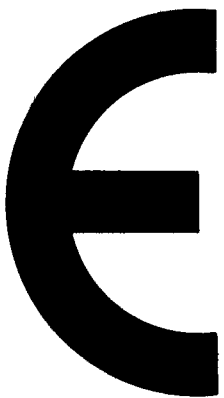


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PART ONE

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. Renewal of the Lomé Convention

ACP-EEC

A new contract for ACP-EEC cooperation

1.1.1. On 15 September, following negotiations that had been officially opened at ministerial level on 24 July 1978¹ and had often proved difficult, the ACP gave their agreement to the text of a new ACP-EEC Convention, subject to a few points to be settled between the ACP and EEC Presidents (these have now been settled). This will take over from the Lomé Convention, which since 1976 has governed relations between the Community and some fifty African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

The main issues had been settled at a ministerial conference held in Brussels from 25 to 27 June,² but the agreement reached still had to be submitted for consideration by all the governments involved; indeed, even after the texts were finalized by the two Secretariats (EEC and ACP), the ACP countries still had certain reservations. By recording their agreement to the draft Convention in mid-September, following the elucidation of certain points and subject to the few points mentioned above the ACP States—now numbering 57 compared with the 46 that signed the Lomé Convention in February 1975³—gave the green light for the signing of this new contract for North-South cooperation, which is scheduled to take place in Lomé on 31 October. 'Lomé II' will cover a period of five years expiring in March 1985.

Consolidation of a policy

1.1.2. The agreement reached on the content of the new Convention consolidates the 'Lomé policy' by maintaining what has been achieved and by introducing innovations in a

number of fields. Continuity is thus linked with progress.

The basic principles of the Lomé policy

1.1.3. The policy embodied in the first ACP-EEC Convention⁴ signed in 1975 represented an original model for a new type of relations between Europe and the developing countries with four basic tenets:

(i) Security of cooperation relations, based on a *de jure* system resulting from a contract freely negotiated between equal partners.

(ii) The establishment between two regional groups of a single contract, excluding any manipulation or discrimination that might be caused by unilateral assessments of the partners' sovereign choices of economic systems, policies or modes of development. This means placing cooperation in the context of non-alignment and respect for national and cultural individuality.

(iii) An overall approach defining and bringing together all the instruments of cooperation so that, through their diversity, a balanced response can be made to needs which vary according to the different economic structures and levels of development and are defined on the basis of priorities set by the ACP countries themselves.

(iv) Cooperation based on a permanent dialogue made possible by the institutional structure—which is much the same as under

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

² Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.2.45.

³ Bull. EC 1-1975, points 1101 to 1105 and 2-1975, point 2324.

⁴ OJ L 25 of 30.1.1976.

the Lomé Convention—but has now been given greater scope in that consultations will become more intensive.

Improving on past achievements

1.1.4. The basic principles that gave the Lomé policy its originality therefore remain and the new Convention fits into this established framework. Over and above the adjustments, progress and innovations brought by the new provisions, the essential point is the confirmation of a political choice and of a type of inter-regional relationship in the North-South context.

Maintaining what exists involves pursuing a policy of opening up the Community market to our partners' products and providing financing which increases in real terms while remaining within Europe's present capabilities. It means enlarging the scope and effectiveness of the Stabex system, making the methods and instruments better suited to the requirements of agricultural or industrial development, improving the administration of financial cooperation and so on.

The innovations introduced in the new Convention involve an extension of the scope of cooperation. The policies already initiated under the first Convention will be taken still further: this applies, for example, to Stabex, trade promotion, the mobilization of funds to supplement the official aid which the Third World requires (particularly for its industrial development), the strengthening of contacts between firms, increased financing of rural microprojects, and improvement of the dissemination of knowhow and technology in the agricultural sector.

In addition new fields are being broached, which means that the dialogue between the Community and its partners is gradually being extended to all areas of economic and

social activity: launching of a genuine policy of cooperation in the mining sector, establishment of machinery for industrial consultations, operations planned in the fields of energy cooperation, fisheries and labour (problem of migrant workers).

The content of the new Convention

1.1.5. With the strengthening of certain provisions in the present Convention and the improvements or innovations now introduced, the broad outlines of the new ACP-EEC Convention are as follows.

Trade cooperation

1.1.6. The provisions of Lomé II confirm the opening up of the Community market. Since 99.5% of ACP exports were already guaranteed free access the possible improvements could only be marginal.

New concessions have been made for some agricultural products, which are exported in limited quantities but are of particular importance to certain ACP countries: this applies, for example, to tomatoes from Senegal and onions from Cape Verde. Special attention has been paid to two products which are traditionally exported to certain countries of the Community and are of undoubted economic importance to several ACP countries. The first is beef, produced mainly by Botswana and accounting for 56% of that country's exports. In spite of the difficulties on the Community's meat market, the preferential treatment accorded under Lomé (no customs duties—90% reduction in import dues) has been improved upon and consolidated. An effort has also been made to help the producers of rum, an important export for several Caribbean countries.

However, despite the possibilities offered by the Lomé Convention, much still had to be done to boost trade promotion.

Besides giving each country the opportunity of proposing trade promotion schemes for financing from its individual allocation, the new Convention earmarks a special allocation of 40 million EUA for regional cooperation. The scope of this sector has moreover been widened to include operations both upstream and downstream of production, and taking in not only the domestic market and its organization but also all foreign markets. In the sphere of rules of origin, which can act as a barrier to trade, an effort has been made to reach a pragmatic compromise in order to facilitate the granting of derogations where justified—particularly for the benefit of the least developed ACP States—while maintaining rules designed to prevent deflection of trade.

Stabilizing earnings from agricultural exports

1.1.7. The 'Stabex' system introduced by the Lomé Convention, was the first agreement between industrialized and developing countries aimed at cancelling out at least part of the effects on producers' incomes of sudden drops in earnings caused either by fluctuations in world prices or by sharp variations in production. This experiment will be continued in such a way as to increase its scope and effectiveness. With increased funds (550 million EUA as against 382 million EUA) this 'insurance policy against bad years' will apply to a wider range of products on more favourable terms with regard to the risks covered.

Stabex was originally intended to cover 12 products and some of their subproducts but

its scope was extended during the life of the first Convention and the list has now been further extended from 34 to 44 products or subproducts covering the bulk of the agricultural commodities that play any significant part in the economies of the ACP countries. The conditions under which the system comes into play have also been improved; in particular, the dependence and trigger thresholds have been lowered and the repayment period will henceforth be phased, where repayment is due.

Safeguarding and developing mineral production

1.1.8. Whereas the Stabex system under Lomé assured that the countries producing agricultural raw materials had more stable incomes, the economies of the countries producing mainly minerals (with the exception of iron ore) remained at the mercy of all kinds of contingency—a sudden drop in prices or production, for example. Although it cannot solve the problem of price fluctuations at inter-regional level, the Community has set about seeking solutions which will at least lessen the effects of such fluctuations and, more generally, preserve the ACP countries' mining potential. The system adopted has basically the same aims as Stabex, although the methods used to achieve them are considerably different, because of the peculiarities of mineral production and markets.

Accident insurance is a scheme backed by financing amounting to 280 million EUA (USD 372 million). It covers the main minerals exported by the ACP countries: copper and cobalt, phosphates, manganese, bauxite and alumina, tin and iron ore. Additions can be made to this during the life of the Conven-

tion by decision of the EEC-ACP Council of Ministers. As a general rule the mechanism would only come into play for a given country if one of the above minerals had accounted on average for at least 15% of total exports to all destinations over the previous four years (10% in the case of the least developed, land-locked and island countries), and if a given ACP State's production capacity or capacity for exporting to the Community was in danger of being substantially reduced (by at least 10%). In such cases, the country in question could obtain a contribution from the Community towards the financing of projects or programmes designed to maintain or restore its production or export capacity, the contribution taking the form of special loans (repayable over 40 years with a 1% rate of interest and a ten-year grace period).

Promoting the development of mining. The provisions of the new Convention in this connection are aimed essentially at stepping up inflows of technology and capital from abroad by the following means: technical and financial assistance in the fields of geology and mining (for example in the form of contributions towards the establishment of national or regional funds for mineral exploration); the adjustment or increased importance of certain financing mechanisms (more funds have been made available for use as risk capital and the European Investment Bank's ordinary loans may now be subsidized—an option which did not exist under the Lomé Convention); specific action on the part of the EIB, which will be able to participate in financing mining and energy projects of mutual interest, for which up to 200 million ECU may be committed (over and above the contractual appropriations under the Convention itself), and lastly, the possibility

the Convention now offers of concluding specific agreements on the protection and promotion of investment in mining and energy projects between the Community and its Member States on the one hand and any interested ACP State on the other.

Industrial cooperation

1.1.9. The new Convention should enable industrial cooperation to expand. The objectives of this cooperation are restated, clarified and placed clearly in the context of a relationship of interdependence, the aim being to facilitate the industrial development of the ACP, in particular their production of manufactures, due account being taken of their requirements when policies designed to adjust the Community's industrial structures to the changes taking place at world level are framed. It is with this same objective in view that very broadly-based and highly flexible machinery has been established for consultations and exchanges of information on the trend of industrial policies in the Community, the ACP States and at world level. The relevant business and social circles will be involved. The results will not be binding, but they will help all those concerned to take the decisions that are necessary for industrial development.

Particular attention is given to cooperation in the energy field, where operations should increase in number and diversity, embracing such activities as prospecting, the development of new energy sources, particularly in rural areas, and the production of equipment in the ACP countries. The increased resources of the EIB should play a crucial role here, together with the possibilities opened up in the field of investment promotion.

However, industrial development in general should be able to benefit from increased financial flows—loans from the EIB, private capital and additional funds (non-Convention). Machinery has been devised for the promotion of investment with full respect for the priorities determined in each ACP State, with provisions to ensure that there is no discrimination between the Member States.

At operational level, measures have been taken to promote financial and technical assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises and to increase the effectiveness of the Centre for Industrial Development, which will now receive increased and more secure budget resources.

Agricultural cooperation

1.1.10. By devoting a special chapter to agricultural cooperation, the Community and the ACP States wished to stress the vital importance of promoting rural activities in the development process.

The importance of these activities—which was already reflected in the implementation of the Lomé Convention (40% of EDF funds allocated to rural development)—will be confirmed by the establishment of a Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, whose main function will be to improve the dissemination of knowhow and technology.

Financial and technical cooperation

Financial resources

1.1.11. The resources available for the implementation of the various financial and technical cooperation activities (totalling 3 466 million EUA under the Lomé Conven-

tion including the adjustments made necessary by the accession of additional States) are now up by 62% to 5 607 million EUA. In US dollars, the increase in fact exceeds 72%.

The range of resources to be employed is more varied and the total figure fixed for the five years 1980-85 is 5 227 million EUA under the Convention (made up of 4 542 million EUA under the EDF and 685 million EUA in loans from the European Investment Bank); as stated earlier, the EIB will also be able to commit 200 million EUA from non-Convention sources in the mining and energy sector as ordinary loans not covered by interest rate subsidies. Within the total sum under the Convention, the EDF resources can take a number of forms—subsidies, special loans, risk capital and the Stabex scheme for minerals.

In order to be able to assess the full extent of the Community's financial aid to the ACP countries account should also be taken of the cost to the budget of the sugar protocol and aid to the ACP countries under other Community policies. The Community has given its partners an indication of the amount they could receive under this head for the period 1980-85—at least 300 million EUA in food aid and 25 million EUA as the Community's contribution to projects cofinanced with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Administration of the aid

1.1.12. The methods of administering the development aid accorded under the Lomé Convention were remarkably progressive compared with the usual methods both in areas where responsibility rested solely on the shoulders of the recipient country and in those for which the two sides were jointly responsible. The new Convention upholds

this tradition and strengthens it by giving a more precise definition of the respective responsibilities of the ACP States and the Community.

At the same time, several new provisions have been devised to achieve greater speed and efficiency in aid administration procedures. An EEC-ACP Committee will have the special task of studying the implementation of financial and technical cooperation both generally and on the basis of practical examples with a view to accelerating and streamlining procedures. In the same spirit, advance timetables will be drawn up for each phase of implementation: programming, appraisal and implementation of projects.

Breakdown of the aid

1.1.13. Stress is also laid on a number of other important points:

- The strengthening of regional cooperation: an overall sum of 600 million EUA has been allocated for this purpose (as against 300 million EUA under the present Convention). Since this allocation is so big, it should boost large-scale regional projects, which in many instances are the only appropriate solution where infrastructure (transport—improvements to river communications), industrial development or training and research are concerned.
- Cofinancing operations: there are new arrangements to make these operations easier to carry out. About forty projects have been or are being financed in this way under the Lomé Convention to the tune of 3 000 million EUA. In addition to the contribution from the EDF and the EIB (484 million EUA) and from the Member States (458 million EUA) there are large contributions from the Arab Funds (582 million EUA) and the

World Bank (364 million EUA). The Arab Funds' participation, which rose from 14 % in 1977 to 20 % in 1978, is particularly significant.

Scope of the aid

1.1.14. In devoting a special chapter to the least developed, landlocked and island countries the new Convention is pointing even more insistently than before to the fact that these countries must have assistance that is suited to their needs. They receive especially advantageous treatment in most areas of cooperation (Stabex, minerals, rules of origin and so on), and this is particularly true of financial cooperation.

Since experience has demonstrated the value of microprojects, the new Convention embodies the principle of this type of operation and extends its scope to take in, for example, small-scale projects for rural electrification, rural landing strips, jetties, drainage and urban development schemes.

Cooperation on fisheries

1.1.15. One of the new fields of cooperation covered by Lomé II, certain of which are dealt with in protocols annexed to the Convention, is sea fishing. There are two basic points to be taken into account here: the Community's established jurisdiction in this area since 1976 and the extension to 200 nautical miles of the fishing zones of most of the coastal ACP States. (The joint declaration in the Lomé Convention still referred to the Member States' jurisdiction in this matter.) Besides referring to increased coordination of the conservation and utilization of fishery resources, the parties to the Convention out-

2. The shipbuilding crisis

ACP-EEC

line the general framework for possible bilateral fishery agreements between the Community and the ACP States concerned (mutual advantages, non-discrimination, principle of providing Community compensation in addition to any EDF allocation in return for fishing rights granted by ACP States).

Commission report and communications

1.2.1. In September the Commission sent a Communication to the Council and Parliament on the crisis besetting the shipbuilding industry in the Community and throughout the world; this paper had been preceded by a report assessing the situation and developments in the shipbuilding industry.

In the Communication, adopted on 19 September, the Commission advocates a scheme to promote the scrapping and building of ocean-going ships in order to support demand in what is, with steel and textiles, one of the industries most severely hit by the crisis.

The Commission's recommendations are in line with the efforts considered necessary to remedy the persistently serious situation in the shipyards, which had already led the Commission to present an action programme for reorganizing the industry on 9 December 1977.¹ In a resolution, formally adopted on 19 September 1978,² the Council had recognized the need to restructure the shipbuilding industry and had asked the Commission to ascertain what measures would be likely to improve demand for new ships on the Community market.

The shipbuilding crisis: developments and prospects

1.2.2. The serious crisis that has been afflicting the shipbuilding industry for several

¹ Bull. EC 11-1977, points 1.3.6 to 1.3.8, and Supplement 7/77—Bull. EC.

² OJ C 229 of 27.9.1978; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.20, and 9-1978, point 2.1.15.

years now is analysed in a Commission report submitted to the Council at the end of August and subsequently addressed to Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

This report on the state of the industry and progress made in reorganizing it — prepared pursuant to the Council resolution of 19 September¹ — reveals that, compared with their production capacity—some 5.1 million cgrt² in 1976—shipyard production currently stands at roughly 3.1 million cgrt, whereas the level of new orders received is hovering about the 2 million cgrt mark, a level which might not even be maintained in the face of the spiralling prices of oil.

Forecasts in the ocean shipping industry—on which the shipbuilding market heavily depends—confirm the threat of such a trend, since fleet overcapacities are not expected to be absorbed before 1982-83; it is only then that a recovery might take place.

Noting that the prospects are now darker than they were when the Commission submitted its 1977 Communication on reorganizing the industry, the report also emphasizes that efforts at reorganization must be pursued and even intensified. It recognizes that the volume of new orders secured by the Community shipyards is now so small that the efforts to achieve the gradual, orderly reorganization of the industry will be gravely hampered if the order situation does not improve or deteriorates even further during the years ahead. It accordingly recommends that measures be taken to boost demand.

Measures advocated by the Commission

1.2.3. In the light of the conclusions drawn from this assessment the Commission decided

in September to lay before the Council its Communication on a scheme to promote the scrapping and building of ocean-going ships. The Commission felt that it should take this initiative so as to contain the disastrous effects on shipbuilding if the situation were to get worse.

The scheme provides for financial support for Community shipowners who place new orders with Community yards, provided the same owners also send ships to be scrapped equivalent to twice the tonnage to be built. This proportion of scrapping to building will not only avoid aggravating the shipowners' problems: it will also help to reduce latent overcapacities of fleets and be a key factor in a swifter solution to the shipbuilding crisis by restoring balance on the ocean shipping market.

The financial support which the Communication suggests under the scrap-and-build scheme carries two different components. The first, a fixed component, is to encourage shipowners to invest; the second, a variable component, would be to offset the difference between the ship's second-hand value and its scrap value. In general terms it is proposed that a Community scrap-and-build programme should support a volume of 1 million cgrt in newly built ships each year for a period of three years, while a tonnage of 2 million cgrt is scrapped annually. The Commission estimates that the scheme would cost no more than 145 million EUA per year.

The Communication contains material for a debate in the Council on the principle and

¹ OJ C 229 of 27.9.1978.

² cgrt (compensated gross register tonnes) is a unit of measurement which takes account of the amount of work involved per grt, the unit of physical volume.

main features of a scrap-and-build scheme and offers various possible options for implementing it. On the basis of guidelines which emerge from the Council's discussions, the Commission will present formal proposals to that effect.

The scheme recommended by the Commission is in key with the concern voiced by the Council in its resolution of 19 September 1978 when it emphasized 'the need to maintain within the Community a healthy and competitive shipbuilding industry whose scale of activity should be consistent with the size of the Community's maritime trade and respect its economic, social and strategic importance'.

To attain this goal the resolution called on the public authorities at national and Community level to support the industry's efforts towards structural adaptation and, in particular, to limit the social consequences of the crisis and identify measures which could stimulate demand.

The proposed scheme, which should be instrumental in assuring an acceptable building programme for Community shipyards without adding to the latent overcapacity of fleets, constitutes a temporary, short-term, anticyclical measure which should help the Community shipbuilding industry to survive and to continue the process of adaptation and reorganization now under way. The scheme in question would have a beneficial effect on employment in the shipyards and related industries.

The scrap-and-build scheme proposed by the Commission could not work unless the ocean shipping market remained depressed, in other words unless the difference between the second-hand and scrap values of ships remained such as to provide an incentive to scrapping.

Otherwise, if freight rates shot up unexpectedly, the financial support intended to bridge the gap would not suffice; the scheme would automatically halt if market forces alone were capable of boosting orders and support for demand was no longer justified.

3. Proposals for the reform of the Commission

Report by the Independent Review Body

1.3.1. If the Commission is to perform its vital political role to the full and to engage in effective dialogue with the European Council, the Council and the directly-elected Parliament, it must be strengthened and its structure and workings made more efficient. These are the main conclusions of the report entitled 'Proposals for reform of the Commission of the European Communities and its Services', which was submitted to the Commission on 24 September by the five-member Independent Review Body chaired by Mr Dirk Spierenburg. The report has since been forwarded to the European Parliament and the Council.

The origins of the report

1.3.2. At the informal meeting held at Comblain-la-Tour in September 1978¹—following the previous year's successful experiment at La Roche-en-Ardenne²—the Commission discussed a number of problems concerning its own work, organization and structure; these problems had also been touched upon by President Giscard d'Estaing in a letter to Mr Jenkins. Out of these deliberations emerged the idea of setting up a body of four or five members to review the structures and workings of the Commission.

The Independent Review Body was formally constituted in January 1979 with the following five members: Mr Dirk Spierenburg (Chairman), former Vice-President of the ECSC High Authority and former Dutch Permanent Representative to the EEC and Euratom; Mr Karl Buschmann, Chairman of

the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation and the European Trade-Union Committee: Textiles, Clothing and Leather; Mr Paul Delouvrier, former Chairman of the Board, Electricité de France; Mr Giuseppe Petrilli, former Member of the Commission and former Chairman of the Institute for Industrial Restructuring (IRI); Mr Dick Taverne, Director-General of the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

Drawn up after a detailed investigation of the structures, workings and personnel policy of the Commission, the Review Body's report concentrates on analysing the Commission's role and certain weaknesses and their causes, before putting forward concrete proposals for reform.

The more general problem of the workings of the Community institutions as a whole will be dealt with in a separate report which the European Council in Brussels in December 1978 commissioned a Committee of Wise Men comprising Mr Barend Biesheuvel, Mr Edmund Dell and Mr Robert Marjolin to prepare.³ The European Council has instructed the Committee to consider the adjustments to the machinery and procedures of the institutions which are required for the proper operation of the Communities on the basis of and in compliance with the Treaties, including their institutional arrangements, and for progress towards European union.

