the settlement, based on a compromise package put forward by the Irish Presidency and agreed to in principle on 6 December, are as follows:

(i) establishment of general common rules for negotiations between Member States on the adjustment of capacity⁴ for own-account carriage of goods by road (bilateral quotas);

(ii) 20% increase in Community authorizations,⁵ one half being a linear increase and the other half in accordance with the criterion of use;

(iii) introduction of a system for the transformation of annual authorizations into short-term Community authorizations,⁵ each annual authorization being divided into twelve individual authorizations valid for thirty days; this measure would be applied for an experimental period of three years and confined to a maximum of 10% of the annual Community authorizations which may be issued by a given Member State;

(iv) liberalization of certain types of own-account carriage⁴ by extension of the first Council Directive of 23 July 1962,⁶ on the understanding that discussions would continue on the examination of an overall Directive on own-account carriage.

Transport rates and conditions

2.1.129. On 6 December⁷ the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community meeting within the Council adopted the Fourth Supplementary Agreement to the Agreement of 21 March 1955⁸ on the establishment of through international railway tariffs. This amendment was made necessary by the enlargement of the Community from six to nine Member States, since the United Kingdom does not apply general internal tariffs for the carriage of goods.

2.1.130. On 7 December⁹ the Commission, which had been asked to resolve the dispute

¹ Point 2.1.136.

² Point 2.1.134.

³ OJ C 39 of 12.1.1979 and Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.3.11.

⁴ OJ L 18 of 24.1.1980.

⁵ OJ L 336 of 29.12.1979.

⁶ OJ 70 of 6.8.1962.

⁷ OJ L 315 of 11.12.1979.

⁸ OJ ECSC No 9 of 19.4.1955.

⁹ OJ L 4 of 8.1.1980.

between Denmark and the other Member States over the publication of reference tariffs for the cross-frontier carriage of goods by road, adopted a Decision finding that the reference tariffs proposed by the Danish Association of Road Hauliers were consistent with Community law and should be published as soon as possible.

Competition

2.1.131. On 11 December the Commission sent the Council its seventh biennial report on implementation of the Council Decision of 13 May 1965¹ relating to the harmonization of certain measures affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway. The report—which covers the period from 1 June 1977 to 31 May 1979 but also reflects the situation at the beginning of December—takes stock of progress in this area over the last two years.

Approximation of structures

Social conditions

2.1.132. The situation with regard to the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport often falls short of what is desirable or indeed necessary. This is the overall conclusion of the Commission's Report (the sixth of a series) on application of the social harmonization Regulation of 25 March 1976. The Report, which covers 1975 and 1976, was sent to the Council on 11 December.

Situation of railway undertakings

2.1.133. On 6 December the Council considered the economic and financial situation

of railway undertakings, taking note of the Commission's second biennial report on the subject. The main conclusions to emerge from the discussion, reported in the press release issued after the meeting, were as follows:

'In general no significant improvement was achieved during 1976-77 regarding the financial situation of railways and their position on the transport market, and the financial burden supported by State budgets remains at a relatively high level.

The Council considered that this situation could be attributed to the prevailing general economic conditions in the period under consideration and to the internal and external difficulties of the structural adaptation of railways, and re-affirmed the need to maintain an efficient railway network throughout the Community.

To this end, the Council, referring to its Decision of 20 May 1975² on the improvement of the situation of railway undertakings and the harmonization of rules governing financial relations between such undertakings, underlined the importance of the provisions contained in this Decision, relating in particular to the conferral upon railway undertakings of the necessary autonomy to encourage the economical management of their activities with a view to achieving financial stability, and to the establishment and implementation of business, financial and investment programmes, preferably on a multiannual basis.

It also considered that:

- (i) cooperation between Community railway undertakings should be further developed to improve the commercial viability of railways on the wider European market as well as the quality of services offered to the user;
- (ii) railway accounts should, where this is necessary, be made even more transparent with a view to better identifying the true financial situation;
- (iii) future Commission reports should:

¹ OJ 88 of 24.5.1965.

² OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975.

- provide for greater comparability of the financial results of railway undertakings;
- highlight the results of implementation of Community legislation in the Member States.

The Council also took note of the Commission report of 23 April 1979¹ on the long-term objectives to be pursued and the measures to be taken to promote partial or total integration of railway undertakings at Community level.²

Infrastructure

2.1.134. The Council took note of the Commission's memorandum of 16 November on the Community's role in the development of transport infrastructures² and proceeded to a discussion on the basis of a statement from Mr Burke.

Mr Burke stressed the key role of transport infrastructure in the overall economy and the importance to the Community of various projects listed in the memorandum. The Commission will continue a number of studies on identifying bottlenecks in intra-Community traffic and on the definition of the network of major links of Community importance. For its part the Council will continue its discussions on the proposal for financial support for projects of Community interest in the field of transport. In his summing-up, Mr Burke situated discussions on this topic in the general context of the European Council meeting in Dublin.

Following a discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to make a detailed examination of the Commission's memorandum and to pursue its study of the Commission's proposal on support for transport infrastructure projects of Community interest.³

Air and sea transport

Consultation procedure in the field of air transport

2.1.135. On 20 December the Council adopted a Decision⁴ initiating a Community consultation procedure concerning relations between Member States and non-member countries and discussions within international organizations in the field of air transport. The Commission's proposal was transmitted to the Council on 12 July.⁵

Development of air transport services

2.1.136. On 6 December the Council discussed a number of matters bearing on air transport. The following statement was released after the meeting:

'Following a detailed and prolonged discussion of the various aspects of developing air transport services—in particular those involved in Community economic integration, scales of charges and costs, and the international energy situation—the Council took note of the Commission memorandum of 12 July on the contribution of the European Communities to the development of air transport services.⁶

In the area of the structure of air services and market innovation, it invited the Commission to pursue in the first instance, in view of their specific characteristics, the examination of the problems of

¹ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.90.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.9, and Supplement 8/79 — Bull. EC.

³ OJ C 207 of 2.9.1976.

⁴ OJ L 18 of 24.1.1980.

⁵ OJ C 193 of 31.7.1979 and Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.4.8.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1979, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.8, and Supplement 5/79 — Bull. EC.

cross-border inter-regional services, with a view to submitting specific suggestions to it in the first half of 1980 for action in this area.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to pursue with all possible speed the examination of the other priority questions in the light of the Commission's memorandum, the present debate and any opinion on it delivered by the European Parliament or the Economic and Social Committee:

- (i) common standards restricting the emission of nuisances due to aircraft;
- (ii) simplification of formalities (facilitation), particularly those relating to air freight;
- (iii) implementation of technical standards (JAR);
- (iv) provisions regarding aids/provisions regarding competition;
- (v) mutual recognition of licences (aircrew and ground staff);
- (vi) working conditions (aircrew and ground staff);
- (vii) right of establishment;
- (viii) search, rescue and recovery operations, and accident enquiries.

In conclusion, the Council requested the Commission, if it had not already done so, to submit proposals or other initiatives concerning these priority questions as quickly as possible.⁷

Limitation of noise emissions from aircraft

2.1.137. On 20 December the Council formally adopted the Directive¹ on the limitation of noise emissions from subsonic aircraft. The Directive, on which it had recorded its agreement on 6 December following a difficult discussion, fixes 31 December 1986 as the deadline for the use of noisy aircraft, that is to say aircraft without noise certification. The deadline may however be extended until 31 December 1988 provided there are appropriate plans to replace the fleet of air-

craft. The Commission's proposal was transmitted to the Council on 26 April 1976.²

Tankers

2.1.138. On 6 December³ the Council amended its Directive of 21 December 1978⁴ concerning minimum requirements for certain tankers entering or leaving Community ports. This amendment extends the scope of the Directive to tankers transporting liquefied gases in bulk, and lays down the obligation—for both tankers transporting chemicals in bulk and those transporting liquefied gases in bulk—to indicate whether or not the vessel is in possession of a certificate of fitness under the terms of the IMCO code for the construction and equipment of ships carrying such products.

Advisory Committee on Transport

2.1.139. The Advisory Committee on Transport met in Brussels on 13 December. It debated and adopted an opinion on increasing productivity in the carriage of goods by road for hire or reward, notably by reducing the number of unladen journeys.

Energy

Energy matters before the Council

2.1.140. The main item under discussion at the Council meeting on energy on 4 December was the implementation of the recommendations made at the Western Sum-

¹ OJ L 18 of 24.1.1980.

² OJ C 126 of 9.6.1976.

³ OJ L 315 of 11.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 33 of 8.2.1979.

mit held in Tokyo on 28 and 29 June¹ concerning the distribution among Member States of the joint target for oil imports.

The Council formally adopted the net import quantities which had been agreed for the Community countries—subject to their approval for the Nine by the Council—by the conference of the seven Tokyo Summit participants which was held in Paris on 26 September.²

The Council also accepted a plan for a monitoring procedure relating to the oil import targets set for 1980 and 1985.

Matters affecting coal were also raised at the Council which heard a statement by the Commission on expanding the use of coal with a view to reducing the Community's dependence on outside energy sources.

The extension and the adjustment of the system of aid for coking coal and coke intended for the iron and steel industry were also discussed, and a decision was adopted formally a fortnight later.³

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

Implementing the Tokyo Declaration

Distribution among Member States of the joint target set for 1980 oil imports

2.1.141. On 4 December the Council approved the following statement on the distribution of imports:

'The Council, following the recommendation which four Member States made in Tokyo to their Community partners, namely that it should be specified what the contribution of each Member State is to be to the Community's commitment to holding net Community oil imports between 1980 and 1985 to a yearly level equal to or less than that for 1978 (472 million tonnes), confirms, in the same terms as those of the agreement recorded on 9 October 1979 concerning the distribution among Member States of the Community of these objectives for 1985, that the Community will ensure that this import target is achieved, taking account of the determination of each Member State to keep within the following ceilings for 1980 (in million tonnes):

Belgium	30
Denmark	16.5
FR of Germany	143
France	117
Ireland	6.5
Italy	103.5
Luxembourg	1.5
Netherlands	42
United Kingdom	12
	<hr/>
EEC	472

Monitoring procedure

2.1.142. The Council also agreed on a monitoring procedure in connection with the oil import targets set for 1980 and 1985. The following statement was put out at the end of the meeting:

'In order to monitor the adequacy of national energy policies of the EEC countries with respect to the EEC energy policy decisions, and in particu-

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.6.

² Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.69.

³ Point 2.1.147.

lar the country targets established for 1980 and 1985, the Energy Council agrees on the following principles:

1. A quarterly monitoring procedure will be established and focus on achievement of the 1980 import targets and on realization of the medium and long-term measures necessary to meet the 1985 targets, based on a list of measures transmitted by the Member States to the Commission.
2. The monitoring procedure will take into account all major circumstances such as changes in growth expectancy, seasonal variations and unusual weather conditions, bunkerage and foreign refining and will be extended to assessment whether adjustment of targets and efforts is required to conform to supply prospects.
3. To achieve an equitable burden sharing, the different economic structures of the Member States with respect to production, consumption, energy-saving potential and energy prices will duly be taken into account.
4. The monitoring procedure will involve—if necessary—an adjustment of the targets by the Council and—so far as necessary for the achievement of commitments—recommendations to Member States of areas for strengthening energy policy activities leaving definition of concrete instruments to individual Member States.¹

2.1.143. The agreement reached on these points enabled the Community to adopt a common position at the meeting of the Governing Board of the International Energy Agency (IEA) held at ministerial level on 10 December.¹ The purpose of the meeting, at which the Commission was represented by Mr Brunner, was to implement the Tokyo recommendations at IEA level. All the members of the Agency undertook to limit their oil imports in 1980 and to set targets for 1985.

Energy saving and rational use of energy

2.1.144. The Community and Canada have agreed to cooperate on energy-saving by

developing the novel 'energy bus' method. A memorandum laying the foundations for this cooperation was signed in Brussels on 17 December.² The Canadian vehicle—popularly known as the 'energy bus'—enables the energy consumption of industrial and commercial premises to be measured, potential energy savings to be identified and, as a result, the costs of energy consumption to be reduced. Tests carried out in Canada show that this method can make it possible to achieve energy savings of 20 to 30%.

Sectoral problems

Hydrocarbons

Registering Community imports of crude oil

2.1.145. On 28 August the Council adopted a Regulation³ introducing registration for crude oil and/or petroleum product imports in the Community and on 20 November it adopted the new Regulation⁴ laying down the rules for carrying out the registration; the Commission laid down implementing rules⁵ on 4 December. The Commission has introduced a single form of notification for Member States and firms, specifying both the content and presentation of the information to be given in order to simplify the technicalities of the information system devised.

¹ Point 2.2.50.

² Point 2.2.56.

³ OJ L 220 of 30.8.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.98.

⁴ OJ L 297 of 24.11.1979 and Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.102.

⁵ OJ L 314 of 10.12.1979.

Coal

Utilization of coal

2.1.146. At the Council meeting on 4 December Mr Brunner reminded delegates in his statement¹ that the Commission has long been urging a general discussion of the problems facing coal, so that measures to develop and promote investments in coal can be adopted. He asked the Council to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to consider the matter and reach a solution within the next three months.

Coal and coke for the iron and steel industry

2.1.147. On 19 December, following the Council meeting of 4 December¹ and with the Council's assent, given on 18 December, the Commission extended and adjusted to new economic circumstances a major part of the arrangements concerning coking coal and coke for the Community iron and steel industry.²

The objective of these Community arrangements, which were introduced in 1967 and extended and adjusted in 1970 and 1973, is to ease the maintenance of production capacity and the sale of iron and steel products in the Community. The means employed consist essentially of a system of aid, specific pricing rules and certain commercial practices between seller and buyer.

Whereas the Decision of 25 July 1973,³ as amended on 29 September 1978,⁴ remains in force until 31 December 1981, the part relating to marketing aid and the necessary Community finance ceased to apply from 31 December 1979.

In the light of the guidelines emerging from the Council meeting on 4 December, and having received the assent of the Council on 18 December,⁵ the Commission raised the average rate of marketing aid by about 1 EUA per tonne (from 2.10 to about 3.10 EUA per tonne) and with it Community participation in the rebates granted by the coal mines which supply iron and steelworks at prices close to those applying to major long-term transactions on the world market.

An eligible figure of 15 million tonnes means that the maximum finance required will be 47 million EUA, to be broken down as follows:

	million EUA	
ECSC Budget	6	} No change
Iron and Steel Industry	17	
Six Member States	24	

Any reduction in trade below the 15 million tonne threshold will mean that the contribution from the six States will also decline, the other two items being fixed. Like the other parts of the Decision, these measures are to remain in force until 31 December 1981.

Industrial loans

2.1.148. Under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission granted an industrial loan of UKL 190 million to the National Coal Board to help finance the new mine at Selby in Yorkshire, which is destined to become one of the most productive pits in the

¹ Point 2.1.140.

² OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979.

³ OJ L 259 of 15.9.1973.

⁴ OJ L 275 of 30.9.1978.

⁵ OJ C 14 of 18.1.1980.

Community. The Commission also decided, under the same Article, to grant a loan of DM 26.4 million to the Westfälische Bergwerkschaftenkasse, Bochum, Germany, to help finance two training centres for the mining industry.

Nuclear energy

Euratom loans: raising the permitted ceiling

2.1.149. On 20 December the Council decided¹ to amend its Decision of 29 March 1977² authorizing the Commission to contract Euratom loans, which are intended to help finance nuclear power stations, by raising the total figure for these loans from 500 million to 1 000 million EUA.

Electricity

Investment projects

2.1.150. On 14 December the Commission sent the Council a report on investment projects in the electricity sector describing the situation as at 1 January 1979 on the basis of information supplied to the Commission pursuant to two Council Regulations.

In the light of the information received, the Commission requested the Council to conclude that:

(i) whilst the increase in the amount of new, solid-fuel burning electricity generating capacity expected by 1985 is encouraging, Member States must try by the most appropriate means to step up the consumption of solid fuel in power stations at the expense of oil;

(ii) the reduction in the expected contribution of nuclear power to the generation of electricity in 1985 and 1990 is disturbing. The Commission therefore feels that the Member States should consider the attainment of the nuclear-power objectives for 1990 to be a matter of critical importance.

Industrial loans

2.1.151. Pursuant to Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission approved a loan of UKL 500 million to the Electricity Council to help finance a coal-fired power-station at Drax, Yorkshire.

Research and development, science and education

Research problems before the Council

2.1.152. The Council's discussions on research questions in December culminated in two major decisions—the adoption of 'conclusions' on common policy guidelines for science and technology during the period 1980-90³ and the adoption of a new multiannual research programme on climatology.⁴

In addition, eight delegations reached a consensus on a new multiannual research programme on biology and health protection,⁵

¹ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

² OJ L 88 of 6.4.1977 and Bull. EC 3-1977, point 2.1.101.

³ Point 2.1.153.

⁴ Point 2.1.161.

⁵ Point 2.1.160.

with one Member State reserving its position. Lastly, the Council considered proposals for thermonuclear fusion¹ and Joint Research Centre programmes,² though without arriving at formal decisions.

Science, research and development

1979-80 guidelines for the common policy on science and technology

2.1.153. Following up its discussion of 22 October on the preparation of general guidelines for the common research policy during the period 1980-90,³ the Council meeting on research on 20 December adopted the following 'conclusions':

'1. The Council reaffirmed its intention to give progressive effect to the common policy for science and technology outlined in its Resolution of January 1974,⁴ notably by coordinating national policies and by executing projects of interest to the Community by common action.

2. The Council stressed that greater efforts should be made to coordinate the national policies.

3. It noted the importance of comparing national and Community policies—as a whole and at the level of sectors—on the lines of the first experiment of this kind carried out by the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) in April.⁵ CREST was asked to repeat this exercise systematically and regularly and to report back to the Council.

4. With regard to Community R & D activities, the Council emphasized that they should be defined with reference to national R & D policies and to the objectives of other sectoral policies at national and Community level. In this connection, it considered that among the priority sectors for the next phase of the common policy were energy and raw materials, the environment, agriculture and R & D in certain branches of industry. The Council also asked the Commission to assess the

possible effects of Community research and development on the horizontal policies (e.g. regional policy, the future structural, economic and industrial policies—especially in relation to the small and medium-sized undertakings—and the policies for aid to the underdeveloped countries).

5. The Council examined various means of stepping up the drive launched by the Community in the R & D sector. It asked the Commission to submit a report during the first half of 1980 in the light of the Council's discussions, and to put forward proposals on the following points:

(a) the concentration of Community programmes in areas priority, without necessarily ruling out other fields in which Community aid might be of special benefit to the Community;

(b) the possibility of launching Community indirect-action and concerted-action programmes within the framework of an appropriate multiannual outline programme;

(c) the streamlining of arrangements for the preparation, examination and implementation of Community R & D programmes;

(d) the association of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) with the management of certain indirect-action projects in sectors in which the JRC is already engaged in direct-action programmes.

6. The Council stressed that the ultimate aim of Community research must be to contribute by its results to the achievement of the economic, social and other objectives of the Community and its Member States. It therefore requested the Commission to draw up suitable proposals for defining:

(i) a policy for the utilization of results;

(ii) a system for evaluating the results of the common programmes.

7. The Council asked the Commission to study the question of research worker mobility in the light of experiments carried out in the Member States and at Community level, and to present a report to the Council on the subject.'

¹ Point 2.1.158.

² Point 2.1.156.

³ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.135.

⁴ OJ C 7 of 27.1.1974.

⁵ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.102.

European cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research

Conclusion of agreements on three new COST projects

2.1.154. On 14 December the representatives of the Member States and the interested non-member countries signed declarations of intent relating to three COST projects in the following fields:

- (i) methods of planning and optimizing telecommunications networks (Belgium, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Sweden);
- (ii) the use of digital techniques in local telecommunications networks (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Finland, Switzerland and Sweden);
- (iii) the measurement of precipitation by radar (France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Finland).

The first two projects, which will run for about three years, will deal with problems raised by the transition from the existing analogue networks to the numerical networks of the future. The third, which will be spread over a period of five years, will be aimed at the coordination and advancement of European research on the measurement of precipitation by radar with a view to harmonizing the collection and exchange of meteorological data.

Research and development in small and medium-sized undertakings

2.1.155. At the Commission's request, the Fraunhofer-Institut für Systemtechnik und

Innovationsforschung (ISI) in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Industrial Research and Development (CORDI) organized a meeting in Karlsruhe on 13 and 14 December to discuss possible Community action to promote industrial research and development among small and medium-sized undertakings.

The main purpose of the meeting was to sound out opinion on the R & D problems of these undertakings considered from the Community standpoint, and thus enable the Commission to draft recommendations for appropriate action. About fifty experts attended the meeting, along with representatives from the circles directly concerned—industry, the trade unions and the industrial and scientific research organizations — and the members of CORDI.

Joint Research Centre

Multiannual programme

2.1.156. The Council meeting on research on 20 December discussed the Commission's proposals for the JRC and thermonuclear fusion programmes.¹ As regards the JRC 1980-83 programme,² the Council agreed unanimously that the activities should be maintained at their present level, with financing on the same scale as hitherto and using the staff currently employed. The Council has not yet, however, reached unanimity on the approach to be adopted to the Super Sara project, part of the reactor safety programme.

¹ Point 2.1.158.

² OJ C 110 of 3.5.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 1.5.1.

Use of low-enrichment uranium

2.1.157. In response to an initiative by the JRC, representatives of research reactors, fuel manufacturers and engineering firms in the Community countries assembled at the Petten Establishment of the JRC to consider problems associated with the reduction of fuel enrichment for research reactors and experimental reactors.

Anxieties in connection with future restrictions on the supply of highly enriched uranium (often used in research reactors) have already prompted a number of national and international efforts, in the field of fuels for research reactors.

At the Petten meeting a common viewpoint was worked out on the need to reduce the requirement for highly enriched uranium by stepping up research and development programmes on reduced-enrichment fuels and on the conversion of existing reactors to enable them to use low or medium-enrichment fuels. It was acknowledged, however, that in the case of high-flux reactors, the adaptation to less enriched fuels would not be possible without a substantial loss of experimental capability.

Multiannual programmes

Thermonuclear fusion

Proposal for a 1979-83 programme: discussions at the Council

2.1.158. On 20 December the Council examined the Commission proposal¹ of 23 November 1978 for a new five-year (1979-1983) programme—taking in the last two

years of the current programme being carried out by the associations and including a supplementary allocation for JET.

A consensus was reached on this proposal, though on the understanding that the funding of the programme would be cut back to 190.5 million EUA (not including any credit balance that might result from the participation of Sweden and Switzerland). Moreover, research on inertial confinement would in future be restricted to continuation of the work in progress in order to avoid problems associated with non-proliferation. Lastly, in accordance with a proposal² presented in December, a new Advisory Committee for the Fusion Programme would be set up, replacing all the existing Advisory Committees with the exception of the JET Advisory Committee. This consensus, however, did not result in a formal decision, as there were still some problems connected with the JRC programme that could not be solved.

Advisory structures for the Fusion Programme

2.1.159. On 19 December the Commission sent the Council a communication on the advisory structures for the Fusion Programme. Backing the opinion³ delivered on 28 November by the Advisory Committee on Fusion (ACF), the Commission requested the Council to give its approval to the general principle of setting up a new Committee—the Advisory Committee for the Fusion Programme—replacing all the existing advisory structures barring those for the JET project, and also to approve the guidelines for the new Committee's terms of reference.

¹ OJ C 299 of 13.12.1978 and Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.114.

² Point 2.1.159.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.110.

Biology and health protection

2.1.160. On 20 December the Council resumed its examination—begun on 22 October¹—of the proposal² presented by the Commission in April. Eight of the delegations were in favour of setting the upper limit for this programme—which would take in the final year of the programme now running—at 59 million EUA; one Member State reserved its position.³

The research is expected to make a contribution to scientific knowledge on which a careful assessment can be made of the biological and ecological consequences of using ionizing radiation in the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The information it provides will also be used for updating the 'basic standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers of ionizing radiation', which the Commission is required to draw up regularly in accordance with Chapter III of the Euratom Treaty.

Climatology: adoption of a programme

2.1.161. On 18 December the Council adopted a five-year (1980-84) indirect-action programme on climatology,⁴ which was proposed by the Commission on 18 September 1978;⁵ Parliament⁶ and the Economic and Social Committee⁷ have delivered Opinions on it. There are two main objectives: first, to contribute to a better understanding of climatic processes and variations; second, to assess the potential impact of climatic variations on basic resources and the effect of human activities on the climatic variations. The programme is to be financed up to a maximum of 8 million EUA subject to review during the second year. The Commission will

be assisted in the implementation of the programme by an Advisory Committee on Programme Management (ACPM).