As the terms of reference of the Spierenburg Group and the Committee of Wise Men overlap in certain respects, there were several meetings between them while the report now before the Commission was being prepared.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1978, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.13.

² Bull. EC 9-1977, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

³ Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.3.1.

The Commission's role and efficiency

1.3.3. The first part of the report consists of general observations giving the Review Body's view of 'the Commission's fundamental role in the interplay of Community institutions and the effectiveness with which it carries out that role. These observations set out the principles on which are based the second and third parts of the Report, of which the former deals with the organization and structure of the college itself and of its services, while the latter discusses administrative policy'.

1.3.4. The general observations are set out in full below:

'The Commission plays a vital and unique role among the institutions of the European Community. It must represent the interest of the Community as a whole. That is why under the Treaty it is responsible for making proposals to the Council of Ministers, which cannot deliberate in their absence. It also administers important areas of Community policy. Whatever view is held about the future development of the Community, it is in everyone's interest that the Commission should perform its many tasks efficiently and effectively.

In order to carry out these tasks, the Commission is assisted by an Administration whose structure and organization are inevitably complex. It is staffed by officials from nine different countries with their own traditions and styles of administration, and works in six different languages. Among these different factors the Commission seeks to preserve some kind of balance, and to forge the officials into a European civil service. Moreover, the Commission depends for the resources which it needs to perform its tasks on the Council and on Parliament, which authorize, not an overall appropriation for staff expenditure, but a specific number of posts at different levels.

The total number of Commission employees is smaller than is generally realized. Excluding staff paid from research appropriations, it amounts to

8 300 officials, of whom some 40 % are directly or indirectly concerned with linguistic work. Taken as a whole, these numbers do not seem excessive when compared with national central administrations.

In carrying out its work the Commission is therefore subject to a number of constraints. In spite of these, and of the inherent difficulties of its task, one should not underestimate the success of the Commission in fulfilling its duties under the Treaty. These results could not have been obtained without a generally devoted and capable staff. In the years since the founding of the Community the proposals worked out by the Commission have led to the customs union, the common agricultural policy, free movement of persons and the common commercial policy. The Commission has applied an effective competition policy. It has played an important part in the GATT negotiations and made an essential contribution to the new type of relationship which has been evolved with developing countries. The present Commission, and more particularly its President, have been tireless in urging greater monetary cooperation, and it is of great political importance that through its President the Commission takes part in the European Council and the economic summits.

But these remarkable successes should not blind us to the fact that over the last ten years the Commission's influence, effectiveness and reputation have declined. This has been partly for external reasons, which lie principally in a change in the political and economic environment, and which are not the concern of this Report.

Some of the difficulties the Commission faces are outside its control; we have referred to them... Other constraints derive from the nature of the college itself. Its members have widely varying political backgrounds, are not likely to know each other personally before their appointment and do not necessarily complement each other. Finally, the President of the Commission can control them only to the extent of his personal authority, since he is only *primus inter pares*.

Nevertheless there are internal weaknesses, of which the present Commission is well aware; hence the appointment of our group to review its organization and workings and suggest reforms.

We have found that there is a certain lack of cohesion in the college of Commissioners, an imbalance between portfolios, insufficient coordination among senior officials, a maldistribution of staff between departments, and shortcomings in the career structure of the civil service of the Commission. The fact is that the Commission is being managed in a manner and with techniques which are inappropriate in present circumstances and can only be more so after further enlargement.

Since the entry into the Community of Ireland, Denmark and the United Kingdom and the increase in the number of Commissioners from 9 to 13, the importance and workload of the portfolios given to the different Commissioners have inevitably varied. Some portfolios have grown in importance. Others, some newly created, have not yet realized their full potential. This imbalance in the importance of different portfolios is not conducive to the cohesion of the college. At the same time there has been a tendency for responsibilities to be personalized and the outside world has sometimes been left with an impression that the Commission as such lacks a sense of collective purpose and a taste for joint action, with the consequence that priorities and selectivity in the development of the Commission's programme of work are not as clearly established as they should be.

The lack of adequate coordination among Members of the Commission and a certain lack of encouragement from them for central coordination and planning among senior officials are particularly evident. The result has been a lack of structural coordination among Directors-General and a growing emphasis on the roles of the personal staffs of Commissioners.

While the total amount of work has inexorably grown, the distribution of staff between Directorates-General does not accurately reflect the differential growth of departmental burdens. A reallocation of staff between Directorates-General, and sometimes even between Divisions within Directorates-General, has proved difficult to achieve, and has intensified the problem of a lack of mobility on the part of officials.

Furthermore, for reasons of the distribution of age based on the accident of time at which they were recruited, relatively few top civil servants will

retire in the next six years. As a result, prospects for promotion are at present poor and morale has inevitably suffered.

Other factors affect morale. Managerial inadequacies in the Commission Services inevitably lead to dissatisfaction among the staff. The failure of the Council to adopt proposals which have required months of hard work to prepare is the source of much frustration. Finally, the limited scope of many officials' work and their excessive specialization, their lack of information about Commission policy in general and especially the feeling that they are too remote from the decision makers, all act as disincentives.

We believe that these weaknesses need to be urgently remedied. The energy crisis provoked by difficulties in the supply of oil, inflation, unemployment and the restructuring of industry forced by the emergence of rapidly developing countries are presenting the world in general and our countries in particular and the Community institutions with unprecedented problems. Moreover, the imminent enlargement of the Community can only complicate the difficulties.

As regards the most noteworthy developments which have occurred in recent years in the institutional structure of the Community — the creation of the European Council and the direct election of the European Parliament — they have in no way changed the tasks and the powers entrusted to the Commission by the Treaty.

For all these reasons, the Commission must be able to act as a real college, strong, resourceful and efficient, in order to be in a position to play its full part in the dialogue with the Council and the Parliament.

The reforms we propose in this report will have to be decided on by a variety of Community bodies. We commend them for urgent implementation to the Commission, the governments of the Member States and the representatives of the people of the Community in the European Parliament.'

Commission: Proposals made by the Review Body

1.3.5. In the light of its observations the Review Body, stressing the Commission's

policy-making role, insists that the latter's powers must not be weakened, as this would create an imbalance between the institutions. The main recommendations, which are described in detail later in the report, are summarized as follows:

'We recommend keeping the number of Commissioners to a strict minimum, and dividing among them portfolios of comparable weight. The Presidency should be reinforced to allow it to exercise effective coordination of the Commission services and ensure a better distribution of staff. The number of administrative units should be reduced, and the position of Directors-General further strengthened.'

The nature and role of the Commission

1.3.6. The report goes on to underline the importance of the role which the Commission plays and must continue to play, singling out for special attention its powers of initiative, its collegiate nature and the political implications of the tasks conferred on it.

'The ability of the Commission to carry out successfully the duties assigned to it by the Treaties, and in particular to exercise its powers of initiative, is, then, of supreme importance. Enlargement of the Community may multiply administrative problems, but it must not be allowed to weaken the exercise of these powers.'

The Commission exercises its powers of initiative by making formal proposals to the Council. In formulating these proposals it can ask the opinion of government officials, industry and the trade unions, but must ensure that these discussions do not turn into pre-negotiations in which the proposals lose their specific nature and already become compromises at this stage. The real debate begins within the Council on the basis of formal proposals from the Commission as provided for in the Treaty. Informal discussion papers, such as the Commission has tended to send to the Council in recent years, should only be resorted to in order to give a coherent general explanation of a new policy which is then given concrete form through a

series of formal proposals. The Commission may, of course, amend its proposals after they have been sent to the Council, but even so should avoid compromise for its own sake.

In order to put its proposals in a general perspective, the Commission must draw up, in the work programme it presents to the European Parliament, specific objectives and priorities to be reviewed at regular intervals. It must indicate the policies it intends to follow to attain these objectives as well as the means which it will require.

The Commission must act as a college. This means that on all important matters decisions can only be taken following a debate in the college, and they commit the Members of the Commission. At the same time, the Commission must be aware of the political role conferred on it by the Treaties, its responsibility as their guardian and its duty to explain continuously to public opinion the decisions which are taken. This is the only way in which the Commission can lose its present technocratic image.'

Composition of the Commission

1.3.7. In the opinion of the Review Body the number of Members of the Commission should not exceed the number of Member States. Once Greece joins the Community in January 1981, the Commission should comprise ten Members, rising to twelve with the accession of Portugal and Spain. If the present system (thirteen Members sharing twelve portfolios) were to be continued, entry of these three Mediterranean States would bring the Commission up to seventeen Members (of whom one would be Greek, two Spanish and one Portuguese), sharing sixteen portfolios. This solution is considered undesirable and the report continues:

'A Commission of fewer Members is preferable because:

(i) a smaller Commission will ensure better coordination;

- (ii) it will enable matters to be more thoroughly discussed and facilitate clear conclusions;
- (iii) it can constitute a genuine team and allow its Members to have a better personal knowledge of each other, thus creating a better collegiate spirit;
- (iv) it will project a better image of itself;
- (v) ... it will not be possible in a Community of nine or ten to create more than eight portfolios of genuine content and equal weight to be divided among the Commissioners (leaving aside the functions of President and Vice-President), nor later in a Community of twelve to create more than ten portfolios.'

The Review Body does not consider that the arguments in favour of a larger Commission (increased workload, political considerations, etc.) have any overriding force.

Reduction in the number of portfolios

1.3.8. The Commission organizes its work on the basis of a portfolio system; in other words each Commissioner is responsible for a given sector and thus for the work of the corresponding departments ('Services' in the report). The number of portfolios has therefore varied with the number of Members of the Commission and similarly their distribution, content or relative importance has often been very unequal. The report makes the following comments:

'The system of portfolios is not in question, and indeed seems to be the only sensible way of organizing the work of the Commission and of its Services. But the number of portfolios cannot be increased indefinitely without losing coherence. ... Some portfolios, like external relations and agriculture, are clearly homogeneous and of considerable importance. If the other portfolios are to be of comparable importance, their number must be limited. We have made a careful examination of ways of dividing up the Commission's present areas of activity. This has shown that in a Community of nine, soon to become ten, there is not

scope for more than eight portfolios of sufficient content.'

The report suggests the following eight portfolios: external relations; economic and financial affairs; industrial affairs; competition and transport; social and regional affairs; agriculture and fisheries; energy and research; development. The rule that there should be a maximum of eight portfolios—ten after the entry of Greece, Portugal and Spain—should be permanent.

'The content of these portfolios must be as stable as possible and not subject to negotiation each time the Commission is renewed. If this rule were not followed, the administrative structure corresponding to the portfolios would be subject to periodic upheaval and its consequent unsettling effects. The stability of the portfolios does not, however, mean the same thing as rigidity; the portfolios have been framed sufficiently broadly to enable them to adapt to the evolution of the Commission's tasks. In order to ensure continuity, the division of portfolios should be formally adopted by the Commission as part of its rules of procedure.'

Role of the President and Vice-President

1.3.9. If the portfolio system is not to weaken the collegiate nature of the Commission, it must be accompanied by strong coordination procedures operating effectively at the political level. In the view of the Review Body this is not the case at present.

The report therefore proposes that a President and Vice-President be appointed from among the Members of the Commission to assume responsibility for 'horizontal' sectors, while the other Members would each be responsible for one 'vertical' portfolio. The report argues as follows:

'The President should therefore be assisted by a Member of the Commission who alone would

exercise the functions of Vice-President. They would together form a strengthened Presidency, which would improve the allocation of resources, make for a better selection of priorities and improve the general functioning of the Commission. They would control all horizontal services. How the various tasks were shared out between them would depend on the personal preferences of the two individuals, but it would be logical for the President to be responsible for presiding over the Commission and representing it in important matters both inside and outside the Community and for the Vice-President to be responsible for work programming, coordination and supervision of the organization (matching of available resources with work to be done). He would also be the permanent deputy to the President. The Vice-President's key role would be his responsibility for coordination. The right procedures for this will have to be worked out and approved by the Commission; they will include frequent meetings with Commissioners and Directors-General, and the flexible use of *ad hoc* working parties on major topics.'

Administrative aspects: analysis and suggestions

1.3.10. The proposals put forward in the report do not relate solely to the Commission as a college; the Review Body also examines the problems arising within the different departments and comes up with a number of proposals on administrative policy.

Effective departmental coordination and better distribution of staff, a reduction in the number of administrative units, consolidation of the authority of the Directors-General and reversal by Members' Offices ('cabinets' in the report) to their original function are among the proposals put forward. Other suggestions include measures to improve administrative efficiency and to provide staff with better career prospects while ensuring that the Commission benefits from an in-flow of outside experience. There are also propos-

als for encouraging staff mobility and for placing greater emphasis on management qualities.

Commission departments

Administrative structure

1.3.11. The Review Body comes out in favour of combining certain portfolios¹ and cutting the overall total from ten to a maximum of eight (after the accession of the applicant countries) and recommends a two-phase reduction in the number of separate administrative units (most of which are Directorates-General) from twenty-nine under the present regime to ten. In other words, after the accession of Greece, Portugal and Spain, the number of Directorates-General would coincide with ten portfolios, which would then constitute the Commission's final structure.

Directors-General

1.3.12. In the view of the Review Body the position of Director-General should be given renewed weight.

'... He should be solely responsible for the management of his Directorate-General in direct and regular contact with the Commissioner responsible for the sector; coordinate its work with that of other Directorates-General, if necessary when no agreement can be reached, by means of the coordination meetings chaired by the Vice-President...'

Members' Offices

1.3.13. Correspondingly, Members' Offices should revert to their original function. The

¹ Point 1.3.8.

strengthening of the role of Directors-General recommended above should help in this. Further improvement could be obtained by strict observance of 'the Cabinet's threefold function: to act as the trusted assistant of the Member in order to facilitate his management of his portfolio; to help the Member in his personal political work; ... to ensure that the Member is fully briefed on matters covered by his colleagues' portfolios to enable him to meet the demands of collective responsibility'.

Administrative policy

1.3.14. In the section of the report dealing with administrative policy the Review Body advises the European civil service on how to make the transition from a period of unplanned development to one in which it can go forward on a more even keel with a more rational and therefore more efficient use of staff and more regular career patterns. Numerous recommendations are made, the most important of which are listed in summary form below.

Structure and organization of work: reduction in the number of Divisions and Specialized Departments, where necessary; greater emphasis on the management qualities of senior staff.

Allocation of staff: need for work programming in the Directorates-General; closer check on the preparation and coordination of work programmes; better use of staff resources; setting-up of a central staff register and preparation of job descriptions; better system of staff reporting.

Efficiency: improvement of existing recruitment procedures; organization of joint competitions with the other institutions; changes in certain recruitment requirements; more

flexible procedure for promotion between categories; extension of probationary period to one year.

Mobility: encouragement of mobility; need for adequate staff training.

Career development: more regular promotion policy; definition of indicative career profiles.

Access to outside experience: recruitment of temporary staff for strictly limited periods; utilization of national experts seconded from their home administrations for short periods (ranging from one month to one year).

Staff structure: encouragement of early retirement at the age of sixty (proposal already before the Council); further temporary arrangements to remain in force until 1986 to encourage officials aged fifty-five or over who have reached the highest step in their grade to retire early in an attempt to cope with the problems caused both by uneven age distribution and by the accession of the three new member countries; contacts with the other Community institutions in an attempt to ensure consistent career development.

Reaction of the Commission

1.3.15. The Commission Spokesman issued a statement the day after the Independent Review Body's report was submitted and the Commission itself discussed the report in detail at its meeting at Villers-le-Temple on 6 and 7 October.

Mr Jenkins made the following statement to the press on 8 October:

'The main part of the Commission's discussion at Villers-le-Temple was concerned with a first examination of the proposals for reform of the Commission and its services contained in the

report of the Independent Review Body under the chairmanship of Mr Spierenburg and published on 24 September.

The Commission welcomes this report. You will remember that the report follows the decision taken by the Commission at its weekend meeting at Comblain-la-Tour last year that we needed an objective and independent examination of our organization, structure and administrative arrangements. Our view then, reinforced today, was that the Commission as an institution could not afford to remain static and immobile in a changing and developing Community. Mr Spierenburg and his colleagues have fully justified the confidence we placed in them; and we are most grateful.

We now have the framework of analysis and recommendation which should enable us to see how our organization and staff resources might, in the words of Mr Spierenburg's mandate, be best adjusted to meet future needs and changing priorities. Our objective must be, as the report makes clear, to enhance the capacity of the Commission to perform—and I quote from the report—"The political role conferred on it by the Treaties, its responsibility as their guardian, and its duty to explain continuously to public opinion the decisions which are taken".

What are the next steps? First the Commission has decided to deal urgently with the proposals set out in Part III of the report so as to give effect to a programme of reform within the lifetime of this Commission and preferably before July 1980. In broad terms we have endorsed the proposals in Part III. That does not mean that we shall necessarily accept every one of them. The report may not constitute a continuous weave, but it has clear threads running through it, and we recognize and respect them. Our aim will be to work out in the light of the recommendations made and in full consultation with the staff, a comprehensive programme of action. Work on it will start immediately. Vice-President Ortoli has accepted the task of chairing a small working party of the Commission. He will be assisted by Mr Tugendhat, as the Commissioner directly responsible for personnel and administration, and by Mr Davignon. The task of this working party will be to bring forward proposals to the Commission as soon as possible.

Second, the Commission has endorsed the report's recommendations for a major review of the basic administrative units of the Commission services leading to a reduction in their number. This review will be one of its first tasks. The Commission also accepts the need for some reduction in the number of Directorates-General. How far the present Commission can go in the next fourteen months will be for the working party and the Commission itself to assess. But what we cannot do for ourselves we shall as far as possible work out for the next Commission so that it can take full advantage of our own experience and the advice of the Review Body.

Third, the Commission will study the important constitutional issues raised in the report about the size, composition and method of appointment of future Commissions. These issues will need to be seen within the wider context of the forthcoming report of the Three Wise Men and do not fall to the Commission to decide upon. They are nevertheless of major institutional importance, and the Commission believes that it should make clear its views on them in due course. In broad terms we are in favour of a small Commission in which portfolios are stable.

That does not of course mean that they should be rigidly constituted. Obviously they must be adaptable to changing priorities.

Fourth, the Commission hopes that this report, which is concerned above all with the long-term organization and structure of the Commission, will be the subject of an early debate in the European Parliament. The Commission would welcome a wide-ranging discussion and dialogue with the Parliament on these major issues. They are inevitably complex and time will be needed for planning, consultation and implementation. Meanwhile, the normal tasks of the Commission will not be less and its work must go on unimpeded. The report of the Review Body should not be a reason for delaying normal staff recruitment nor does it affect one way or the other the Commission's critical need for additional staff in 1980. Mr Spierenburg has authorized me to say that he fully supports this view.

Two weeks after the publication of this major report it is natural that I cannot set out for you

Reform of the Commission

detailed decisions. The Commission must now study every aspect of the report. We are, however, determined to push forward with the main essentials of reform and reorganization in the lifetime of this Commission and as rapidly as possible. The Review Body's aim was to ensure that the Commission can act as a real college, strong, resourceful and efficient in the exercise of its powers and functions. The Commission has an essential role to play as an independent and politically autonomous institution within the Community. The report will help us to re-emphasize and underpin that role and we shall act to do so.'



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN SEPTEMBER 1979**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary union

European Monetary System

Changes in certain central rates

The decisions taken

2.1.1. The eight countries participating in the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS (European Monetary System)—i.e. all the Member States except the United Kingdom—and the Commission met in Brussels on 23 September. The decisions taken are summarized in the following statement put out at the end of the meeting:

'Tensions on the foreign exchange markets over the last few days, caused by the movements of currencies outside the EMS, have led to a meeting of the Ministers and Central Bank Governors of EEC member countries participating in the exchange rate mechanism and the Commission in Brussels on 23 September.

Ministers and Governors have agreed that technical adjustments are necessary. They lead to the following shifts as measured by the cross-rates:

(i) of 5% between the Deutschmark on the one hand and the Danish crown on the other hand;

(i) of 2% between the Deutschmark on the one hand and French franc, Belgian franc, Luxembourg franc, Dutch guilder, Italian lira and Irish pound on the other hand.

The cross-rates between the French franc, Belgian franc, Luxembourg franc, Dutch guilder, Italian lira and Irish pound remain unchanged. The new buying and selling rates will be communicated by the central banks in time for the opening of foreign exchange markets on 24 September.

These adjustments are designed to make a positive contribution towards a more orderly development on the exchange markets, at the same time as helping the stability of currencies not in the system. Cooperation with the monetary authorities of third countries will be continued and strengthened.

The ECU central rates will now be revised in the light of the realignments in bilateral central rates. The Central Bank Governors were requested to take the appropriate action in consultation with the Commission. The Commission has been asked to present proposals for appropriate adjustments as regards MCAs.'