Radiation protection: natural radioactivity

2.1.162. The first European seminar on the radiological body-burden associated with natural radioactivity in the Member States was held at Le Vésinet, France, from 4 to 6 December; it was organized by the Commission in collaboration with the French authorities (Service central de la protection contre les rayonnements ionisants). Around fifty participants from the Community countries, Austria, Switzerland and Sweden tackled the following problems: external radiation of terrestrial and cosmic origin, construction materials and internal measurements, ingested natural radioactivity, modifications of exposure due to technology, and the biological aspects of natural radioactivity. The discussions made it possible to pinpoint topics that merit special attention in the context of projects undertaken by the Community.

Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs)

2.1.163. The ACPM responsible for solar energy research carried out by direct and

¹ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.135.

² OJ C 102 of 24.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.125.

³ This reservation was lifted at the beginning of January 1980.

⁴ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

⁵ OJ C 247 of 18.10.1978 and Bull. EC 9-1978, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.8.

⁶ OJ C 6 of 8.1.1979.

⁷ OJ C 128 of 21.5.1979.

indirect action devoted most of its meeting on 13 and 14 December to the implementation of the new 1979-83 indirect-action programme,¹ which was approved by the Council on 24 July² and for which invitations to tender were published in September.³ The Committee recommended the tentative breakdown of total expenditure (46 million EUA) between the various programme objectives on the lines suggested by the Commission. It also delivered a favourable opinion on the launching of a series of pilot projects on photovoltaic conversion totalling 1 Mwe, and also on the launching of pilot projects on biomass, notably in connection with the production of methanol.

2.1.164. The ACPM responsible for the direct- and indirect-action programmes on the environment, meeting on 19 and 20 December, made an initial selection of proposals for contracts for the second phase⁴ of the indirect-action programme adopted by the Council on 9 October⁵ for 1979 and 1980. The Committee recommended the conclusion of 90 shared-expense contracts with a total funding of 2 million EUA chargeable to the Community budget.

Education

Education Committee

2.1.165. At its meeting on 12 and 13 December, the Education Committee agreed on a range of measures to be taken for the academic year 1980-81 pursuant to the education action programme. These relate, in particular, to the grants for: the development of joint study programmes between establishments of higher education; short study visits for teachers, researchers and administrative staff in higher education; exchanges of

specialists in vocational guidance and training; exchanges of local and regional administrative staff in secondary education.

The Commission's first report on the establishment of an information network on education in cooperation with the Member States was placed before the Committee. The new network is to be called 'Euridyce' and its central coordinating unit will be located in Brussels.

Migrant workers' children

2.1.166. Representatives of the Member States' radio and TV networks met under the auspices of the Commission on 3 and 4 December to consider ways of promoting educational broadcasting for migrant workers and their families.

Cooperation in the field of education

2.1.167. The Commission took part in two conferences organized by the Council of Europe—the first in Brunswick, Germany, from 3 to 7 December on 'Cooperation in Europe as presented in resources for the teaching of history, geography and civics in secondary schools', and the second in Strasbourg, France, from 17 to 20 December entitled 'From birth to eight: young children in European society in the 1980s'.

¹ OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.103.

³ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.77.

⁴ OJ L 258 of 13.10.1979.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.148.

2. Enlargement and external relations

EC and applicant countries

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Greece

Association Committee

2.2.1. The EEC-Greece Association Committee met in Brussels on 20 December to discuss the anti-inflationary measures adopted by the Greek Government at the end of November to cope with the country's balance-of-payments deficit. The Committee held a general exchange of views on the measures, and decided to take the matter up again in January when fuller information would be available.

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.2. The sixth session of the negotiations for Portugal's accession to the Community took place in Brussels, at Deputy level, on 7 December. A number of areas of the negotiations were discussed in detail. The Community made statements on external relations, taxation, transport and regional policy, and Portugal on the customs union, the ECSC, the EAEC and capital movements. The Portuguese Delegation also broached the subject of social affairs.

The session thus produced considerable progress on the current phase of the talks, which is designed to identify the problems arising for the parties in the various areas covered.

2.2.3. The examination of Community secondary legislation continued with agriculture (10 and 11 December) and social affairs (17 to 21 December).

Bilateral relations

2.2.4. The Supplementary Protocol to the 1972 EEC-Portugal Free Trade Agreement, installed in November,¹ was signed in Brussels at ambassadorial level on 19 December; it will enter into force on 1 January 1980.²

Spain

Visit to the Commission by Mr Suarez

2.2.5. The Prime Minister of Spain, Mr Adolfo Suarez, accompanied by Mr Calvo Sotelo, visited the Commission on 14 and 15 December. Mr Suarez conferred with Mr Jenkins, Mr Natali and other Members of the Commission on matters relating to Spain's accession.

Accession negotiations

2.2.6. On 3 December the third meeting of the accession negotiations at Deputy level was held. The subjects dealt with were the Spanish statement on taxation and transport and the Community statement on the ECSC and external relations.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.2.

² OJ L 348 of 31.12.1979.

2.2.7. The third session at ministerial level of negotiations for the accession of Spain was held in Brussels on 18 December. The meeting was devoted to examining progress in the negotiations.

The Community Delegation, led by Mr Brian Lenihan, President of the Council, presented the Community document on capital movements. The Spanish Delegation, headed by Mr Calvo Sotelo, submitted the Spanish statement on external relations.

Commercial policy

Multilateral Trade Negotiations under the GATT

The Community signs the MTN agreements

2.2.8. On 17 December, following the Council's decision of 20 November¹ to approve the results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, the Commission signed the MTN package in Geneva on behalf of the European Economic Community.

The agreements concerned consist of protocols containing tariff concessions and of codes on customs valuation, subsidies and countervailing duties, anti-dumping, government procurement, technical barriers, licensing, aircraft, and arrangements on dairy products and bovine meat.

The tariff protocols were signed both by the Community and by the Member States, the latter being committed to Community concessions on coal and steel products covered by the Treaty of Paris (ECSC).

The codes on technical barriers and aircraft were also signed by the Member States alongside the Community, the Council and the Member States having arrived at the conclusion that they should. It was agreed at the Council that even if some of the Member States' signatures were affixed subject to ratification, this should not prevent the Community from concluding the whole of the negotiated package by 1 January 1980.

A final decisive stage in the implementation of the results of the Tokyo Round has thus been completed.

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2.2.9. On 14 December Parliament passed a Resolution² on the conclusion of the MTNs by the European Communities.

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Commercial policy measures

New anti-dumping procedures

2.2.10. On 20 December³ the Council amended the Community rules on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by non-Community countries, embodied in the basic Regulation of 5 April 1968,⁴ so as to take account of the results of

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9 and 2.2.4.

² OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

³ OJ L 339 of 31.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 93 of 17.4.1968.

the Tokyo Round in this field (adoption of a new anti-dumping code). On 21 December the Commission adopted a Recommendation¹ making similar amendments to the rules governing products covered by the ECSC Treaty.

The main innovation is that the operational provisions now distinguish between subsidized and dumped imports. These provisions include a detailed list of examples of export subsidies, and lay down precisely how the amount of a subsidy should be calculated in the different situations that may arise, as well as enumerating the different components that have to be deducted to determine the net subsidy.

The second main change concerns the rules on injury which will now apply to both dumped and subsidized imports. The previous rules, based on the 1968 GATT Anti-Dumping Code, required that dumping be shown to be the principal cause of any injury suffered, i.e. that it be more important than all other factors taken together. This has proved to be unrealistic at a time of economic recession when industries find themselves hard put by many different factors. The new rules, in line with the 1979 GATT Code, abandon the concept of principal cause, providing instead that injury caused by other factors must not be attributed to dumping or subsidies, without requiring, however, that the effect of dumping or subsidization be balanced against these other factors. In addition, more precise rules for defining injury have been adopted, covering in particular the question of threat of injury and injury to regional markets within the Community.

There have also been a number of major procedural changes. All Community decisions, both favourable and unfavourable, and all decisions to accept price undertakings, will now have to be explained in greater detail.

The rules governing the disclosure of the grounds for such decisions are now more flexible. Duties may be applied retroactively in cases where sporadic dumping has occurred or where undertakings have been breached. Furthermore, provisional duties may now be applied for four rather than three months and it has become easier for the Commission to extend them for an additional two months.

New system of surveillance and protection

2.2.11. On 20 December,¹ the Commission introduced a new system of surveillance and protection under Article 115 of the EEC Treaty in respect of the measures that Member States may be authorized to take regarding imports of certain products originating in non-member countries which are subsequently released into free circulation in another Member State.

Under the new system intra-Community surveillance on a generalized basis is discontinued; it is now subject on a case-by-case basis to prior authorization from the Commission granted only after examination of the national economic situation in the sector concerned. The issue of an import document becomes a more automatic process and the information that the importer may be required to give in his application is specified in detail in the Commission Decision. The main effect of the new provisions adopted by the Commission, which do not rule out the possibility of adopting any protective or surveillance measures that may be called for in certain cases ('sensitive' products), is to put an end to all non-essential obstacles systemat-

¹ OJ L 16 of 22.1.1980.

ically impeding the free movement of imported goods within the Community and thereby facilitate trade between the Member States.

Amendment of import quotas in respect of State-trading countries

2.2.12. In accordance with its Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries,¹ the Council adopted on 20 December the import quota arrangements to be applied in the Member States in respect of the non-member countries in question in 1980, proposed by the Commission on 26 November. As in previous years, this decision incorporated a number of adjustments to the quota lists applicable in 1979.

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.13. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries,¹ the Commission has taken the following measures to ease import restrictions:

Italy-China: exceptional opening of an additional quota for the import of woven fabrics of silk (tussah), raw and/or scoured;²

Italy-Bulgaria: exceptional opening of an additional quota for the import of tubes and pipes of steel.²

2.2.14. In addition, on 3 December the Council decided³ to open an exceptional quota for imports into Italy of tractor transmissions originating in Romania.

Anti-dumping procedures, Community surveillance and safeguard measures

Anti-dumping procedures

2.2.15. The Commission decided to initiate anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedures concerning imports of studded welded link chain originating in Spain and Sweden⁴ and certain stainless steel bars originating in Brazil.⁵

Moreover, it decided to terminate the anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedure concerning imports of certain acrylic fibres originating in Greece and Turkey.⁶

It also published an opinion reviewing an anti-dumping duty imposed in the United Kingdom on imports of saccharin from South Korea⁴ in view of the anti-dumping inquiry in progress on imports of this product into the Community.

Lastly, after imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on certain acrylic fibres originating in the United States on 30 November,⁷ the Commission decided to terminate the procedure against the Badische Corporation, Williamsburg, Virginia, since it considered this firm's undertaking to increase its prices satisfactory.⁸

¹ OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

² OJ C 1 of 3.1.1980.

³ OJ L 311 of 7.12.1979.

⁴ OJ C 303 of 4.12.1979.

⁵ OJ C 317 of 18.12.1979.

⁶ OJ C 305 of 5.12.1979.

⁷ OJ L 308 of 4.12.1979 and Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.7.

⁸ OJ C 325 of 29.12.1979.

Community surveillance

2.2.16. On 14 December¹ the Commission extended for a further year—until 31 December 1980—two Regulations on Community surveillance of imports of certain phosphate fertilizers and retrospective control of imports of footwear.

Safeguard measures

2.2.17. Under a Commission Regulation² adopted on 21 December, the arrangement subjecting to authorization the importation into Italy of electric filament lamps originating in certain State-trading countries, which was to expire on 31 December, is to remain in force until the end of 1980 as the economic difficulties which justified the introduction of these measures persist on the Italian market. However, import ceilings will be slightly increased.

*Export credits**Extension of 'guidelines'*

2.2.18. On 10 December the Council decided to prolong, until 31 May 1980, its Decision of 4 April 1978³ on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits, which had expired at the end of November.

Export credits for ships

2.2.19. Also on 10 December the Council adopted a Decision giving the go-ahead for Community accession to the OECD Understanding incorporating a joint discipline for the granting of export credits for ships

renegotiated in October. The Commission represented the Community at the negotiations. This is the first time that the Community as such has acceded to an OECD export credit arrangement.

**Specific measures
of commercial policy***Iron and steel products***Anti-crisis measures for 1980**

2.2.20. The various anti-crisis measures in the iron and steel industry for 1980 were adopted at the close of the Council meeting on 18 December and by Commission decisions taken between 19 December and the end of the year.⁴ The external measures provide basically for renewal of the arrangements concluded with the Community's main outside suppliers, surveillance measures and anti-dumping procedures in the absence of any arrangement.

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.21. Consultations were held between Commission representatives and the relevant authorities of Spain (7 and 19 December), Hungary (17 December) and Poland (19 December) pursuant to the steel arrangements concluded in 1978 and renewed in 1979.

¹ OJ L 323 of 19.12.1979.

² OJ L 334 of 28.12.1979.

³ Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.2.46.

⁴ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

The operation and management of these arrangements was reviewed, especially as regards compliance with price rules, general quantitative trends and imports of products of first-stage processing.

Anti-dumping procedures, Community surveillance and safeguard measures

2.2.22. On 21 December¹ the Commission extended, without amendment, until 29 February, its Recommendation² of 6 September to the Member States on Community monitoring of imports into the Community of certain iron and steel products covered by the ECSC Treaty.

2.2.23. On 20 December the Representatives of the Government of the Member States, meeting within the Council, adopted a Decision extending for a transitional period the import quota arrangements for iron and steel products originating in State-trading countries.

Textile products

Agreements with non-member countries

2.2.24. On 18 December the Council adopted a number of Regulations concerning the conclusion of agreements on trade in textile products between the Community and Indonesia, Singapore, Guatemala and Peru.

Application of the agreements

2.2.25. Following consultations with Korea, Macao and Hong Kong and in agreement

with those countries, the Commission, on 17 December,³ adopted three Regulations laying down respective quantity limits for certain textile products originating in those countries.

2.2.26. On 7 December⁴ the Commission adopted a Regulation establishing the final version of the distribution between Member States of quantity limits for 1980.

2.2.27. On 11 December⁵ the Commission decided to extend until 31 December the Community surveillance arrangements introduced in July 1978 for imports of textile products originating in Greece, Portugal, Malta, Spain, Turkey and Egypt. On the basis of that Regulation, the Commission, on 21 December,⁶ extended until 31 December 1980 the arrangements for actual implementation of the provisions of administrative cooperation established with Greece, Portugal, Malta and Spain.

2.2.28. Acting on a Commission proposal,⁷ the Council adopted on 20 December⁸ a Regulation concerning the Community rules on imports of certain textile products originating in the People's Republic of China.

Jute and coir products

2.2.29. On 20 December⁹ the Council extended, until 31 March 1980, the existing

¹ OJ L 326 of 22.12.1979.

² OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979 and Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.11.

³ OJ L 325 of 21.12.1979.

⁴ OJ L 347 of 31.12.1979.

⁵ OJ L 320 of 15.12.1979.

⁶ OJ L 343 of 31.12.1979.

⁷ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.10.

⁸ OJ L 345 of 31.12.1979.

⁹ OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

import arrangements for certain jute products originating in three countries—Bangladesh, India and Thailand—pending the conclusion of the negotiations for new agreements with Bangladesh and India.

Non-ferrous metals

2.2.30. Under the conditions of a Council Regulation of 20 December 1979¹ the export quotas in force in the Community in 1979 for copper ash and certain types of copper, aluminium and lead waste and scrap were renewed for 1980. These quotas have been retained in the interests of a stable supply of copper, aluminium and lead within the Community.

Development

Generalized preferences

Implementation of the 1980 scheme

2.2.31. On 10 December² the Council, which on 20 November³ had approved the 1980 scheme of generalized preferences, formally adopted nine Regulations and two Decisions putting it into effect.⁴

Commission Delegation in Mexico

2.2.32. A Commission Delegation visited Mexico at the request of the Mexican authorities, for a series of seminars on the generalized preferences scheme under the EEC-Mexico trade cooperation agreement. The series was designed to inform producers,

exporters and foreign trade officials about the rules and operation of the Community GSP, in order to enable Mexico to make full use of the possibilities.

The seminars took place in Mexico City, Monterrey and Guadalajara, and were thus open to businessmen from the main industrial areas. The Commission team were able to study the specific problems posed for Mexican exporters by the rules of the scheme, while the Mexican participants aired their concerns and commented on the future of the Community GSP, which is nearing the end of its ten-year initial period this year. Noting these observations, the Commission team confirmed that the Community intended to continue with the GSP after 1980.

Commodities and world agreements

Common Fund

2.2.33. The Interim Committee for Common Fund negotiations held its third session in Geneva from 3 to 17 December.⁵

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group for the Integrated Programme

2.2.34. The *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Group for the Integrated Programme for commodities held its ninth session on 17 and 18 December, with the aim of electing a new board, reviewing progress in implementation

¹ OJ L 340 of 31.12.1979.

² OJ L 328 of 24.12.1979.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.14.

⁴ Point 2.1.28.

⁵ Point 2.2.45.

of the Nairobi Resolution on the Integrated Programme, and fixing a timetable for meetings in connection with the Programme. The comprehensive review of the Programme's progress, however, will take place in June 1980, and the UNCTAD Secretariat-General has been asked to undertake the necessary preparations and documentation work.

Cereals

2.2.35. On 10 December the Council took a formal Decision on the definitive conclusion of the first three Protocols of 1974, 1975 and 1976, the last of which extends until 30 June 1978 the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which together make up the International Wheat Agreement, 1971. As all the Community Member States have now lodged their instruments of ratification of the Protocols, it has become possible to complete the process of conclusion.

Tea

2.2.36. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on tea met in Geneva from 3 to 7 December, and examined the studies, commissioned from the UNCTAD and FAO Secretariats, on action to stabilize the tea markets, particularly by international stocking measures. It also studied the conclusions of the meeting of exporting countries which took place in Malawi in November. These countries had reached agreement for the first time on regulating supply by export quotas and a back-up buffer stock.

2.2.37. The Second Preparatory Meeting on tea, held in Geneva from 10 to 14 December following on the meeting of experts, took no substantive decision on the conclusions reached by the exporting countries. However, most importing countries felt that their proposals constituted a milestone in international discussions on the product, and merited serious consideration. It was agreed that other measures, possibly under the Common Fund's 'second window', would also be included in any international tea agreement. The exporting countries are due to meet again in the early months of 1980, and a third preparatory meeting is scheduled for August 1980.

Trade, industrial and technical cooperation

Industrial cooperation

2.2.38. Representatives from UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) and the Commission met in Vienna on 17 December to discuss the possibility of collaboration between the two institutions on industrial cooperation with developing countries.

A delegation from Morocco's Office du Développement Industriel visited the Commission on 11 and 12 December to discuss the implementation of a Community aid-supported project to develop Morocco's small and medium-sized industries, and industrial promotion in various Community Member States.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

Third instalment for 1979

2.2.39. On 14 December the Commission gave its approval to the third instalment of the 1979 Community programme of aid for non-associated developing countries. It will go to finance sixteen projects to help the rural population of Pakistan, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Laos, ASEAN, the Mekong Committee, Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru. There are also two projects for India, which will provide hurricane and flood shelters.

The second instalment of the 1979 programme was approved by the Commission on 23 November.¹ Financing decisions for the fourth and final instalment of this Community aid programme, worth a total of 110 million EUA, will be taken during the first quarter of 1980, completing allocation of the available funds. The 1979 programme has thus been approved in instalments, unlike those of previous years, making it possible to implement more swiftly Community-financed projects for the non-associated developing countries.

Food aid and emergency aid

Emergency food aid

2.2.40. In December the Council authorized delivery of the following emergency food aid: Comoros (80 tonnes of butteroil, worth

105 000 EUA); non-governmental organizations (2 500 tonnes of cereals, worth 327 500 EUA, for distribution in Zaire, and 900 tonnes butteroil worth 1 242 000 EUA).

It also approved an allocation via UNHCR of 280 tonnes of butteroil, worth 409 360 EUA to Zaire, and 480 tonnes of butteroil, worth 701 760 EUA, to Pakistan.

In December, the Commission proposed an allocation of 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder, worth 284 500 EUA, to Ghana, and approved emergency food aid to Honduras (3 940 tonnes of cereals, 200 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder (of which 72 tonnes was airlifted) and 200 tonnes of butteroil, worth a total of 1 034 000 EUA. On 20 December the Council approved emergency aid of 1 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder to go via World Food Programme (WFP) channels to the people of Kampuchea; the Council had agreed in principle to the allocation of this aid at the end of October, provided the need was confirmed. The WFP having replied in the affirmative, the Council adopted the Regulation proposed by the Commission.

Corrigendum

Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.25

Owing to a transmission error, the figure in the second line was wrongly given as 2 500 tonnes. It should read '... 25 000 tonnes of rice...'

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.22.

Exceptional aid

2.2.41. On 3 December the Commission approved the allocation of 100 000 EUA to Montserrat and 100 000 EUA to St Kitts-Nevis, to be used for the supply of building materials to repair the damage caused by Hurricanes David and Frederick. A week later, on 10 December, a decision was taken to allocate 300 000 EUA to the Catholic Relief Service to aid victims in the Dominican Republic. This aid is in addition to previous support Caribbean countries: 300 000 EUA has already gone to the Dominican Republic (first instalment), 100 000 EUA to Haiti and 100 000 EUA to Saba.

On 19 December the Commission granted emergency aid of 50 000 EUA to Timor, to be distributed through Oxfam (Belgium).

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.42. By 31 December the Commission had received applications from 68 NGOs for the cofinancing of 189 projects in the developing countries involving a total sum of 17 320 180 EUA for the 1979 financial year. Commitments totalling 11 547 048 EUA have been made in respect of 143 projects involving 60 NGOs. A further 400 621 EUA has been committed in respect of twelve block grants.

The Commission has also supported seventeen campaigns by NGOs to inform the public in Europe about development issues, contributing a total of 194 416 EUA.

International organizations

United Nations

General assembly

Global negotiations on international economic cooperation

2.2.43. One of the main achievements of the 34th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which opened in New York on 18 September,¹ was the adoption in December of a major resolution on a new round of global negotiations on international economic cooperation.

The launching of such negotiations was proposed by the Group of 77 and discussions began in October. The Community made a statement setting out its position at that stage.² The idea of global negotiations was first mooted by the non-aligned countries early in 1979 and a resolution on the subject was adopted at the Non-Aligned Conference in Havana in September. The Group of 77 took up the suggestion in a draft resolution presented to the third meeting of the Committee of the Whole in September. The wording of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in December is virtually identical to this text.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.27; it finished on 7 January 1980.

² Bull. EC 9-1979, point 3.4.1 and Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.2.39.

The special session of the General Assembly planned for September 1980 will therefore amount to a reopening of the North-South Dialogue, since the global negotiations will concentrate on raw materials, energy, trade, development and financial and monetary matters. The Committee of the Whole will meet four times between now and July to prepare the ground for the talks.

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

2.2.44. The Committee on the Development of Trade of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) met in Geneva from 3 to 7 December. The Commission took an active part in the discussions, which were lively and dealt notably with the problems raised by the increasing number of compensation arrangements, and the undersized role played by small and medium-sized enterprises in East-West trade.

The Commission representative noted with satisfaction that the Community's trade with the East European countries had developed favourably over the last few years. The Community now absorbed over 50% of the sales of those countries to all industrialized Western countries.

Following a request from the USSR on behalf of the socialist countries, it was decided to postpone until 1981 the meetings of experts on compensation matters and the inventory of barriers to East-West trade scheduled for 1980. Two other special meetings, on industrial cooperation and economic and trade information, will go ahead: the first will take place in Plovdiv in June and the other will be held in Geneva in July.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Common Fund

2.2.45. The Interim Committee for Common Fund negotiations held its third session in Geneva from 3 to 17 December. Efforts to formulate a composite text on the basis of proposals from the different groups were successful as far as administration and management of the Fund were concerned, but discussions on its structure and operation yielded few practical results. Progress has still to be made on key issues such as use of the Fund's resources, replenishment of the callable capital put up by signatories to the commodity agreements, and the completely separate status of the two 'windows', to enable the Committee's February results to be sufficiently substantial to ensure the success of the negotiating conference scheduled for April. Also, the Community must resolve in short order the problems posed by its own participation as such in the Fund.

Restrictive business practices

2.2.46. The UNCTAD negotiating conference for a code of conduct on restrictive business practices harmful to international trade, which opened in Geneva on 19 November,¹ adjourned its first session on 7 December.

This meeting achieved what was described as not inconsiderable progress, and a further meeting is scheduled for some time in 1980.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.30.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

2.2.47. A meeting took place between Commission and UNIDO representatives at the Organization's headquarters in Vienna on 17 December. Discussions centred on the possibility of exchanging information on ways in which the Community and UNIDO could work together in industrial cooperation with the developing countries.

World Intellectual Property Organization

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property

2.2.48. On 31 December the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal on the joint approach to be adopted by the Member States at the diplomatic conference convened to revise the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, following negotiations conducted under the aegis of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The Commission has stressed that it is necessary for the Community—which unlike the Member States is not itself a member of WIPO—to adopt a common stance on several matters which are of particular economic importance to it. The Commission is analysing the major issues in this connection, which are as follows:

- (i) the improvement of international protection of geographical information such as designations of origin;
- (ii) the granting by States of compulsory exclusive licences for patents in certain cases;
- (iii) the assimilation of inventors' certificates issued in socialist countries with patents; and

(iv) the granting of preferential treatment without reciprocity to developing countries in respect of fees and priority periods.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Textiles Committee

2.2.49. The GATT Textiles Committee met in Geneva on 11 December to carry out the annual review of the operation of the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA) and analyse the current state of world textile production and trade over the past year.

At the meeting the Community spokesman declared that in applying the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA) the Community had paid heed to the needs of the developing countries, whose exports to the Community market had continued to increase. The Community's commercial policy was however conditioned by the situation of its own textile industry, which remained critical. He reminded the meeting that one of the MFA's fundamental objectives was to ensure that trade developed in a controlled and equitable manner with minimum disruption to traditional trade flows.

The discussion which followed led the Committee to ask the Textiles Surveillance Body (TSB) to draw up a catalogue of all cases where agreements contained variations from the MFA's provisions in respect of the size of quotas. It was also decided that an *ad hoc* working group within the Textiles Committee would carry out a detailed examination of the restructuring efforts which had been made, in the light of the targets set by the MFA. The results of these studies would be put on the agenda of the meeting of the Textiles Committee scheduled for July 1980.

The Committee also agreed on the composition of the Textiles Surveillance Body for 1980: members would be Brazil, the EEC, Finland, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Pakistan and the United States.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

International Energy Agency

2.2.50. The Governing Board of the IEA met in Paris at ministerial level on 10 December. The Commission was represented by Mr Brunner. Discussions centred on the measures to be taken to cope with difficulties in oil supplies and on implementing the Tokyo Western Summit declaration on the matter.

At the meeting, the IEA member countries stated their determination to help restore order and reduce tension on the world oil market, to avoid any further price hikes, and to cope with any supply bottlenecks in a spirit of complete solidarity.

All IEA members solemnly undertook to restrict their imports of oil in 1980 and to work towards targets for 1985 in the same field. The commitments entered into by Community IEA members are the same as those adopted by the Council (Energy) on 4 December.¹ The member countries also agreed on a system for monitoring the development of short, medium and long-term energy policies and situations. The Governing Board decided to meet in the first quarter of 1980 to launch the monitoring system and to study the situation, notably as regards the adjustment of oil import ceilings for 1980.

It was decided that the Governing Board would carry out a quarterly review of each

country's performance in relation to the 1980 ceilings and the target set for 1985.

The Board will decide whether the specific measures taken in each country are appropriate, whether they are applied effectively and whether any further measures should be taken.

In order to fully appreciate trends in the structures of oil markets, the Ministers also recognized the need to see what the new international register of crude oil transactions would contribute, so that petroleum products could be included in it. It was also agreed to draw up a consultation system on stocking policies and to examine additional measures concerning the activities of the governments of the member countries on the open markets.

Steel Committee

2.2.51. On 12 and 13 December the Commission took part in a meeting of the OECD Steel Committee. Preparations continued for the steel symposium planned for February 1980. Discussions focused on the situation of the iron and steel industry in the Community, Austria and Canada, and on various problems involving certain OECD member countries.

Committee for Agriculture

2.2.52. The Agricultural Policies Group of the OECD Committee for Agriculture met in Paris from 12 to 14 December for the annual review of those policies. The outcome of the Group's work should be a general report on the major measures taken in this field during 1979, both within the OECD and in a number of countries not belonging to it.

¹ Point 2.1.143.

Relations with certain countries and regions

Industrialized countries

Countries of the European Free Trade Association

Finland

2.2.53. During an official visit to Finland from 4 to 6 December, Mr Haferkamp was received by the Prime Minister, Mr Koivisto, and by the Foreign Affairs and External Trade Ministers. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the operation of the Agreement and found that their views on the development of contacts in fields of common interest corresponded closely.

Joint Committee meetings

2.2.54. The Joint Committees set up under the Agreements between the Community and the EFTA countries met in December: the EEC-Switzerland Joint Committee on 3 December, the EEC-Austria and EEC-Norway Joint Committees on 7 December, the EEC-Sweden Joint Committee on 10 December, the EEC-Finland Joint Committee on 11 December and the EEC-Iceland Joint Committee on 17 December.

Except in the case of Iceland, whose Agreement with the ECSC makes no provision for a joint committee, these meetings were immediately followed by meetings of the Joint Committees provided for in the Agreements between the ECSC and the EFTA countries.

At these meetings the delegations examined the operation of the various agreements and held a wide-ranging exchange of views on international economic problems and the situation on the iron and steel market. They reiterated their desire for closer and more far-reaching cooperation between the European Communities and the EFTA countries.

Japan

Meeting of Joint Committee

2.2.55. The ECSC-Japan Joint Committee held its six-monthly meeting on 6 and 7 December. The delegations briefed one another on the problems facing their respective steel industries and discussed the pattern of trade between the two sides and the prospects for stepping up the volume of trade in steel products on the world market.

Canada

2.2.56. The Community-Canada Joint Corporation Committee, established under the Framework Agreement for economic and commercial cooperation signed in 1976, held its third meeting in Brussels on 17 December.

It approved a report on its activities since its second meeting held in Ottawa in March 1978.¹ During this period, its Sub-Committee for Industrial Cooperation had concentrated on promoting industrial cooperation between Canadian and European firms on forest products, peri-informatics and telecommunications, aerospace and the nuclear industries. There had also been fresh moves on metals

¹ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.2.60.

and minerals, on energy conservation and in promoting direct links between small and medium-sized firms in Canada and the Community.

The Committee also adopted its work programme for 1980-81. In addition to building on the achievements and contacts established during its first three years in existence, emphasis was placed on fostering cooperation on energy resource development and conservation with a view to contributing to the efforts being made by both sides to meet the energy challenge of the 1980s.

In that spirit Canada and the European Community signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation on the development of the 'energy bus', a vehicle which is equipped with instruments to measure and analyse energy consumption in industrial and commercial plants and to identify potential energy savings. During December and January, a Canadian 'energy bus' will be touring several Member States of the European Community, when Canadian experts will demonstrate the capabilities of the bus to representatives of governments, industrial associations, technical bodies and journalists.

Mediterranean countries

Turkey

2.2.57. Mr Erkmen, the new Foreign Minister of Turkey, held talks with Mr Jenkins and Mr Haferkamp during his visit to Brussels on 14 December.

This visit was the first contact between the Commission and the new Turkish Government elected on 14 October. Mr Erkmen stated that Mr Demirel's Government was

planning to withdraw the previous Government's request for certain of Turkey's obligations under the Additional Protocol to be suspended for five years.

Cyprus

2.2.58. On 18 December the Council adopted directives for the opening of negotiations for a transitional protocol between the Community and Cyprus for 1980. The negotiations therefore started on 19 December and on 21 December, after three negotiating sessions, the two delegations were able to give their agreement.

Pending the entry into force of the transitional protocol, unilateral measures will be taken to avoid any disruption of the trade arrangements between the Community and Cyprus.

Yugoslavia

2.2.59. At its session on 12 and 13 December the Economic and Social Committee¹ adopted a study on relations between the Community and Yugoslavia.

Maghreb

Morocco

2.2.60. On 10 December the Council adopted directives for the opening of negotiations with Morocco to amend certain provisions in the Cooperation Agreement.

These negotiations are to be held pursuant to Article 55 of the Agreement, which provides

¹ Point 2.3.65.

that the Contracting Parties shall review the results of the Agreement and any improvements which could be made.

2.2.61. A Delegation from the Moroccan Industrial Development Board visited the Commission on 11 and 12 December in preparation for the implementation of the project to develop small and medium-sized Moroccan industrial firms and industrial promotion, which is to be funded by the Community.

Developing countries

ACP States and OCT

Lomé Convention

Financial and technical cooperation

Training: results for 1979

2.2.62. By the end of 1979 the Commission had adopted 49 multiannual training programmes in the fields of agriculture, health and infrastructure involving a total cost of 90 million EUA.¹ These programmes cover various forms of training (bursaries, technical assistance and teaching aids). They are backed up by national or regional specific training projects totalling approximately 20 million EUA. In particular, in the context of the programme of basic and advanced training courses for ACP managers and senior officials (800 000 EUA), the two seminars funded on problems connected with the planning of skilled labour requirements aroused considerable interest as implementation of the second ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé was about to start.

Training projects 1979

(in EUA)

Multiannual training programme

Zambia	4 552 000
Tanzania	500 000
Lesotho	3 531 000
Somalia	1 790 000
Nigeria	1 780 000

Specific projects

Training centre for the Zaire Accountancy Board	500 000
Technical assistance to the Caricom Secretariat	200 000
Assistance to the Union telecommunications and postal training institute for the Mano River Union	1 500 000
Establishment of a national higher management training centre in Madagascar	1 830 000
Regional training project in posts and telecommunications for southern Africa	986 500
Caribbean aviation training institute	2 300 000
Training and aid for the working population in the interior and on the outlying islands of New Caledonia	400 000
Programme basic and advanced training courses for ACP managers and senior officials	800 000

Association of the OCT

2.2.63. On 21 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a recommendation

¹ Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.2.64.

for a decision on the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Economic Community. The purpose is to renew the association arrangements due to expire on 1 March 1980. The new text is based on the principles embodied in Article 136 of the EEC Treaty concerning the association and, as in the past, seeks to make the future OCT arrangements roughly parallel to the new ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé, signed on 31 October.¹

Export earnings

Stabex

2.2.64. On 11 December the Commission decided to grant four transfers to compensate for export earnings losses in 1978, in respect of:

		<i>million EUA</i>
Benin	palm-oil	3.73
	cotton	0.88
Central African Republic	cotton	3.00
Chad	cotton	4.70
Total		12.31

Asia

Association of South-East Asian Nations

2.2.65. A cooperation agreement between the Community and the ASEAN countries was approved in December.²

Latin America

Argentina

2.2.66. The EEC-Argentina Trade Agreement of November 1971, which has already been extended several times and was due to expire on 31 December, has been extended for a further year after an exchange of letters in Brussels on 19 December. The Council approved this extension on 18 December.³

Diplomatic relations

2.2.67. The President of the Commission and the President of the Council received Their Excellencies Mr Ahmed Tawfik Khalil (Egyptian Arab Republic), Mr Francis George Okello (Republic of Uganda) and Mr Julio Ayala Lasso (Republic of Ecuador), who presented their letters of credence in their capacity as Heads of their countries' Missions to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC) with effect from 18 December.

With effect from the same date His Excellency Mr Frederick Bernard Carl Reiher presented his letters of credence to the President of the Commission and the President of the Council in his capacity as Head of the Mission of Papua New Guinea.⁴ Mr Reiher is the first Head of Mission of his country to be accredited to the European Communities, bringing the number of Missions of non-member countries to the Communities up to 114 in December.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

² Point 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

³ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

⁴ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

The new Ambassadors succeed Mr Mohamed Kamal Khalil (Egypt), Mr Eliphaz A. Odeke (Uganda) and Mr Armando Pesantes Garcia (Ecuador), who have been appointed to other duties.

Political cooperation

Signature by the Nine of an agreement on the suppression of terrorism

2.2.68. The Ministers of Justice of the nine Member States of the Community, meeting in Dublin on 4 December to discuss political cooperation, signed an agreement on application by the Nine of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, concluded on 27 January 1977 under the aegis of the Council of Europe.

The full text of the agreement signed in Dublin is as follows:

Agreement concerning the application of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism among the Member States of the European Communities

'The Member States of the European Communities, Concerned to strengthen judicial cooperation among these States in the fight against acts of violence;

While awaiting the ratification without reservations of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism signed at Strasbourg on 27 January 1977, described below as "the European Convention", by all the Member States of the European Communities, described below as "the Member States",

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

This Agreement shall apply in relations between two Member States of which one at least is not a

party to the European Convention or is a party to that Convention, but with a reservation.

Article 2

1. In the relations between two Member States which are parties to the European Convention, but of which one at least has made a reservation to that Convention, the application of the said Convention shall be subject to the provisions of this Agreement.

2. In the relations between two Member States of which one at least is not a party to the European Convention, Articles 1 to 8 and 13 of that Convention shall apply subject to the provisions of this Agreement.

Article 3

1. Each Member State which has made the reservation permitted under Article 13 of the European Convention shall declare whether, for the application of this Agreement, it intends to make use of this reservation.

2. Each Member State which has signed the European Convention but has not ratified, accepted or approved it, shall declare whether, for the application of this Agreement, it intends to make the reservation permitted under Article 13 of that Convention.

3. Each Member State which has not signed the European Convention may declare that it reserves the right to refuse extradition for an offence listed in Article 1 of that Convention which it considers to be a political offence, an offence connected with a political offence or an offence inspired by political motives, on condition that it undertakes to submit the case without exception whatsoever and without undue delay, to its competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution. Those authorities shall take their decision in the same manner as in the case of any offence of a serious nature under the law of that State.

4. For the application of this Agreement, only the reservations provided for in paragraph 3 of this Article and in Article 13 of the European Convention are permitted. Any other reservation is without effect as between the Member States.

5. A Member State which has made a reservation may only claim the application of this Agreement by another State to the extent that the Agreement itself applies to the former State.

Article 4

1. The declarations provided for under Article 3 may be made by a Member State at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

2. Each Member State may at any time, wholly or partially, withdraw a reservation which it has made in pursuance of paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 of Article 3 by means of a declaration addressed to the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland. The declaration shall have effect on the day it is received.

3. The Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland shall communicate the declarations to the other Member States.

Article 5

Any dispute between Member States concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement which has not been settled by negotiation shall, at the request of any party to the dispute, be referred to arbitration in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 10 of the European Convention.

Article 6

1. This Agreement shall be open for signature by the Member States of the European Communities. It shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland.

2. The Agreement shall enter into force three months after the deposit of the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval by all States which are members of the European Communities on the day on which this Agreement is opened for signature.

Article 7

1. Each Member State may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, specify the territory or territories to which this Agreement shall apply.

2. Each Member State may, when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval or at any later date, by declaration addressed to the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland extend this Agreement to any other territory specified in the declaration and for whose international relations it is responsible or on whose behalf it is authorized to give undertakings.

3. Any declaration made in pursuance of the preceding paragraph may, as regards any territory specified in that declaration, be denounced by means of a notification addressed to the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland. The denunciation shall have effect immediately or at such later date as may be specified in the notification.

4. The Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland shall communicate these declarations and notifications to the other Member States.

Article 8

This Agreement shall cease to have effect on the date when all the Member States become parties without reservation to the European Convention.

Done at Dublin, this 4th day of December 1979 in German, English, Danish, French, Irish, Italian and Dutch, all texts being equally authoritative, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, which shall transmit certified copies to each of the Member States.¹

2.2.69. On 14 December Parliament adopted a Resolution on the serious plight of refugees in the Horn of Africa, with particular regard to children.¹

¹ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

3. Institutional and political matters

European policy

Institutional developments — European policy

Functioning of the Community institutions

Report of the Three Wise Men

2.3.1. The proposals set out in the Report on the European Institutions submitted by the Committee of Wise Men¹ to the Dublin European Council on 29 and 30 November will be carefully considered early in 1980. This was the outcome of the discussion on the Report at the Council meeting on foreign affairs on 18 December.

Having considered the steps to be taken following the Dublin meeting, the Council agreed to convene an informal meeting of the Foreign Ministers early in 1980 to study the Report of the Wise Men, including the points concerning relations with Parliament, which the Council had debated at the same meeting on 18 December.

Relations between Parliament and the Council

2.3.2. The delicate political problems posed by relations between the Council and Parliament—now even more delicate since direct elections—were in the limelight in December. This is reflected in two developments: the rejection of the draft general budget of the Communities for 1980² and Parliament's decision to intervene in cases before the Court of Justice to obtain satisfaction against the Council for having adopted an agricultural regulation without first securing the mandatory opinion from Parliament.

This 'affair' goes back to 25 June, when the Council adopted a Regulation (amending a Regulation of 1977) concerning common provisions for isoglucose.

On the strength of a report by its Legal Affairs Committee Parliament passed a Resolution³ on 14 December in which it considered that, by adopting this Regulation without the mandatory opinion from Parliament, the Council had infringed the Treaty; it stated emphatically that Parliament had a duty to defend its institutional rights with all the means placed at its disposal by the Community legal system. Having found that it was possible for Parliament to intervene in order to establish a violation of the Treaty detrimental to itself, the House expressed its intention of doing so.

So, at the meeting of Foreign Ministers on 18 December the Council proceeded to discuss the matter of considering Parliament's opinions. No decision was taken, pending the discussions to be held on the Report of the Three Wise Men. It seems to have been agreed that the Presidency could take its cue from the suggestions approved by all the Member States as to how to proceed. Before Parliament had even passed its Resolution, the Council had instructed its competent bodies (and particularly the Permanent Representatives Committee) to review the present procedures for considering Parliament's opinions and to investigate the possibility of introducing new procedures. A report (for restricted circulation) had even been drafted. Without suggesting any major innovations the report proposed a more effective applica-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.

² Points 2.3.4, 2.3.5 and 2.3.95.

³ OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

tion of existing procedures and went so far as to look for improvements to the 'conciliation' procedure. Finally, the Council's view seems to have been that question of improving relations with Parliament ought to be appraised in the wider context of the discussions on the Three Wise Men's Report.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament¹

Part-session in Strasbourg from 10 to 14 December

2.3.3. Parliament's December sittings are traditionally devoted to budgetary business. This year, more than ever, it was the final stage of the budget procedure which dominated the meeting when, at the end of a process begun in November,² Parliament for the first time made use of the power conferred on it by Article 203(8) of the EEC Treaty to reject the draft budget. The House also debated draft amending and supplementary budget No 3 for 1979 and the ECSC operational budget. As a result, the other items on the agenda were somewhat overshadowed, though the results of the Dublin European Council, the GATT multilateral trade negotiations and economic policy for 1980 were all dealt with in quite lengthy debates.

Parliament elected Mr Dankert (*Soc/NL*) Vice-President in succession to Mr A. Vondeling, who died in a car accident.

Draft general budget — 1980

Full debate

(11 December)

2.3.4. The attitude of the House towards the draft budget depended on what the Council made of its proposed modification and amendments, particularly when the Council reviewed the draft³ on 23 November. The responsible Parliamentary Committee, which held that the conditions—put to the vote and approved by Parliament in November²—had not been satisfied, urged the House to reject the draft, maintaining that the Council's refusal to allow it to exercise its political competences as a part of the budgetary authority constituted a challenge to Parliament's political future.

The issue was thus unequivocally placed above the strictly budgetary plane, at a political level. In short, Parliament considered that,

¹ This report was prepared from 'Le point de la session' published by Parliament's Secretariat. The complete texts of the Resolution passed by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980, the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 249. The political group and nationality of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: *Soc* = Socialists, *EPP* = European People's Party: former Christian Democrats; *ED* = European Democratic Group: former Conservative Group; *Com* = Communists and Allies; *Lib* = Liberals and Democrats; *EPD* = European Progressive Democrats; *Ind* = Group for the Technical Coordination and Defence of Independent Groups and Members; *NA* = Non-Affiliated. The countries of origin are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.3.9.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.3.72.

as part of the budgetary authority, it had every right to wield its political authority and influence the direction of Community policies.

During the debate the spokesmen of most of the groups supported the position taken by the Committee on Budgets. No group was happy with the Council's decisions, but they were not all equally dissatisfied. The European Progressive Democrats, the French Communists and certain non-affiliated Danes, for instance, took the 'adamant' position of the Committee on Budgets to be an attempt to impose Parliament's will upon the Council and this, they said, would alter the institutional balance.

Some statements during this initial debate nevertheless offered a glimmer of hope for an ultimate compromise. This possibility was in fact explored at great length at a meeting between the Council and a Parliamentary Delegation during the sittings on 12 and 13 December. But this last-ditch attempt at conciliation broke down. The Committee on Budgets then decided, by an overwhelming majority, to urge the House to support its motion for a resolution to reject the draft budget in its entirety.

*Vote on the total rejection
of the budget*
(13 December)

2.3.5. Before Parliament proceeded to vote on the resolution, Mr Lenihan, President of the Council, had warned the House against the deep division which would result if the budget were rejected. Such a move would be a senseless step towards confrontation between the institutions. He had told the House that substantial progress had been made during the night and believed that the Council

had reached a position which matched that of the Committee on Budgets and its rapporteur.

Many explanations preceded the vote,¹ the result of which was:

Present at the vote:	353
Abstention:	1
Votes cast:	352
for	288
against	64

After the result had been announced the President of Parliament declared that the draft general budget of the European Communities had been rejected.

**Amending and supplementary budget
No 3 for 1979**
(11 and 13 December)

2.3.6. Supporting the stance adopted by the Committee on Budgets and Mr Dankert (*Soc/NL*) Parliament approved at its first reading a proposal for modification of and two draft amendments to the draft amending and supplementary budget No 3 for 1979 established by the Council on 29 October² (the major item in this draft was an increase in the expenditure allocated to the EAGGF Guarantee Section).

The amendments were approved despite the dissenting votes of the French Liberals and Communists and the European Progressive Democrats, who, like the EPP group on this occasion, came out against, the modification concerning the dairy sector. Mr Baillot (*Com/F*) justified his vote in support of the budget by the fact that the appropriations

¹ For further details on the positions of the groups, the reader is referred to the chapter 'Financing Community Activities', point 2.3.95.

² Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.3.110.

were necessitated by the Council's decisions. His vote in support of the draft in no way implied that he approved of the general disposition of the 1979 Budget.

Of the two proposed amendments the Council had accepted the one for transferring funds from the EAGGF Guidance Section to the Guarantee Section;¹ the other amendment and the proposal for modification were rejected. Following the explanations by Vice-President Gundelach, who made the point that far from increasing expenditure the Commission's arrangements concerning exports of milk products had enabled savings to be made, the rapporteur, Mr Dankert (*Soc/NL*), at the second reading withdrew the modifications rejected by the Council. Parliament then adopted the draft amending and supplementary budget.

ECSC operational budget (12 and 13 December)

2.3.7. On 13 December Parliament adopted a resolution on the fixing of the ECSC levies within the framework of the ECSC operational budget for 1980.² The resolution approved the Commission's proposed rate of 0.31%. But the House also took the view that 'the funds necessary to cover the ECSC operational budget deficit should be provided out of the customs duties on coal and steel products collected by the Member States'. On this latter point Mr Tugendhat, Member of the Commission, had declared that such a transfer was desirable, but as matters stood it was not feasible.³

Dublin European Council (12 December)

2.3.8. The President of the Commission, Mr Jenkins, and the Council President, Mr Leni-

han, reviewed the various matters raised at the European Council.⁴ Most of the members felt that the Dublin meeting had been a failure due to obdurate attitudes (Mr Ruffolo (*Soc/I*)), lack of preparation (Mr Colombo (*EPP/I*)), helpless resignation (Mr Segre (*Com/I*)), the attitude of the United Kingdom (Mr de la Malène (*EPD/F*)), the Community's inability to reform (Mrs Castle (*Soc/UK*)) or poor Community spirit (Mr Jacquet (*Soc/F*)).

Economic policy for 1980 (13 December)

2.3.9. The Commission presented its customary Annual Report on the Economic Situation in the Community with proposals for economic policy guidelines for 1980.⁵

The rapporteur for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Mr von Bismarck (*EPP/D*), agreed with the Commission's suggestion that the higher costs of oil imports should not be passed on to business firms and national budgets by corresponding wage increases. He also considered that the shortening of working hours was still an ultimate Community objective but was not an immediate panacea to unemployment problems. In conclusion, he agreed that a joint policy on the dollar should be worked out with the United States.