Comments by the Commission spokesman

2.1.2. On 24 September, following the decisions taken in Brussels the previous day by the Ministers for Economic and Financial Affairs and the Governors of the Central Banks of the Community countries participating in the EMS, the Commission spokesman made the following statement:

'The adjustment carried out yesterday is not an upheaval, but an orderly shift in the central rates of two currencies subject to upward or downward pressure on the market. These corrections should help to improve still further the stability of EMS currencies. At a time when the oil-price decisions taken last spring and the movement of the dollar over the last six months have produced fairly appreciable changes in the situation on the international markets, the European currencies have thus remained virtually stable in relation to one another, after a limited technical adjustment. The European Monetary System has therefore provided proof of its effectiveness.

The adjustment decided on is mainly in response to pressures from outside the system, as emphasized in the communiqué issued at the end of the meeting. It is therefore perfectly normal. One of the principles of the EMS is that it should be flexible enough to allow changes in positions that favour speculation. The parity changes decided on yesterday are entirely consistent with the structure of the EMS itself.

The decision taken indicates that the system is working properly. It shows that the participating Member States are capable of taking the necessary measures very rapidly and calmly, which is an essential condition for the smooth operation of the system and evidence of the cohesion of the Member States participating in it.

The Commission was involved in all stages of the work and made a positive contribution to the outcome.¹

New ECU central rates

2.1.3. Because of the position occupied by the ECU in the EMS, the changes in the bilateral exchange rates led to the fixing of the new ECU central rates for all the Member States participating in the EMS exchange rate mechanism.

Table 1 shows the new ECU central rates which have been in force since 24 September together with the rates which had applied previously.

Table 1

	Units of national currency in the ECU	ECU central rates		
		Old	New	Percentage change ¹
BFR	3.66	39.4582	39.8456	- 0.97
LFR	0.14			
HFL	0.286	2.72077	2.74748	- 0.97
DKR	0.217	7.08592	7.36594	- 3.80
DM	0.828	2.51064	2.48557	+ 1.01
LIT	109.0	1 148.15	1 159.42	- 0.97
FF	1.15	5.79831	5.85522	- 0.97
IRL	0.00759	0.662638	0.669141	- 0.97

¹ Appreciation (+) or depreciation (-) of the currency in terms of the ECU.

Impact of the measures on monetary compensatory amounts

2.1.4. On 28 September the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, adopted a Regulation¹ amending certain monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) so as to take account of the fixing of new ECU central rates for the Member States participating in the EMS.

New Community borrowing and lending instrument

First loans from the resources of the NCI

2.1.5. The first loans from the resources of the NCI ('New Community Instrument') for

¹ Point 2.1.48 and OJ L 246 of 29.9.1979.

borrowing and lending' (also known as the 'Ortoli facility')—a total of 231.7 million EUA from the first tranche of 500 million EUA authorized by the Council²—were signed in Brussels on 17 September.³ The loans are for investment in energy schemes, water and sewerage infrastructure, and road and telecommunications improvements—IRL 58 million in Ireland, LIT 45 000 million in Italy and UKL 66.3 million in the United Kingdom. These projects have also benefited from loans provided by the EIB from its own resources.

Interest subsidies

2.1.6. Also on 17 September, the Commission, represented by Mr F.X. Ortoli, Vice-President, and the EIB, represented by its President, Mr Y. Le Portz, signed a cooperation agreement setting out the arrangements for implementing the Council's decision⁴ to provide 3% interest subsidies, paid from the Community budget, on selected loans from the Bank's own funds and from New Instrument resources for investment in the less prosperous Member States fully participating in the European Monetary System.

Economic situation

Recent developments in the Community

2.1.7. On 17 September the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) held a brief exchange of views on recent developments in the economic situation in the Community, on the basis of an oral report from Mr Ortoli, Vice-President. It asked the Commission to take account of the views expressed by the Ministers when preparing for the next

quarterly examination of the economic situation.

At the same meeting, the Council prepared for the annual meeting of the IMF, to be held in Belgrade at the beginning of October, and approved the statement which its President would be making on behalf of the Community at that meeting.

Reference paper on budgetary questions

2.1.8. On 17 September the Council held an exchange of views on the communication entitled 'Reference paper on budgetary questions'⁵ which the Commission had presented on 7 September. It decided to deal with this matter again at the next meeting of the Ministers for Economic and Financial Affairs.

The study discussed was in response to a request from the European Council, which at its meeting in Strasbourg on 21 and 22 June, in the light of the discussion on convergence of Member States' economic performances, had asked the Commission to submit a reference paper describing the financial consequences of applying the budgetary system on the situation in each Member State, especially in 1979 and 1980.⁶

Monetary Committee

2.1.9. The Monetary Committee held its 253rd meeting in Luxembourg on 12 Sep-

¹ OJ L 298 of 25.10.1978 and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

² OJ L 125 of 22.5.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.7.

³ Points 2.3.73 to 2.3.76.

⁴ OJ L 200 of 8.8.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.1.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.1.14.

⁶ Point 2.3.2.

tember with Mr Andersen, Vice-Chairman, in the chair. It agreed the Community's position in preparation for the meeting of the IMF's Interim Committee and for the IMF Annual Meeting, to be held at the end of the month; it also discussed the re-examination of certain aspects of the European Monetary System.

Economic Policy Committee

2.1.10. The 81st meeting of the Economic Policy Committee was held in Brussels on 6 September, in its reduced 'short-term' composition, with Mr Ciampi in the chair. The meeting was entirely given over to discussion of the effects of the rise in oil prices, in relation to incomes policy; the Committee established the principles on which the Community's economic policies should be based to enable it to meet this new challenge as effectively as possible.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

2.1.11. On 11 September¹ the Council made further progress on measuring instruments by adopting the Directive on hot-water meters proposed by the Commission in October 1977.²

This Directive is in line with a general policy for the efficient use of energy and should allow more accurate forecasts of consumption to be made and ultimately reduce expenditure. Hot water is becoming an increasingly expensive commodity and it is essential that the charges for it are based on reliable forms of measurement; this implies that the amount of hot water used should be monitored accurately by means of meters installed on the premises of each consumer. The Directive aims not only to facilitate the free movement of goods but equally, by providing better information, to give the consumer better protection and to provide for tighter checks on the amount of energy consumed.

2.1.12. On 13 September³ the Commission sent the Council amendments to its proposals for a Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to construction products⁴ and for a Resolution laying down a list of priority products to be covered by the approximation procedure. These amendments were requested in the Opinion adopted by Parliament on 8 May.⁵

2.1.13. On 18 September¹ the Council formally adopted the Directive—approved in principle on 19 June⁶—amending for the sixth time the Council Directive of 27 June 1967 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the classification,

¹ OJ L 259 of 15.10.1979.

² OJ C 283 of 24.11.1977 and Bull. EC 10-1977, point 2.1.9.

³ OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979.

⁴ OJ C 308 of 23.12.1978 and Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.1.7.

⁵ OJ C 140 of 5.6.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.3.22.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.14.

packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

Foodstuffs

2.1.14.¹ On 28 September the Commission approved a proposal for a Council Regulation laying down general rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex II to the Treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds. The proposal consolidates and updates the Regulation of 12 December 1972,¹ as last amended on 4 April 1978.²

Pharmaceuticals

2.1.15. On 28 September the Commission sent the Council a proposal³ to amend the Directive of 12 December 1977⁴ relating to the colouring matters which may be added to medicinal products. The aim is to abolish the distinction between colouring matter for both mass and surface colouring and colouring matter for surface colouring only.

Legal structures

Economic and commercial law

Product liability

2.1.16. On 26 September the Commission adopted a revised proposal to the Council for a directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to liability for defective products.⁵

The Commission's changes take over many of the amendments requested by Parliament on 26 April⁶ as well as various suggestions made by the Economic and Social Committee.⁷ Parliament's comments were aimed in particular to exempt producers from liability in respect of natural agricultural products and craft or artistic products. Parliament had also asked that development risks should be excluded, but the Commission felt unable to accept that suggestion.

Industry: restructuring and conversion

Steel

Forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1979

2.1.17. The draft forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1979, approved by the Commission at first reading on 12 September, was submitted to the ECSC Consultative Committee and endorsed on 27 September.⁸ The programme foresees a rise of some 3% in actual steel consumption in comparison to the last quarter of 1978.

Industrial loans

2.1.18. Pursuant to Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided to grant a

¹ OJ L 289 of 27.12.1972.

² OJ L 94 of 8.4.1978.

³ OJ C 262 of 17.10.1979.

⁴ OJ L 11 of 14.1.1978.

⁵ OJ C 241 of 14.10.1976 and Supplement 11/76 - Bull. EC.

⁶ OJ C 127 of 21.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.12.

⁷ OJ C 114 of 7.5.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.3.72.

⁸ Point 2.3.60.

loan of FF 72 million to the Société lorraine de laminage continu SA (Sollac). The loan will assist the financing of various projects aimed at adapting the Lorraine works of the Sacilor-Sollac Group to a production schedule with more of an accent on the manufacture of flat-rolled products.

The new ECSC loan to a group which is the largest producer and employer in the Lorraine iron and steel industry emphasizes the concern attached by the Community to the reorganization of undertakings which, whilst cutting down in the most threatened sectors, make efforts to find new bases of competitiveness by modernizing the least vulnerable facilities.

Shipbuilding

2.1.19. On 28 September the Commission sent the Council a green paper on measures to support the scrapping and building of ocean-going vessels.¹

Textiles

2.1.20. On 12 September Mr Davignon attended a working meeting of representatives of the European Committee of Textile Trade Unions. The Commission took the opportunity to reassert its genuine concern to maintain all branches of the textiles industry and suggested a framework for a joint study of the industry's future, with particular regard to the renewal of the Multifibre Arrangement at the end of 1981. The Commission invited trade union representatives to join a special working party on the question.

At the same meeting Commission staff presented the 1978 report on the Community's

textile imports and outlined the main problems affecting textiles policy, in particular freedom of movement within the Community. Detailed consideration would be given to these points at future technical meetings.

Advanced technology and growth industries

Data processing and electronics

2.1.21. On 11 September² the Council formally adopted a four-year programme covering the period 1979-83 for the development of data processing, which it had approved in principle in July.³ On the same day it adopted a Resolution on an action promoting micro-electronic technology.⁴

Other industries

Ceramics

2.1.22. At its session of 26 and 27 September the Economic and Social Committee adopted an Opinion⁵ on the Commission's proposal for a Decision on the adoption of a programme of technological research in the field of clay minerals and technical ceramics, submitted to the Council on 8 June.⁶

¹ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

² OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.19.

⁴ OJ C 231 of 13.9.1979.

⁵ Point 2.3.57.

⁶ OJ C 155 of 21.6.1979 and Bull. EC 6-1979 point 2.1.22.

Customs union

Simplification of customs formalities

Community transit

2.1.23. On 12 September¹ the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a regulation making a number of significant changes to the Community transit procedure.

The main purpose of the proposed changes is to achieve more flexible transit arrangements, for instance by doing away with the transit advice notes presented at international frontiers, introducing more flexible rules in respect of guarantees, reducing charges affecting principals and guarantors and speeding up the handling of combined transport operations in ports.

Common Customs Tariff

Classification

2.1.24. On 18 September² the Commission amended its Regulation of 7 December 1977³ determining the conditions of entry of goods under subheadings 04.05 B II, 11.04 ex B I and C I, 25.01 A II a) and 35.02 A I of the Common Customs Tariff (denaturants).

The purpose of this regulation is to ensure uniform application of the CCT nomenclature.

Economic tariff matters

Inward processing traffic

2.1.25. On 5 September⁴ the Commission adopted a directive on goods entered for

inward processing which, if imported for release into free circulation, would benefit from a favourable tariff arrangement by reason of their end-use.

The purpose of this new directive is to make it clear that the duties to be charged in respect of goods which, upon their entry for inward processing, were eligible for a favourable tariff arrangement by reason of their end-use are calculated at the reduced rate corresponding to that favourable tariff arrangement, subject to certain conditions.

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Distribution

Decision against anticompetitive agreements and concerted practices

2.1.26. Following a complaint lodged by a Danish household spirit producer, the Commission decided on 5 September that the agreements and concerted practices operated by the Danish firms BP Kemi A/S and A/S De Danske Spritfabrikker (DDSF) for the distribution of synthetic ethanol in Denmark constituted an infringement of the competition rules. Synthetic ethanol is used mainly in

¹ OJ C 241 of 26.9.1979.

² OJ L 235 of 19.9.1979.

³ OJ L 314 of 8.12.1977.

⁴ OJ L 237 of 21.9.1979.

the production of pharmaceuticals, solvents and household spirit.

The British firm BP Chemicals Ltd (BPCL)—a wholly-owned subsidiary of the BP Group—has a Community synthetic ethanol market share of about 45%, making it the largest producer. BP Kemi, another wholly-owned BP subsidiary, is a trading company operating only in Denmark, where one of the products it sells is ethanol produced by BPCL.

Before Denmark joined the Community, DDSF held the legal monopoly of synthetic ethanol production in Denmark and was also the main distributor. Imports were subject to licensing. When it lost its monopoly rights as required by the Accession Treaty, DDSF decided to cease production. In 1973, after negotiations with BPCL, it entered into purchasing and cooperation agreements with BP Kemi, BPCL's sister company and distributor in Denmark.

Under the purchasing agreement DDSF undertook to buy virtually all its requirements from BP Kemi, at least until 1979. In return for its purchasing obligations DDSF did not obtain exclusive distribution rights, since BP Kemi wished to take advantage of the opening of the Danish market in order to make direct sales to large customers. DDSF's interests were, however, protected by a cooperation agreement which restricted BP Kemi's freedom of action (in particular, BP Kemi undertook to adhere to DDSF's list price and to pay compensation should its sales exceed a given share of the market) and set up a system for the exchange of information between the parties.

BP Kemi and DDSF terminated the cooperation agreement at the end of 1974 but continued to charge identical prices and to exchange information until the end of 1976.

The purchasing agreement remained in force until 15 July 1979.

The exclusive purchasing obligation appreciably restricted competition. Since Denmark's largest distributor—and the only one with the technical facilities necessary for supplying certain categories of customer—was in practice bound for at least six years to a single producer, this obligation cancelled out the effects of the opening of the Danish market after accession (the BP Group's market share, initially 90%, is still nearly 80%).

In this new decision relating to distribution, and particularly to purchasing agreements, the Commission further elaborated its policy¹ as to the limits imposed by the competition rules on cooperation between a producer and a distributor when this raises barriers to market entry.

State aids

General schemes

Higher thresholds for notification of specific investment aids to the Commission

2.1.27. On 5 September the Commission decided to raise and modify the ceilings above which specific aids granted under a general scheme have to be notified to it in advance. Before then Member States were obliged to notify the Commission in advance

¹ The Commission has already taken action against agreements of this kind, notably in its Decision of 21 December 1977 concerning the distribution of Liebig spices in Belgium: OJ L 53 of 24.2.1978, and Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.51.

of all cases where the aid exceeded 15% of the amount of the investment or where the investment amounted to 3 million EUA or more.

From now on the Commission must be notified in advance of:

- (i) all cases of application where the intensity of aid exceeds 15% in net grant equivalent of the investment concerned;
- (ii) cases involving aid intensity of over 10% (but not more than 15%) where the investment exceeds 3 million EUA;
- (iii) cases involving aid of over 5% (but not more than 10%) where the investment exceeds 6 million EUA;
- (iv) cases involving aid of 5% or less where the investment exceeds 9 million EUA.

In cases which do not exceed these ceilings Member States are, of course, still bound to comply with the specific rules which the Commission has laid down for certain industries. In addition they will have to report to the Commission annually on the amount of aid granted, the value of the investments involved and the number of cases of application of each general scheme for each industry and for each of the categories or regions specified in the principles of coordination of regional aid systems.¹ This will enable the Commission to ensure that aid is not concentrated in certain industries or regions where this is likely to have adverse effects on intra-Community trade and competition.

Belgium

2.1.28. On 7 September the Commission decided to raise no objection to the Belgian Government's plan to set up the Industrial Redevelopment Fund (IRF) provided for

under the Act of 5 August 1978 on economic and budgetary reform (Article 12)².

The IRF is intended to assist industrial conversion in areas affected by sectoral problems and to encourage the development of future-orientated industries employing new technology. It will operate by acquiring holdings through regional investment companies (SRI) and buying bonds at the normal market rates and terms through the national investment company (SNI).

After a thorough scrutiny of the planned intervention mechanism the Commission came to the conclusion that it could not at this stage say that it constituted aid within the meaning of Article 92 of the EEC Treaty. For although in terms of its objectives (development of certain activities, particularly in certain regions) the IRF was in the nature of an aid scheme, its modes of operation gave no clear guarantee that it would in fact benefit the undertakings in which it intervened. In view of Article 222 of the EEC Treaty the acquisition of holdings cannot, as a rule, be regarded *a priori* as State aid when, as in this case, it involves healthy firms whose activities are geared towards the future, particularly since the loans made will bear normal interest under the conditions prevailing in the Belgian market.

The Commission will, however, closely monitor the application of the IRF. It consequently requested the Belgian Government to inform it of decisions taken under the scheme and of the funds successively allocated to it and to send it an annual report on the activity of the Fund.

¹ OJ C 31 of 3.2.1979 and Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.1.34.

² Bull. EC 12-1978, 2.1.44.

United Kingdom

2.1.29. The Commission decided not to oppose the introduction of the Northern Ireland Marketing Research Scheme to assist certain firms in Northern Ireland to find new markets.

The funds allocated to the scheme are relatively modest (UKL 75 000 for the first year, UKL 150 000 for the second and UKL 250 000 thereafter). Aid under the scheme is limited to small and medium-sized firms with fewer than 150 employees (100 in the case of firms in the textile, clothing or footwear industries) which are not subsidiaries of major groups. It will take the form of a grant equalling 50% of total market research costs.

The Commission's decision took account of several factors: the scheme is intended to assist small firms in a peripheral region of the common market which is facing particularly severe problems; aid will be granted for market research in Britain (excluding Northern Ireland) and abroad; because its duration is limited to two years, it may be considered as a starting-up aid.

None the less the Commission requested the British Government to send it an annual report showing the amount of aid used for research in individual markets in order to ensure that aid is not concentrated on research in the markets of other Member States.

Regional aids

United Kingdom

2.1.30. On 20 September the Commission decided to raise no objections to reorganization of the main regional aid scheme operated

in the United Kingdom, which the British Government had notified to it as required under Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty.

The scheme was set up under the Industry Act 1972, and provides for several types of aid in three categories of region—Special Development Areas, Development Areas and Intermediate Areas. The principles of coordination adopted by the Commission in 1978¹ laid down ceilings on regional aid intensity expressed as a percentage of investment made or in European units of account per job created.

The changes, which affect all assisted areas in the United Kingdom, consist principally in the creation of a new assisted area in the South-West and the upgrading of several existing assisted areas, accompanied by a reduction in aid intensity in certain areas and a general downgrading—or even declassification—of a large number of other assisted areas.

The Commission felt that the socio-economic situation (in particular unemployment) in the areas concerned justified the creation or regrading of certain assisted areas and consequently a derogation from the principles of coordination, specially since the proposed measures would cut back assisted areas to a level where they covered only 25%, instead of 43%, of the working population and would reduce regional spending by one third.

However, the Commission reserved its final decision pending completion of its overall review of British regional aid schemes in the light of Article 93(1) of the EEC Treaty.

¹ OJ C 31 of 3.2.1979.

Italy

2.1.31. On 18 September the Commission decided to close the procedure which it had initiated under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in August and extended in October 1978¹ in respect of exceptional assistance by the Sicilian public agencies ESPI, EMS and AZASI to pay the wages and salaries of staff on the payroll of companies they control.

In the light of the observations submitted by the Italian Government under the procedure, the Commission was satisfied that these were exceptional measures to meet urgent social needs while a process of liquidation, restructuring and new investment was being carried out in the firms concerned. The measures were strictly limited in duration from the outset and have since ceased to apply. No further measures of this kind are planned.

However, the Commission wishes to avoid such public funds being used as aids which are liable to distort competition, as would be the case if they were used systematically to cover firms' losses. The Commission, in agreement with the Italian Government, therefore considered it necessary to be kept periodically informed of the development of the system of regional assistance by the public agencies in question.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Insurance

Credit insurance

2.1.32. On 13 September² the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal amend-

ing a provision of the Directive of 24 July 1973³ on coordination in respect of the taking-up and pursuit of the business of direct insurance other than life assurance under which the Federal Republic of Germany was authorized to maintain in force its system of mandatory specialization in credit insurance and its guarantee arrangements.

In the Federal Republic of Germany, credit insurance may not be undertaken together with other classes of insurance because of the particularly high risks it involves. As the specialization principle is not applied by composite insurers from the other Member States, these are barred from writing credit insurance in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The proposal therefore provides for abolition of the principle of specialization in credit insurance in the Federal Republic of Germany and for its replacement by stricter financial requirements for companies writing credit insurance. The two key provisions concern an increase in companies' own capital from 400 000 EUA to 1 000 000 EUA and the establishment of an 'equalization reserve'.