The report aroused mixed reactions. Though, with some qualifications, members of the EPP, Liberal and EPD groups approved the Committee's text—thus enabling it to be adopted on 14 December—Socialist and

¹ Point 2.3.97.

² Point 2.3.99.

³ See the Decision of 21 April 1970; OJ L 94 of 28.4.1970.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.20.

⁵ OJ C 314 of 14.12.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, points 2.1.3, 2.1.4 and 2.3.35.

Communist speakers rejected its substance mainly because they felt it followed the restrictive policy advocated by the Commission, which went against a policy of full employment. One of the bones of contention was the shortening of working hours, which some regarded as a priority while others, although accepting it as an end in itself, did not agree that it would help to combat unemployment.

Results of the Tokyo Round negotiations

(13 December)

2.3.10. On the basis of a motion presented by Sir Frederick Catherwood (*ED/UK*) Parliament, on 14 December, passed a resolution on the conclusion by the European Communities of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations.¹ The House regretted, however, that 'by their very nature, negotiations of this kind do not enable the poorest developing countries to benefit from the results of the Tokyo Round'. It also stressed that the problems dividing not only north from south but also east from west could not be solved unless a new world economic order was established.

While reservations were forthcoming from some members—Mrs Chouraqui (*EPD/F*), Mr Martinet (*Soc/F*), Mr Seal (*Soc/UK*), Mr Enright (*Soc/UK*), and Mrs Caretoni Romangnoli (*Com/I*) — Parliament by and large considered the results to be satisfactory. But the House was divided on the question of ratification by Parliament of international agreements.

2.3.11. Parliament also took a position in other resolutions or opinions on:

(i) the proposal² for a Directive on emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners and gelling agents for use in foodstuffs;

(ii) the proposal³ for a tenth VAT Directive (application of VAT to the hiring out of movable tangible property);

(iii) the proposal⁴ for a Decision concerning chlorofluorocarbons in the environment;

(iv) the need for new measures to combat pollution of the Rhine;

(v) the tragic plight of refugees, particularly children, in the Horn of Africa;

(vi) the intervention by Parliament in Cases 138/79 and 139/79 (isoglucose) before the Court of Justice.⁵

By the procedure without report Parliament approved the proposal⁶ for a Directive on colouring matters which may be added to medicinal products.

Council

2.3.12. The Council held nine meetings in December. The following table lists the number, date and place of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items dealt with. The footnotes refer to the points in the Bulletin where a more detailed account is given of decisions taken, agreements reached, positions adopted and questions discussed.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 10-1979, points 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.

² OJ C 115 of 8.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.9.

³ OJ C 116 of 9.5.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.40.

⁴ OJ C 136 of 31.5.1979; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.80.

⁵ OJ C 249 of 3.10.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.45, and Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.3.29.

⁶ OJ C 262 of 17.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.15.

⁷ In order to avoid repetition and duplication, the new-style section on the Council merely gives the main particulars of meetings held and items dealt with.

Table 6 — Council Sessions held in December 1979

Meeting	Date	Place	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
611th	3.12.1979	Brussels	Fisheries	Mr Lenihan, Irish Minister for Fisheries	Mr Gundelach, Vice-President	Fishing in Member States' waters ¹ Fisheries Agreement with Canada ² Opening of negotiations with Seychelles and Mauritius ³
612th	4.12.1979	Brussels	Energy	Mr O'Malley, Irish Minister for Industry, Commerce and Energy	Mr Brunner, Member	Distribution between Member States of joint target set for 1980 oil imports ⁴ Coking coal for the steel industry ⁵ Utilization of coal ⁶
613th	6.12.1979	Brussels	Transport	Mr Preti, Italian Minister for Transport	Mr Burke, Member	Matters concerning railway companies ⁷ Transport infrastructures ⁸ Carriage of goods by road ⁹ International action in the field of air transport ¹⁰ Development of air transport services ¹¹ Aircraft noise ¹²

¹ Point 2.1.116.
² Point 2.1.119.
³ Point 2.1.120.
⁴ Points 2.1.141 and 2.1.142.
⁵ Point 2.1.147.
⁶ Point 2.1.146.

⁷ Point 2.1.133.
⁸ Point 2.1.134.
⁹ Point 2.1.128.
¹⁰ Point 2.1.135.
¹¹ Point 2.1.136.
¹² Point 2.1.137.

Meeting	Date	Place	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
614th	10 and 11.12.1979	Brussels	Agriculture	Mr Hussey, Minister of State, Irish Ministry of Agriculture, and Mr Marcora, Italian Minister for Agriculture and Forestry	Mr Gundelach Vice-President	Changes to the common agricultural policy ¹ Wine: rationalizing the market and restructuring the sector ² Sheepmeat New green rates for sterling and the lira ³ Beef and veal Implementation of GATT agreements Veterinary problems ⁴
615th	12.12.1979	Brussels	Budget	Mr Lenihan, Irish Minister designate for Foreign Affairs	Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Gundelach, Vice-President; Mr Tugendhat, Member	Budget questions (1980 Budget) and Third Supplementary Budget for 1979
616th	17.12.1979	Brussels	Environment	Mr Barrett, Irish Minister for the Environment	Mr Natali, Vice-President	High-level meeting in Geneva on the protection of the environment ⁵ Chlorofluorocarbons in the environment ⁶ Air quality standards for lead ⁷ Sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter ⁸ Pollution at sea ⁹ Accident risk in certain industries ¹⁰ Motor vehicles ¹¹ Protection of whales ¹² Pollution of the Rhine ¹³

¹ Point 2.1.96.² Point 2.1.105.³ Point 2.1.99.⁴ Point 2.1.115.⁵ Point 2.1.82.⁶ Point 2.1.80.⁷ Point 2.1.81.⁸ Point 2.1.79.⁹ Point 2.1.87.¹⁰ Point 2.1.89.¹¹ Point 2.1.91.¹² Point 2.1.92.¹³ Point 2.1.83.

Meeting	Date	Place	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
617th	17.12.1979	Brussels	Economic and Financial Affairs	Mr O'Kennedy, Irish Minister for Finance	Mr Ortoli, Vice-President; Mr Tugendhat, Member	Annual report on the economic situation ¹
618th	18.12.1979	Brussels	Foreign Affairs	Mr Lenihan, Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs	Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Haferkamp and Mr Natali, Vice-Presidents; Mr Giolitti, Mr Davignon, Mr Tugendhat, Mr Vouel, Members	Relations with Cyprus ² ERDF Non-quota operations Follow-up to Dublin European Council GATT: regenerated textile fibres Cooperation Agreement with ASEAN ³ Iron and steel problems ⁴ Coking coal for the iron and steel industry ⁵ Industrial restructuring and conversion — man-made fibres ⁶
619th	20.12.1979	Brussels	Research	Mr Tunney, Minister of State, Irish Department of Education	Mr Brunner, Member	JRC and Fusion Programmes ⁷ Radiation-protection programme ⁸

¹ Point 2.1.3.² Point 2.2.58.³ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.⁹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.⁵ Point 2.1.147.⁶ Point 2.1.17.⁷ Points 2.1.156 and 2.1.158.⁸ Point 2.1.160.

Commission

Activities

2.3.13. The Commission met three times in December. The agenda was particularly heavy on each occasion because many issues had to be dealt with by the end of the year. These included budgetary problems, effects of further increases in oil prices on the economic situation of the Community, changes to the common agricultural policy and, in general terms, the follow-up to the Dublin European Council.

Decisions or proposals adopted

2.3.14. The most important matters dealt with were: anti-crisis measures for steel for 1980; adoption of the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1980; fixing the rate of the ECSC levy for 1980 and adoption of the ECSC's operating budget; transmission to the Council for approval of the Agreement negotiated with ASEAN; EAGGF (Guidance Section) aid (second tranche for 1979); a proposal to the Council on consumer protection (a scheme to provide rapid information on the dangers of using certain products).

Policy debates and questions under review

2.3.15. In other areas the Commission took stock of work in progress, set out guidelines and gave a first reading to a number of papers which will come up again next month. This involved discussion of the following: its stance throughout the budget debate and steps to be taken following Parliament's rejection of the draft budget; new own

resources; the forthcoming global negotiations with developing countries within the United Nations; scope for stepping up Commission action in the energy field; arrangements for trade between the Community and Zimbabwe-Rhodesia; implementation of the Tokyo Round; discussion within the Commission on various political and economic negotiations or consultations (ranging from negotiations with Comecon to enlargement, from Rhine pollution to specific regional policy projects); adoption of emergency aid measures; consideration of various institutional and administrative questions raised by the Spierenburg Report and the Report of the Three Wise Men.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.16. During the preliminary consultations with trade unions, experts from the European Trade Union Confederation considered two questions — improving working conditions and education, including vocational training and continuous training.

At a meeting with the Commission the Trade Union Committee: Textiles, Clothing and Leather discussed the Lomé Convention, Commission policy on Community aid and the reorganization of working time.

At an information meeting employers' associations discussed technical barriers to trade.

Emergency aid to Member States

2.3.17. On 5 December the Commission decided to grant 500 000 EUA emergency aid to Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles to help make good some of the damage caused by the exceptionally severe winter of

1978-79. The aid, which will be paid direct to local authorities where possible, will be used to subsidize animal feed in the stricken areas.

This aid will be in addition to, not a substitute for, United Kingdom Government aid. In accordance with the wishes expressed by Parliament (in a resolution adopted on 26 October) and the British authorities, the Commission decided to step up its efforts to find a solution to the structural problems besetting the development of Scotland's islands. It regards this emergency aid as a temporary measure pending more substantial long-term action.

Court of Justice¹

New cases

Case 808/79 — Ditta Fratelli Pardini SpA, San Pietro a Vico²

2.3.18. The Tribunale di Lucca asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the question whether Article 17(7) of Regulation (EEC) No 193/75³ laying down common detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products must be interpreted as meaning that an exporter who has suffered the theft of an export licence may not obtain a duplicate of the stolen document from the national authorities.

Cases 809/79 and 809/79 R — Ditta Fratelli Pardini, San Pietro a Vico v Commission²

2.3.19. Following a reference for a preliminary ruling (*Case 808/79*⁴), an action against the Commission was brought before the

Court of Justice for failure to adopt a provision authorizing an exporter who has suffered the theft of an export licence, fixing in advance the refunds for quantities of meal, to export the goods. The applicant is also claiming compensation for damage caused as a result of the Commission's failure to act.

The application is accompanied by a request for an interim measure authorizing the Italian Government to issue a duplicate of the stolen licence and to extend its period of validity.

Case 810/79 — P. Überschär, Hasselt v Bundesversicherungsanstalt für Angestellte, Berlin²

2.3.20. The Bundessozialgericht (Federal Social Court) asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of paragraph 9 of Point C of Annex V to Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71⁵ in order to determine whether a German national who has paid contributions in accordance with the law of another Member State is entitled to have the periods corresponding to those contributions taken into consideration in order to complete voluntarily, pursuant to Article 2(49a) of Part 2 of the Angestelltenversicherungs-Neuregelungsgesetz (Clerical Staff Pension Reform Law), periods for which he has not paid contributions to his old-age pension insurance scheme in Germany.

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and in the European Court Reports, and the publications produced by its Information Office (in particular, the annual Synopsis of the work of the Court of Justice of the European Communities and the quarterly Information on the Court of Justice of the European Communities).

² OJ C 9 of 11.1.1980.

³ OJ L 25 of 31.1.1975.

⁴ Point 2.3.18.

⁵ OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

Case 811/79 — Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato (Italian State Finance Administration) v SpA Ariete, Rome¹

2.3.21. In a case involving the levying of registration charges and charges for health inspections on imports of milk into Italy, the Corte d'Appello di Torino (Court of Appeal, Turin) asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the compatibility with the Community rules on free competition of the repayment of such import charges which were levied before they were held to be charges having an effect equivalent to customs duties pursuant to the direct applicability of the Community rules prohibiting such charges.

Case 812/79 — Attorney General v J.C. Bediola Burgoa²

2.3.22. In the course of criminal proceedings instituted on the grounds that a foreign fishing vessel had fished in Irish territorial waters while carrying on board fishing nets of a smaller mesh size than the minimum fixed under Irish law, the Cork Circuit Court asked the Court of Justice to interpret Article 234 of the EEC Treaty and to state whether that article is directly applicable, whether it applies to the London Fisheries Convention (1964) and whether it would be contrary to Community law to convict the defendant on the facts described above.

Case 813/79 — Dymo Industries Inc., Emeryville, USA v Etiketten Service Arnhem BV, Arnhem¹

2.3.23. In the course of proceedings concerning the infringement of a patent the Gerechtshof Arnhem (Regional Court of Appeal, Arnhem) referred a series of ques-

tions to the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the admissibility, having regard to Article 36 and 86 of the EEC Treaty, of imports into the Netherlands by a person who has been granted a licence by the holder of a parallel patent in Germany which has meanwhile become public property.

Case 814/79 — The Netherlands State v R. Ruffler, Kreis Hameln, Pyrmont³

2.3.24. In the course of proceedings for the payment of the cost of removing the wreck of a ship which sank following a collision between a Netherlands vessel and a German vessel, the Hoge Raad der Nederlanden (Netherlands Supreme Court) referred a series of questions to the Court of Justice for a ruling on the interpretation of the Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters.

Case 815/79 — Criminal proceedings against (1) G. Cremonini and (2) M.L. Vrankovich¹

2.3.25. The Pretura Unificata di Como referred a series of questions to the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling in order to determine whether Directive 73/23/EEC⁴ on the harmonization of the laws of Member States relating to electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits precludes a national court from adopting a measure restricting the free movement of goods which is based upon a mandatory provision of national safety regulations where the imported products bear a mark of conformity provided for in the Directive or

¹ OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

² OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

³ OJ C 23 of 30.1.1980.

⁴ OJ L 77 of 26.3.1973.

where the safety features differ from those provided for under national law.

*Case 816/79 — Firma K. Mecke & Co., Bremen v Hauptzollamt Bremen-Ost*¹

2.3.26. The Finanzgericht Bremen (Finance Court, Bremen) asked the Court of Justice for a ruling on the question whether pieces of synthetic textile fibres of 6 to 7 mm, not carded or combed, should be classified under heading No 56.01 A or 59.01 B I of the CCT.

*Case 817/79 — R. Buyl and Others v Commission*²

2.3.27. A number of Commission officials established in Belgium brought an action before the Court of Justice contesting the exchange rates applied when calculating their remuneration under Regulation (EEC) No 3085/78.³

*Case 818/79 — Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse Mittelfranken, Nuremberg v Landesversicherungsanstalt Ober- und Mittelfranken, Bayreuth*⁴

2.3.28. The Bundessozialgericht (Federal Social Court) asked the Court of Justice to interpret Articles 23(1) and (3) and 20(1)(i) of Regulation No 3 in the light of judgment in Case 14/72⁵ in order to determine whether a worker who is insured by a German institution may claim from it benefits for anti-tuberculosis treatment for his child where the latter is being treated outside Germany.

*Case 819/79 — Federal Republic of Germany v Commission*⁶

2.3.29. The German Government brought an action before the Court of Justice for the

annulment of the Commission decision of 12 October 1979⁷ concerning the discharge of the accounts presented by the Federal Republic of Germany in respect of expenditure for 1973 financed by the EAGGF, Guarantee Section, on the grounds that the Commission has not allowed as chargeable to the EAGGF the sum of DM 8 335 232.61 concerning aids for the denaturing of skimmed-milk powder.

*Case 820/79 — Kingdom of Belgium v Commission*⁶

2.3.30. The Belgian Government brought an action before the Court of Justice for the annulment of the Commission decision of 12 October 1979⁷ concerning the discharge of the accounts presented by the Kingdom of Belgium in respect of expenditure for 1973 financed by the EAGGF, Guarantee Section, on the grounds that the Commission has refused to allow as chargeable to the EAGGF the sum of BFR 29 008 562 concerning the payment of differentiated export refunds for milk and milk products.

*Case 821/79 — Ministère public v M. Benyahia, Algrange*¹

2.3.31. In the course of proceedings concerning the failure by a driver employed by a carrier to comply with certain provisions con-

¹ OJ C 23 of 30.1.1980.

² OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

³ OJ L 369 of 29.12.1979.

⁴ OJ C 26 of 2.2.1980.

⁵ CJEC 16.11.1972, Case 14/72 (Helmut Heinze v Landesversicherungsanstalt Rheinprovinz) — [1972] ECR 1105.

⁶ OJ C 18 of 24.1.1980.

⁷ OJ L 278 of 7.11.1979.

tained in Regulation (EEC) No 543/69¹ on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport and in Regulation (EEC) No 1463/70² on the introduction of recording equipment in road transport—infringements in respect of which proceedings had been instituted against the owner of the undertaking—the Tribunal de police de Hayange (Local Police Court, Hayange) asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the primacy of Community law over national law, in this particular case Article 62 of the French Constitution, and on the existence of Community rules for apportionment between personal liability and liability based on an act of another person.

*Case 822/79 — F. Bellucci (née Zanardi), Audun-le-Tiche v SA Bank M.M. Warburg-Brinckmann, Wirtz International, Luxembourg*³

2.3.32. The Luxembourg Arbitration Court for disputes between employers and employees in the private sector asked the Court of Justice whether a household allowance granted under a collective agreement constitutes a benefit paid to a worker by virtue of his employment and, if so, whether a collective agreement may, without infringing Article 119 of the EEC Treaty and Directive 75/117/EEC,⁴ lay down different conditions for granting the allowance for men and women carrying out the same work.

*Case 823/79 — Criminal proceedings against G. Carciati*⁵

2.3.33. The Tribunale Civile e Penale di Ravenna has asked the Court of Justice to rule on whether Italian customs and tax legislation, in so far as it lays down criminal penalties for failure to pay entry taxes and

subjects the possession and use of vehicles on Italian territory by residents of that State to special restrictions, is contrary to the principle of the free movement of goods.

*Case 824/79 — Sas Prodotti Alimentari Folci, Milan v Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato*⁶

2.3.34. The Corte Suprema di Cassazione has asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of tariff heading 07.04 ex B. Other (mushrooms other than cultivated mushrooms) referred to in Annex A to Regulation (EEC) No 3011/75⁶ establishing in respect of certain products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common Customs Tariff a scheme of generalized preferences in favour of developing countries.

*Case 825/79 — Sas Prodotti Alimentari Folci, Milan v Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato*⁷

2.3.35. The Corte Suprema di Cassazione has asked the Court of Justice to rule on whether tariff heading 07.04 ex B. Other (Whole mushrooms, dried, dehydrated or evaporated, excluding cultivated mushrooms), referred to in Annex A to Regulations (EEC) Nos 3055/74⁷ and 3011/75⁶ establishing in respect of certain products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common

¹ OJ L 77 of 29.3.1969.

² OJ L 164 of 27.7.1970.

³ OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

⁴ OJ L 45 of 19.2.1975.

⁵ OJ C 28 of 5.2.1980.

⁶ OJ L 310 of 29.11.1975.

⁷ OJ L 329 of 9.12.1974.

Customs Tariff a scheme of generalized preferences in favour of developing countries, applies to whole mushrooms which are cut or sliced or only to mushrooms which are not cut or sliced.

*Case 826/79 — Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato v Sas Mediterranea Importazione, Rappresentanze, Esportazione, Commercio (MIRECO) and vice versa*¹

2.3.36. In a case concerning the recovery of improperly paid health control charges, the Corte Suprema di Cassazione has asked the Court of Justice to rule on whether and under what conditions such recovery is compatible with Community law and, if it is not, to which alternative measures a party who has made an undue payment can resort to enforce his rights in a national court.

*Case 827/79 — Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato v Ditta Ciro Acampora, Genoa*¹

2.3.37. The Corte Suprema di Cassazione has asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the following question: may a Member State which has permitted the importation of goods in application of the preferential tariff treatment granted to products originating from developing countries require the State benefiting from that exportation to check the certificate of origin 'model A' relating to those goods and then, if the outcome of that check is negative, demand payment of the duty which was not paid at the time of importation?

*Cases 828 to 1204, 1249 and 1250/79 — R. Adam and Others v Commission*²

*Cases 1253 to 1321/79 — D. Battaglia and Others v Commission*²

2.3.38. Officials of the Joint Research Centre at Ispra have instituted proceedings before the Court of Justice challenging the amendment by Regulation (EEC) No 3085/78³ of the Staff Regulations with regard to the monetary parities to be used and the adjustment of the weightings applicable to the remuneration of officials (Regulation (EEC) No 3086/78.³

*Cases 1205 to 1248/79 — R. Adam and Others v Commission*²

2.3.39. Officials of the Joint Research Centre at Ispra have instituted proceedings before the Court of Justice challenging the method of conversion applied by the Commission regard to the repayment of building loans contracted by them.

Case 1251/79 — Italian Republic v Commission

2.3.40. The Italian Government has brought an action before the Court of Justice for the annulment of the Commission Decision of 12 October 1979⁴ concerning the clearance of the accounts presented by the Italian Republic in respect of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund,

¹ OJ C 30 of 7.2.1980.

² OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980.

³ OJ L 369 of 29.12.1978.

⁴ OJ L 278 of 7.11.1979.

Guarantee Section, expenditure for 1973, in so far as the Commission has failed to charge to the EAGGF the sum of LIT 604 863 175 which the Italian intervention agency paid out in the form of aids for long-term storage in the wine sector in respect of the 1971/72 marketing year.

Case 1252/79 — SpA Acciaierie e Ferriere Lucchini, Brescia v Commission

2.3.41. By Decision of 31 October 1979,¹ the Commission imposed on the firm of Lucchini a fine for infringing the rules on minimum prices laid down in respect of certain iron and steel products by Decision No 3000/77.²

The firm in question has brought an action before the Court of Justice to have the decision of 31 October 1979 annulled.

Case 1322/79 — G. Vutera v Commission

2.3.42. A Commission official has brought an action before the Justice claiming the expatriation allowance provided for in Annex VII of the Staff Regulations.

Judgments

*Joined Cases 116 and 124/77 — G.R. Amylum NV, Aalst, and Tunnel Refineries Limited, London v (1) Council and (2) Commission*³

*Case 143/77 — Koninklijke Scholten-Honig NV, Amsterdam v (1) Council and (2) Commission*⁴

2.3.43. Following the referral of a number of questions⁵ for preliminary rulings concern-

ing *inter alia* the validity of Regulation (EEC) No 1111/77⁶ laying down common provisions for isoglucose, several manufacturers of the product brought actions⁷ before the Court of Justice for damages in respect of the loss which they claim to have suffered as a result of the introduction under that regulation of a production levy system for isoglucose.

The Court dismissed the actions by its judgments of 5 December.

*Case 257/78 — E. Devred (née Kenny-Levick) v Commission*⁸

2.3.44. A Commission official brought an action before the Court of Justice on 27 November 1978⁸ to annul the Commission's decision withdrawing the expatriation allowance from the applicant.

This action was dismissed as being unfounded by judgment of 14 December 1979.

*Case 12/79 — KG in Firma H.O. Wagner GmbH Agrarhandel v Commission*⁹

2.3.45. Following the judgment in Case 88/76⁹ in which the Court held that, on

¹ OJ C 280 of 9.11.1979.

² OJ L 352 of 31.12.1977.

³ OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

⁴ OJ C 9 of 11.1.1980.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.55.

⁶ OJ L 134 of 28.5.1977.

⁷ Bull. EC 9-1977, point 2.3.39, 10-1977, point 2.3.42 and 11-1977, point 2.3.35.

⁸ Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.3.43.

⁹ CJEC 31.3.1977, Case 88/76 (*Société pour l'exportation des sucres SA v Commission*) — [1977] ECR 709.

account of its late publication in the Official Journal, Regulation (EEC) No 1579/76¹ concerning monetary compensation for sugar could be validly applied only on the day following the date of entry into force provided for, the applicant brought an action² for damages claiming that the Commission had been guilty in this connection of negligence in carrying out its duties.

By its judgment of 12 December 1979 the Court dismissed the application as inadmissible.

Case 34/79 — Regina v (1) M. D. Henn and (2) J.F.E. Darby³

2.3.46. The House of Lords asked the Court of Justice on 1 March 1979⁴ for a preliminary ruling on a series of questions as to whether a prohibition against importing pornographic films and publications into a Member State constitutes a measure having equivalent effect to a quantitative restriction and, if that is the case, whether such prohibition is compatible with Article 36 of the EEC Treaty. A further question concerned the compatibility of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Obscene Publications and of the Universal Postal Union with Article 234 of the EEC Treaty.

By its judgment of 14 December 1979 the Court replied in the affirmative to the first question but held that Article 36 enables a Member State to prohibit the importation of such publications into the whole of its national territory even if variations exist between the laws in force in its different constituent parts, and that such prohibition does not in principle constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade. It held furthermore that Article 234 of the EEC Treaty does not in these circum-

stances preclude a Member State from fulfilling the obligations arising from the two Conventions in question.

Case 42/79 — Firma Milch-, Fett- und Eier-Kontor GmbH, Hamburg v Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaftliche Marktordnung, Frankfurt-am-Main⁵

2.3.47. The Verwaltungsgericht Frankfurt (Frankfurt Administrative Court) asked the Court of Justice on 12 March 1979⁶ for a preliminary ruling on the question whether the concept of cases of *force majeure* referred to in Article 4(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1308/68⁶ on the sale of butter from public stocks for export, on which reimbursement of the security depends, also covers cases where an agent of the exporting firm prevents exports through fraudulent acts directed against that firm. In the event of an answer in the affirmative, the Verwaltungsgericht asked an additional question on the extent of a firm's duty of care with regard to the integrity of the persons managing or directing it. Another question raised by the Verwaltungsgericht was whether one of the principles laid down in the judgment of the Court of Justice in Cases 99 and 100/76,⁷ namely the first buyer's liability for the failure of subsequent buyers to fulfil their obligations, also applies to the abovementioned regulation.

By its judgment of 13 December 1979 the Court held that the concept of *force majeure*

¹ OJ L 172 of 2.7.1976.

² Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.3.41.

³ OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.33.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.41.

⁶ OJ L 214 of 29.8.1968.

⁷ CJEC 11.5.1977, Joined Cases 99 and 100/76 — [1977] ECR 861.

does not cover the case under consideration and that a purchaser of butter from storage who does not himself export the butter but resells it to a third party is liable for the wrongful acts of the other contracting party.

*Case 44/79 — L. Hauer, Bad Dürkheim v Land Rheinland-Pfalz*¹

2.3.48. The Verwaltungsgericht (Administrative Court) Neustadt an der Weinstraße asked the Court of Justice on 20 March 1979² for a preliminary ruling on whether Article 2(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1162/76³ on measures designed to adjust wine-growing potential to market requirements (as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2776/78⁴), which prohibits new planting, also applies to applications for authorization to plant vines submitted before its entry into force and, if so, whether such prohibition operates without taking account of the criterion of the suitability of the soil, provided for in German wine legislation.

By its judgment of 13 December 1979 the Court answered both questions in the affirmative.

*Case 46/79 — Criminal proceedings against G. Brunetti*¹

2.3.49. The Court ordered on 5 December 1979 that this case (a request for a preliminary ruling by the Procura della Repubblica italiana, Salerno²) concerning the free movement of workers in the field of football be removed from the Court register.

*Case 47/79 — Fa. Städtereinigung K. Nehlsen KG, Bremen v Freie Hansestadt Bremen*⁶

2.3.50. The Oberverwaltungsgericht Bremen (Higher Administrative Court, Bremen)

asked the Court of Justice on 26 March 1979⁷ for a preliminary ruling on whether vehicles which are the property of a private undertaking but are made available to local authorities for refuse collection come within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 5438/69⁸ on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2827/77,⁹ taking account of the fact that such vehicles could be regarded as in competition with professional road hauliers in so far as the public authorities could terminate an agreement concluded with the owner of a vehicle on the ground that another undertaking offered more favourable terms.

By its judgment of 6 December 1979 the Court held that the regulations in question apply only to vehicles which are owned by, or are under the control of, the public authorities.

*Case 93/79 — Commission v Italian Republic*¹

2.3.51. The Commission brought an action before the Court of Justice on 14 June 1979¹⁰ for a declaration that Italy, by failing to

¹ OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

² Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.43.

³ OJ L 135 of 24.5.1976.

⁴ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁵ OJ C 107 of 28.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.45.

⁶ OJ C 9 of 11.1.1980.

⁷ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.3.46.

⁸ OJ L 77 of 29.3.1969.

⁹ OJ L 334 of 24.12.1977.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.3.16.

adopt within the prescribed time limits the provisions necessary to comply with Directive 75/410/EEC¹ relating to continuous totalizing weighing machines, had failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty.

By its judgment of 14 December 1979 the Court held that the action was well founded.

*Case 141/79 — S. Fabro v Commission*²

2.3.52. A Commission official applied to the Court of Justice on 10 September 1979³ for the annulment of the promotion of another official.

This case was removed from the Court register by order of 6 December 1979.

Court of Auditors

Publication of Annual Report

2.3.53. The Annual Report of the Court of Auditors for the financial year 1978, with the replies from the institutions, was published on 31 December.⁴ It had been addressed to the institutions responsible for giving a discharge and the other institutions on 30 November.

Economic and Social Committee

174th plenary session

2.3.54. The Economic and Social Committee held its 174th plenary session in Brussels on 12 and 13 December with Mr Vanni, Committee Chairman, in the chair.

Opinions

Technical barriers to trade

2.3.55. The Committee unanimously adopted an opinion on the Commission proposal⁵ of December 1978 for a Directive on certain types of *simple pressure vessels*. The Committee urges the Commission to limit the application of the Directive to mass-produced vessels during an initial period, as the inspection methods provided for in the technical annex seemed more appropriate to large-scale production.

2.3.56. Another unanimously adopted opinion concerns the proposal⁶ for a Regulation fixing the quantities of basic products considered to have been used in the manufacture of certain processed agricultural products. The Committee recommends several amendments aimed at providing better definitions of the products involved. The Committee also delivered an opinion approving the proposal⁶ for a Regulation determining the trade arrangements for these goods.

Customs union

2.3.57. A unanimous opinion approved the Commission proposal⁷ of 24 July for a Council Directive on the harmonization of procedures for the exportation of goods.

¹ OJ L 183 of 14.7.1975.

² OJ C 17 of 23.1.1980.

³ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.3.31.

⁴ OJ C 326 of 31.12.1979.

⁵ OJ C 37 of 10.2.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.8.

⁶ OJ C 259 of 13.10.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.11.

⁷ OJ C 201 of 10.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.28.

2.3.58. Another unanimous opinion concerned the Commission proposal¹ of 12 September for a Council Regulation on Community transit. Among other things the Committee suggests the gradual ending of formalities on the movement of goods in free circulation.

Regional policy

2.3.59. By a large majority the Committee adopted an opinion on the proposal² for a Regulation introducing specific Community regional development measures. It deplored the shortage of funds available to the Commission for operations of such decisive importance for the future of the Community. The Committee's most important suggestion was that there should be a proportional increase each year in the funds allocated to non-quota measures as a percentage of the total resources of the European Regional Development Fund.

Environment

2.3.60. The Committee also approved Commission measures on the pollution of the aquatic environment by discharges of mercury³ and of aldrin, dieldrin and endrin,⁴ and on quality objectives required for water into which these substances are discharged.

Consumer protection

2.3.61. The Committee adopted by a large majority an opinion on the new consumer action programme.⁵ The Committee recognizes the need for the programme, but considers that it ought to distinguish between the needs of different categories of consumers.

2.3.62. The Committee also welcomed the Commission's proposed amendment⁶ of the basic Directive⁷ on cosmetic products.

Agricultural policy

2.3.63. On the amendment of the proposal for a Regulation on ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin,⁸ the Committee stressed the urgency of the need for Council decisions establishing a common organization of this market.

2.3.64. The Committee also approved the proposal⁹ for a Directive on protective measures against the introduction into Member States of organisms harmful to plants or plant products.

Studies

Relations between the Community and Yugoslavia

2.3.65. The Committee unanimously adopted a study drawing attention to the importance of relations with Yugoslavia. On Yugoslav migrant workers and their families,

¹ OJ C 241 of 26.9.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.23.

² OJ C 285 of 15.11.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.63.

³ OJ C 169 of 6.7.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.59.

⁴ OJ C 146 of 12.6.1979; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.82.

⁵ OJ C 218 of 30.8.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.7 and Supplement 4/79 — Bull. EC.

⁶ OJ C 165 of 2.7.1979; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.85.

⁷ OJ L 262 of 27.9.1976.

⁸ OJ C 209 of 21.8.1979.

⁹ OJ C 193 of 31.7.1979.

the Committee felt there was a need for training and schooling schemes to facilitate both the integration of those hoping to remain in the Community permanently and the maintenance of links with the home country for those intending to return.

ECSC Consultative Committee

205th meeting

2.3.66. The ECSC Consultative Committee held its 205th meeting on 18 December, with Mr Judith in the chair. Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission, also attended. After hearing the customary statement on the Commission's activities relevant to the ECSC Treaty (notably on social matters), the Committee discussed the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1980, the symposium on steel arranged by OECD for next February and the ECSC operational budget for 1980.

Forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1980

2.3.67. The Commission representative presented the programme and outlined the general situation of the Community steel industry against the background of slackening economic growth. The Commission had arrived at a figure of 34.5 million tonnes for Community production of crude steel during the first quarter of 1980, as against 35.6 million for the fourth quarter of 1979 and actual output of 34.4 million for the first quarter of 1979. Despite some dissatisfaction on the part of the French producers over the allocations and a few other minor differences, the Committee adopted the forward programme for the first quarter of 1980.

OECD Symposium on Steel — February 1980

2.3.68. The Chairman of the *ad hoc* group formed to study this matter reported that the symposium would consider the short and medium-term economic prospects and their repercussions on the steel industry. Supported by the Committee he stressed that the Community should work out a common position, especially to face the United States and Japan. He hoped that the Committee would try to define it. The Commission was asked to make known its position.

ECSC operational budget

2.3.69. The Commission representative commented on the new draft ECSC budget, the total figure of which had fallen from 211 to 188 million EUA. The deficit, meaning the proportion of the budget not financed in the ordinary way, had been cut to 43 million EUA. To cover this deficit it was planned to transfer funds from the EEC budget to the ECSC budget. Lastly, the Commission was proposing a slight increase in the levy rate, from 0.29 to 0.31% (7 million EUA). Only the workers' representatives were in favour of raising the levy. The other speakers felt that every effort should be made to avoid putting further burdens on steel companies and the coal industry. Some members of the Committee were sorry that the Commission was planning to reduce the funds allocated for research.

The feeling was unanimous that adequate funds must be found for social measures and for research. The Commission representative pointed out that the Commission had taken care to allocate the sums at its disposal as fairly as possible. Final decisions were to be taken after the discussions within the Council and in the light of the points made by the members of the Committee.

European Investment Bank

Loans raised

Austria

2.3.70. The European Investment Bank floated an issue for 500 million schillings on the Austrian capital market. The loan has a life of ten years and has been underwritten by an international banking syndicate headed by the Creditanstalt-Bankverein, with Girozentrale und Bank der Österreichischen Sparkassen Aktiengesellschaft and Österreichische Länderbank Aktiengesellschaft as co-managers. The bonds have a coupon of 8%, and interest is payable annually on 28 December, starting on that date in 1980. The loan was offered for public subscription on 19 and 20 December 1979 at an issue of 99.50%, giving a yield at final maturity of 8.07%.

The bonds will be redeemed at par no later than 28 December 1989, but the EIB has undertaken to buy back at their nominal value up to ÖS 60 million worth of the bonds in each twelve-month period starting on 28 December, between 1982 and 1987. It also has the right, as from 28 December 1983, to repurchase at the next due date all unredeemed bonds at 100.5% of their nominal issue price. This is the third EIB borrowing operation on the Austrian market.

United Kingdom

2.3.71. In December the European Investment Bank signed an agreement with an international banking syndicate headed by Kleinwort Benson Limited regarding a bond issue for USD 80 million to be placed mainly

among institutional investors in the United Kingdom.

The bonds bear interest at 11.75% payable on 15 January of each year, and have a maximum life of twelve years; they are offered at an issue price of 99.75%, the yield calculated on the total life time comes to 11.79%. The issue is redeemable at par at term. However, the contract includes a 'purchase fund' clause enabling bonds to be bought back at prices not exceeding par during the first seven years. In addition, the EIB has the option of redeeming in advance, at a declining premium, all or part of the bonds in circulation as from 15 January 1987.

Loans granted

France

2.3.72. The European Investment Bank lent the equivalent of FF 70 million (11.9 million u.a.)¹ for small and medium-scale public authority infrastructure schemes in less developed or industrial conversion areas in France. The funds have been made available in the form of a global loan (fifteen years at 10.90%) to the Caisse d'Aide à l'Équipement des Collectivités Locales (CAECL), a public financial institution created in 1966 and managed by the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations. CAECL makes long and medium-term loans, complementary to those of CDC, to finance the capital requirements of local authorities and public institutions. The CAECL facility is the first global loan to be earmarked for assisting public infrastructure schemes. The beneficiaries could include

¹ For the value and composition of the EIB's unit of account, see Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.3.69.

departments, regional public institutions, chambers of commerce, communes and their syndicates. To qualify for finance, infrastructure schemes put forward must assist regional development. Likely schemes will concern mainly roads, water supply and drainage, rural electrification and port facilities, i.e. infrastructure making a direct or indirect contribution to establishing or expanding productive activities.

2.3.73. The Bank has also granted a loan for the equivalent of FF 25 million (4.3 million u.a.) for construction of a factory at St-Eloy-les-Mines near Clermont-Ferrand (Puy-de-Dôme), France, to manufacture mineral wool from volcanic rock. The loan (twelve years at 10.60%) is to Rockwool-Isolation SA, French subsidiary of the Danish Rockwool group, one of the largest manufacturers of mineral wool in Europe. Under the first construction phase, a 100 000 tonnes per annum production line is to be installed; start-up is scheduled for September 1980.

Ireland

2.3.74. The European Investment Bank lent the equivalent of IRL 2.5 million (3.7 million u.a.) for small and medium-scale food processing and intensive agriculture ventures in Ireland. The funds have been provided in the form of a global loan for twelve years to the Agricultural Credit Cooperation Ltd (ACC) which will on-lend (minimum amount IRL 17 000) for ventures throughout the country, chosen in agreement with the EIB. Priority will go to those making the most impact in creating or safeguarding employment. Although the EIB finance is in foreign currencies, the Irish Government shields the final borrowers from fluctuations in exchange rates (provided firms concerned do not

employ more than 100 people or have fixed assets in excess of IRL 600 000). A previous such global loan, for IRL 2.5 million, was made to ACC in June last year.

Italy

2.3.75. With the signature in Rome of new loans worth LIT 432 000 million (377 million u.a.)—mainly for improved energy supplies and industrial development in the Mezzogiorno—the European Investment Bank announced that lending operations in Italy in 1979 (loans from the Bank's own resources plus New Community Instrument loans) totalled LIT 1 129 000 million.

Most of the funds—LIT 1 032 000 million—have been provided from the EIB's own resources (i.e. essentially borrowings which the Bank makes on the capital markets).

The 14 new loans total LIT 432 000 million, of which LIT 380 000 million from the EIB's own resources and LIT 52 000 million from the resources of the New Community Instrument. EMS interest subsidies of 3% have been granted on more than half of the loans.

Energy

2.3.76. A variety of energy projects account for eight of the loans, worth LIT 248 000 million. Most of this—LIT 217 000 million—goes to ENEL (Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica) for use as follows:

(i) LIT 130 000 million for fifteen years—of which LIT 40 000 million drawn from New Community Instrument resources—for a pumped storage/hydro-electric power station in the Alto Gesso Massif, Piedmont (rated 1 190 MW, estimated cost LIT 400 000 million) which will be used for peak load and

stand-by duties; it will also provide ENEL with conventional hydro resources of around 190 million kWh per annum.

(ii) LIT 50 000 million, term fifteen years, for extension of the electricity transmission and distribution grid in the Abruzzi, Molise, Calabria and Basilicata (cost estimated at about LIT 115 000 million).

(iii) Lit 25 000 million, term fifteen years, for a similar project covering the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region, in this case including improved connections between the Italian and Yugoslavian networks (cost estimated at about LIT 61 000 million).

(iv) LIT 12 000 million from New Community Instrument resources, term fifteen years, for construction of five geothermal power stations in Tuscany (cost roughly LIT 63 000 million) which, compared to conventional thermal power stations, should lead to a fuel saving equivalent to 60 000 tonnes of oil per year.

AGIP SpA (ENI-Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi group) has borrowed LIT 18 000 million at subsidized rates for development of oil and gas fields in Northern Italy and in the Adriatic (cost put at LIT 54 000 million), as follows:

(i) LIT 9 000 million for ten years which will go towards well-drilling, construction of treatment plant and storage facilities at the Cavone oil field in the province of Modena, Emilia-Romagna.

(ii) LIT 9 000 million, term ten years, for development of the Settala gas field, 10 km east of Milan, and the Amelia gas field discovered in the Adriatic sea, 30 km off the coast from Cervia, province of Ravenna, Emilia-Romagna.

In addition, a subsidized loan worth LIT 13 000 million, term fifteen years, was made

for a district heating system in Brescia, Lombardy; the funds have been lent to IMI-Istituto Mobiliare Italiano to help meet a LIT 55 000 million investment in combined electricity and heat production. The hot water produced in the scheme will be used to heat 12 million m³ of homes and other buildings and should save the equivalent of 50 000 tonnes of oil per year.

Industrial Development

2.3.77. Four loans worth LIT 124 000 million have gone to manufacturing industry, principally in the Mezzogiorno. They have been made to IMI for use as follows:

(i) LIT 100 000 million, term fourteen years, which will be passed on to Sevel-Societa Europea Veicoli Leggeri SpA, a Fiat and Peugeot-Citroën joint venture; the company is setting up a factory at Atessa, Abruzzi, which will build light commercial vehicles (1 to 1.3 tonnes, petrol and diesel-engined); it is scheduled to come into full operation in 1983.

(ii) LIT 20 000 million, term ten years, to IMI to help finance small and medium-scale industrial ventures.

(iii) LIT 2 000 million, term eight years, to be passed on to Fiat Auto to complete expansion at the company's Termoli (Molise) factory which produces gearboxes, chiefly for the Ritmo model. The new facilities (cost estimated at LIT 12 000 million) should be commissioned by 1981.

(iv) LIT 2 000 million, term ten years, has been lent for modernization of a thermal power plant with heat recovery facilities at the Saffa-Società per Azioni Fabbriche Fiammiferi ed Affini factory at Magenta, Lombardy.

Infrastructure development in the Mezzogiorno

2.3.78. A LIT 20 000 million subsidized loan, term fifteen years, has been granted to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for development of the industrial zone at Syracuse, Sicily. This will be used to help meet the cost of road improvements, water supply and flood prevention works, estimated at LIT 69 000 million.

Finally, to improve long-distance telecommunications between different regions in the South, also between the Mezzogiorno and other parts of Italy and abroad, the EIB is lending LIT 40 000 million, term fifteen years, to Crediop-Consorzio di Credito per le Opere Pubbliche for extension and reorganization of switching centres, and new and improved radio relay links.

United Kingdom

2.3.79. Three loans worth together UKL 3 325 000 (5.1 million u.a.) have been granted by the European Investment Bank for industrial projects in Scotland and Co. Durham which should create some 440 new jobs and safeguard others in areas of high unemployment. Details are as follows:

(i) UKL 1.35 million has been lent to the Delta Metal Company Ltd for seven years at 10% for modernization of production facilities in a factory in Dundee; the project (cost estimated at UKL 3 million) should be completed in 1983.

(ii) UKL 1 million (seven years at 10%) goes to Kestrel Marine Ltd for a wharf and engineering facilities in Tayside, to be used for construction and transport of steel structures (crew quarters, helicopter pads, etc.) for platforms in North Sea oil and gas fields.

(iii) UKL 975 000 (seven years at 10%) goes to Wavin Plastics Ltd for extension of a factory at Brandon, Co. Durham, which manufactures thermoplastic pipes and other building products.

2.3.80. Four loans totalling the equivalent of UKL 70 million (107.8 million u.a.) have been granted by the European Investment Bank to finance various projects in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland, as follows:

(i) UKL 60 million in a loan to the Post Office for ten years at an interest rate of 11.65% will go towards telecommunications work costing an estimated UKL 157 million and due for completion in the spring of 1981; these will make possible an additional 220 000 subscriber connections (expanding by about a quarter the present network capacity), an increase in the number of trunk lines and telex connections.

(ii) UKL 5 million to Continental Can Company (UK) Ltd for eight years at 10.55% will cover about 40% of a UKL 12.6 million fixed asset investment which the company is making in a new factory at Wrexham; this will produce aluminium cans for various soft drinks producers.

(iii) UKL 4 million to Michelin (Belfast) Ltd, a subsidiary of Michelin Tyre Company Ltd, for eight years at 10.55%, will go towards fixed investment of over UKL 10 million to modernize and improve efficiency at factories in Belfast and Ballymena which manufacture radial tyres for cars and commercial vehicles.

(iv) UKL 1 million to British Aluminium Company Limited for ten years at 10.15% will help to finance rebuilding of a smelting plant at Lochaber, Fort William, in Inverness-shire.

2.3.81. The European Investment Bank also granted two loans in Scotland worth UKL 15.07 million (23.2 million u.a.) which will go towards constructing an oil port in the Shetland Islands and new whiskey bottling facilities in Dumbarton. Details are given below:

(i) A loan for UKL 11.07 million has been advanced for ten years at 11.55% to the Shetland Islands Council; the authority is responsible, *inter alia*, for constructing the harbour at Sullom Voe on Mainland, the largest of the Shetland Islands, to handle oil from the Brent and Ninian Fields and other fields connected to them, in the North Sea some 150 km north-east of Shetland. The capital investment which the Bank is helping to finance covers construction of a fourth crude oil jetty (for tankers of up to 300 000 tonnes), a cargo jetty, a tug harbour and a range of associated facilities. The volume of oil put through this harbour is likely to continue to rise substantially in coming years once new deposits are developed. Recoverable reserves could then exceed 1 000 million tonnes, equivalent to around two-thirds of Community reserves, with Sullom Voe handling a daily throughput of some 1.5 million barrels.

(ii) A loan for UKL 4 million has been made to Hiram Walker and Sons (Scotland) Ltd—main brands 'Ballantine's', 'Old Smuggler' and 'Ambassador'—for eight years at an interest rate of 10%. It will go towards the provision of a new whiskey bottling complex and related redevelopment of the company's existing bottling plant at Dumbarton. The total project (which when completed is estimated to cost about UKL 30 million) will enable the company to cover all its bottling requirements, including forecast increases in production up to 1990.

Denmark

2.3.82. The European Investment Bank granted two loans, together totalling the equivalent of DKR 74 million (10.6 million u.a.) to help finance work in Greenland. The loans are to the Danish Government, each of fifteen years at 10.25%.

(i) DKR 46 million have been advanced for the construction of a power station near Holsteinsborg on the West Coast, Greenland's second city. Two 3.6 MW generating sets are to be installed at an existing plant, allowing an ageing 3.6 MW generator to be phased out and placed on stand-by. The project includes scope for later expansion. The plans also provide for interconnection with a district heating system, so as to make more efficient use of the heat generated at the power station and achieve considerable energy savings.

(ii) A loan for DKR 28 million goes towards work on extending the internal telecommunications system, connecting the island's main centres with five localities in the North and East that account for 15% of the population. The investment has been costed at around DKR 56 million overall. It covers telephone, telegraph and telex facilities, based on micro-wave links using satellites, scheduled for commissioning during 1981.

Greece

2.3.83. Two loans totalling 25 million u.a. were granted by the European Investment Bank for agro-industrial and agricultural investment in Greece. The borrower is the Agricultural Bank of Greece (ABG), the principal credit institution operating in the agricultural sector. The financing is in the form of two global loans from different

resources and therefore subject to different terms and conditions. One loan for 15 million u.a. has been granted for fourteen years, at a rate of 10.4%, from the EIB's own resources; of this sum 12.5 million u.a. will be used especially to finance small and medium-sized agro-industrial ventures, and the remaining 2.5 million to finance farm investment. The other loan, for 10 million u.a., has been granted for thirty years at a rate of 2.5% from Community budgetary resources managed by the EIB for loans on special conditions; this will be used to help finance small irrigation schemes.

Turkey

2.3.84. The European Investment Bank provided 26 million u.a. (close on LT 1 700 million) for forestry development and construction of an integrated industrial complex comprising a saw mill and paper mill on the Mediterranean coast in Southern Turkey. The funds have been lent to the Turkish State under the third EEC-Turkey Financial Protocol, as follows:

(i) 16 million u.a. from the EIB's own resources (term fifteen years, interest 10.4%) to be on-lent via the State Investment Bank (DYB) for the construction of a saw mill, at Silifke, for processing 170 000 m³ of timber per annum, and a paper mill with an annual production capacity of 155 000 tonnes of linerboard or 90 000 tonnes of kraft paper or any combination of the two.