Employment and social policy

Employment

2.1.33. Employment problems were again widely discussed in September. The Ministers for Employment and Social Affairs met informally in Dublin⁴ on 20 and 21 September to

¹ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.21, and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.44.

² OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979.

³ OJ L 228 of 16.8.1973 and Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point 2122.

⁴ Point 2.3.3.

discuss the employment situation and the reorganization of working time; Vice-President Vredeling represented the Commission.

In addition, the employment situation in relation to the energy crisis was a main item in the discussions the Commission held¹ with a delegation from the European employers on 17 September and with the European Trade Union Confederation on 20 September.

Sectoral measures

Readaptation of workers in the ECSC industries

2.1.34. Acting under Article 56(2)(b) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided in September to contribute a total of 307 500 EUA towards the cost of training 643 workers affected by the closure of iron and steel works in the Federal Republic of Germany.

European Social Fund

2.1.35. On 7 September² the Commission decided to publish in the Official Journal of the European Communities, a Communication concerning public authorities empowered by Member States to provide financial assistance for operations by bodies governed by private law and to guarantee their completion 'for the purposes of the European Social Fund'.

A second Communication from the Commission concerned procedures laid down by Member States for the submission of applications for assistance and for forwarding them to the Commission.

Social protection

2.1.36. At its session on 26 and 27 September the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion³ on the Commission's proposal to the Council of 6 July 1979⁴ for a Regulation on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

Health and safety

Safety, hygiene and health protection at the place of work

2.1.37. In pursuance of the Agreement on cooperation between the Commission and the Government of the United States⁵ in the field of occupational safety and health, signed in June 1979, an initial meeting took place in Luxembourg on 17 September. During that meeting, the list of twelve areas identified as being of common interest was reviewed. The discussion concerned in particular a number of toxic agents (asbestos and arsenic), the policies on protection against cancer which are being conducted in the USA and the Community, and the study of the causes of accidents. It was decided that the exchange of data and information in these fields should be intensified.

2.1.38. On 18 and 19 September the Commission and the International Labour Organization held a working meeting in Luxem-

¹ Point 2.3.27.

² OJ C 236 of 19.9.1979.

³ Point 2.3.54.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.44.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.2.38.

bourg which was devoted to occupational safety and health hazard alert systems. With regard to the second experimental phase, it was agreed that the health hazard alert system should be kept as simple and as fast-acting as possible: actuating the alerts would have to be the responsibility solely of the national centres; and tripartite consultations at national level were considered to be essential.

*

2.1.39. At its session of 26 and 27 September the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion¹ on the proposal for a Directive placed before the Council by the Commission on 6 March 1979² which concerned the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work.

Regional policy

Financing operations

European Regional Development Fund

Third allocation for 1979:
214.83 million EUA

2.1.40. On 10 September the Commission approved the third allocation of grants for 1979 from the European Regional Development Fund, totalling 214.83 million EUA. The aid has been allocated to 500 investment projects costing a total of 1 409.45 million EUA.

In accordance with the Regulation of 18 March 1975³ establishing the ERDF, as amended by the Regulation of 6 February 1979,⁴ the Fund Committee had endorsed these projects on 12 July;⁵ the Regional Policy Committee had been consulted on 5 July⁵ on the draft decisions for aid to infrastructure projects costing more than 10 million EUA.

A breakdown of the aid granted under this allocation is given in Table 2.

The 214.83 million EUA breaks down as follows:

(a) 183.69 million EUA to help finance 404 infrastructure projects, comprising:

(i) 96.90 million EUA to help finance 8 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;

(ii) 72.43 million EUA to help finance 218 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each;

(iii) 14.36 million EUA to help finance 178 infrastructure 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 from the Fund involve a total of 1 173.50 million EUA. They mainly concern thermal power stations, general equipment for industrial areas and road infrastructure.

(b) 31.14 million EUA to help finance 96 projects relating to industrial, artisan and service activities, comprising:

¹ Point 2.3.53.

² OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

³ OJ L 73 of 21.3.1975.

⁴ OJ L 35 of 9.2.1979 and Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.37.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, points 2.1.55 and 2.1.56.

Table 2 — Grants from the ERDF (third 1979 allocation)

Member State	Number of grant decisions	Number of investment projects	Investment assisted (million EUA)	Assistance granted (million EUA)
Denmark	5	20	18.56	3.72
FR of Germany	21	50	92.48	9.36
Ireland	4	49	94.86	21.85
Italy	13	276	438.77	126.30
Netherlands	1	4	18.33	5.27
United Kingdom	22	101	746.45	48.33
Total	66	500	1 409.45	214.83

- (i) 7.06 million EUA for 3 projects costing more than 10 million EUA each;
(ii) 24.08 million EUA for 93 projects costing less than 10 million EUA each.

The industrial and services investments assisted from the Fund involve a total of 235.95 million EUA, the main industries concerned being electrical and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering and chemicals.

Regional Policy Committee

2.1.41. The Regional Policy Committee met in Brussels on 27 and 28 September. Mr Giolitti, a member of the Commission, addressed the meeting on the subject of the Committee's role in the formulation of regional policy. The Committee continued its examination of the coordination of Member States' regional aid systems with a view to making them more effective. It embarked on a study of the coordination of the Community's financial instruments, focusing in particu-

lar on the political and operational aspects of coordination between the European Investment Bank and the Commission. Lastly, it heard a report on urban deconcentration measures.

Environment and consumer protection

Environment

Preventing and reducing pollution and nuisances

Air pollution

2.1.42. On 11 September the Commission transmitted two papers to the Council on the conclusion of a Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution negotiated

under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in Geneva; the Community took part in the negotiations.

One of the papers is a communication setting out the results of the negotiations, which lasted from June 1978¹ to April this year;² the other is a proposal that the Council approve this Convention for the Community; the Convention will be opened for signature at a high-level EEC meeting in Geneva from 13 to 16 November.

The aim of the Convention is that air pollution (including long-range transboundary air pollution) will be restricted and, if possible, reduced and prevented. The Contracting Parties are required to develop without undue delay policies and strategies to combat discharges of air pollutants, by means of exchanges of information, consultation, research and monitoring.

2.1.43. A preliminary technical seminar was held at Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, United Kingdom, on 13 September for some twenty experts from laboratories throughout the Community to lay the ground for a laboratory intercomparison programme in respect of analysis of oxides of nitrogen; this programme will be carried out from October this year to March next year. The experts were familiarized with the use of standard gases and the equipment which will be put at their disposal during this programme—which is intended to assist laboratories in the Member States to determine the absolute content of oxides of nitrogen.

During the programme cylinders of reference gas will be distributed to Community laboratories between October and December; a mobile laboratory (van) carrying a primary standard will also be touring the Community

from October to March. The results will be ready by the middle of next year.

Discussions with the American Administration

2.1.44. A meeting was held in Washington on 24 and 25 September under the environmental cooperation arrangements between the Commission and the United States that began in 1974.³ Discussions centred on the American Toxic Substances Control Act, combating marine pollution by hydrocarbons, its effects on the environment, carbon dioxide and matters currently being discussed by international organizations, e.g. urbanization and long-range transboundary air pollution.

Nuclear safety

2.1.45. The high-level group of independent experts on nuclear safety which the Commission decided to set up on 16 May,⁴ a month and a half after the accident at the Harrisburg nuclear power station, will shortly be able to commence its work, as the Commission appointed its three members in September.⁵

Dangerous substances

2.1.46. On 18 September,⁶ the Council formally amended its Directive of 27 June 1967

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.2.31.

² Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.2.33.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2.2.31.

⁴ OJ L 141 of 9.6.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.77.

⁵ OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979.

⁶ Point 2.1.13.

on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

Conservation of the environment and natural resources

Protection of flora and fauna

Conservation of wildlife and natural habitats

2.1.47. The Council of Europe Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats,¹ the final text² of which was adopted by that organization's Committee of Ministers on 18 June, was signed on 19 September by the Community as such and by all its Member States.

The Convention was signed for the Community by Mr Lenihan, Irish Minister for Fisheries and President of the Council, and Mr Natali, Vice-President of the Commission responsible for the environment, at the third Council of Europe ministerial conference on the environment held in Berne and attended by the 21 Member States.

The aims of this Convention—on which the Commission had already sent a communication to the Council on 20 July—are to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats, especially those species and habitats whose conservation requires the cooperation of several Member States. It is very closely related to the Council Directive of 2 April 1979³ on the conservation of wild birds.

Agriculture

Agri-monetary impact of the adjustments of the EMS central rates

2.1.48. The measures adopted on 23 September⁴ by the Finance Ministers and Governors of the Central Banks of the countries participating fully in the European Monetary System (EMS) have had repercussions on the common agricultural policy.

These monetary measures, adopted with effect from 24 September—2% revaluation of the Deutschmark and 3% devaluation of the Danish krone—had as their consequence a change in the value of the ECU and a corresponding adjustment of the central rates of all Member States' currencies.

Since the Council Regulation of 29 March⁵ introduced the ECU into the agricultural policy, monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) have been calculated by reference to the central rates laid down under the EMS. The adjustment of these rates on 23 September would therefore have affected the calculation of MCAs. However, on the one hand the application of the one point franchise decided by the Council in March 1979—when the ECU was introduced into the common agricultural policy—in respect of revalued currencies has the effect of maintaining German MCAs at their previous level. On the other hand, to prevent the creation of new MCAs or an increase in existing ones, the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, decided on 28 September⁶ to

¹ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.67; 6-1979, point 2.1.66.

² OJ C 210 of 22.8.1979.

³ OJ L 103 of 25.4.1979; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.83; 4-1979, point 2.1.54.

⁴ Points 2.1.1 to 2.1.4.

⁵ OJ L 84 of 4.4.1979.

⁶ OJ L 246 of 29.9.1979.

devalue the representative rates of the French franc, the Italian lira, the Danish Krone, the pound sterling and the Irish pound.

The new rates are applicable in principle from 1 October 1979.¹ The decisions adopted on the matter and some of their consequences are shown in Tables 3 and 4.

The monetary compensatory amounts valid with effect from 1 October 1979 have been fixed on the basis of the following differences:²

Germany	+ 9.8
Benelux	+ 1.9

France	- 3.7
Italy	- 4.3
United Kingdom	- 8.9

Measures related to the monetary situation

2.1.49. Before the decisions were taken on changes in the EMS central rates and their agri-monetary effects, the Council, acting on

¹ OJ L 246 of 29.9.1979.

² OJ L 247 of 1.10.1979.

Table 3 — *Effects of the adjustments of central rates decided on 23 September 1979*

Member State	Central rates			Difference (%)
	Valid until 23.9.1979	From 24.9.1979		
	1 ECU = ... national currency	National currency = ... ECU	1 ECU = ... national currency	
FR of Germany (DM)	2.51064	0.402322	2.48557	+ 1.009
Belgium/Luxembourg (BFR/LFR)	39.4582	0.0250969	39.8456	- 0.972
Netherlands (HFL)	2.72077	0.363970	2.74748	- 0.972
Denmark (DKR)	7.08592	0.135760	7.36594	- 3.802
Ireland (IRL)	0.662638	1.49445	0.669141	- 0.972
France (FF)	5.79831	0.170788	5.85522	- 0.972
Italy (LIT)	1 148.15	^{100 LIT} 0.0862500	1 159.42	- 0.972
United Kingdom (UKL)	0.663247	1.53888	0.649822	+ 2.066

Table 4 — Exchange rates to be applied in the agricultural sector as from 1 October 1979

Member State	Product	Representative rates in force ¹				Devaluation of green currencies	Influence on agricultural prices	MCA differences	
		Before 1.10.1979		After 1.10.1979				Up to 1.10.1979	From 1.10.1979
		National currency = ... ECU	1 ECU = ... national currency	National currency = ... ECU	1 ECU = ... national currency				
FR of Germany (DM)	Pigmeat, wine, milk and milk products	0.355326	2.81432	0.355326	2.81432	—	—	+ 10.8	+ 10.8 ²
	Others	0.359271	2.78341	0.359271	2.78341	—	—	+ 9.8	+ 9.8 ²
Belgium/Luxembourg (BFR/LFR)	Pigmeat, milk and milk products	0.0244982	40.8193	0.0244982	40.8193	—	—	+ 3.3	+ 2.4
	Others	0.0246335	40.5951	0.0246335	40.5951	—	—	+ 2.8	+ 1.9
Netherlands (HFL)	Pigmeat, milk and milk products	0.355292	2.81459	0.355292	2.81459	—	—	+ 3.3	+ 2.4
	Others	0.357252	2.79914	0.357252	2.79914	—	—	+ 2.8	+ 1.9
Denmark (DKR)	All products	0.141125	7.08592	0.135760	7.36594	- 3.802%	+ 3.952%	0	0
Ireland (IRL)	All products	1.53177	0.652840	1.51682	0.659274	- 0.976%	+ 0.986%	0	0
France (FF)	Pigmeat	0.175052	5.71259	0.173343	5.76891	- 0.976%	+ 0.986%	0	0
	Wine	0.184265	5.42697	0.182387	5.48285	- 1.019%	+ 1.030%	- 5.3	- 5.3
	Others	0.181501	5.50961	0.179622	5.56725	- 1.035%	+ 1.046%	- 3.7	- 3.7
Italy (LIT)	Wine	100 LIT		100 LIT					
		0.0995023	1 005.00	0.0984327	1 015.92	- 1.075%	+ 1.087%	- 8.9	- 8.9
	Others	0.0953434	1 048.84	0.0942746	1 060.73	- 1.121%	+ 1.133%	- 4.3	- 4.3
United Kingdom (UKL)	All products	1.72039	0.581264	1.70148	0.587724	- 1.099%	+ 1.111%	- 6.5	- 8.9

¹ According to the dates of the beginning of the marketing year.

² After deduction of a 'franchise' of one point. This is the first time the third subparagraph of Article 2(1a) of the Council Regulation of 19 March 1971 has been applied (OJ L 106 of 12.5.1971), this rule having been introduced by Article 3 of the Council Regulation of 29 March 1979 (OJ L 84 of 4.4.1979); it was the latter Regulation that introduced the ECU into the common agricultural policy.

a proposal from the Commission, had, at its meeting on 18 and 19 September, altered the date on which the new representative rates take effect in the seeds sector for Germany and the Benelux countries.¹ The amendment was considered advisable because the application of the new representative rates decided by the Council on 12 June for Germany and the Benelux countries would have led to a reduction, in terms of national currencies, in the amount of aid for the 1979/80 marketing year, as fixed in 1978. The decision was thus taken to apply the new representative rates in the seeds sector at the beginning of the 1980/81 marketing year.

Common organization of markets

2.1.50. In the oilseeds sector the Commission on 26 September² laid down general rules for the granting of additional aid for castor seeds. This Regulation fixed the ECU/national currency conversion rates to be applied to the minimum price and to the additional aid and gave producers the opportunity to adjust the prices specified in contracts already submitted, so that they might qualify for the additional aid. On the same day the Commission adopted a Regulation² laying down detailed rules for the application of special measures for castor seeds; this supplements the existing Regulation with a provision determining the conversion rates to be applied to the minimum price and to adjust the coefficients of equivalence currently in force.

2.1.51. In the fruit and vegetables sector the Council agreed on 18 September to extend until 31 December 1983 the deadline for taking action, qualifying for aid, to convert

orange and mandarin groves, to improve marketing and processing structures for citrus fruits, and also the deadline for granting additional aid to growers who have sustained losses in income as a result of these conversion schemes. The Regulation applies to eligible measures commenced before 31 December 1983 and carried out before 31 December 1986.³

2.1.52. In the milk and milk-products sector, with a view to the adoption of additional measures to facilitate the disposal of butter surpluses on the internal market in sectors where it is possible to provide control measures, the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal for a Regulation laying down general rules on the granting of aid for the use of butter in the manufacture of fish-, crustacean- or mollusc-based prepared dishes.

A notable development in the same sector has been the substantial reduction of skimmed-milk powder stocks. On 1 September they stood at about 400 000 tonnes, whereas on that date in 1976 they had totalled 1 380 000 tonnes. Over that three-year period stocks have thus been cut by one million tonnes to a more normal level.

Some of the milk powder has been sold on the internal market for the manufacture of pig and poultry feed, thanks to a subsidy which enables milk powder to compete with soya. World exports have also picked up and Community production has been cut as more liquid milk has been used in animal feed and for the manufacture of casein.

¹ OJ L 237 of 21.9.1979.

² OJ L 244 of 27.9.1979.

³ OJ L 257 of 12.10.1979.

2.1.53. As regards the beef and veal sector on 17 September the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal for a Regulation providing for imports of a limited quantity of frozen buffalo meat from Australia.

2.1.54. The Council's discussions on the Commission proposal of 29 March 1978¹ on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat—which were continued on 18 September—will be influenced by the judgment of the Court of Justice² of 25 September in Case 232/78 in which the Court ruled that the bilateral agreement between France and Ireland for the marketing of Irish sheepmeat in France (to the exclusion of sheepmeat from the United Kingdom) is not compatible with Articles 12 and 30 of the EEC Treaty.

Conditions of competition

2.1.55. Under Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty the Commission decided not to comment on an aid measure in Germany (Hesse) to make good damage to private forests caused by snow last winter.

*

2.1.56. At the part-session from 24 to 28 September Parliament³ adopted several resolutions during several debates on matters relating to the common agricultural policy, among them: monetary compensatory amounts, the sale of butter to the USSR, the draft Regulation on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat, fires in Mediterranean regions, Community aid for the populations of Martinique, Guadeloupe and other Caribbean Islands damaged by Hurricane David and Hurricane Frederick.

Fisheries

Conservation and management of resources

Internal resources

2.1.57. In accordance with Article 169 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided on 26 September to submit to the Court the five UK measures increasing the mesh sizes authorized in the North Sea and the North Atlantic, which were the subject of a reasoned opinion on 3 August.⁴ The Commission will also refer to the Court a sixth measure, concerning fishing arrangements around the Isle of Man, in respect of which a further reasoned opinion has been addressed to the United Kingdom.

The Commission's objections to the UK measures are of two kinds:

- (i) The Commission considers that after expiry of the period laid down in Article 102 of the Act of Accession (i.e. 31 December 1978) Member States may not—in the absence of a fishery resources conservation policy, adopted by the Council—adopt national conservation measures without the prior approval of the Community;
- (ii) The Commission has numerous specific objections to the UK measures, both as regards the procedure adopted for their intro-

¹ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.53.

² Point 2.3.43.

³ Points 2.3.9 to 2.3.12 and 2.3.17; and OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.80.

duction and as regards their substance: the Commission was insufficiently informed and consulted, the legal provisions are different from those notified, measures which are not necessary for conservation purposes have been introduced, etc.

2.1.58. On 4 September the Commission approved a UK measure extending until 31 August 1980 the ban on fishing for herring from the Mourne stock. On 24 September it also approved the steps taken by the United Kingdom to prohibit direct fishing for herring in its maritime waters in the Irish Sea, including those round the Isle of Man, between 53°20' and 55° North.

2.1.59. The Scientific and Technical Committee for Fisheries, instituted on 8 June,¹ met for the first time from 14 to 28 September. It has been asked to prepare an opinion on ways and means of ensuring the conservation of the sea's biological resources and their balanced exploitation.

External aspects

2.1.60. The Commission attended as an observer the fifth annual session of the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission, together with the delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany and Denmark, which are contracting parties to the Convention. This session, which was held in Warsaw from 19 to 26 September, adopted recommendations for 1979, concerning the total allowable catch of certain fish species and some technical measures applicable to fishing in the Baltic.

2.1.61. The working group set up in connection with the fisheries agreement between the Community and Sweden, which met in Stockholm on 11 and 12 September, has mustered the technical information and statistics to be used as a basis for dividing the joint fish stocks in the Kattegat between the Community and Sweden.

2.1.62. On 17 and 18 September consultations began between the Community and Norway, with the aims of adopting the 1980 measures for managing joint stocks in the North Sea and of determining reciprocal fishing rights for 1980.

2.1.63. On 4 September the Commission laid before the Council a proposal intended to enable the Community to take part in the multilateral negotiations now in preparation for the drafting of a new Convention on whaling. The Commission aims to amplify and strengthen the arrangements for the conservation of all species of cetaceans.

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2.1.64. On 27 September Parliament² passed a Resolution on the bilateral fisheries agreement between Italy and Tunisia.

¹ OJ L 156 of 23.6.1979.

² Point 2.3.18 and OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979.

Transport

Overland transport

Functioning of the market

Prices and terms of carriage

2.1.65. On 11 September the Council adopted a Decision concerning common action by the Member States for the negotiation of a revision of the International Conventions concerning the Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Rail (CIV) and the Carriage of Goods by Rail (CIM), as proposed by the Commission on 24 July.¹

Approximation of structures

Improvement of the railways' finances

2.1.66. On 19 September 1979 the Commission presented to the Council its second biennial report on the economic and financial situation of railway undertakings.