(ii) 10 million u.a. in a loan on special conditions which the State will make available to the Ministry of Forests for promoting forestry development in the Antalya, Mersin, Adana and Kahramanmaraş conservancies (in Southern Turkey); these will supply timber chiefly to the saw mill and paper mill. The venture is designed to boost annual production of

timber for industrial purposes supplied from these conservancies to 2.8 million m³ (the mature forest area covers some 1.4 million hectares).

Cameroon

2.3.85. Under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank lent 6.6 million u.a. (almost CFAF 2 000 million) for developing clinker and cement production in the United Republic of Cameroon. The loan is for ten years at 7.3%, allowing for a 3% subsidy from the resources of the Community's European Development Fund. The project is geared to raising production capacity at the Bonabéri clinker crushing works near Douala from 480 000 tonnes p.a. to 870 000 tonnes p.a. and that of the Figuil cement works in North Cameroon from 70 000 tonnes p.a. to 100 000 tonnes p.a.

Ivory Coast

2.3.86. Under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank provided 5.72 million u.a. to help expand a fertilizer plant in the Abidjan industrial estate in the Republic of the Ivory Coast. The funds have been made available in two forms: 5.17 million u.a. as a loan to 'Société Ivoirienne d'Engrais' (Siveng), a semi-public company and the Ivory Coast's sole producer of fertilizers (terms: ten years at 7.15%, after deduction of a 3% interest subsidy drawn from the resources of the Community's European Development Fund); a 550 000 u.a. shareholding in Siveng, taken on behalf of the European Community using risk capital resources provided for under the Convention and managed by the Bank. The investment is designed for uprating and rationalizing plant

for production of complex and sulphuric-acid-based fertilizers: this will increase output to 120 000 tonnes of fertilizer a year.

Mali

2.3.87. Also under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank granted a loan for 2.5 million u.a. for tourism development in Mali. It will go towards the construction of two hotels and the purchase of transport and communications equipment needed for the setting-up of tour circuits. The funds have been made available in the form of a 20-year conditional loan drawn from risk capital provided for by the Lomé Convention and managed by the EIB under mandate from the Community. The hotels (60 and 40 rooms) are to be built at Mopti and Timbuktu and are scheduled to come into service in 1981, under State ownership.

Madagascar

2.3.88. Under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has lent 1 107 000 u.a. (fifteen years at 2%) to the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to help finance the first phase of a study on developing bituminous sandstone deposits in Bemolanga, in the Northern area of the Morondava basin, to the West of Antananarivo, the capital. Covering an area of 420 km², the deposits are among the seven most important proven to date throughout the world. Reserves are estimated at a total 3 000 million tonnes, of which 500 million tonnes possible for extraction by open-cast operations. The average bituminous content of the sandstone varies from 6% to 9%. Studies will focus on both conditions for developing a zone where proven reserves of

bitumen total 4.4 million tonnes, and the application of an extraction and distillation process. If the results are positive, this will lead to construction of a plant capable of processing 10 000 tonnes of sandstone a day (output would represent one third of the country's current imports of petroleum products).

Senegal

2.3.89. Still acting under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank provided a loan of 500 000 u.a. to construct a factory producing solar collectors and insulated tanks with a view to harnessing solar energy in Senegal, in the Sahel. The loan of 500 000 u.a. (CFAF 145 million) has been made to the State to finance its stake (around CFAF 72 million) in the planned capital increase of Sinaes—Société industrielle des applications de l'énergie solaire, founded in 1976 to promote the introduction of equipment using renewable energy. The finance will help construction of a plant at Thies (65 km from Dakar) manufacturing mainly solar collectors to be used for individual and communal hot water systems as well as in conjunction with pumps for irrigation in isolated rural areas.

The French Sofretes group, which specializes in research into the use of renewable energy, is providing technical assistance for the project.

2.3.90. The European Investment Bank also granted a loan for 975 000 u.a. (more than CFAF 280 million) for a survey to quantify iron ore deposits in the Republic of Senegal, in the Falémé area, along the border with Mali, some 750 km from Dakar. The funds have been provided in the form of a

conditional loan¹ from risk capital made available under the first Lomé Convention and managed by the EIB on the Community's behalf. The loan will be repaid only if a decision to mine the deposits is taken. The feasibility study to be financed by this loan is intended to determine the available reserves of oxidized ores with a high iron content (63 to 64%); their presence was revealed by previous studies which did not, however, show whether they were sufficient for viable mining operations. The findings of the survey are expected to be known not later than September 1980 and provided that these are favourable, a final feasibility study will then be conducted before mining is begun. Potential output can be estimated at 12 million tonnes of ore per annum for 20 to 30 years.

Mauritania

2.3.91. Under the terms of the first Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank granted a loan of 25 million u.a. for opening up iron ore deposits at Guelb El Rhein near Zouerate in the north of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The term is fifteen years and the rate of interest 7.4% after taking account of a 3% interest subsidy financed from the resources of the Community's European Development Fund. The project consists in starting up an open-cast mine and commissioning an enrichment plant, since the ores to be mined have a lower iron content than those at present being worked. It is planned to open up the mine in 1983. The potential iron ore reserves in the Guelbs (an Arab name meaning 'heart' and given to hills resisting erosion) are estimated at around 1 000 million tonnes; the Guelb El Rhein deposit itself is expected to yield 285 million tonnes.

Egypt

2.3.92. The European Investment Bank lent 15 million u.a. in the form of a global loan to the Development Industrial Bank (DIB) towards financing small and medium-scale industrial and tourism ventures in Egypt. The loan carries a term of ten years at 8.05%, after a 2% interest subsidy financed from the Community budget.

Jordan

2.3.93. The European Investment Bank granted a loan for 5 million u.a. to help finance construction of an industrial estate near Amman, Jordan. The loan is for fifteen years at 8.4%, after deduction of a 2% subsidy paid from the Community budget. To be built at Sahab, on the southern outskirts of Amman, the estate will extend over 250 hectares. The EIB loan will go towards the first phase covering 75 hectares and including 95 standard factories (75 to 1 300 m²) as well as roads, water supply, drainage, electricity and telecommunications facilities and the first administrative and commercial buildings. These works should be finished towards mid-1984.

Lebanon

2.3.94. The European Investment Bank lent 10 million u.a. towards three additional 70 MW generating sets at the Jieh thermal power station near Beirut (the Lebanon). This extension represents one of the key measures undertaken by the Lebanese Government to

¹ With this type of financing the repayment terms, the period for which the loan is granted and the rate of interest payable are linked to fulfilment of conditions specified at the time of contract signature.

revive the country's economy. Increased electricity output is essential to cope with the expected growth in industrial and commercial activity and to meet increasing domestic demands. The loan (for ten years at 5.90%) follows two others—3 million u.a. granted in June 1978 and 7 million u.a. in August of this year.

Financing Community activities

Budgets

General Budget

Second reading by Parliament of the draft Budget for 1980

2.3.95. At its December part-session,¹ Parliament rejected the draft general budget of the Communities for 1980 on second reading.

In a Resolution passed on 7 November² Parliament had in fact made it clear that its adoption of the budget would be subject to the following conditions:

- (i) cancellation of the cuts made by the Council in non-compulsory expenditure, which Parliament regards as unjustified;
- (ii) implementation of the measures to contain agricultural expenditure;
- (iii) inclusion in the budget of the European Development Fund and all the Community's borrowing and lending operations.

In the course of a preliminary general debate on 11 December most of the political groups expressed the opinion that the draft budget, as amended by the Council on 23

November,³ did not meet the above conditions. After lengthy consultations on 12 and 13 December Mr Lenihan, President of the Council, informed the parliamentary delegation headed by Mrs Veil of his institution's reactions to Parliament's requests in the following terms:

(a) agricultural expenditure: the Council was willing to adopt the following statement jointly with Parliament:

'The Council and the Assembly agree that the introduction of a draft amending budget based on the Commission proposal for an amended preliminary draft budget for 1980 will clear the way for the budgetary consequences—primarily in the milk sector—of the Council decisions to be taken as early as possible in 1980 and at all events before the price-fixing exercise on the basis of Commission proposals, notably those presented on 29 November, the proposed amendments put forward by the Assembly on 7 November and the Council Directives of 21 June 1979 on the co-responsibility levy.

The Council agrees with the Assembly that the budgetary consequences must involve tightening up spending on agricultural guarantees.'

(b) non-compulsory expenditure: the Council also expressed its willingness to fix a new maximum rate of increase for non-compulsory expenditure, which would raise by 200 million EUA the appropriations for commitment agreed by the Council in the draft General Budget for 1980, as amended by the Council on 23 November.

(c) *budgetization of EDF and borrowing and lending operations*: the Council was prepared to adopt the following two statements:

(i) *EDF*: following the Commission proposal in its preliminary draft budget for the

¹ Points 2.3.4 and 2.3.5; OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

² OJ C 302 of 2.12.1979 and Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.3.9.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.3.72.

⁴ Unofficial translation.

budgetization of the European Development Fund it has been agreed that the Fund be financed by the Member States on an *ad hoc* basis. When the Council forwards the draft budget it will also attach information on the EDF. The Council is prepared to review the question of including future EDFs in the budget.

(ii) *Borrowing and lending operations*: the Council undertakes to complete within six months its examination of the Commission proposal for the amendment of the Financial Regulation in an attempt to reach a common decision, which would enable the Assembly and the Council to find a solution acceptable to both institutions, which between them exercise the budgetary authority.

However, despite the above concessions Parliament's Committee on Budgets decided by a very large majority to recommend Parliament to reject the draft outright on the grounds that, as Mr Dankert, rapporteur, explained during the sitting, although the Council's position represented a 'step forward', it did not provide Parliament with enough in the way of guarantees.

Before the House voted on 13 December on the motion to reject the Budget Mr Lenihan made the following statement:

'the rejection of the budget and the wrangling that will continue over the months ahead cannot but do damage to this Community, particularly in regard to its image with its peoples. This Community can only proceed on the basis of political will and understanding between the institutions... There is nothing to be gained from creating a confrontation situation, either in regard to our credibility with our peoples, or with regard to the efficient working of the Community's affairs. On both of those grounds—our respect and credibility with our people and the efficient working of the Community—it is essential to proceed on the basis of concertation and consultation... I personally

think that tremendous progress was made at our meetings yesterday and today... we arrived at positions, in my view, that are exactly similar.'

Despite this last appeal many MPs came out in favour of outright rejection. Mr Scott-Hopkins (European Democrats) said that his group would vote for rejection on the grounds that the Council did not yet seem ready to restructure the Community Budget. Mr Arndt (Socialists) stated that, although his French colleagues had been satisfied by the Council's statement on agricultural expenditure, the other prerequisites had not been clearly met. As a result almost all the Socialist Group would vote for the outright rejection of the draft Budget. In the words of Mr Klepsch (European People's Party) to vote for the Budget would be 'to vote for the stagnation of the Community'; he went on to point out that the Treaties did allow for the possibility of the Budget being rejected and that there was no reason why such a move should spark off an institutional crisis. The Liberals justified their position, expressed by Mr Bangemann, in terms of safeguarding Parliament's rights. Mr Fanti and the Italian Communists felt that the Council had failed to take Parliament sufficiently seriously throughout the budgetary procedure. Mrs Castle (Socialists) stated that she and her colleagues would vote for outright rejection not in an attempt to increase Parliament's powers but in order to speed up the reform of the common agricultural policy.

Speaking against the motion Mr Ansquer (European Progressive Democrats) told the House that his group had no wish either to become involved in a battle of wills with the Council or to interfere with the common agricultural policy, while Mr Baillot, speaking on behalf of the French Communists, stated that, while they did not approve of the present structure of the Community Budget,

they could not support the motion for outright rejection on the grounds that it constituted an attempt to extend Parliament's powers and a 'step in the direction of supranationality'.

Parliament went on to reject the draft Budget by 288 votes to 64.

Mr Jenkins, President of the Commission, commented on the outcome of the vote in the following terms:

'Parliament has decisively made its judgment and is clearly acting within its rights. The Commission obviously cannot welcome a position in which there is no budget. It regrets that despite long efforts—perhaps at too late a stage for accumulated suspicions to be eliminated—no basis considered adequate for acceptance emerged.

The Commission for its part will take its responsibilities to the Community as a whole. The train is temporarily off the tracks. The Commission will try to get it back on again at what it judges to be the earliest favourable moment. For that it will require cooperation from both parts of the budgetary authority.'

2.3.96. The Commission has taken the necessary steps to enable spending to be carried out monthly from 1 January 1980 under the provisional twelfths system. As for revenues, the own resources made up of customs duties, agricultural and sugar levies will be paid by the Member States on the normal monthly basis. Own resources derived from VAT are to be paid in every month in line with the draft Budget amended by the Council.

Third supplementary and amending budget—1979

2.3.97. On 13 December the President of Parliament announced that the third supplementary and amending budget for 1979¹

had been finally adopted. This budget brings the total appropriations for 1979 to some 15 428 million EUA in appropriations for commitments and to some 14 446 million EUA in appropriations for payments.

A proposal from Parliament, accepted by the Council, restored the 802 million EUA increase in appropriations for the EAGGF Guarantee Section, which had been proposed by the Commission in its preliminary draft. This was achieved, in part, by taking 100 million EUA away from the EAGGF Guidance Section.

Financial Regulation

2.3.98. On 13 December the Commission sent the Council a number of proposals for Regulations aimed at standardizing the units of account used by the Communities. Prominent among these is a proposal for a Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977² in respect of the use of the ECU in the General Budget of the Communities.³

ECSC operational budget

2.3.99. After taking note of the opinion delivered by Parliament on 13 December⁴ and the reaction of the ECSC Consultative Committee at its meeting on 18 December,⁵ the Commission decided⁶ on 19 December to fix the levy rate for 1980 at 0.31% as against the 0.29% decided on previously. This moderate

¹ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.3.110.

² OJ L 356 of 31.12.1977.

³ See also point 2.1.2.

⁴ Point 2.3.7 and OJ C 4 of 7.1.1980.

⁵ Point 2.3.69.

⁶ OJ L 344 of 31.12.1979.

Table 7 — Appropriations for the 1979 financial year

(in EUA)

Sectors	Initial Budget		1st amending and supplementary Budget 1979		2nd supplementary Budget 1979		3rd amending and supplementary Budget 1979		Final appropriations	
	Total approps. for commitments	Total approps. for payments	Total approps. for commitments	Total approps. for payments	Total approps. for commitments	Total approps. for payments	Total approps. for commitments	Total approps. for payments	Total approps. for commitments	Total approps. for payments
I — COMMISSION										
A — Intervention approps.										
• Agriculture	10 225 139 000	10 063 129 000					+ 702 000 000	+ 702 000 000	10 927 139 000	10 765 129 000
• Social	804 062 000	556 877 000							804 062 000	556 877 000
• Regional	1 100 000 000	553 000 000	+ 45 000 000	+ 146 000 000					1 145 000 000	699 000 000
• Research, energy, industry, transport	647 435 900	497 535 900							269 273 275	293 048 330
• Development cooperation	647 435 900	497 535 900							647 435 900	497 535 900
• Other	token entry	token entry							token entry	token entry
	13 045 910 275	11 963 590 230	+ 45 000 000	+ 146 000 000			+ 702 000 000	+ 702 000 000	13 792 910 275	12 811 590 230
B — Administrative approps.										
• Staff	409 563 400	409 563 400							409 563 400	409 563 400
• Administration	118 955 540	118 955 540							118 955 540	118 955 540
• Information	9 960 500	9 960 500							9 960 500	9 960 500
• Aid and subsidies	46 128 000	46 128 000							46 128 000	46 128 000
	584 607 440	584 607 440							584 607 440	584 607 440
C — Reserve										
• Contingency reserve	5 000 000	5 000 000							5 000 000	5 000 000
• Reimbursement to Member States	691 850 000	691 850 000	+ 45 373 000	+ 45 373 000			+ 29 280 000	+ 29 280 000	766 503 000	766 503 000
Total Commission	14 327 367 715	13 245 047 670	+ 90 373 000	+ 191 373 000			+ 731 280 000	+ 731 280 000	15 149 020 715	14 167 700 670
II — OTHER INSTITUTIONS	249 306 205	249 306 205			+ 29 986 995	+ 29 986 995			279 293 200	279 293 200
Grand total	14 576 673 920	13 494 353 875	+ 90 373 000	+ 191 373 000	+ 29 986 995	+ 29 986 995	+ 731 280 000	+ 731 280 000	15 428 313 915	14 446 993 870

increase was regarded as necessary to avoid too severe a restriction of traditional aids for readaptation and research.

This decision takes account of the other regular resources (income from interest on investments and from loans on non-borrowed monies, cancellations of commitments which will not be implemented, etc.). In addition, a special revenue item of 43 million EUA is provided for to cover conversion aid needs. Negotiations are under way within the Community institutions to decide as soon as possible on making this revenue available, as it is proving indispensable, particularly in view of the financial demands made by the crisis in the steel industry.

The budget estimates adopted can be expected to cover the requirements of the ECSC's operational budget, which amount to 188 million EUA. These break down as follows (in million EUA):

(i) administrative expenditure	5
(ii) readaptation aids	67
(iii) research aids	44
(iv) aids toward payment of interest on investment and conversion loans	66
(v) coking coal aid	6

The appropriations for the conversion aids (43 million EUA) cannot be committed until the appropriate special revenue has been obtained.

Financial operations

ECSC

Investment in ECSC industries

2.3.100. The Commission has published the findings of a survey of investment in the coal-

mining and iron and steel industries¹ conducted annually among undertakings covered by the ECSC Treaty.

Loans raised

2.3.101. In December the Commission concluded the following borrowing operations:

- (i) a bond issue of DM 150 million underwritten by a syndicate of German banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of $7\frac{7}{8}\%$ payable annually over a ten-year period. The loan was opened for public subscription at par. Official quotation of the bonds on the Frankfurt, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Munich exchanges has been applied for;
- (ii) various private loans totalling DM 152 million, FF 73 million and SFR 7 million;
- (iii) a private loan of USD 100 million underwritten by an international syndicate of banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of 12% per annum, decreasing by a 0.25% each year until they reach 10.50% at the end of the seventh year. The loan was offered to the public at $98\frac{7}{8}\%$ of the nominal value. Official quotation of the bonds on the Luxembourg exchange has been applied for;
- (iv) a private loan of USD 50 million underwritten by an international syndicate of banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of $11\frac{5}{8}\%$ per annum, payable annually over a period of ten years. The loan was offered to the public at $99\frac{5}{8}\%$ of the nominal value. Official quotation of the bonds on the Luxembourg exchange has been applied for.

¹ Points 3.5.1 to 3.5.5.

Loans granted*Loans paid out*

2.3.102. Pursuant to Article 54(1) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made in December 1979 loans amounting to some 91 million EUA to the following:

Industrial loans*Coal industry*

Rationalization and modernization of pits:

National Coal Board, London

(i) eight projects: Frickley, Bentley, Woolley and Denby Grange (South Yorkshire), Merthyr Vale (Mid Glamorgan), Bevercotes, Thoresby, Annesley and Bentinck (Nottinghamshire).

(ii) four projects: Thorne (South Yorkshire), Tilmanstone (Kent), Blidworth (Nottinghamshire) and Woodville (Derbyshire).

Steel industry

Rationalization of cast iron and steel production:

Fried. Krupp Hüttenwerke AG in Bochum (plants at Bochum, Rheinhausen and Geisweid).

Overseas project

Coal mine:

Gewerkschaft Norbert Metz, Herzogenrath (Red Ash Sales Company Inc., West Virginia, USA).

Low-cost housing

Loans for the building or improvement of low-cost housing amounted to 4.2 million EUA.

EEC**Loans raised**

2.3.103. In December the Commission issued bonds for USD 125 million underwritten by a syndicate of American banks. The bonds bear interest at the rate of 11.60% payable half-yearly over a period of twenty years. The loan was offered to the public at par and official quotation of the bonds on the New York exchange has been applied for.

Euratom

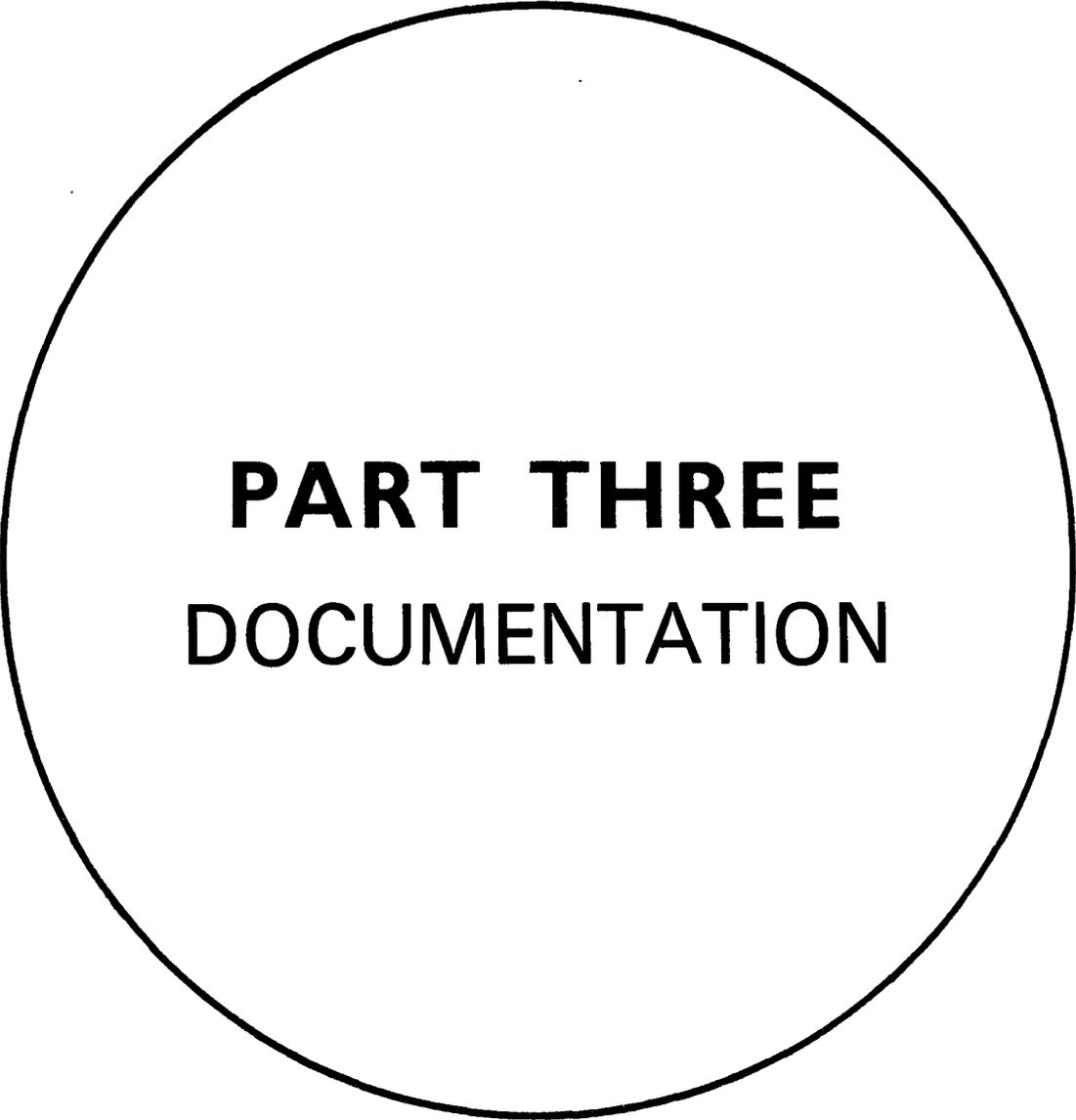
2.3.104. On 20 December the Council amended¹ its Decision of 29 March 1977 empowering the Commission to contract Euratom loans for the purpose of contributing to the financing of nuclear power stations² by raising the total amount of authorized borrowings from 500 to 1 000 million EUA.

Loans raised

2.3.105. The Commission also issued bonds for LFR 500 million underwritten by a syndicate of Luxembourg banks. The bonds bear interest at the rate of 9.75% per annum, payable annually over a period of eight years. The loan was offered to the public at par. Official quotation of the bonds on the Luxembourg exchange has been applied for.

¹ OJ L 12 of 17.1.1980.