Like the first report,² this document was drawn up in accordance with the Council Decision of 20 May 1975 on the improvement of the situation of railways undertakings and the harmonization of rules governing financial relations between such undertakings and States.³ The report outlines the current situation as regards application of the various Community rules and sets out the general measures which should be taken by the Community bodies, the States and the railway undertakings.

It shows that the situation of these undertakings does not cease to cause concern. Their market share relative to that of their competitors is still declining, expenditure continues to outstrip revenue, State compensations are growing at an alarming rate and in some countries now represent the major source of income of railway undertakings. The Commission considers that urgent action is now needed at both Community and national levels to prevent further deterioration in the railways' situation.

The Commission feels that Community railway policy should involve more information about State aid to the railway undertakings, an improvement in drawing up the railways' business plans and financial programmes and closer cooperation between Community railway undertakings.

2.1.67. A meeting between the Commission representatives and the railway experts of the group of nine Community railway undertakings on 12 September 1979 took stock of the short and medium-term cooperation programmes.

Infrastructures

Infrastructure costs

2.1.68. At its meeting of 18 September 1979 the working party on inland waterways under the Committee on Infrastructure Costs continued examining the results of the calculations of marginal costs in inland navigation.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.90.

² Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.1.114.

³ OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975.

It adopted the list of cost headings which should be included in these calculations and made a start on drawing up the methods of analysis. The working party will be asked to express its opinion on the unsolved issues in order to complete the methodology for the calculation of marginal costs which the Commission is currently drawing up.

Energy

Devising and implementing a Community energy policy

Follow-up to the Tokyo Summit and implementation of its strategy

2.1.69. The seven participants at the Tokyo Summit held a Conference in Paris on 26 September to evaluate the implementation to date of commitments undertaken at the Summit on 28 and 29 June.¹

Community participation in the Conference was prepared for at a Council meeting on energy on 20 September, which discussed thoroughly how each Member State could help to achieve the common objective with regard to oil imports for 1985, fixed by the European Council in Strasbourg at 472 million tonnes.² The Council held an exchange of views on procedures for recording crude oil imports as planned at the Tokyo Summit, and discussed the certification of purchase prices of crude.

The seven-nation Conference, at which the Commission was represented by Mr Brunner, provided an opportunity to review the position as regards the crude oil import commit-

ments for 1985 entered into at Tokyo. The United States confirmed that it would not exceed 8.5 million barrels a day, and Japan that it would keep to 6.3 million, while the Community had distributed among its members the upper limit set at the European Council in Strasbourg.

The net import figures for each Member State, subject to formal confirmation by the next Council meeting on energy, are as follows (in million tonnes): Belgium 31; Denmark 11; France 111; Ireland 8; Italy 124; Luxembourg 2; Netherlands 49; Federal Republic of Germany 141; United Kingdom – 5.

At the Paris Conference it was agreed that imports of crude oil would be recorded every month. As far as the Community was concerned, the next Council meeting devoted to energy would have to take the final decisions in accordance with this agreement, which initially covers crude oil only. The Conference also decided that a study would be made without delay of whether the monthly recording system could be accompanied by a speedier mechanism applying to a limited number of transactions only.

It was decided to set up a High-Level Committee to supervise the implementation of the Tokyo Summit objectives. Finally, it was agreed in principle to set up an International Energy Technology Group. The Group would review the measures taken or planned by its member countries for marketing promising energy technology and would report on the need for international cooperation, including financial requirements.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.2.2.

² Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.1.7.

Energy conservation and rational use of energy

2.1.70. The Commission published in the Official Journal¹ a second request for proposals in connection with demonstration projects² in the field of energy saving. The finance available amounts to 25 million EUA; the closing date is 15 January 1980.

Sectoral problems

Hydrocarbons

Support for technological development projects

2.1.71. On 25 September the Commission sent to the Council a proposal pursuant to the Regulation of 9 November 1973³ on the granting of some 25.5 million EUA for 24 technological development projects relating to hydrocarbons.

This support is designed to encourage technological development work directly related to exploration for, exploitation, storage, or transport of hydrocarbons which might improve the security of the Community's energy supply.

This is the fifth instalment of a Community scheme which dates back to 1974.³ Between 1974 and 1978 similar support, totalling 163 million EUA, was granted to 144 projects. The rate of support proposed by the Commission varies between 30 and 40% depending on the project.

2.1.72. The Commission also published in the Official Journal, in accordance with the same Regulation, an invitation to submit

applications for financial support for technological development projects.⁴

Trade in crude oil and petroleum products between certain Member States

2.1.73. As it had done previously in March and June,⁵ the Commission decided on 28 September to extend until 31 December the authorization granted to Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Italy and the Netherlands to make their intra-Community trade in crude oil and petroleum products subject to a system of automatic authorization.

Coal

Industrial loans

2.1.74. The Commission decided to grant a loan of UKL 11.7 million (approx. 18.5 million EUA) to the National Coal Board to help finance four investment projects.

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2.1.75. On 27 September Parliament adopted a resolution on the Community's coal policy.⁶

¹ OJ C 241 of 26.9.1979.

² Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.146.

³ OJ L 312 of 13.11.1973.

⁴ OJ C 242 of 27.9.1979.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.119 and 6-1979, point 2.1.114.

⁶ Point 2.3.14 and OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979.

Nuclear energy

Supply of nuclear fuel

2.1.76. According to the statement put out after the meeting of the Council (Foreign Affairs) on 18 September:

‘The Council, which had before it a Commission communication on the supply of nuclear fuel to the Community and a French memorandum on the amendment of Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty, held a policy debate on the issues raised by these two documents. The discussion enabled the delegations to outline their initial reaction to the documents in question and their basic approach to the question of the future supply of nuclear fuel to the Community.

The Council noted that for the purpose of examining the problems at issue the Commission would seek the assistance of a group of high-level independent experts and that following this it would submit a report to the Council, accompanied by any proposals it considered appropriate.’¹

Research and development, science and education

Energy research: Council decision

2.1.77. On 11 September the Council formally adopted the four-year (1 July 1979—30 June 1983) indirect-action programme of energy research and development,² to which 105 million EUA were allocated; it had recorded its agreement on this on 24 July.³

Invitations to submit proposals for four of the five subprogrammes—energy conservation, production and utilization of hydrogen, solar energy and geothermal energy—have been published in the Official Journal.⁴

Science, research and development

Scientific and Technical Research Committee

2.1.78. The Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) devoted most of its meeting on 25 September to discussion of the results of the United Nations’ Conference held in Vienna on 20 to 31 August on Science and Technology for Development,⁵ in which the Commission played an active part.

The Committee also held a preliminary discussion on the proposals which the Commission had submitted to the Council regarding technological research programmes on clay minerals and technical ceramics⁶ and textiles and clothing.⁷

Lastly, the Committee briefly discussed the preparation of a Community research programme in the social sciences and continued its examination of a Commission paper reviewing the R & D potential of the Member States, which was submitted to CREST on 24 and 25 April.⁸

¹ Point 2.3.26.

² OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.103.

⁴ OJ C 243 of 28.9.1979.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.25.

⁶ OJ C 155 of 21.6.1979 and Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.22.

⁷ OJ C 111 of 4.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.20.

⁸ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.102.

2.1.79. The CREST Subcommittee on Energy Research and Development met on 26 September. Within the context of the Commission's efforts to promote coordination between national research policies, the Subcommittee thoroughly discussed and subsequently adopted the Commission's list of energy research, development and demonstration programmes and activities undertaken by the Member States and the European Communities between 1976 and 1978.

The Committee examined two catalogues, compiled by the *ad hoc* working parties it has set up, of R & D projects on heat pumps and energy conservation in housing.

Lastly, the Subcommittee held an initial discussion on the implementation of the second four-year (1979-83) programme of energy research and development adopted by the Council on 11 September,¹ and in particular the timetable for the action planned. It also discussed work in progress in the Commission on assessing the results of the first four-year (1975-79) programme of research and development on solar energy and energy conservation, with which the Commission will proceed in line with the conclusions of the seminar it held in Copenhagen on 29 June — 1 July 1978.²

Joint Research Centre

Materials testing

2.1.80. Between January and September 1979 the utilization rate of the High Flux Reactor (HFR) at the Joint Research Centre's Petten Establishment for irradiation experiments averaged 76% of its capacity.

This is the highest figure recorded in the 16 years of operation of the reactor and confirms its position as the world's busiest materials-testing reactor.

In-service inspection of heavy section steel components

2.1.81. The integrity of heavy section steel components such as reactor vessels is regularly verified in accordance with well-established procedures and techniques. Under the auspices of the Joint Research Centre these procedures and techniques have been reviewed by the Plate Inspection Steering Committee (PISC) with the participation of 34 research laboratories from 10 different European countries. The Steering Committee has arrived at the conclusion that the standard procedure for the in-service inspection of heavy section steel components needs to be improved. The JRC's Ispra Establishment is chairing a working party of research laboratories set up to consider what action should be taken.

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2.1.82. At its session on 26 and 27 September,³ the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion on the proposal for the 1980-83 multiannual programme for the Joint Research Centre which the Commission sent to the Council on 20 March.⁴

¹ Point 2.1.77.

² Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.121.

³ Point 2.3.52.

⁴ OJ C 110 of 3.5.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.3.

Multiannual programmes

Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs)

2.1.83. The ACPM responsible for the programme on decommissioning of nuclear power plants, which the Council adopted on 27 March,¹ held its inaugural meeting on 4 September. The Committee discussed the timetable and working methods that the Commission intends to adopt for the implementation of the programme and in particular delivered a favourable opinion on the contents of invitations to submit research proposals for the programme topics 'long-term integrity of buildings and systems' and 'dismantling techniques'. The invitations will be sent to organizations on a list to be worked out with the ACPM.

2.1.84. On 5 September the ACPM responsible for the systems-analysis part of the programme on energy research and development was informed by the Commission of the results obtained by applying models of the energy sector developed under the Community research programme to the case of several Member States. The Committee stated that it was satisfied with the value of this work and was in favour of these models being implemented at Community level.

2.1.85. On 17 September the ACPM responsible for the FAST (Forecasting and Assessment in the field of Science and Technology) indirect-action programme continued the discussion it started on 23 February² of the priority problems to be studied under the programme. It unanimously recommended that the following five topics be selected: resource accessibility and utilization; future prospects for the most vulnerable and the

most promising sectors; biotechnology; relationships between technology, productivity and employment; and the acceptability of new technologies. Several members of the Committee also proposed that the development of telematic systems and services and transport problems in Europe be added to this list. The Committee also discussed exploratory research completed by the FAST team on the first list of subjects selected in February.

2.1.86. The ACPM responsible for the programmes on nuclear reactor safety devoted most of its meeting on 17 and 18 September to discussion of measures for implementing the programme of indirect action on safety in thermal water reactors which the Council adopted on 27 March.³ This was the first time that the ACPM had held a detailed discussion on this subject, for which the Council decision had given it responsibility. The ACPM delivered a favourable opinion on the contents of the invitations to submit research proposals for the three topics in the programme. The invitations will be sent to organizations on a list to be worked out with the ACPM; these organizations will be asked to attach their suggestions to the proposals.

2.1.87. The ACPM responsible for the direct- and indirect-action programme on environmental research devoted most of its meeting at Ispra on 20 and 21 September to discussion of work done by the JRC; it then visited one of ENEL's thermal power stations

¹ OJ L 83 of 3.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.128.

² Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.101.

³ OJ L 83 of 3.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.127.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Research, development, science, education

at Turbigo, Italy, where an atmospheric pollution measurement project is being conducted in collaboration with the direct- and indirect-action programme.

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2.1.88. At its session on 26 and 27 September the Economic and Social Committee¹ delivered its opinion on the Commission's proposal for a multiannual (1980-84) research programme in the field of biology and health protection (radiological protection).²

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Greece

2.2.1. The Greek Foreign Minister, Mr Rallis, and the Greek Minister responsible for relations with the Community, Mr Kontogeorgis, visited the Commission on 17 and 18 September and had talks with the President, Mr Jenkins, Mr Natali, Mr Haferkamp and Mr Ortoli, Vice-Presidents, and Mr Burke and Mr Tugendhat, Members. This was the first official visit of Greek Ministers to the Commission since the signing of the Accession Treaty in May.¹

Wide-ranging discussions were held covering such matters as commercial policy, transport in the context of Greece's accession, the European Monetary System, the appointment of Greek officials to the Commission, the exploratory talks with the EFTA countries with a view to adapting the Free Trade Agreements to take account of Greece's accession, and a number of matters relating to the functioning of the EEC-Greece Association Agreement.

2.2.2. The Commission continued its exploratory talks with the co-contracting third countries with a view to the conclusion of protocols to take account of Greece's accession. In September talks were held with Austria and Israel.

¹ Point 2.3.55.

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

¹ Bull. EC 5-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.19.

Portugal

2.2.3. On the occasion of the opening of the Commission's Information Office in Lisbon on 29 September, Mr Natali, Commission Vice-President, had talks with members of the Portuguese Government. The President of the Portuguese Republic, General Eanes, was represented at the ceremony by General Altino de Magalhaes, Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces, Dr Luis Martins, diplomatic adviser, and several members of the Government.

In the course of his visit, Mr Natali was received by President Eanes, and also had talks with Mr Gago, Minister for Coordination and Planning, and Mr Ennes, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on matters relating to the proposed adjustment of the 1972 Agreement and to the accession negotiations.

2.2.4. On 27 September, the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal¹ for a decision to grant special Community aid for small and medium-sized industrial enterprises in Portugal. The aim of the proposal is to stimulate investment in this field in Portugal, and step up vocational training for the staff of such enterprises, in order to increase competitiveness with a view to accession.

Spain

2.2.5. The second session at ministerial level of the negotiations for the accession of Spain was held in Brussels on 18 September.

The meeting was given over to a preliminary study of the customs union and the free movement of industrial goods other than ECSC products. The Community Delegation,

led by Mr O'Kennedy, President of the Council, presented a paper outlining the Community's position. The Spanish Delegation, led by Mr Calvo Sotelo, informed the Community of Spain's position.

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.6. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975² on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries, the Commission has taken the following measures to relax import restrictions:

France—Czechoslovakia: exceptional amendment of the quotas in Annex IX (d) and IX (h) to the Council Decision of 21 December 1978;³

Italy—Poland: exceptional opening of quotas for imports of motor-cars and engines for cars;

Federal Republic of Germany—Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, USSR, China, the Democratic People's

¹ OJ C 257 of 11.10.1979.

² OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

³ OJ L 60 of 12.3.1979.

Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Vietnam: prolongation of the suspension of quantitative restrictions on imports of sports and gym shoes and sandals with an inner sole less than 24 cm long; abolition of quantitative restrictions on imports of umbrellas and sunshades;

Italy—Hungary: exceptional opening of a quota for imports of aluminium alloy waste recast into ingots.

2.2.7. On 18 September¹ the Council decided to abolish the quantitative restrictions on imports into Italy of certain petroleum products originating in Romania.

Anti-dumping procedures, Community surveillance and safeguard measures

Anti-dumping procedures

2.2.8. The Commission decided to initiate anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedures concerning imports of ball-bearings and tapered roller bearings originating in Japan, Poland, Romania and the USSR.²

Treaties and trade agreements: extension or tacit renewal

2.2.9. On 18 September¹ the Council decided to authorize the extension or tacit renewal of a number of trade agreements concluded between Member States and non-member countries (third batch 1979). These are agreements with a denunciation deadline falling between 1 August and 31 October 1979.

Specific measures of commercial policy

Iron and steel products

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.10. Special consultations were held on 24 September in Madrid between Commission representatives and Spain to examine the development of Spanish exports of ECSC iron and steel products to the Community. The question of Spanish exports of products of first-stage processing and the administrative problems relating to trade in iron and steel products were also re-examined.

Anti-dumping procedures, Community surveillance and safeguard measures

Community surveillance

2.2.11. On 6 September³ the Commission adopted a recommendation to the Member States concerning Community surveillance of imports into the Community of certain iron and steel products covered by the ECSC Treaty and originating in non-member countries. This Recommendation consolidates all the amendments made to the Recommendation of 15 April 1977⁴ and makes some additions.

¹ OJ L 240 of 22.9.1979.

² OJ C 235 of 18.9.1979.

³ OJ L 231 of 13.9.1979.

⁴ OJ L 114 of 5.5.1977 and Bull. EC 4-1977, point 2.1.16.

Textiles

Implementation of agreements

2.2.12. On 18 September¹ the Council adopted a Regulation adjusting, for 1979, the national shares in respect of certain quantitative limits on imports of textile products originating in third countries.

The Community is thereby complying with certain requests submitted by its partner States in accordance with the provisions of the bilateral textile agreements.

2.2.13. Consultations took place with Thailand on 12 and 13 September, with Romania on 27 September and with Pakistan on 28 September.

Development

Generalized preferences

2.2.14. At its session of 26 and 27 September, the Economic and Social Committee² delivered its opinion on the Commission's proposals relating to the 1980 generalized tariff preferences scheme.³

Commodities and world agreements

Interim Committee on the Common Fund

2.2.15. The Interim Committee which has been set up to consider the draft Articles of the Common Fund held its first meeting in Geneva from 3 to 14 September. Good prog-

ress was made on Articles VI-XII dealing with the administrative and legal aspects of the Fund, but a detailed reading of the main operational Articles I-V brought to light a number of points on which further clarification is required. It was agreed that, to help the second meeting of the Committee make further progress, the Secretariat would prepare an outline indication of the shape to be given to the Articles as a whole, together with one or two brief new studies on technical points such as the nature and use of callable capital/guarantees and the currency arrangements to be applied.

The Community and its Member States worked constructively within the fundamental framework agreed at the Conference in March⁴ and were able to secure the maintenance in the present draft of a clause which would allow for the participation of groups of States. The question of the participation of the Community as such and indeed of a possible Community contribution to the Fund remain to be determined during the coming months by the Community institutions.

Cocoa

2.2.16. The International Cocoa Council met in London from 10 to 14 September. Following the adjournment of the United Nations Conference for the negotiation of a third international cocoa agreement,⁵ the International Council had been requested to propose new dates for the resumption of the work. The 1975 International Agreement expired on 30 September 1979.

¹ OJ L 248 of 2.10.1979.

² Point 2.3.51.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.19 and OJ C 234 of 17.9.1979.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.21.

⁵ Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.2.29.

The Council decided to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to convene the Conference from 19 to 30 November, and also decided to extend the present agreement by six months, i.e. until 31 March 1980, it being understood that a further extension could be decided on before that date.

Coffee

2.2.17. The International Coffee Council, which met in London from 24 to 28 September, decided to extend by one year the Resolution adopted at its previous session. It is laid down in this Resolution that if, during the 1979/80 coffee year, the composite indicator price moves 15% lower or higher than a reference level, the Executive Board of the International Coffee Organization shall be convened to review the market situation and determine what appropriate measures should be taken under the agreement (rules governing exports and imports).

The initial three-year period being at an end, in accordance with Article 68 of the Agreement the contracting parties, including all the Member States of the EEC and the Community as such, stated their intention to continue participating in the Agreement during the second three-year period, i.e. until 30 September 1982.

The decision on the notification of the Community's intention to continue to participate in the Agreement was taken by the Council of the European Communities¹ on 25 September.

Cotton

2.2.18. A fourth preparatory meeting on cotton was held in Geneva from 17 to 21 September, in the framework of UNCTAD

and the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

The discussions, which tended to focus on matters raised at previous meetings, particularly as regards the stabilization of the world market in cotton, did not lead to any progress. The differing views on the real extent of price fluctuations and their consequences in recent years determined the attitude of a large number of the participant countries regarding the necessity or reliability of international measures to stabilize prices.

The Community, while still prepared to carry on the discussions, had to acknowledge that the doubts already expressed at the last meeting with regard to the real instability of the world market in cotton had not been dispelled.² The examination of specific stabilization measures presupposes, however, that this instability and the need for appropriate measures had been perceived.

Agreement was reached at the meeting, however, on the advisability of examining measures to improve the competitiveness of cotton in relation to substitute man-made fibres, through research, development and market promotion schemes.

This move towards measures to improve the competitiveness of cotton was supported by most of the delegations but revealed further differences of opinion in that most of the developing countries taking part in the discussions considered that the measures should be seen as part of a more extensive arrangement embracing in particular the question of stabilization.

It was finally agreed that the existing differences of opinion would be noted and that the

¹ OJ L 248 of 2.10.1979.

² Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.2.14.

discussions would be continued at a forthcoming meeting with the aim of progressing towards an international cotton agreement.

Copper

2.2.19. The Commission participated in the UNCTAD Seventh Preparatory Meeting on Copper in Geneva from 24 to 28 September.

The meeting spent the greater part of its session in deadlock since there had been complete divergence of views at the previous discussions on copper, which had been held at expert level in July¹ to give the Preparatory Meeting guidance regarding a political decision on the detailed arrangements for a possible negotiating conference on a copper agreement.

The situation was relieved only by a last-minute personal proposal from the Chairman, Mr Sirman of Indonesia. The proposal, which had been carefully drafted so as to cover temporarily almost all the divergent points of view and which envisaged the possibility of a copper agreement that might be negotiated and could be expected to become operational in three stages spread over six years, was accepted as a major issue to be discussed in depth at the next session.

The future of copper in the UNCTAD Integrated Programme remains in delicate balance, therefore, and the Chairman's proposal will require close prior political and economic study by the Community.

Hard fibres

2.2.20. The working group on coir and abaca, which met in Geneva in February² in the framework of UNCTAD and the Integrated Programme for Commodities, had

agreed to have the existing projects examined by panels of experts. This examination had been planned in connection with the continuation of discussions on the 'other measures' which could be formulated for possible inclusion in an international arrangement covering this sector (in addition to coir and abaca, hard fibres also include sisal).

The panel on coir met in Rome from 17 to 21 September; a number of projects were examined in detail and some were adopted on the basis of criteria determined along with a list of priorities.

A similar examination was conducted for abaca by another panel, which met in Rome on 13 and 14 September; at this meeting certain projects were singled out for consideration and listed in order of priority.

2.2.21. At the annual meeting of the FAO Intergovernmental Working Group on Hard Fibres, held in Rome in April,³ it proved impossible to reach an informal agreement on abaca under which the producer countries would have undertaken to keep the price of the fibre within an agreed price band for one year.

As arranged in April, the Group met again in Rome on 11 and 12 September to continue the consultations. An informal agreement was reached on this occasion; a new indicative price was agreed at a level between 25 % and 28 % higher than the previous year's indicative price of USD 740 per tonne cif.

Tungsten

2.2.22. The second session of the Preparatory Working Group on Tungsten, which met

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.23.

² Bull. EC 2-1979, points 2.2.25 to 2.2.27.

³ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.2.25.

in Geneva from 10 to 14 September, failed to reach a consensus on a recommendation calling for a negotiating conference on this product. The main divergences of view concerned the advisability of agreeing to compulsory market intervention measures, even though they were to be introduced only progressively.

The Working Group has to report on the outcome of its work at the next meeting of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, which will inform the Secretary-General, who must then decide whether it is advisable to convene a negotiating conference.

Commercial, industrial and technical cooperation

Trade promotion

2.2.23. As part of the trade promotion schemes for products from the non-associated developing countries, the Commission provided technical and financial assistance for the construction of 27 exhibition stands at the main international trade events held in September; the ANUGA food exhibition in Cologne, the Berlin 'partners in progress' trade fair, the international leather week in Paris, the Marseilles trade fair, the Levant fair in Bari and the Algiers fair.

Food aid and emergency aid

Emergency aid

2.2.24. On 4 September the Commission decided to grant emergency aid to the countries hit by Hurricane David.¹

For the French overseas departments of Martinique and Guadeloupe the initial decisions relate to emergency aid of one million EUA. Since these are Community regions, other Community instruments will naturally be available when it comes to the investment needed to repair the damage.

The Commission has decided to grant aid of 1 million EUA to the countries which are neither overseas departments nor ACP States, i.e. non-member countries (such as the Dominican Republic) or certain British overseas territories.

2.2.25. At its September part-session Parliament² passed three resolutions on aid to the Caribbean islands hit by Hurricane David and a resolution on emergency aid to Nicaragua.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.26. At 30 September the Commission had received for the 1979 financial year 163 applications from 64 NGOs for the cofinancing of projects in the developing countries; the total amount requested was 14 296 451 EUA. A total of 7 390 388 EUA had been committed for 97 projects.

The Commission also contributed an amount of 121 307 EUA to ten operations undertaken by NGOs to inform European public opinion about development.

¹ Point 2.2.50.

² Point 2.3.17 and OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979.

International organizations

United Nations

General Assembly

Opening of the 34th ordinary session

2.2.27. The 34th ordinary session of the United Nations General Assembly opened in New York on 18 September.

The Community stand on the various matters likely to be discussed at the session was presented in a statement to the Assembly by Mr O'Kennedy, President of the Council and of political cooperation, on 26 September.¹

Meeting of the Committee of the Whole

2.2.28. The United Nations' Committee of the Whole² held its third meeting in New York from 10 to 15 September. The major part of the Committee's work consisted of an examination of the proposals of the Group of 77 for a new round of global negotiations on international economic cooperation. One of the most important aspects of these proposals, which were the result of the discussions held by the Heads of State or Government of the non-aligned countries in Havana the previous week, is the suggested reintroduction of energy questions into the North-South Dialogue. The other themes which would be treated in the global negotiations are raw materials, trade, development and financial and monetary matters.

His Excellency Mr Mestiri, Tunisian Ambassador and spokesman of the Group of 77 in New York, explained that the developing

countries would like these negotiations to follow on from the special session of the General Assembly planned for the summer of 1980. The Committee of the Whole would be directed to prepare the ground by setting the agenda and procedural issues during the first part of next year.

In response to the Group of 77 proposal, Mr Keating, the Irish Ambassador, said on behalf of the Community that the latter 'is ready to consider in a constructive spirit any proposals which may be made with a view to promoting a more effective and fruitful dialogue'. The Committee finally adopted a procedural motion inviting the General Assembly to take a decision in principle at its forthcoming 34th session on the launching of such negotiations.

In addition to its work in plenary, the Committee set up two negotiating groups, one to deal with the industrialization of developing countries, the other with the least-developed, landlocked and island developing countries and the most seriously affected countries.

Despite five days of intensive negotiations, the group on industrialization was unable to reach agreement on account of differences of opinion on such matters as the structural adjustment and redeployment of industries from the developed to the developing countries and on preparations for the Third General Conference of UNIDO.

The second group met for only one day and agreed on a resolution on island developed countries. It was not possible to produce agreed texts on other categories of countries, partly because of the limited time available.

¹ Point 3.4.1.

² Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.2.25, 5-1978, point 2.2.23, 9-1978, point 2.2.30 and 3-1979, point 2.2.39.

The Community adopted and maintained common positions throughout the meetings of the plenary session and the negotiating groups' discussions.

Preparatory Committee for the new international development strategy

2.2.29. At a further meeting, held in New York from 17 to 21 September,¹ the preparatory Committee for the new international development strategy drew up a draft preamble. This text, a product of compromise between the developed and developing countries, still contains many controversial points which cannot be resolved until the Committee starts to determine the strategy's aims and objectives and the means of achieving them.

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Africa

2.2.30. Mr Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, visited the Commission on 4 September, when he had in-depth talks with Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission with responsibility for development.

This visit took place in the context of implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1978-88), which was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on 19 December 1977. The Economic Commission for Africa, as the body responsible for coordinating the Decade, has the task of making the necessary preparatory arrangements.

During the working session at the Commission, Mr Adedeji provided details of Africa's

general strategy and the plan of action for the Decade, and of some of the individual projects included in it. He stressed the importance he attached to a significant, practical Community contribution to the implementation of the Decade.

World Food Council

Fifth session

2.2.31. The World Food Council held its fifth session in Ottawa from 3 to 7 September.²

The Community, which enjoys participant status but without voting rights, took part in all the discussions both in plenary and in working parties or contact groups comprising the heads of delegations of a very small circle of countries. There was no discussion of points of substance likely to change the governments' political stand on the various issues involved.

The Council adopted conclusions and recommendations on the following subjects:

- (i) *Framework for national and international action*—while stressing the responsibility of the developing countries for finding a solution to their food problem, the Council drew attention to the need to work out national food strategies as part of national development programmes. It also recommended that national interministerial committees be set up to supervise the preparation and implementation of such food strategies.
- (ii) *International action*—for the most part the Council contended itself with recapitulat-

¹ Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.2.32.

² Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.2.37.

ing the conclusions adopted by the Committee of the Whole when it met in March¹ to discuss food and agriculture problems. It stressed the need to step up aid for the purpose of boosting food and agricultural production and referred in this connection to the new FAO Secretariat estimates assessing investment requirements in this sector for 1990 at USD 57 000 million, USD 12 700 million of which would have to be provided in the form of foreign aid.

Attention was also drawn to the need to increase technical assistance and finance local costs and recurrent costs and to the desirability of allocating a greater share of financial aid to sectoral programmes rather than projects.

(iii) *World food security*—the Council first asked those governments that had not already agreed to separate negotiation of a World Food Convention to reconsider their position. It urged that everything possible be done to bring about the conclusion of a new convention ensuring minimum annual aid of 10 million tonnes by the mid-1980s. Greater food, financial and technical aid was also requested in support of programmes and projects to secure food stocks in the developing countries. Lastly, the Council expressed support for the FAO's five-point plan and appealed to the developed countries, particularly those that had not yet contributed, to take the measures necessary in order to achieve the target of 500 000 tonnes for the international emergency reserve.

(iv) *International trade*—the Council called for a swift end to protectionist trade practices and endorsed the recommendations made by UNCTAD V² and the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.³ Lastly, it recommended that the developing countries intensify their trade relations.

International Atomic Energy Agency

International Convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials

2.2.32. On 18 September the Council gave the Commission directives for the purpose of negotiating the international Convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials, which is in the process of preparation by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna. On the basis of a partial brief, the Commission, along with the nine Community Member States, had already attended the negotiating Conference held in Vienna in February.⁴ It now has a full brief and will therefore be able to participate in the final phase of the negotiations. The terms of this Convention will cover matters for which both the European Atomic Energy Community and the Member States have responsibility. Should the negotiations be successful, this Convention would be signed by the Commission on behalf of the EAEC and by the Member States.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Working Party on Agriculture and Trade

2.2.33. The Joint Working Party set up by the OECD Trade Committee and the Committee for Agriculture met in Paris on 17 and 18 September.

¹ Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.39.

² Bull. EC 5-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.13.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.26.

⁴ Bull. EC 2-1979, points 2.2.40.

Work at this meeting consisted primarily of the completion of an extensive study on the instability of agricultural markets and the adoption of outlines for two further studies on trade for agricultural products.

In connection with its usual examination of trade policies and practices, the Working Party also discussed the EEC's decisions on agricultural prices for the 1979/80 marketing year.¹

Council of Europe

2.2.34. The Commission attended the third Council of Europe Ministerial Conference on the Environment, held in Berne on 19 September, at which the Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats was opened for signature.²

Relations with certain countries and regions

Industrialized countries*

Countries of the European Free Trade Association

Switzerland

2.2.35. On 21 September Mr A. Weitnauer, State Secretary at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, visited the Commission for talks which covered a number of international issues of mutual interest and the development of cooperation between the Community and Switzerland.

United States

2.2.36. Mrs J. Kreps, United States Secretary of Commerce, visited the Commission on 24 September. She exchanged views with Mr Jenkins and Mr Davignon on the reorganization of the United States Administration in the commercial policy area, and the role of the Department of Commerce in the new structure, and on a number of general topics related to trade relations between the Community and the United States. Mrs Kreps said she hoped for closer cooperation between the Commission and her department.

Japan

2.2.37. The Deputy Minister for International Affairs at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Mr Amaya, visited the Commission on 28 September. In the course of his talks with Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission with responsibility for industrial affairs, the whole range of issues affecting EEC-Japanese relations was discussed.

2.2.38. Twenty-five young European managers travelled to Japan at the beginning of September on a new scholarship programme set up by the Community with the aim of increasing European firms' knowledge of the Japanese market, and hence European exports to Japan. After a year's intensive study of Japanese, the holders of these scholarships will take up six-month traineeships in Japanese firms.

The Community has also launched a trade promotion campaign which includes the opening of an information centre, seminars to

¹ Bull. EC 1-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

² Point 2.1.47.

be held throughout Europe, and sales missions to Japan.

Canada

Visit by Mr Vredeling

2.2.39. Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission with responsibility for social affairs and employment, paid a visit to Canada from 3 to 7 September.

He met the Canadian Minister of State for Economic Development, Mr de Cotret, the Minister of Labour, Mr Alexander, and the Minister of Employment and Immigration, Mr Atkey. Talks centred on problems relating to youth employment, job creation, work sharing and positive labour adjustment.

Mr Vredeling also investigated the possibilities of an exchange of technical and scientific data on occupational health and safety between Canada and the Community.

Visit of the Premier of Ontario to the Commission

2.2.40. On 17 and 18 September Ontario's Premier, Mr Davis, accompanied by Mr Grossman, Minister of Industry and Tourism, visited the Commission where he met Mr Jenkins, Mr Davignon and Mr Brunner. The discussions covered certain aspects of investment and trade between Ontario and the Community, specific sector problems in Canada and the Community, and the energy situation.

Australia

2.2.41. On 18 September, the Council gave the Commission the negotiating directives for

an agreement concerning imports of Australian uranium into the Community. The aim of the agreement will be to provide Australia with assurances that nuclear materials supplied to the Community, or products based on such materials, will not be used in the Community for the manufacture of nuclear weapons or explosive devices. Australian supplies of uranium to the Community will be subject to the conclusion of such an agreement. Australia has about 20% of the West's known reserves of cheap uranium.

Mediterranean countries

Turkey

Visit by Mr O'Kennedy and Mr Haferkamp

2.2.42. At the invitation of the Turkish Government, Mr O'Kennedy, President of the Council, and Mr Haferkamp, Commission Vice-President, visited Turkey from 19 to 21 September.

The Community viewed the visit as an opportunity to clarify the offer it had made on 8 May¹ in response to the requests submitted by Turkey in May and October 1978.²

Talks were held on 20 and 21 September between a Turkish delegation led by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Okcun, and the Community delegation led by Mr O'Kennedy. Mr O'Kennedy and Mr Haferkamp

¹ Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.2.56.

² Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.2.52, and 10-1978, point 2.2.46.

were also received by the Prime Minister, Mr Ecevit, and the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Cetin. In the course of the talks Mr Okcun reiterated the importance attached by Turkey to relations with the EEC and to reactivation and development of the Association, and stressed the political dimension of the relationship. Recalling that the spirit and letter of the Ankara Agreement committed the Community to strengthening economic and trade relations so as to contribute to Turkey's development, and noting that the Turkish proposals of October 1978 were in accordance with these aims, Mr Okcun emphasized the need for a positive response to the proposals as this would place EEC-Turkey relations on a firm and balanced footing. He also stressed that the proposals presented by the Community in February¹ in response to the Turkish requests failed both in their approach and methods to satisfy Turkish wishes.

He said that attempts to restrict textile imports were contrary to the agreements, and, pointing to the Community's obligations in the social sphere, called on the EEC to fulfil its undertakings and help create jobs in Turkey. With regard to agriculture, he said that the Community was bound by the terms of the Association to grant Turkish products better terms of access to Community markets than those accorded to other non-member countries; on the financial side, Turkey expected the Community's contribution to go a substantial way towards meeting Turkey's needs.

Mr O'Kennedy and Mr Haferkamp clarified a number of points, and Mr Haferkamp gave the Turkish authorities an account of the Commission's views on cooperation, proposing that the technical contacts needed to implement cooperation be established, and stressing the size of the Community's offer,

which for the first time set aside large sums of money (75 million EUA over two years) for operations of this type.

Israel

2.2.43. The Cooperation Committee set up under the EEC-Israel Agreement met in Brussels on 26 September with Mr Minerbi, Head of Israel's Mission to the European Communities, in the chair. The Committee discussed a number of issues, including the application of the agreement in the field of trade, the implementation of industrial, agricultural, scientific and financial cooperation, and the enlargement of the Community.

2.2.44. On the same day the Commission had a further round of negotiations with an Israeli delegation concerning the implementation of Article 22 of the EEC-Israel Agreement, which provides that both parties may improve the Agreement by common consent in the light of the experience gained in the course of application.

Developing countries

ACP States and OCT

Renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention

2.2.45. On 15 September² the ACP States agreed to the text of a new ACP-EEC Convention subject to clarification of a few last points by the ACP and EEC Presidents.

¹ Bull. EC 2-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

² Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.15.

They decided that the new Convention would be signed in Lomé, Togo, on 31 October. As the negotiations reached completion, the Community put in hand its own procedures for the preparation of the acts relating to the Convention; the international agreement and financial agreement between the Member States, the Council decision on the association of the OCT, and various implementing regulations.

Lomé Convention

Visit to the Commission

2.2.46. The President of Sierra Leone, Mr Siaka Stevens, visited the Commission on 13 September for talks with Mr Jenkins, Mr Cheysson and Mr Gundelach. The talks centred on Community aid to Sierra Leone.

2.2.47. The Central African Republic's Minister of planning, statistics and international cooperation, Mr Lebouder, and Guinea-Bissau's State Commissioner for economic coordination and planning, Mr Cabral, visited the Commission to discuss, among other topics, the state of progress of the EEC's aid projects and programmes in their respective countries.

Trade cooperation

2.2.48. Dr Aboubakar Diaby Ouattara, Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), visited the Commission to discuss the arrangements for implementation of the EEC-sponsored study on harmonization of customs nomenclatures in the 16 Member States of ECOWAS. The final coordination meeting

is to be held in Cotonou in early October, following which it is expected that the harmonized nomenclature will be established throughout the ECOWAS region as from 1 January 1980. The adoption of a harmonized nomenclature on this scale is believed to be without precedent anywhere in the world.

2.2.49. Numerous ACP States took part in seven international trade fairs held in September, with the aim of sounding out the markets and enabling visitors to their stands to become better acquainted with their products. The Commission departments responsible for the promotion of trade in developing-country products supported ACP State appearances at the ANUGA food fair in Cologne, the 'partners in progress' fair in Berlin, the international leather goods week in Paris, the Marseilles international fair, the Levant fair in Bari, and the Algiers and Nairobi international fairs.

European Development Fund

Emergency aid

2.2.50. On 4 September the Commission decided to grant 300 000 EUA of emergency aid to Dominica, following the damage caused by Hurricane David, for the supply of essentials (food and medicines).

Latin America

EEC-Latin America Dialogue

2.2.51. On 26 September an informal meeting was held between Commission staff and the heads of the Latin-American countries'

missions in Brussels to examine the state of relations between Latin America and the EEC and the future prospects.

The talks started with an exchange of views on the Community's image in Latin America. They continued with more specific discussions on problems in connection with agriculture (meat, sugar, bananas), industry (in particular the voluntary restraint agreements in the textile sector) and the various forms of cooperation (energy cooperation, industrial and scientific cooperation, and trade promotion).

The two delegations attempted to identify possible areas of activity, and undertook to continue their examination of the various points raised. In particular, the holding of 'sectoral' meetings in well-defined fields was suggested.

Brazil

2.2.52. On 26 September, the Commission decided to ask the Council for authorization to open negotiations for a framework trade and economic cooperation agreement between the Community and Brazil.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.53. On 18 September¹ the President of the Council and the President of the Commission received Their Excellencies Mr Omar Salah Ahmed (Somali Democratic Republic) and Mrs Rosario G. Manalo (Republic of the Philippines), who presented their letters of credence as their countries' representative

and head of mission respectively to the European Economic Community (EEC).

On the same day¹ the Presidents received His Excellency Mr Abdallah Ould Daddah (Islamic Republic of Mauritania) for the presentation of his letters of credence as head of his country's mission to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC).

The new ambassadors succeed Mr Mohamed Omar Giama (Somalia), Mr Carlos A. Faustino (Philippines) and Mr Ahmedou Ould Abdallah (Mauritania), who have been appointed to other duties.

Political cooperation

Ministerial meeting

2.2.54. The Foreign Ministers of the Nine met in Dublin on 11 September to discuss political cooperation. The meeting was chaired by Mr Michael O'Kennedy, Foreign Minister of Ireland and currently presiding over the Council and European political cooperation; the Commission was represented by Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President.

At the close of their discussions the Ministers adopted and made public two statements, one on Lebanon, the other on Rhodesia. At a press conference Mr O'Kennedy also commented on two other subjects discussed at the ministerial meeting, namely the situation in Kampuchea and the Euro-Arab Dialogue.

¹ OJ C 252 of 6.10.1979.

Lebanon

2.2.55. The Ministers adopted the following statement:

'On repeated occasions in the past few years, in particular in their statement of 18 June,' the Nine have expressed deep concern over the continuous deterioration of the situation in Lebanon. Aware as they are of the courageous efforts being made by the Government of President Sarkis to promote the security of its people and restore its authority over the whole of its territory, they have constantly reiterated their support for Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. They have therefore given their backing to the operations of Unifil¹—which includes contingents from certain Community Member States. The Nine calls on all parties to do their utmost to assist Unifil in its task and to respect the Security Council's decisions.

In the light of recent developments which caused the Lebanese Government to request a meeting of the Security Council, the Nine wish to confirm their full and unqualified solidarity with a fellow country whose people are exposed to such intense physical and material suffering, thus seriously endangering its precarious balance.

Taking note of the improvement in the situation since the last Security Council debate, the Nine hope that a decisive end will be put to all acts of violence in Lebanon, including the harassment of Unifil.

The Nine formally address an urgent appeal to every single country and party concerned to refrain from any action that might jeopardize Lebanese territorial integrity or the authority of the Lebanese Government. They also call on all Lebanese, regardless of their religion or political sympathies, to give full support to the efforts of their Government to achieve a true political dialogue, which is a prerequisite for the restoration of internal peace and security.