² OJ L 88 of 6.4.1977.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. Units of account

Units of account

European unit of account

ECU and European unit of account

3.1.1. Following the entry into force of the European Monetary System on 13 March 1979,¹ the ECU/EUA is now used in all areas of Community activity without exception, the decision to apply the ECU provisionally in the common agricultural policy having been extended until 31 March 1980. The Community has thus returned to using a single unit of account after a period of several years during which units of account of very different kinds had existed at the same time.

Gradual introduction of the EUA

3.1.2. Since it was devised in 1975, the EUA has been phased into use in the various areas of Community activity:

1975 ACP-EEC Lomé Convention (Council Decision of 21 April 1975);² balance sheet of the European Investment Bank (Decisions of the Board of Governors dated 18 March 1975 and 10 November 1977);

1976 ECSC operational budget (Commission Decision of 18 December 1975);³

1978 General budget of the Communities (Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977);⁴

1979 1 January — establishment of the EMS (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978) (ECU);⁵ customs matters (Council Regulation of 23 November 1978);⁶ European Monetary Cooperation Fund (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978);⁵ 9 April — provisional introduction, for three months, into the common agricultural policy (ECU) (Council Regulation of 29 March 1979 extended by Council Regulation of 25 June 1979).⁷

The EUA may also be used in the fields of banking and commerce, and various banks offer arrangements for deposits denominated in EUA. By way of example, Table 1 shows the rates obtaining in Brussels last month for large deposits.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1979, preliminary chapter.

² OJ L 104 of 24.4.1975.

³ OJ L 327 of 19.12.1975.

⁴ OJ L 356 of 31.12.1977.

⁵ OJ L 379 of 30.12.1978.

⁶ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁷ OJ L 84 of 4.4.1979; OJ L 161 of 29.6.1979.

Table 1 — Annual interest rates on bank deposits denominated in EUA

	3 December	17 December	31 December
1 month	12 ¹ / ₄	13	12 ¹ / ₂
3 months	12 ³ / ₈	13	12 ⁵ / ₈
6 months	12 ¹ / ₂	13	12 ⁵ / ₈
12 months	12 ¹ / ₈	12 ¹ / ₄	12 ³ / ₈

Rates obtaining in Brussels.

Definition

3.1.3. The ECU is identical with the EUA, though, unlike the EUA, it provides for a revision clause enabling changes to be made to its composition. It is a 'basket' unit made up of specific amounts of Member States' currencies, determined mainly by reference to the size of each Member State's economy.

The ECU, like the EUA, is made up of the following amounts: BFR 3.66, LFR 0.14, HFL 0.286, DKR 0.217, DM 0.828, LIT 109, FF 1.15, UKL 0.0885, IRL 0.00759.

Calculation and publication

3.1.4. The equivalent of the ECU/EUA in any currency is equal to the sum of the equivalents of the amounts making up the unit.

It is calculated each day¹ on the basis of representative rates for each Community currency against the dollar, which is used simply as a common reference for expressing exchange rates. The exchange rates are established on each exchange market at 2.30 p.m. by the relevant central bank; on the basis of these rates, the Commission establishes an ECU/EUA equivalent in the Community currencies and in the other major currencies.

These equivalents are published each day in the Official Journal of the European Communities ('C' edition) and may also be obtained from the Commission by telex (automatic answering service); they are also reported by the main European press agencies and are published in many newspapers (see Table 2 below).

¹ See notice on the calculation of the equivalents of the ECU/EUA published by the Commission: OJ C 69 of 13.3.1979.

Table 2 — Values in national currencies of one European unit of account

National currency	3 December ¹	17 December ²	28 December ³
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.3718	40.3295	40.3568
German mark	2.47098	2.48252	2.48677
Dutch guilder	2.73369	2.73581	2.73783
Pound sterling	0.653144	0.648679	0.646298
Danish krone	7.66197	7.69499	7.72146
French franc	5.81093	5.80894	5.80462
Italian lira	1 165.65	1 162.07	1 160.06
Irish pound	0.670891	0.671379	0.671722
United States dollar	1.44443	1.42937	1.44286
Swiss franc	2.26992	2.29199	2.30136
Spanish peseta	95.6211	95.3387	95.4091
Swedish krona	5.98137	5.97475	5.98787
Norwegian krone	7.09069	7.12753	7.11186
Canadian dollar	1.68305	1.67343	1.69320
Portuguese escudo	71.4992	71.2824	71.4216
Austrian schilling	17.7990	17.8671	17.8698
Finnish mark	5.34294	5.33368	5.34724
Japanese yen	359.518	342.262	345.637

¹ OJ C 303 of 4.12.1979.

² OJ C 317 of 18.12.1979.

³ OJ C 1 of 3.1.1980.

Each month, the Commission also calculates, for its own purposes, the equivalent of the EUA in about 100 currencies.

Use of ECU/EUA rates

3.1.5. The ECU-related central rates are not at present used for any purpose other than their reference role in determining the divergence indicator within the EMS and in calculating the monetary compensatory amounts under the common agricultural policy.

In contrast to earlier units of account, which were linked to parities or central rates, the ECU/EUA is established on the basis of daily exchange rates, and it is on the basis of these daily equivalents that

all the transactions of the sectors using this unit of account are carried out, including settlements between central banks within the EMCF. Common agricultural policy activities, however, are based on the central rates, and the activities of some sectors, which apply the EUA simply as a point of reference for administrative purposes, use a rate which is generally valid for one year.

'Green' rates

3.1.6. Agricultural prices will in future be fixed in ECU if the provisional decision to use this unit of account is made definitive; however, the ECU equivalent in national currencies ('green rates') will, like the earlier representative rates, continue to be fixed by the Council (Table 3).

Table 3 — Conversion rates into national currencies for the unit of account used in connection with the common agricultural policy

National currency	Amount in national currency for 1 ECU	
	1-16 December 1979	from 17 December
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.8193 ¹ 40.5951 ²	40.8193 ⁷ 40.5951 ²
Danish krone	7.36594 7.72336 (from 5.12.1979)	7.72336
German mark	2.81432 ¹ 2.78341 ²	2.81432 ⁷ 2.78341 ²
French franc	5.56725 ² 5.76891 ³ 5.48285 ⁴ 5.50961 ⁵	5.56725 ² 5.76891 ³ 5.50961 ⁵
Irish pound	0.659274	0.659274
Italian lira	1 060.73 ² 1 015.92 ⁴ 1 048.84 ⁵	1 117.00 ² 1 060.73 ⁸
Dutch guilder	2.81459 ¹ 2.79914 ²	2.81459 ⁷ 2.79914 ²
Pound sterling	0.587724 ² 0.581264 ⁶	0.618655 ² 0.587724 ⁹

¹ For milk products, wine (up to 15 December), seeds and fish.

² For other products.

³ For pigmeat.

⁴ For wine (up to 15 December).

⁵ For fish.

⁶ For wine (up to 15 December) and fish.

⁷ For milk products, seeds and fish.

⁸ For fish, sugar and isoglucose, cereals, eggs and poultry, ovalbumine and lactalbumine, pigmeat and wine.

⁹ For fish, cereals, eggs and poultry, ovalbumine and lactalbumine and wine.

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

Additional references in the Official Journal

3.2.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments and notices of Community institutions or organs which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relating to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers is followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 7/8-1979

Point 2.3.18

Decisions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Communities of 24 July 1979 appointing Judges and Advocates-General to the Court of Justice

Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Communities of 22 November 1979 appointing a Judge to the Court of Justice
OJ L 308 of 4.12.1979

Bull. EC 10-1979

Point 2.1.3

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and laying down the economic policy guidelines for 1980
OJ C 314 of 14.12.1979

Point 2.2.68

Consultative Assembly of the Convention between the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and the European Economic Community
OJ C 323 of 27.12.1979

Bull. EC 12-1979

Bull. EC 11-1979

Point 2.1.7

Commission Directive of 22 November 1979 adapting to technical progress Council Directive 74/347/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the field of vision and windscreen wipers of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors
OJ L 331 of 27.12.1979

Point 2.1.9

First Commission Directive of 13 November 1979 laying down Community methods of analysis for testing coffee extracts and chicory extracts

First Commission Directive of 13 November 1979 laying down Community methods of analysis for testing certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption
OJ L 327 of 24.12.1979

Point 2.1.10

Amended proposal for an Eighth Directive founded on Article 54 (3) (g) of the EEC Treaty concerning the approval of persons responsible for carrying out statutory audits of the annual accounts of certain types of company
OJ C 317 of 18.12.1979

Point 2.1.38

Proposal for a Fifth Council Directive on the harmonization of the provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel
OJ C 318 of 19.12.1979

Point 2.2.19

Council Decision of 12 November 1979 on the conclusion of the International Olive-Oil Agreement 1979
OJ L 327 of 24.12.1979

3. Infringement procedures

Additional references in the Official Journal

Point 2.3.65

Opinion of the European Coal and Steel Community Consultative Committee on industrial restructuring and how to implement it at Community level

OJ C 311 of 11.12.1979

Point 2.3.72

Decision of the European Parliament of 16 November 1979 on the discharge to be granted to the Commission in the implementation of the budget of the European Communities for the 1977 financial year and the report of the Court of Auditors

OJ L 331 of 27.12.1979

Procedures initiated for failure to apply Directives

3.3.1. In December the Commission addressed letters of formal notice concerning thirteen cases of failure to apply Directives:

- Directives 74/561 and 74/562¹ concerning admission to the occupation of road haulage operator in national and international transport operations (Belgium and Denmark as regards Directive 74/561 and Luxembourg as regards both);
- Directive 77/799² concerning mutual assistance by the competent authorities of the Member States in the field of direct taxation (Belgium, Italy);
- Directive 78/25³ concerning colouring matters which may be added to medicinal products (Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands);
- Directive 73/183⁴ concerning freedom of establishment in the sector of banks and financial institutions (Netherlands);

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. The Commission also issued reasoned opinions in three cases:

- infringement of Article 30 of the EEC Treaty in the form of barriers to imports of meat of game (Germany);
- infringement of Article 48 of the EEC Treaty in that Belgian nationality is required for appointment as staff doctor in certain public hospitals (Belgium);
- failure to apply Directive 77/62⁵ relating to public supply contracts (Italy).

¹ OJ L 308 of 19.11.1974.

² OJ L 336 of 27.12.1977.

³ OJ L 11 of 14.1.1978.

⁴ OJ L 194 of 16.7.1973.

⁵ OJ L 13 of 15.1.1977.

Infringement procedures

Procedures terminated

3.3.3. The Commission decided not to pursue the following infringement procedures in which reasoned opinions had been issued:

Failure to apply Directives:

- Thirty-two Directives concerning motor vehicles and agricultural tractors (Luxembourg);¹
- Directives 75/409 and 76/907² concerning dangerous substances (France);³
- Directives 76/889 and 890⁴ concerning electric appliances (Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands);¹
- Directives 73/361 and 76/434⁵ relating to cables, chains and hooks (Ireland);⁶
- Directive 77/62⁷ on coordination of procedures for awarding public supply contracts (Netherlands).¹

Free movement of goods

- Infringement of Article 30 of the EEC Treaty in that prior authorization was required to import cigarette lighters (Italy);
- infringement of Articles 30 and 34 of the EEC Treaty in the form of an obligation to use a customs agent for clearance of imported or exported goods (France);⁸
- infringement of Article 30 of the EEC Treaty in the form of barriers to imports of Italian tights (Germany).⁹

Proceedings in the Court of Justice

3.3.4. Judgment was given for the Commission in Case 93/79 against Italy.¹⁰

Public opinion and direct elections

3.4.1. This is the first Eurobarometer opinion published by the Commission¹ since the direct election of the European Parliament. For this survey, conducted between 6 and 31 October, a total of 9 000 people aged 15 and over in the nine Community countries were questioned in their homes by professional interviewers.

Most of the questions related to the European Parliament: the election of its members, the importance attached to its role, the impression made by its first debates and the public's hopes and fears for its future development. The other questions—which have been asked regularly in the six-monthly polls since autumn 1973—are designed to gauge the public's views towards European unification in general and the European Community as such.

The election and the European Parliament

Public awareness of the June election

3.4.2. In the run-up to the election,² Eurobarometers featured a question designed to test whether and to what extent the general public was aware of the forthcoming event.

We thought it would be interesting, after the election had taken place, to see whether the public remembered it at all:

'Have you recently seen or heard in the papers, or on the radio or TV, anything about the European Parliament? This is the parliamentary assembly of the EEC or Common Market?'

IF YES: 'Can you remember what it was that you heard then?'

¹ Bull. EC 5-1979, point 3.3.1.
² OJ L 183 of 14.7.1975 and OJ L 360 of 30.12.1976.
³ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 3.3.1.
⁴ OJ L 336 of 4.12.1976.
⁵ OJ L 335 of 5.12.1973 and OJ L 122 of 8.5.1976.
⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 3.3.1.
⁷ OJ L 13 of 15.1.1977.
⁸ Bull. EC 1-1978, point 3.3.1.
⁹ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 3.3.1.
¹⁰ Point 2.3.51.

¹ A fuller account of this survey has been published by the Commission under the title *Eurobarometer — Public Opinion in the European Community* — No 12, December 1979.
² Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 3.4.10 to 3.4.14; Bull. EC 6-1979, points 3.4.2 to 3.4.5.

This test was an eye-opener: on average only two out of every three persons interviewed (66%) claimed to have read or heard 'anything about the European Parliament' and less than half (44%) were able to recall spontaneously what it was. The highest level of awareness was found in Luxembourg and Germany, and the lowest in the United Kingdom. These findings confirm the results of the

April 1979 survey, which showed that the public was not really interested in, or even aware of, this first European election (see Table 1). Further confirmation of this lack of public involvement was provided by the replies to another question on the importance that each person interviewed felt his friends and acquaintances had attached to the election.

Table 1 — *Public awareness of the election of the European Parliament in retrospect*

(in %)

	Of every 100 interviewed		
	Have seen or heard something about the European Parliament		Have seen or heard nothing about the European Parliament or don't know
	Total of those who have seen or heard something	Can remember what it was	
Belgium	45	33	55
Denmark	65	36	35
FR of Germany	77	55	23
France	67	48	33
Ireland	67	35	33
Italy	66	49	34
Luxembourg	76	66	24
Netherlands	64	35	36
United Kingdom	55	26	45
Community ¹	66	44	34

¹ Average weighted according to size of population aged fifteen and over in each country in relation to the Community as a whole.

Importance attributed to the election

3.4.3. *'In June elections were held ... for members of the European Parliament ... Would you say that the people you normally come into contact with considered this election as very important,*

quite important, of little importance, or of no importance at all?'

The most frequent answer given should, so to speak, be somewhere between 'quite important' and 'of little importance'. For the Community as a whole, the distribution of replies was as follows:

Feel that the people they normally come into contact with considered the election ...

— very important	10%	68%
— quite important	31%	
— of little importance	37%	
— of no importance at all	12%	
Don't know	10%	
Total	100%	

Three countries stand out for their much more positive replies: Luxembourg, the FR of Germany and Ireland. And three other countries have a distinctly negative response: the United Kingdom, which had the lowest turnout in the election; France, where turnout was close to the European average; and Belgium, where turnout was the highest for the simple reason that voting was compulsory (Table 2).

Table 2 — Importance attributed to the election of the European Parliament

	B	DK	D	F	IRL	I	L	NL	UK	EC ¹
Very important	8	16	12	5	18	11	17	9	12	10
Quite important	24	21	41	27	33	36	38	32	22	31
Of little importance	34	38	29	41	32	37	31	40	42	37
Of no importance at all	19	10	7	13	12	9	7	12	18	12
Don't know	15	15	11	14	5	7	7	7	6	10
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Average score ²	2.24	2.52	2.65	2.29	2.58	2.52	2.70	2.39	2.28	2.44

¹ Weighted average.

² 'Very important' = 4, 'of no importance at all' = 1. The half-way mark is therefore 2.5.

Recollection of voting and 'guilty conscience'

3.4.4. It may seem of purely academic interest to ask people a few weeks after an election whether they voted or not. But in fact it provides us with a reliable means, all other things being equal (and assuming that the sample in each country is a true

cross-section of the electorate), of seeing how many non-voters claim that they did in fact vote, showing that they have 'guilty conscience'.

'In this first European election a lot of people in some of the countries did not go and vote. Were you of voting age at the time of this election? If YES: Were you able to go and vote or didn't you vote?'

The percentage of people who claimed that they did vote corresponds very closely to the official voting figures, except in Ireland, Denmark and the United Kingdom (Table 3).

Impression made by the first debates

3.4.5. The new European Parliament held its inaugural sittings from 17 to 20 July and then reconvened in late September. These sittings saw the election of the President, the formation of the political groups, the appointment of Parliament's committees, amendments to the rules of procedure, etc. The debates were given unusually wide coverage by the media; they aroused considerable (and often critical) comment. How much of this got through to the general public? The following question was asked to find out.

'Have you read in the papers, or heard on the radio or on television anything about the debates that have taken place in the new European Parliament since it began its work in July? IF YES: Has what you read or heard given you a generally favourable or unfavourable impression of this new European Parliament?'

The first point to emerge was that only one person in two on average (52%) claimed to have read or heard something about the *debates* in the European Parliament — i.e. less than stated in reply to an earlier question that they had read or heard *something* about Parliament (66%). The spread between countries was very wide: 76% in Germany claim to have read or heard something about the debates, as against 38% in Britain and 26% in Belgium.

Table 3 — *Intention of voting, actual turnout and recollection of voting*

(in %)

	Will 'certainly' go and vote ¹ (April 1979)	Actual turnout ¹ (7 to 10 June 1979)	Recollection of voting ¹ (October 1979)
Belgium	2	91.4	93
Luxembourg	2	88.9	93
Italy	85	85.5	96
FR of Germany	70 ³	65.9	67
Ireland	56	63.5	79
France	65	60.7	63
Netherlands	60	57.8	68
Denmark	52	47.0	67
United Kingdom	32	32.6	54
<i>of which:</i>			
Great Britain	(32)	(32.6)	(53)
Northern Ireland	(40)	(57.0)	(62)

¹ Countries are listed in decreasing order of size of turnout. The figures in the first and third columns are for respondents aged eighteen and over.

² This question was not asked in the two countries where voting is a legally enforced obligation.

³ Includes 'will probably go and vote' (36%).

The second significant finding was that nearly half (and even 61% in the Netherlands) of those who had heard or read reports of the debates were unable to say whether they had retained a favourable or unfavourable impression. However, in four countries—Germany, Italy, Ireland and Belgium—there were more favourable impressions than unfavourable ones. The first debates in the European Parliament would not therefore appear to have impressed the general public (Table 4).

As might be expected, opinion leaders, who by definition are more open to the influence of the media, were more numerous in claiming that they had heard or read something about the debates in

the European Parliament, but it did not always follow that their impression was favourable.

On this point, the countries fall into two distinct groups:

(i) in Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Italy and Denmark, opinion leaders generally have a more favourable impression of the debates than non-leaders;

(ii) in the other Community countries, the relationship between leadership rating and a favourable assessment of the debates is either not significant (Luxembourg and United Kingdom) or even negative (France and Belgium) (Table 5).

Table 4 — *Public reaction to the first debates in the new European Parliament*

(in %)

Member State ¹	Of every 100 interviewed		Of every 100 who had read or heard something		
	Have read or heard something	Have not read or heard anything	Retained a generally favourable impression	Retained a generally unfavourable impression	Neither one nor the other
FR of Germany	76	24	42	10	48
Ireland	58	42	37	17	46
Netherlands	54	46	19	20	61
Luxembourg	51	49	24	33	43
France	51	49	18	34	48
Denmark	49	51	25	31	44
Italy	44	56	41	14	45
United Kingdom	38	62	21	37	42
Belgium	26	74	36	16	48
Community ²	52	48	32	21	47

¹ Countries ranked in decreasing order of percentage replying that they had 'read or heard something about the debates in the new European Parliament'.

² Weighted average.

Table 5 — *Public reaction to the first debates in the new European Parliament by leadership rating*

(in %)

	Non-leaders (--)	(-)	(+)	Leaders (++)
<i>Belgium</i>				
Have read or heard something	17	29	36	56
Of which: favourable impression	(34)	(42)	(34)	(27)
<i>Denmark</i>				
Have read or heard something	31	47	58	66
Of which: favourable impression	(23)	(20)	(26)	(36)
<i>FR of Germany</i>				
Have read or heard something	56	78	85	91
Of which: favourable impression	(26)	(41)	(48)	(56)
<i>France</i>				
Have read or heard something	33	51	63	75
Of which: favourable impression	(18)	(19)	(20)	(10)
<i>Ireland</i>				
Have read or heard something	47	59	63	76
Of which: favourable impression	(24)	(32)	(47)	(49)
<i>Italy</i>				
Have read or heard something	23	39	53	74
Of which: favourable impression	(29)	(33)	(46)	(49)
<i>Luxembourg</i>				
Have read or heard something	18	46	60	78
Of which: favourable impression	(11)	(28)	(27)	(13)
<i>Netherlands</i>				
Have read or heard something	48	45	57	69
Of which: favourable impression	(10)	(19)	(21)	(21)
<i>United Kingdom</i>				
Have read or heard something	24	34	45	58
Of which: favourable impression	(14)	(22)	(23)	(19)
<i>Community</i>				
Have read or heard something	34	51	62	73
Of which: favourable impression	(22)	(31)	(36)	(37)

In the entries for each country and for the Community as a whole, the figures in the top line are percentages of all those interviewed; the bracketed figures in the second line are percentages of those claiming to have read or heard something.

This reaction of the public to Parliament's debates—or at least to the reports on them in the media—will have to be monitored closely in future surveys. While the present attitude is rather hesitant, or plainly unfavourable, it would seem that the public is expecting the new directly-elected Parliament to play a more important role than its predecessor.

What will be the role of the new Parliament?

3.4.6. A small majority in the Community as a whole expect the 'new' European Parliament to play a more important part than the previous one; this emerged from an analysis of replies to the following question:

'Do you think that the new European Parliament elected in June will play a more important, a less important, or about the same part (role) as the previous European Parliament?'

A clear majority of those interviewed in Italy and Luxembourg expect the new Parliament to play a more important part than the previous one. In the Netherlands, France and Germany, those who feel that Parliament will play a more important role and those who expect its role to be about the same were about evenly divided. The most frequent reply in Belgium, Ireland, the United Kingdom and—even moreso—in Denmark was that Parliament's role is unlikely to change.

Replies to this question are closely related to leadership rating. In every country opinion leaders are much more inclined to expect the European Parliament to play a more important role; a significant majority of opinion leaders express this view everywhere except in Denmark and France. (Table 6)

Hopes and fears concerning the European Parliament

3.4.7. It would clearly have been impossible in the context of a public opinion poll to test reaction to all the conflicting arguments advanced during the recent campaign for the European Parliament elections by proponents and opponents of European unification, the European Community and the election itself.

As an experiment we selected some of these arguments as the basis for two questions:

— *'Among the three following things (show card) which represents your strongest hope from the work of the new European Parliament? (One reply only)*

- *That it will produce more effective control of the administrators of the European Community in Brussels.*
- *That it will take steps to speed up the progress towards a European political union.*

Table 6 — *The role of the new European Parliament*

	(in %)									
	B	DK	D	F	IRL	I	L	NL	UK	EC
More important role	28	24	30	32	37	56	53	40	31	36
Less important role	7	10	19	3	5	2	4	7	6	8
About the same	36	44	31	33	48	22	33	38	47	34
Don't know	29	22	20	32	10	20	20	15	16	22
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

• That it will take the initiative to make the member countries work together to face the economic crisis in Europe.'

— 'And among the three following things, which are you most afraid will happen in this new European Parliament?

• That it will encroach upon the powers of your own Parliament in your country.

• That there will be a lot of talk which in the end won't change things very much.

• That its debates will focus attention on the differences of opinion that exist between (your country's) members of the European Parliament.'

The pattern was much the same in all the countries: the strongest hope is for initiatives to combat

Table 7 — Hopes and fears concerning the European Parliament

(in %)

	B	DK	D	F	IRL	I	L	NL	UK	EC ¹
<i>Principal hope:</i>										
that the EP will produce more effective control of officials in Brussels	7	16	14	4	10	4	5	13	15	10
that the EP will take steps to speed up progress towards European political union	17	4	28	11	19	21	23	19	10	18
that the EP will take the initiative to make the member countries work together to face the economic crisis	50	56	41	68	57	68	68	60	61	58
Don't know	26	24	17	17	14	7	4	8	14	14
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Principal fear:</i>										
that the EP will encroach on the powers of the national Parliament	7	41	10	14	27	8	27	14	30	16
that there will be a lot of talk which in the end won't change things very much	51	31	61	56	48	66	55	66	48	57
that its debates will focus attention on differences of opinion between representatives of the same country	14	9	11	14	15	16	8	11	14	13
Don't know	28	19	18	16	10	10	10	9	8	14
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

¹ Weighted average.