The Nine are willing to back, for instance the United Nations, any action or move that might help to restore peace and stability in Lebanon, which is still a key factor in maintaining balance in the region.³

Rhodesia

2.2.56. On Rhodesia, the Ministers adopted the statement set out below:

'The Foreign Ministers of the Nine welcome the understanding reached by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Lusaka on the question of Rhodesia. This includes notably the principles that independence on the basis of majority rule requires the adoption of a democratic constitution including appropriate safeguards for minorities; and a Government formed under such an independence constitution must be chosen through free and fair elections properly supervised under British Government authority and with Commonwealth observers.

Noting that the Lusaka statement acknowledged that it is the constitutional responsibility of the British Government to grant legal independence to Rhodesia on the basis of majority rule, they welcome the action the United Kingdom Government has taken in circulating constitutional proposals within the Lusaka framework, and in inviting the parties to attend a constitutional conference which opened at Lancaster House on 10 September.

They are encouraged by the agreement of all parties to attend the conference and urge them to seize this opportunity to achieve a political solution on the basis of genuine majority rule.'

Kampuchea

2.2.57. At the press conference he gave at the close of the ministerial meeting, Mr O'Kennedy stated in connection with the situation in Kampuchea:

'The Ministers discussed the situation in Kampuchea and the question of relief assistance for that country.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.2.59.

² United Nations intervention force in Lebanon.

³ Non-official translation.

It is a matter of utmost urgency that humanitarian relief be given to Kampuchea. The Nine are willing to support in appropriate ways relief efforts already under way, or which may be launched in the future, to bring effective help to the people of Kampuchea. They believe that the distribution of aid should be subject to effective on-the-spot supervision, independent of the parties involved in the conflict, and should be available to all the people of Kampuchea.

The Nine believe that the problems of Kampuchea can only be resolved in the context of the wider political situation in the Indo-China peninsula. A solution should be based on an independent Kampuchea with a genuinely representative Government, free from any foreign military presence, maintaining friendly relations with all the countries of the region, and having the benefit of international assistance for reconstruction.

The Nine also believe that a resolution of the problem of Kampuchea is essential to the peace and stability of South-East Asia as a whole, and express their hope that such a solution can be found quickly.¹

Euro-Arab Dialogue

2.2.58. Again at the press conference, Mr O'Kennedy had the following to say on the Ministers' discussion of political cooperation:

'The Nine consider the Euro-Arab Dialogue, which has been under way since 1974, to be of the greatest importance, based as it is on the affinities and common interests between the two regional groups.

In the view of the Nine the unity and cohesion of the Arab world is desirable just as the increasing unity between the countries of the Community as exhibited in the work of the Dialogue can be helpful from the Arab viewpoint.

The Nine have always felt that the Dialogue should help to improve the internal solidarity of the two regions as well as increasing cooperation between them. For this reason, they think it important that the Dialogue should be developed with the group of the Arab countries as a whole.

The Nine consider too that while particular projects may be of greater interest to individual countries, the work of the Dialogue should, in principle, be applicable to all of the countries on each side and that accordingly the activities of the Dialogue should be brought to the attention of all.

The Nine also believe that while each side should be sympathetic to any problems of an internal character which may arise for the other, neither of the two sides to the Dialogue could intervene actively in such issues without prejudice to the further development of the Dialogue and what it has achieved to date.

The Nine Ministers in their discussions today were agreed in confirming these principles which have always guided them in their approach to the Dialogue. Their discussions confirmed their strong support for the Dialogue and their wish to develop it further when this proves possible. They hope strongly that conditions will soon exist which could allow the Dialogue to be resumed on the basis which I have outlined, which is that on which it has developed to date.'

Statements on European political cooperation made by Mr O'Kennedy to the United Nations General Assembly

2.2.59. Mr O'Kennedy, Foreign Minister of Ireland, addressed the United Nations General Assembly on 26 September in his capacity as President of the Council and of European political cooperation.¹

A substantial part of his statement dealt with matters relating to political cooperation.

*

¹ Point 3.4.1.

3. Institutional and political matters

Political cooperation

2.2.60. On 27 and 28 September the European Parliament¹ adopted a number of resolutions concerning political cooperation—the situation in Kampuchea, condemnation of repression in Argentina, the situation in Afghanistan, new criminal legislation in the German Democratic Republic, emergency aid to Nicaragua and a common system of extradition in the fight against international crime and terrorism.

Institutional developments — European policy

Functioning of the Commission: report of the Independent Review Body

2.3.1. On 24 September the Commission was presented with the report it had requested from the five-man Independent Review Body chaired by Mr Spierenburg. The report, entitled 'Proposals for reform of the Commission of the European Communities and its services',¹ has also been sent to Parliament and the Council.

Reference paper on budgetary questions

2.3.2. On 7 September the Commission adopted a 'Reference paper on budgetary questions' for transmission to the Council, which gave it a first reading on 13 September.² This paper was requested by the Strasbourg European Council in June when it was discussing the convergence of Member States' economic performances.³

The paper considers the economic, financial and social effects of each Member State's participation in the Community and the Community nature of the components that make up the Community's own resources. At the same time, as requested by the European Council in June, it examines how the corrective mechanism decided on at the first Dublin meeting of the European Council in March 1975⁴ can play its part in 1980 and the extent to which it fulfils the objectives assigned to it.

¹ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.15.

² Point 2.1.8.

³ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.1.14.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1975, points 1103 and 1502.

¹ Points 2.3.15 and 2.3.16; OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979.

This corrective mechanism, which was agreed on by the Heads of Government on the basis of a communication entitled 'The unacceptable situation and the correcting mechanism' adopted by the Commission in January 1975,¹ would come into operation should the proportion of the Community budget financed by certain Member States appear inappropriate in view of their economic situation; the scheme provides for refunds from the Community budget to the Member States concerned.

The Commission's study has been submitted to the Council so that the Member States can give their opinions and present their requests in concrete form. In the light of any guidelines which may emerge from the Council the Commission will present proposals in time for decisions to be taken at the European Council in Dublin on 29 and 30 November.

Informal meetings of Ministers of the Member States

2.3.3. Two informal meetings of Ministers of Community Member States were held in September.

The Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs of the Nine met in Dublin on 20 and 21 September under the chairmanship of the Irish Minister, Mr Gene Fitzgerald; the Commission was represented by Mr Vredeling, Vice-President with special responsibility for employment and social affairs. Main topics discussed included the current situation and future prospects on the labour market, preparations for the European Regional Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva in October and relations with the two sides of industry.

Mr Vredeling had prepared a paper for the meeting outlining developments on the labour market and the measures taken or planned by the Community on the reorganization of working time. Given a situation of rising unemployment, largely due to an increase in the supply of labour (young persons seeking employment for the first time, and women), Mr Vredeling considered that the reorganization of working time was the only way of tackling the problem in the present economic climate. Proposals would shortly be presented to the Council outlining the various options. On the question of relations with the two sides of industry, attention should be directed mainly towards improving the operation of the Tripartite Conferences. The Ministers' discussion on the forthcoming European Regional Conference of the ILO was concerned largely with coordinating the positions of the Nine.

2.3.4. The Agriculture Ministers of the Member States also held an informal meeting in Dublin, on 26 September, attended by Mr Gundelach, Vice-President of the Commission. The Ministers concentrated on examining the agri-monetary implications of the alterations to central rates in the European Monetary System made on 23 September.² Mr Gundelach outlined the Commission's position, as agreed the previous day in Strasbourg.³ An informal agreement emerged on measures relating to monetary compensatory amounts and green rates; this was confirmed shortly afterwards in a formal Council decision adopted by written procedure.⁴

¹ Bull. EC 1-1975, points 2503 to 2510.

² Points 2.1.1 to 2.1.4.

³ Point 2.3.26.

⁴ Point 2.1.48.

Rules of procedure in the institutions

2.3.5. Two Community institutions amended their Rules of Procedure in September. Parliament decided to elect five Quaestors to fulfil an entirely new function.¹ On 12 September² the Court of Justice adopted several amendments to its Rules, following unanimous approval by the Council on 26 July.³

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament

Part-session in Strasbourg from 24 to 28 September

2.3.6. The September sittings at the European Parliament,⁴ the first after the summer recess, were devoted mainly to oral questions and procedural debates: as a result the tenor of the debates was much more political than technical, with some speakers even contesting Parliament's competence to debate questions involving armaments, terrorism or the political situation in non-member countries.

Four major topics—budgetary matters,⁵ coordination in respect of arms,⁶ agricultural affairs⁷ and energy policy⁸—dominated the sittings and were the subject of searching political debate, with the participation of Members of the Commission. Wide-ranging debates were also held on terrorism and the respect of human rights and freedoms,⁹ and aid to disaster-stricken countries and regions.¹⁰

After passing two resolutions on amendments to its Rules of Procedure,¹¹ the House elected five Quaestors by secret ballot: Miss Flesch, Mr Ryan, Mr Simpson, Mr Fellermaier and Mr Lalor. The Quaestors may attend meetings of the Bureau with the right to speak. This solves the problems caused by the fact that there are no Luxembourg or Irish members in the Bureau. The Quaestors have already been assigned various tasks by the President.

Budget debate (27 September)

2.3.7. The debate on the 1980 budget was certainly the most extensive of the September sittings. About a hundred members took the

¹ Point 2.3.6.

² Point 2.3.28 and OJ L 238 of 21.9.1979.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.1.

⁴ This report was prepared from 'Le point de la session' published by Parliament's Secretariat.

The complete texts of the Resolutions passed by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 266 of 22.10.1979, and the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 245.

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.

⁵ Point 2.3.7.

⁶ Point 2.3.8.

⁷ Points 2.3.9 to 2.3.12.

⁸ Points 2.3.13 and 2.3.14.

⁹ Points 2.3.15 and 2.3.16.

¹⁰ Point 2.3.17.

¹¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.11.

floor. The Council President, Mr MacSharry, found himself with the arduous task of demonstrating to a sceptical, not to say hostile, House that the Council's decisions were based on strict budgetary discipline and justified by the inadequate use made of certain appropriations in the past.

Mr Tugendhat, Member of the Commission, rebutted the Council's strategy, saying that it was not logical with itself. He reminded the House that the Commission's preliminary draft was based on the guidelines laid down by Parliament and on those from the European Council. He also expressed his concern over the prospect of exhausting own resources.

The general rapporteur on the budget, Mr Dankert (*Soc/NL*), sharply criticized the cuts made by the Council particularly where new actions and non-compulsory expenditure were concerned. He feared that the costs of agriculture would erode the budgetary powers which Parliament had taken such pains to acquire. Mr Dankert complained that the Commission was being too indulgent with the Council. Like the other speakers he was worried about the predominance of agricultural expenditure. In conclusion, he pointed out that the directly-elected Parliament would lose its credibility with the electorate if it failed to defend their interests. He told the House that Parliament would not approve the budget unless substantial amendments were made.

In the ensuing debate the spokesmen of the political groups highlighted a number of gaps in the draft of the 1980 budget. On many counts their analysis scarcely differed from those of Mr Tugendhat and Mr Dankert. In the first place the budget did not reflect the priorities set by Parliament and the Council.

The social, industrial, regional and energy policies had been neglected, whereas so much emphasis had been laid on them during the electoral campaign to motivate public opinion. Moreover, the proportional decrease in non-agricultural expenditure was dangerously blunting Parliament's budgetary powers.

Mr O'Leary (*Soc/IRL*) said that his group would oppose the draft, while Mr Notenboom (*EPP/NL*) attacked not the total budgetary figure, but the way in which it was allocated. He hoped that the Commission would still make proposals this year concerning own resources, i.e. revenue. The danger of exhausting own resources also aroused widespread misgivings. Mr Rossi (*Lib/F*), Mr Ansquer (*EPD/F*) and Mr Delors (*Soc/F*), in particular, called for an increase in own resources.

The discussion at all events showed that this year the budget debate will be very different from that of previous years in that members now know they are nations' representatives; this was quite clear from every speech and will certainly count at the forthcoming meetings with the Council and Commission.

Cooperation in respect of armaments (25 September)

2.3.8. At the first sitting on the Monday, when the agenda was being confirmed, Parliament debated a request to strike off the oral question by Mr Fergusson (*ED/UK*) and Mr von Hassel (*EPP/D*) on Community armaments procurement programmes. Mr Debré (*EPD/F*) rose to condemn what he called an abuse of Parliament's powers. Mr Ansart

(*Com/F*) and Mr Jacquet (*Soc/F*) denied the House any competence to discuss this issue. After a vote by roll-call requested by Mr Ansart, it was decided by 208 votes against 87 to keep the oral question on the agenda.

The actual debate thus focused on two points: the substance of the question, namely the supply of arms and the competence of Parliament.

Mr Marchais (*Com/F*) and Mr Messmer (*EPD/F*) were more interested in the second part. Mr Marchais objected to Parliament dealing with the matter of defence, which was exclusively the province of national sovereignty. Mr Messmer held that Parliament and the Community would have much to lose by getting involved in the arms issue and described the question as contestable in law, pointless in fact and politically dangerous. In contrast, Mr Jackson (*ED/UK*) passionately championed Parliament's right to take up the issue of defence.

The spokesman for the Socialist Group, Mr Glinne questioned the wisdom of such a debate at the present time, when the economic and social situation demanded other priorities.

Nevertheless, the majority of members supported the argument enthusiastically expounded by Mr Pflimlin (*EPP/F*) that the future of European industry and the independence and security of the peoples of Europe necessitated, for armaments as well, greater efforts towards coordination within the Community.

Speaking for the Commission, Mr Davignon pointed out that it was not a matter of solving the problem of unemployment by launching military programmes, but of ensuring that industry developed more effectively.

Common agricultural policy

(25 September)

2.3.9. There were two major debates on agriculture: one on monetary compensatory amounts and the other on butter exports to the Soviet Union.

Monetary compensatory amounts

2.3.10. The oral question put by Mr Buchou (*EPD/F*) on behalf of his group concerning the phasing out of MCAs generated a lively tussle between the French members of all political leanings, who wanted them abolished without delay, and the representatives of the Federal Republic and the United Kingdom.

Mr Früh (*EPP/D*) felt that the EMS must provide a solution to the problem of the MCAs, even though an immediate solution for positive MCAs was not feasible and a suitable system for fixing prices had to be provisionally applied. Many British members took the floor. Mr Seal (*Soc/UK*), for example, considered that dismantling the MCAs would raise consumer prices in the United Kingdom by an unacceptable percentage.

Other members viewed the problem against the background of monetary policy. Mrs Barbarella (*Com/I*), for example, contended that the only way to find a solution was to ensure monetary stability and convergence of Member States' economies; this would, of course, mean that regional problems would have to be tackled seriously.

After deploring the effects of the MCAs on trade and prices, Commission Vice-President Mr Gundelach drew the conclusion from the debate that the House supported the Commission's plan, which was gradually to phase

out the MCAs, even though views differed about how fast this should be done. But no adequate basis as yet existed for doing away with MCAs altogether; the stabilization of exchange rates and a dynamic regional policy would probably enable them to be phased out if care was taken not to provoke any unacceptable falls in prices for the producers.

Reminding the House that the Commission was determined to do its utmost to dismantle the MCAs, Mr Gundelach stressed the difficulties which this policy was encountering within the Council.

Sales of butter to the USSR

2.3.11. The statements by members of the European Democratic Group all spotlighted the fact that the British consumer could not understand how the Community could subsidize butter exports to the Soviet Union, while butter was getting dearer and dearer on the British market. Mrs Castle (*Soc/UK*), for her part, declared that the very existence of these butter surpluses was a scandal.

The French speakers joined forces against the British view, especially that of the Conservatives. It was better to dispose of surpluses than store them since, as Mrs Cresson (*Soc/F*) pointed out, export, even subsidized, cost less than storage. Mr Debatisse (*EPP/F*) was astonished that the British were shocked over the sales of butter to Russia when the Community was being asked to buy cheap butter for the benefit of the United Kingdom.

Mr Gundelach explained the need for a dairy policy which would stop the surpluses, failing which any such policy would no longer carry any weight. Reminding the House that the Commission had proposed solutions and that the Council had not yet taken a decision concerning the co-responsibility levy, he pointed

out Parliament was duty bound to urge on the Council a policy which would halt the growth of milk production, while stimulating consumption; at the same time the emphasis should be placed on disposing of dairy produce on the Community market.

Sheepmeat

2.3.12. On 27 September Parliament passed a resolution on the draft of a Community Regulation concerning sheepmeat, in which it held that a common organization of the market in sheepmeat should be based on the fundamental principles of the common agricultural policy and include guaranteed prices with an intervention system and respect for Community preference through the introduction of levies to be added to bound customs duties.

Energy policy

(26 September)

2.3.13. Three oral questions—two of which, tabled by Mr Seligman (*ED/UK*) and Mr Gallagher (*Soc/UK*), concerned coal policy and the third, from Mr Radoux (*Soc/B*), production of synthetic fuel—prompted a marathon debate on energy policy.

Nearly all the speakers called for immediate implementation of an effective energy policy. The one exception was the Communist spokesman, Mr Damette (*Com/F*), who saw it as a means of helping Germany at the expense of France.

The Council was taken to task for failing to act; but some members, like Mrs Lizin (*Soc/B*), also blamed the Commission for not giving any firm leads on a common energy policy.

Speaking for the Commission, Mr Davignon spoke of the conflicting interests of the Member States, which, despite many proposals from the Commission, had prevented the Council from making headway and had even caused it to delete appropriations intended for specific projects in the energy field.

2.3.14. At the end of the debate on coal policy, the House passed a resolution tabled by the Socialist, EPP, ED, Liberal and EPD Groups, condemning the 'complete failure' of the Council, urging the Council to adopt the Commission's proposal at its next meeting so that budget appropriations could be spent during 1980, requesting it to earmark appropriations for research into alternative energy sources and urging the harmonization of nuclear safety standards.

Terrorism and a common system of extradition

(26 September)

2.3.15. The oral question by Lady Elles (*ED/UK*) on a common system of extradition as part of the campaign against international crime and terrorism led to a full-scale debate with twenty-three speakers taking the floor.

Like the debate on armaments this one was preceded by a motion to the effect that Parliament had no competence in the matter. The motion was rejected by a large majority.

The two essential issues of the debate were the efficacy and expediency of a broader concept of extradition as practiced—the expediency was not unanimously endorsed, with Mr Ryan (*EPP/IRL*), Mr Gendebien (*NA/B*) and Mr Vanminnen (*Soc/NL*) leading the dissent—and the need to seek political means of combating terrorism, since the use of repressive measures alone might well

injure democratic freedoms. This point was emphasized by Mr Vanminnen, Mr Panella (*Ind/I*) and Mr Chambeiron (*Com/F*).

A resolution moved at the end of the debate by Mr Scott-Hopkins (*UK*) for the European Democratic Group and by Mr Bangemann (*D*) for the Liberal Group, was adopted. It called on all Member Governments to intensify cooperation between their security services and police forces to bring to justice at the earliest possible moment those responsible for violence and death. It urged the Governments of Member States to move towards a common system of extradition in the fight against international crime and terrorism.

Human rights and respect of freedom

(28 September)

2.3.16. The debates on the resolutions concerning the situation in the German Democratic Republic (GDR), Kampuchea, Argentina and Afghanistan revealed much common ground between the political groups. The most striking feature was the call by several members to the Foreign Ministers to take action under political cooperation. This was directed, in particular, towards the new criminal law provisions enacted in the GDR (cited by the EPP, Socialist and ED Groups) and the situation in Kampuchea (highlighted by the Liberal Group).

The call to break off diplomatic relations with Argentina and Afghanistan was resisted by the European Democratic Group, which felt that it was better to take pragmatic action and not run the risk of devaluing Parliament's initiative. A sharp reproof was delivered to the Member States by Mr Penders (*EPP/NL*) who deplored the lack of a common stance at the United Nations General

Assembly on the matter of Kampuchea's representation.

Pointing out that some things, such as the criminal law provisions in the GDR, were a matter for political cooperation, Mr Cheysson said that the Commission fully shared the indignation and alarm of the House. Explaining the difficulties of consigning Community emergency aid to Kampuchea, he deplored the lack of collaboration on the part of the Kampuchean authorities.

At the end of the debates Parliament adopted four resolutions on: the new criminal law provisions enacted in the GDR, the situation in Kampuchea, the repression in Argentina and the situation in Afghanistan.

Aid for regions devastated by natural disasters (28 September)

2.3.17. Parliament considered a number of resolutions on aid for regions devastated by natural disasters or in the train of political events. Three resolutions were adopted concerning aid for the regions in the Caribbean hit by hurricanes David and Frederick. Resolutions were also passed on aid for the earthquake victims in Italy and for the victims of the fires in the Mediterranean area and on emergency aid to Nicaragua. Mr Haferkamp and Mr Cheysson gave details of what the Commission was doing to help the stricken populations.

Reassuring Mr Estier (*Soc/F*) and Mr Sable (*Lib/F*) concerning the Caribbean, Mr Cheysson told the House that the Commission would go further than immediate aid by making use of all the available Community instruments.

2.3.18. On 27 September Parliament passed a resolution on the bilateral fishing agreement between Italy and Tunisia. The House urged the Commission and Council to define the terms of the fishing agreement with Tunisia, to enable the Sicilian fishing fleet to operate in Tunisian waters.