5. Investment in ECSC industries

Eurobarometer

the economic crisis, and the principal fear is that there will be all talk and no action. These views were expressed by nearly six out of every ten respondents. Some slight differences between individual countries did emerge: the Germans, for instance, are a little more inclined than others to hope principally for moves towards European political union (28%), while a great many Danes are afraid of an encroachment on the powers of their national Parliament (41%); this is in fact their greatest fear (Table 7).

The hopes and fears expressed by opinion leaders—don't know's excluded—are very similar to those of the general public, which indicates that these views enjoy a widespread consensus within each country and in the Community as a whole.

The correlation between replies to this question and respondents' own assessments of their position on the political spectrum is very low as regards hopes, but rather higher as regards fears: people on the political left tend to be afraid that the European Parliament will be an ineffective talking-shop, while those on the right are more concerned that the powers of their national Parliament might be reduced and that the debates will focus attention on differences of opinion between representatives of the same country.

As might be expected, there is a *positive* correlation between the hope that the European Parliament will take steps to speed up progress towards European political union and a favourable attitude to the Community and to European unification, while there is a *negative* correlation between the desire to see greater control over the Eurocrats in Brussels and a generally pro-European attitude. The third hope—that progress will be made towards a solution of the economic crisis—is common to opponents and partisans of a united Europe.

As regards fears, concern that the European Parliament will encroach on the powers of national Parliaments tends to be greater among those who are least in favour of Community membership and European unification. The fear that there will be plenty of talk but little action is as widespread among pro-Europeans as among the middle-of-the-roads.

Findings of 1979 survey

3.5.1. Since 1956 the ECSC High Authority, and then the Commission, has published the findings of an annual survey of investment in the Community coalmining and iron and steel industries conducted on 1 January each year among undertakings covered by the ECSC Treaty. The results of the 1979 survey are analysed below.

Coal industry

3.5.2. According to the survey there was a further increase in capital expenditure on the Community coal industry in 1978. Investment reached a level of 978 million EUA as compared with 744 million EUA in 1977 and 712 million EUA in 1976. The increase was particularly marked in the United Kingdom but remained moderate in the Ruhr.

Capital expenditure should continue to rise in 1979 to reach an expected total in excess of 1 000 million EUA, principally as a result of a rise in investment in shafts and underground workings, associated mainly with the opening-up of new coal measures.

In spite of the growth in capital expenditure, extraction potential continues to decline. In 1978, it was 252 million tonnes compared with 273 million in 1974, and it is expected, on the basis of projects already approved or commenced, to amount to only 237 million tonnes in 1982. The coal industry is therefore increasingly falling behind the production target of 250 million tonnes (tce),¹ or approximately 270 million tonnes (tonnes = tonnes), laid down by the 'Medium-Term Guidelines for Coal 1975-85' and adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Coking

3.5.3. Capital expenditure showed a downward trend, both in mine-owned coking plants and in

¹ tce = tonnes coal equivalent.

steelworks and independent coking plants, falling from 247 million EUA in 1977 to 167 million EUA in 1978; a further decrease is expected in 1979. This weakness is accounted for by the continuing high level of stocks of coke and the still gloomy outlook for sales to the iron and steel industry.

Community coking capacity is on the decline. It has fallen by almost 10% during the past five years and was only 79 million tonnes in 1978. In view of the age of a large number of plants and the low propensity to invest in this sector, the decline is expected to continue to the point where available capacity may prove inadequate to meet any upturn in demand.

Iron-ore mines

3.5.4. Capital expenditure in iron-ore mines is undergoing a steep decline and capacity is falling rapidly: a fall of over 10% was registered in 1978 alone. Only measures by the authorities designed to guarantee a certain level of Community extraction may be able to halt the decline; without such measures, the iron and steel industry will become totally dependent on imports from overseas, the cost of which may rise substantially in the next few years.

Iron and steel industry

3.5.5. The new survey shows a further fall in capital expenditure, which totalled 2 100 million EUA in 1978, compared with 2 400 million EUA in 1977 and 3 300 million EUA in 1976. At constant prices, capital expenditure in 1978 was lower than at any time during the past twenty years although expenditure related to a production capacity well below the current level. Capital expenditure at 1970 constant prices per tonne of steel capacity was 5 EUA in 1978, compared with approximately 15 EUA during the period 1970-74. However, during the latter period, the iron and steel industry was increasing its capacity at a rate of some 5% per year.

In spite of the low level of capital expenditure—particularly in sectors such as blast-furnaces—substantial investments have continued to be made to modernize plant and reduce production costs. The introduction of continuous casting is one such example. Capital expenditure in this field alone accounted for 190 million EUA in 1978. This figure is expected to continue to grow, so that by 1982 40% of Community production will be continuously cast; this development will be sure to increase the competitiveness of Community products.

The increase in capacity, which has been gradually slowing down in recent years, now appears to have come to a halt. The steel companies, which in the last survey forecast a total crude steel production potential of 210 million tonnes p.a. from 1981, now expect production potential to level out at 202 million tonnes p.a. by 1982. In certain regions, production potential is being reduced drastically with the closure, without replacement, of a number of large steelworks. However, in other regions of the Community, it would appear that it is continuing to increase. Overall production potential is accordingly not yet moving towards the lower levels recommended in the revised General Objectives.

However, the overall trend towards stabilization of production potential is not evident in finished products, production potential of which is expected to increase from 167 to 169 million tonnes/year between 1978 and 1982, principally as a result of the increased use of continuous casting, which raises the finished product output from any given quantity of crude steel. Only the production potential for merchant bars, light sections and medium and narrow strip is expected to decrease; production potential for wire rod and heavy plate should remain unchanged, whereas that for other flat products and heavy sections is expected to increase significantly.

The steel companies' forecast therefore underlines the need to intensify efforts to reduce capacity in order to bring Community production potential closer to expected demand levels by concentrating production at the most competitive plants.

Investment in ECSC industries

Investment in ECSC industries

Hard coal

Capital expenditure by coalfields

		(million EUA)		
		1977	1978	1979 ¹
Ruhr		159.7	140.1	204.6
Aachen		24.1	16.9	16.7
Lower Saxony		20.7	15.2	13.2
Saar		31.7	37.9	75.5
	FR of Germany	236.2	210.1	310.0
Kempen		12.7	19.6	30.7
Bassins du Sud		0.3	0.4	0.1
	Belgium	13.0	20.0	30.8
	Netherlands (Limburg)	—	—	—
Nord/Pas-de-Calais		7.4	6.2	5.4
Lorraine		36.1	37.5	31.7
Centre-Midi		5.7	4.9	4.4
	France	49.2	48.7	41.5
	Italy	—	—	—
Scotland		15.6	23.6	28.2
Northern		37.9	48.5	52.1
Yorkshire		170.7	322.9	275.2
Midlands and Kent		110.9	179.6	162.2
Western		42.0	48.7	51.2
South Wales		54.5	57.6	38.0
Open-cast		13.8	18.5	16.3
	United Kingdom	445.3	699.3	623.1
	Community	743.6	978.0	1 005.4

¹ On the basis of investment projects approved or commenced.

Investment in ECSC industries

Investment in ECSC Industries

Hard coal

Extraction potential by coalfields

(million t)

	1978	1982
Ruhr	80.1	77.6
Aachen	5.6	5.6
Lower Saxony	2.5	2.4
Saar	10.8	11.0
FR of Germany	98.9	96.6
Kempen	6.0	7.0
Bassin du Sud	1.0	—
Belgium	7.0	7.0
Netherlands (Limburg)	—	—
Nord/Pas-de-Calais	6.0	2.9
Lorraine	9.8	10.5
Centre-Midi	4.0	3.1
France	19.8	16.5
Italy	—	—
Scotland	9.0	7.8
Northern	13.2	11.6
Yorkshire	32.6	33.9
Midlands and Kent	37.7	35.6
Western	11.6	10.0
South Wales	7.8	7.5
Opencast	14.0	10.7
United Kingdom	126.0	117.1
Community	251.7	237.2

Investment in ECSC industries

Investment in ECSC industries

Iron and steel

Capital expenditure by regions

	(million EUA)		
	1977	1978	1979 ¹
Northern Germany	118.2	49.4	39.6
North Rhine-Westphalia	329.2	335.1	391.5
Southern Germany	30.3	27.2	21.0
Saar	27.8	33.9	83.8
FR of Germany	505.5	445.5	536.0
Belgium	139.2	85.3	106.6
Eastern France	174.0	243.2	201.7
Northern France	153.6	111.4	57.4
France - other areas	49.8	48.5	35.9
France	377.4	403.1	294.9
Italy — coastal areas	307.3	284.5	220.6
Italy — other areas	194.2	165.3	176.3
Italy	501.6	449.8	396.9
Luxembourg	68.3	107.0	135.4
Netherlands	45.4	61.1	99.3
Scotland	114.7	70.1	43.4
Wales	211.1	171.4	135.4
Northern England	366.0	241.7	189.0
England — other areas	34.2	17.8	32.9
United Kingdom	716.0	501.0	400.6
Denmark	5.6	1.7	15.0
Ireland	0.7	0.8	32.9
Community	2 359.5	2 055.3	2 017.6

¹ On the basis of investment projects approved or commenced.

Steel

*Production and production potential by regions**(million t)*

	1978	1982
Northern Germany	13.5	13.5
North Rhine-Westphalia	42.5	42.4
Southern Germany	3.8	3.6
Saar	9.1	7.6
FR of Germany	68.9	67.1
Belgium	20.0	19.1
Eastern France	12.9	11.4
Northern France	14.2	12.4
France — other areas	5.2	5.3
France	32.4	29.1
Italy — coastal areas	18.9	19.4
Italy — other areas	16.8	17.7
Italy	35.7	37.1
Luxembourg	7.6	7.5
Netherlands	8.3	8.6
Scotland	2.1	3.4
Wales	8.6	9.9
Northern England	13.8	15.8
England other areas	3.4	2.8
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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Grants for research into European integration 1980-1981

In order to encourage university research in the field of European integration, the Commission of the European Communities will award in July 1980

15 RESEARCH GRANTS OF A MAXIMUM OF BFR 180 000

CONDITIONS:

1. The awards will be given to young university teachers at the start of their career who, individually or as a team, are doing research work on European integration.
2. Applications should be submitted in duplicate and contain:
 - a 5-10 page typed description of the research project;
 - an estimate of costs;
 - a completed application form;¹
 - a curriculum vitae;
 - a certificate from the institution, confirming the position currently held by the applicant. These papers are not returned to applicants.
3. Applicants should not be over 40 years of age.
4. Awards are not renewable.
5. The maximum award is BFR 180 000, paid as follows:
 - 1st half — at the commencement of the research
 - 2nd half — on receipt of the typed text referred to in paragraph 8.
6. Award holders who do not complete their research must reimburse the amount they have received.
7. Employees of the institutions of the European Communities as well as their spouses and children are not eligible to apply.
8. The work must be drawn up in one of the official languages of the European Communities. The final text must be type-written and submitted in duplicate before 1 October 1981.
9. The Commission of the European Communities may assist with the costs of publishing the work up to a maximum of BFR 30 000.
10. The awards will be made by the 15 July 1980 at the latest.
11. Applications must be submitted by the 31 March 1980 to:

Commission of the European Communities
University Information
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels (Belgium) — tel. 735 00 40, 735 80 40 or 736 60 00

¹ Application forms can be obtained from the above address or from the offices of press and information of the European Communities listed below:

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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The European Parliament awards scholarships for research in subjects relating to the Community and to European integration.

The Robert Schuman scholarships were established by the European Parliament in memory of one of its most distinguished presidents and are awarded to students who should have completed a degree course at a university or have attended an institute of higher education for at least three years (nine terms). Scholarship holders are usually nationals of a member country of the Community. Applications are not normally considered from employees of the institutions of the European Communities, or members of their families, or from holders of scholarships at another of these institutions.

The holder of a scholarship studies at the European Parliament in Luxembourg under the supervision of a senior official of the Directorate-General for Research and Documentation who is available to aid him in his own research. The student is also given the opportunity, in appropriate cases, to assist research projects of the Directorate-General and is able to use the facilities of the Parliament's library, etc. There are opportunities to attend sessions of the Parliament in Strasbourg and to visit Community institutions in Brussels, if suitable dates can be arranged.

The normal duration of a scholarship is three months. Dates can usually be adjusted to meet a student's requirements.

The amount of the scholarship is BFR 20 000 per month, payable monthly.

Application forms are available on request from:
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Luxembourg.

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1

RÅDET - RAT - COUNCIL - CONSEIL - CONSIGLIO - RAAD

BX-28-79-285-DA-C ISBN 92-824-0019-0
Søksogtyvende oversigt over Rådets virksomhed.
1. januar – 31. december 1978. Bruxelles.
1979. 279 p.

BX-28-79-285-DE-C ISBN 92-824-0020-4
Sechszwanzigster Überblick über die Tätigkeit des Rates. 1. Januar – 31. Dezember 1978. Brüssel.
1979. 297 p.

BX-28-79-285-EN-C ISBN 92-824-0021-2
Twenty-sixth Review of the Council's work. 1 January – 31 December 1978. Brussels.
1979. 279 p.

BX-28-79-285-FR-C ISBN 92-824-0022-0
Vingt-sixième Aperçu des activités du Conseil. 1er janvier – 31 décembre. Bruxelles.
1979. 293 p.

BX-28-79-285-IT-C ISBN 92-824-0023-9
Ventesiesimo Sommario delle attività del Consiglio. 1° gennaio – 31 dicembre 1978. Bruxelles.
1979. 291 p.

BX-28-79-285-NL-C ISBN 92-824-0024-7
Zesentwintigste overzicht der werkzaamheden van de Raad. 1 januari – 31 december 1978. Brussel.
1979. 297 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

BFR 250 DKR 44 DM 15,80 FF 36,40
LIT 7 200 HFL 17,20 UKL 4.10 USD 9

2

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3

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*) CB-28-79-407-DA-C ISBN 92-825-1051-4
Fællesskabets retsorden. Af Jean-Victor Louis – Université libre de Bruxelles. Samling »Europæiske perspektiver« 1979.
1979. 142 p.

CB-28-79-407-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1054-9*)
L'ordre juridique communautaire. Par Jean-Victor Louis – Université libre de Bruxelles. Collection « Perspectives européennes » 1979.
1979. 140 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL.ES.GR.PT)

BFR 150 DKR 26,50 DM 9,50 FF 22
LIT 4 000 HFL 10 UKL 2.60 PTA 357
DRA 185 ESC 234 USD 5

4

RÅDET - RAT - COUNCIL - CONSEIL - CONSIGLIO - RAAD

Associering mellem Det europæiske økonomiske Fællesskab og Tyrkiet.
Samling af retsakter.
Bind 2. (Udgivelse på løsblade).
1979. pag. diff. begrænset oplag

Assoziation zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Türkei.
Sammlung von Rechtsakten.
Band 2 (Loseblattsammlung).
1979. pag. diff. beschränkt verfügbar

Association between the European Economic Community and Turkey.
Collected Acts.
Vol. 2 (Loose-leaf edition).
1979. pag. diff. limited distribution

Association entre la Communauté économique européenne et la Turquie.
Recueil d'actes.
Vol. 2 (Édition à feuilles mobiles).
1979. pag. diff. diffusion restreinte

Associazione tra la Comunità economica europea e la Turchia.
Raccolta di atti.
Vol. 2 (Edizione a fogli mobili).
1979. pag. diff. diffusione limitata

Associatie tussen de Europese Economische Gemeenschap en Turkije.
Verzameling van besluiten.
Band 2 (Losbladig systeem).
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 Volume A - L, chapitres 01-99. Corrigendum. 1979.
 312 p.
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CA-29-79-312-7A-C ISBN 92-825-1472-2
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 1979. 302 p.
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Toldværdi. Fjerde ajourførsel. Maj 1979.
 1979. (Løsblade)

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Zollwert. 4. Ergänzung. Mai 1979.
 1979. (Loseblattsammlung).

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Customs Valuation. Fourth updating. May 1979.
 1979. (Loose-leaves).

CB-28-79-714-FR-C
Valeur en douane. 4^e mise à jour. Mai 1979.
 1979. (Feuillets mobiles).

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Valore in dogana. 4^o aggiornamento. Maggio 1979.
 1979. (Fogli mobili).

CB-28-79-714-NL-C
Douanewaarde. 4e bijwerking. Mei 1979.
 1979. (Losbladig systeem).
 (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

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Regionalstatistik 1977. Befolkning, Erhverv, Levevilkår.
 April 1979.

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Regionale statistiek 1977. Bevolking, Werkgelegenheid,
 Levensomstandigheden. April 1979.
 1979. 353 p. (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

BFR 500 DKR 88 DM 31,70 FF 73
 LIT 14 200 HFL 34,30 UKL 8.40 USD 17.80

CB-28-79-180-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0985-0
Inventar der Steuern. Ausgabe 1979. Januar 1979.
 1979. 716 p. (DE.EN.FR).

BFR 900 DKR 158 DM 57 FF 131
 LIT 25 400 HFL 62 UKL 15.15 USD 30

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*) CB-NN-78-039-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0968-0
Die Krankenhauspflegekosten. Ein mikroökonomi-
scher Ansatz zur Lösung der damit zusammenhängen-
den Fragen. Von Cl. Michel. Studien: Reihe Sozialpolitik
 Nr. 39. September 1978.
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Impostazione microeconomica dei problemi inerenti
al costo del ricovero ospedaliero. Da Cl. Michel. Studi:
 Serie politica sociale n. 39. Settembre 1978.
 1979. 77 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

BFR 250 DKR 44 DM 16 FF 36,50
 LIT 7 100 HFL 17,20 UKL 4 USD 9

Tiende beretning fra det almindelige udvalg for sik-
kerheds- og sundhedsforhold inden for jern- og stål-
industrien 1978.

Juni 1978.

Gratis

Zehnter Bericht des Allgemeinen Ausschusses für die
Arbeitssicherheit und den Gesundheitsschutz in der
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Juni 1978.

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Tenth Report of the Steel Industry safety and health Commission 1978. June 1978. Gratis

Dixième Rapport de la Commission générale de la sécurité et de la salubrité dans la sidérurgie 1978. Juin 1978. Gratuit

Decima Relazione dalla Commissione generale per la sicurezza e la salubrità nell'industria siderurgica 1978. Giugno 1978. Gratuito

Tiende verslag van de Algemene Commissie voor de veiligheid en de gezondheidszorg in de ijzer- en staalindustrie 1978. Juni 1978. 1979. 35 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratis

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CB-28-79-520-DE-C ISBN 92-825-1508-7
Die Investitionen in den Kohle- und Stahlindustrien der Gemeinschaft. Bericht über die Erhebung 1979. Stichtag: 1. Januar 1979. Oktober 1979.

CB-28-79-520-EN-C ISBN 92-825-1509-5
Investment in the Community Coalmining and Iron and Steel Industries. Report on the 1979 survey. Position as at 1 January 1979. October 1979.

CB-28-79-520-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1510-9
Les investissements dans les industries du charbon et de l'acier de la Communauté. Rapport sur l'enquête 1979. Situation au 1^{er} janvier 1979. Octobre 1979. 1979. 119 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

BFR 400 DKR 73,40 DM 25 FF 58
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Zehnter Bericht des Allgemeinen Ausschusses für die Arbeitssicherheit und den Gesundheitsschutz in der Eisen- und Stahlindustrie 1978. June 1978. Gratis

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*) CB-NA-78-040-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1333-5
Influence des différentes matières grasses contenues dans les produits alimentaires sur la santé humaine. Informations sur l'agriculture n° 40. Juillet 1977. 1979. 246 p. (EN.FR).

BFR 175 DKR 30 DM 11,30 FF 24
LIT 4 200 HFL 12 UKL 2.80 USD 5

*) CB-NA-79-063-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1334-3
Situation de l'agriculture et de l'approvisionnement alimentaire dans certains pays arabes et méditerranéens et leur développement prévisible. I. Tendances et perspectives par zone et par produit. Informations sur l'agriculture n° 63. Mai 1979. 1979. 328 p. (FR).

BFR 175 DKR 31,50 DM 11 FF 25,50
LIT 4 900 HFL 12,90 UKL 2.70 USD 6

Europas rolle i den samlede verdens landbrug. Kortfattede meddelelser: »Det grønne Europa« nr. 1. Juli 1979. 1979. 10 p. Gratis

Europas Rolle in der Weltlandwirtschaft. Kurzinformationen: „Grünes Europa“ Nr. 1. Juli 1979. 1979. 13 p. Gratis

Europe's Role in World Agriculture. In brief: 'Green Europe' Newsletter No 1. July 1979. 1979. 13 p. Gratis

Le rôle de l'Europe dans l'agriculture mondiale. Notes rapides: « L'Europe verte » n° 1. Juillet 1979. 1979. 11 p. Gratuit

La funzione dell'Europa nell'agricoltura mondiale. Note rapide: «Europa verde» n. 1° luglio 1979. 1979. 15 p. Gratuito

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Zurücknahme von Obst und Gemüse aus dem Markt. Kurzinformationen: „Grünes Europa“ Nr. 2. November 1979. 1979. 6 p. Gratis

Withdrawal of fruit and vegetables from the market. In brief: 'Green Europe' Newsletter No 2. November 1979. 1979. 5 p. Gratis

Retrait des fruits et légumes du marché. Notes rapides: « L'Europe verte » n° 2. Novembre 1979. 1979. 5 p. gratuit

Ritiro di ortofrutticoli dal mercato. Note rapide: «Europa verde» n. 2. Novembre 1979. 1979. 5 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratuito

Décisions monétaires et politique agricole commune. Notes rapides: « L'Europe verte » n° 3. Novembre 1979. 1979. 8 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL) Gratuit

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*) CB-NS-78-006-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0264-3
Regionales Entwicklungsprogramm Mezzogiorno 1977-1980. Programme: Reihe Regionalpolitik Nr. 6. April 1978. 1979. 276 p. (DE.EN.FR.IT)

BFR 380 DKR 66,40 DM 24 FF 53,60
LIT 10 000 HFL 26,20 UKL 6.20 USD 12,40

*) CB-NS-79-015-EN-C ISBN 92-825-1215-0
Regional incentives in the European Community. A comparative study. By the International Institute of Management, Wissenschaftszentrum, Berlin. Studies: Regional Policy Series No 15. July 1979. 1979. 270 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

BFR 275 DKR 48,40 DM 17,40 FF 40
LIT 7 800 HFL 18,80 UKL 4.60 USD 9.20

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Monthly tables of transport
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Tabelle mensili dei trasporti
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Vegetabilsk produktion
Pflanzliche Erzeugung
Crop production
Production végétale
Produzione vegetale
Plantaardige produktie

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Månedlig statistik for kød
Monatliche Statistik von Fleisch
Monthly statistics of meat
Statistiques mensuelles de la viande
Statistiche mensili della carne
Maandelijkse statistieken van vlees

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Monatliche Statistik von Milch
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Statistiques mensuelles du lait
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Maandelijkse statistieken van melk

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Verkaufspreise tierischer Produkte
Selling prices of animal products
Prix de vente de produits animaux
Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti animali
Verkoopprijzen van dierlijke produkten

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Verkaufspreise pflanzlicher Produkte
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Prix de vente de produits végétaux
Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti vegetali
Verkoopprijzen van plantaardige produkten

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Purchase prices of the means of production
Prix d'achat des moyens de production
Prezzi d'acquisto dei mezzi di produzione
Aankooprijzen van de produktiemiddelen

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Agricultural Markets - Series Prices: Livestock Products
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Mercati agricoli - Serie Prezzi: Prodotti animali
Landbouwmakten - Serie Prijzen: Dierlijke produkten

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Agrarmärkte - Serie Preise: Pflanzliche Produkte
Agricultural Markets - Series Prices: Vegetable Products
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Schnellbericht – Pflanzliche Erzeugung
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Note rapide – Production végétale
Nota rapida – Produzione vegetale
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Plantaardige produktie**

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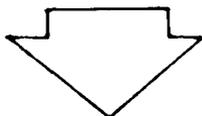
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