2.3.19. By the procedure without report Parliament approved the proposal for a Regulation, which the Commission sent to the Council on 22 May 1979¹ relating to exceptional aid for the Republic of Malta. It also approved a number of proposals concerning the common agricultural policy, in particular on wine, dried fodder and potatoes.

Council

2.3.20. The Council held five meetings in September, dealing with budgetary matters, economic and financial questions, agriculture, foreign affairs and energy.

590th meeting—Budget (Brussels, 11 September)

2.3.21. *President:* Mr MacSharry, Minister of State, Department of the Public Service of Ireland.

Commission: Mr Tugendhat, Member.

Draft general budget for 1980: The Council established the draft general budget for 1980,² which would be forwarded to Parliament as soon as possible.

¹ OJ C 143 of 8.6.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.2.59.

² Point 2.3.78.

Development of data processing: The Council adopted a four-year programme for the development of data processing.¹

Energy research and development: The Council adopted a four-year indirect-action programme on energy research and development.²

593rd meeting—Economic and financial questions

(Brussels, 17 September)

2.3.22. *President:* Mr Colley, Irish Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance.

Commission: Mr Ortolí, Vice-President; Mr Tugendhat, Member.

Preparations for meeting of the IMF: The Council made preparations for the meeting and approved the statement to be made by its President on behalf of the Community.³

Economic situation: The Council held a brief discussion on recent developments in the economic situation in the Community.³

594th meeting—Agriculture

(Brussels, 18 September)

2.3.23. *President:* Mr Gibbons, Irish Minister of Agriculture.

Commission: Mr Gundelach, Vice-President.

Sheepmeat: The Council held a detailed discussion on the organization of the market in sheepmeat, which enabled all the delegations to air their concerns in this area and allowed the Council to ascertain the main problems arising in connection with internal arrangements, external trade and financing.⁴

Citrus fruit: The Council decided to extend until 31 December 1983 the deadline fixed

for granting aid for the conversion of citrus plantations and the improvement of marketing and processing structures for citrus fruits.⁵

Wine: The Council instructed the heads of government offices responsible for wine production and marketing in the Member States concerned to work with the Presidency and the Commission on solutions to the fundamental problems still outstanding.

Statements: The Council took note of statements, some of which received replies from the Commission and various delegations, on the action to be taken by the Community regarding the protection of animals and battery farming methods, on the guidelines to be followed regarding export refunds for milk products, on energy costs in agriculture and on intervention stocks of beef and veal.

595th meeting—Foreign affairs

(Brussels, 18 September)

2.3.24. *President:* Mr O'Kennedy, Irish Foreign Minister.

Commission: Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Haferkamp and Mr Natali, Vice-Presidents; Mr Cheysson, Mr Brunner, Mr Vouel and Mr Davignon, Members.

Aid for the iron and steel industry: The Council took note of the reports from Mr Vouel and Mr Davignon on their discussions with certain Member States in an effort to

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.19 and 9-1979, point 2.1.21.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.103 and 9-1979, point 2.1.77.

³ Point 2.1.7.

⁴ Point 2.1.54.

⁵ Point 2.1.51.

resolve the remaining problems standing in the way of Community rules for aid to the iron and steel industry. It welcomed the decisive progress made and noted that once the internal procedures in certain Member States had been completed, there was no major reason why the Council should not give the assent requested by the Commission to the draft decision establishing Community rules at a forthcoming meeting.

Portugal: The Council requested the Commission to examine the current situation and possible developments in the Portuguese automobile industry. It also requested the Commission to report to the Permanent Representatives Committee, which will consider the problems still outstanding and then give the Commission directives for the negotiation of an additional protocol to the 1972 Agreement.

Spain: The Council prepared for the ministerial negotiating session on Spanish accession.¹

Multilateral trade negotiations: Following the Commission's talks with the Government of Thailand, the Council, having exchanged views on imports of manioc into the Community, noted that the Commission would be submitting proposals concerning the negotiation of a voluntary restraint agreement with Thailand and the problems this would entail in time for its next meeting. The Council also authorized the Commission to embark on exploratory talks with the United States with a view to the advance implementation of the agreement on civil aircraft negotiated in GATT.

Israel: The Council held a detailed discussion on the negotiations with Israel under Article 22 of the Agreement and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to study the matter in the light of the discussion.²

Emergency aid: The Council was informed by the Commission of the steps taken to implement the Decisions adopted by the Council on 24 July, following the Geneva Conference, on aid for South-East Asian refugees and the people of Kampuchea and was also briefed on the action under way to help Nicaragua following the hurricane which recently devastated the country.³

International Convention on physical protection of nuclear materials: The Council gave the Commission the directives which will enable it to negotiate the International Convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials on behalf of the Community in Vienna.⁴

Australia: The Council also gave the Commission the negotiating directives for an agreement with the Australian Government on imports of Australian uranium to the Community.⁵

Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty: The Council held a general discussion on this item.⁶

596th meeting—Energy (Brussels, 20 September)

2.3.25. *President:* Mr O'Malley, Irish Minister for Industry, Commerce and Energy.

Commission: Mr Brunner, Member.

Energy situation—Oil consumption in 1979: The Council held an exchange of views on

¹ Point 2.2.5.

² Point 2.2.44.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, points 2.2.27 to 2.2.33 and 2.2.35.

⁴ Point 2.3.32.

⁵ Point 2.2.41.

⁶ Point 2.1.76.

recent developments in the energy situation and the further outlook, both in the Community and worldwide.

It noted that the situation on the oil markets, which had earlier shown signs of settling down, was again giving cause for concern; it accordingly reiterated the resolve of the Community and its Member States steadfastly to continue their efforts to save energy and develop alternate energy sources.

With particular reference to oil consumption in 1979, the Council took note of progress so far in the drive to reduce demand and agreed that this action should be continued and intensified.

Oil imports: The Council held a detailed discussion on the question of how the common target for oil imports should be distributed among the Member States. It worked out a number of guidelines for the position to be taken by the Community and its Member States at the meeting of energy ministers from the States which attended the Tokyo Summit,¹ held in Paris on 26 September.

It also discussed arrangements for registering oil imports. In particular it agreed that the Community representatives would discuss with the other major industrialized countries which had attended the Tokyo Summit the idea of setting up an early information system for a limited number of crude oil transactions.

Commission

Activities

2.3.26. The four Commission meetings in September were dominated by several major

considerations: the desire for a new-style closer liaison with the directly-elected Parliament; lengthy discussions on the budget; adjustment of central rates under the EMS² and its impact on the common agricultural policy; meetings with the two sides of industry;³ the agreement almost reached on the renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention;⁴ various aspects of energy policy and industrial affairs.

The spectrum of questions considered and decisions taken is actually even broader, since it ranged from fisheries to the environment; from enlargement (notably in respect of Spain and Portugal) to external relations (with Turkey and Brazil). Institutional and political affairs were also served by the publication of the Spierenburg Report and preparations for the annual October conclave, held this year at Villers-le-Temple. The Commission also reviewed performance on its 1979 programme, made arrangements for preparing the 1980 programme and adopted its work schedule, a quite heavy one, up to the end of this year.

Budgetary matters: the cuts made by the Council in the Commission's preliminary draft prompted the Commission to state its case before Parliament. It stressed that its preliminary draft was based on priorities established by previous decisions taken by the Council (and more particularly the European Council) and positions adopted by Parliament. It adopted the principle of a third preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget for 1979 at its last meeting in September.

¹ Point 2.1.69.

² Point 2.1.1.

³ Point 2.3.27.

⁴ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.15.

Functioning of the Commission: the Commission welcomed the proposals in the report¹ requested a year ago from a review body chaired by Mr Spierenburg, which recommended major political, institutional and administrative reforms. A first look at the report was put at the head of the agenda for the informal meeting to be held at Villers-le-Temple early in October.¹

European Monetary System: following the parity changes between the currencies of the countries in the EMS,² the Commission took steps to limit their effects on monetary compensatory amounts in agriculture.³ In more general terms, the Commission considered that the measures decided by the Finance Ministers were the direct result of pressure on the dollar and did not invalidate the favourable assessment which the Council and Commission had made shortly before on the first six months operation of the EMS.

Energy: the problems posed by Chapter VI of the Euratom Treaty (nuclear fuel supply) were broached on several occasions. The Commission felt that its Communication to the Council on the subject was an essential part of the brief and ought to be considered by the Council under the same head as the French Government's memorandum, which in fact it did.⁴ Following the discussion within the Council the Commission made arrangements for planning the work of an *ad hoc* group, which it will chair, to assist it in considering the matter. The Commission also considered the follow-up to the Tokyo Western Summit⁴ and prepared a comprehensive paper on the Community's energy policy.

Industrial affairs: the Commission adopted a Communication to the Council on a scrap-and-build scheme for shipbuilding,⁵ in order to continue the support for this ailing industry; it also decided to amend its proposal for

a Directive on liability for defective products.⁶

Agriculture: following various oral questions put by members of the elected Parliament, the Commission came out in favour of adopting a Regulation to introduce an automatic licensing scheme for butter exports; but it was unable to accept a resolution which would make export policy subject to political considerations.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.27. At two meetings, President Jenkins, with several Members of the Commission, received delegations from workers' and employers' organizations.

With the employers' representatives (UNICE) he discussed the economic and social situation, with special emphasis on the implications of the recent increases in energy prices. With the trade union delegates (ETUC), Mr Jenkins and his colleagues resumed the general discussion on the economic and social situation begun in July, and considered specific items such as the new EEC-ACP Convention, enlargement, consumer protection and multinational companies.

At another meeting, Mr Davignon and representatives of the European Trade-Union Committee: Textiles, Clothing and Leather dealt with various matters concerning the present situation of the industries in question.

¹ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.15.

² Point 2.1.1.

³ Point 2.1.48.

⁴ Point 2.1.69.

⁵ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

⁶ Point 2.1.16.

As part of the preliminary consultations experts from the European Trade-Union Confederation tackled a variety of subjects, including the economic and social situation, democratization of the economy, migrant workers and industrial medicine.

Court of Justice¹

Amendment of the rules of procedure

2.3.28. The Court adopted on 12 September² the amendments to its rules of procedure³ approved by the Council on 26 July.⁴ The principal object of the amendments, adopted in order to deal with the increase in the number of cases, is to:

- (i) enable the Court to set up a third Chamber;
- (ii) enable references for a preliminary ruling and actions instituted directly by a natural or legal person to be assigned to a Chamber in so far as the difficulty or importance of the case are not such as to require the Court to give judgment in plenary session;
- (iii) require third party proceedings to be instituted within three months of publication in the Official Journal of the notice of the date of registration of the application originating the proceedings.

New cases

*Case 139/79 — Maizena Gesellschaft mbH v Council*⁵

2.3.29. Following the judgment of the Court of Justice in Cases 103 and 145/77⁶ declaring Regulation (EEC) No 1111/77⁷

invalid in so far as it imposed a production levy on isoglucose, the Council adopted Regulation (EEC) No 1293/79⁸ amending the former.

A producer of isoglucose brought an action before the Court of Justice on 5 September for the annulment of Regulation (EEC) No 1293/79, claiming that the fixing of the production quota applicable to it was invalid.

The object of this action is identical to that of the action brought by Roquette Frères in Case 138/79.⁹

*Case 140/79 — Chemia Farmaceutici SpA, Turin v Daf SpA, San Giorgio Piacentino*¹⁰

2.3.30. By order received by the Court Registry on 10 September the Pretura di Castell'Arquato asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the question whether the taxation of synthetic ethyl alcohol at a rate higher than that applied to ethyl alcohol from fermentation (with the same characteristics and the same tariff classification) is compatible with Article 95 of the EEC Treaty, taking into account the fact that the alcohol from fermentation is produced in the country and the synthetic alcohol is exclusively imported from the other Member States.

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and in the European Court Reports.

² OJ L 238 of 21.9.1979.

³ OJ L 350 of 28.12.1974.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.1.

⁵ OJ C 249 of 3.10.79.

⁶ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.55.

⁷ OJ L 134 of 28.5.1977.

⁸ OJ L 162 of 30.6.1979.

⁹ OJ C 249 of 3.10.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.45.

¹⁰ OJ C 256 of 10.10.1979.

*Case 141/79 — S. Fabro v Commission*¹

2.3.31. A Commission official applied to the Court of Justice on 10 September for the annulment of the promotion of another official.

*Case 142/79 — P. Geronimo (née Fonti) v European Parliament*¹

2.3.32. A European Parliament official brought an action before the Court of Justice on 13 September for the payment of the daily subsistence allowance and removal expenses.

*Case 143/79 — M. Walsh v Insurance Officer*¹

2.3.33. By order received by the Court Registry on 14 September the National Insurance Commissioner submitted to the Court of Justice a series of questions regarding the interpretation of Articles 1(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71² and 8 of Regulation (EEC) No 574/72³ (social security for migrant workers) concerning the granting of maternity allowances, and of Article 86 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 on the procedure for claiming such allowances.

*Case 144/79 — B. Cuendet v European Parliament*¹

2.3.34. An official of the European Parliament brought an action against the latter on 14 September for the annulment of its decision annulling a vacancy notice, and its decision effecting an interim posting of another official.

*Case 145/79 — Roquette Frères SA, Lestrem v the French State, Customs Administration, Lille*¹

2.3.35. The Tribunal d'Instance, Lille, asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on a series of questions received at the Court Registry on 17 September concerning the method for calculating monetary compensatory amounts applicable to basic products and products derived therefrom—in this case maize and wheat—and the liability for any default interest due in the event of excessive sums having been levied by the customs authorities as compensatory amounts for the account of the European Communities.

*Case 146/79 — A.P. Allo v Commission*⁴

2.3.36. A Commission official whose wife is also a Commission official and the applicant in Case 82/79⁵ requested the Court of Justice on 20 September to annul the Commission's decision abolishing the additional abatements for dependent children provided for in Article 3(4) of Regulation No 260/68⁶ laying down the conditions and procedure for applying the tax for the benefit of the European Communities.

*Case 147/79 — R. Hochstrass v Court of Justice*⁴

2.3.37. An official of the Court of Justice brought an action against the latter on 21

¹ OJ C 256 of 10.10.1979.

² OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

³ OJ L 74 of 27.3.1972.

⁴ OJ C 263 of 18.10.1979.

⁵ OJ C 153 of 20.6.1979 and Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.3.48.

⁶ OJ L 56 of 4.3.1968.

September regarding payment of the foreign residence allowance provided for in Article 4(2) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations.

*Case 148/79 — W. Korter v Council*¹

2.3.38. A Council official brought an action before the Court of Justice on 25 September for an order requiring the Council to adopt an official position on his request for transfer.

*Case 149/79 — Commission v Kingdom of Belgium*¹

2.3.39. The Commission brought an action before the Court of Justice on 25 September for a declaration that Belgium, by making the possession of Belgian nationality or permitting it to be made a requirement for recruitment to posts other than those referred to in Article 48(4) of the EEC Treaty (posts advertised by the Belgian National Railways Company, the National Tramways Company, the City of Brussels and the Commune of Auderghem), has failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 48 and Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68.²

*Case 150/79 — Commission v Kingdom of Belgium*¹

2.3.40. The Commission brought an action before the Court of Justice on 27 September for a declaration that Belgium, by imposing nationality or residence requirements on workers who are nationals of the Member States and who come within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71³ for the grant of social security benefits provided for in the Law of 16 June 1960 (concerning employees from Congo and Ruanda-Urundi), has failed to fulfil its obligations under Articles 5, 48

and 51 of the EEC Treaty and under Community rules.

Judgments

*Case 230/78 — (1) Eridania — Zuccherifici Nazionali SpA, Genoa, (2) Società Italiana per l'Industria degli Zuccheri SpA, Rome v (1) Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, (2) Minister for Industry, Trade and Craft Trades*¹

2.3.41. In the course of proceedings concerning the alteration, for the 1978/79 marketing year, of the basic quotas for sugar granted to Italian producers pursuant to Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 3331/74,⁴ the Regional Administrative Court, Lazio asked the Court of Justice on 16 October 1978 for a ruling on the validity of that provision and, in addition, its interpretation.⁵

By its judgment of 27 September the Court held that the Regulation was valid. In its interpretation it held that there is no incompatibility between the direct applicability of a Community regulation and the exercise of the power conferred on a Member State to take implementing measures on the basis of that regulation.

*Case 23/79 — Firma Geflügelschlachtereie Freystadt GmbH & Co., KG v Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Jonas*¹

2.3.42. In a case concerning the reimbursement of export refunds on chickens exported

¹ OJ C 263 of 18.10.1979.

² OJ L 257 of 19.10.1968.

³ OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

⁴ OJ L 359 of 19.12.1974.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.46.

from the Federal Republic of Germany to the German Democratic Republic via third countries where they were not put into free circulation, the Federal Finance Court asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the question whether such transactions qualify for those refunds, having regard to Community provisions and to the Protocol on German internal trade (under which no refund is paid for agricultural products exported from the Federal Republic of Germany to the German Democratic Republic).¹

By its judgment of 27 September the Court held that the concept of 'exportation' within the context of the Community provisions does not refer to trade covered by the said Protocol, an essential requirement of which is that the goods be put into free circulation in the Democratic Republic but not in a third country after having left the Federal Republic.

*Case 232/78 — Commission v French Republic*²

2.3.43. The Commission brought an action before the Court of Justice on 25 October 1978 for a declaration that France, by continuing after 31 December 1977 to apply its national rules to the importation of sheep-meat from the United Kingdom, has failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty.³

By its judgment of 25 September the Court held that this action was well founded. It should be noted that in the grounds of judgment it stated that it is the responsibility of the competent institutions to take the measures necessary to secure, within a Community context, a solution to the special difficulties in this area arising in certain regions.

*Case 13/79 — Gervais-Danone AG, Munich v Hauptzollamt München-Mitte*⁴

2.3.44. The Federal Finance Court asked the Court of Justice on 25 January for a preliminary ruling concerning the tariff classification of mayonnaise.⁵

Since the applicant had discontinued proceedings before the Federal Finance Court the latter withdrew its request for a preliminary ruling. The case was removed from the Court register by order of 12 September.

*Case 57/79 — Commission v Kingdom of Belgium*⁶

2.3.45. The Commission brought an action on 12 April for a declaration that, by charging dues for health checks on imports of fresh and prepared meat and meat products, Belgium has failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 9 of the EEC Treaty.⁶

Since Belgium was no longer in breach of its obligations the Commission discontinued proceedings and the case was removed from the Court register by order of 12 September.

Case 59/79 — Federation Nationale des Producteurs de Vins de Table et Vins de Pays, Paris v Commission

2.3.46. An action founded on failure to act was brought before the Court of Justice on

¹ OJ C 62 of 7.3.1979 and Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.3.36.

² OJ C 263 of 18.10.1979.

³ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.48.

⁴ OJ C 256 of 10.10.1979.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.3.42.

⁶ OJ C 126 of 19.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.43.

13 April for a declaration that, after giving notice to the parties concerned, other than the Member States, to submit their observations concerning a proposal by the regional government of Sicily to grant aids to cooperative wine cellars and after receiving the observations of the abovementioned federation, the Commission has failed to find such aid incompatible with Article 92 of the EEC Treaty.¹

The Court held that the application was inadmissible.

Case 60/79 — Federation Nationale des Producteurs de Vins de Table et Vins de Pays, Paris v Commission

2.3.47. The abovementioned French federation brought an action before the Court of Justice on 13 April to annul Regulation (EEC) No 130/79 on the granting of aid for concentrated grape must used in wine-making during the 1978/79 wine year² as being contrary to Article 85 of the EEC Treaty.³

The Court held that the application was inadmissible.

*Case 70/79 — F. Goldschmit v Commission*⁴

2.3.48. An official of Luxembourg nationality posted to Luxembourg brought an action before the Court of Justice on 30 April to annul the Commission's decision refusing to grant him an expatriation allowance pursuant to Article 4(2) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations of Officials, the legality of which he contests.⁵

The case was removed from the Court register by order of 12 September.

Court of Auditors

2.3.49. In September the Court of Auditors published a special report in the Official Journal⁶ on accommodation policies of the institutions of the European Communities which it adopted in June.

Economic and Social Committee

171st plenary session

2.3.50. The Economic and Social Committee held its 171st plenary session in Brussels on 26 and 27 September with Mr Vanni, Chairman of the Committee, in the chair.

On 27 September Mrs M. Weber, Vice-President of the DGB (Federation of German Trade Unions) was elected Chairman of the Transport and Communications Section in succession to Mr K.H. Hoffmann, Vice-President of the German Public Service, Transport and Communications Union, who has been elected to the European Parliament.

Opinions

1980 generalized scheme of preferences

2.3.51. The Committee approved the Commission's proposals⁷ by a large majority (with

¹ OJ C 134 of 29.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.44.

² OJ L 19 of 25.1.1979.

³ OJ C 134 of 29.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.45.

⁴ OJ C 256 of 10.10.1979.

⁵ OJ C 134 of 29.5.1979 and Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.54.

⁶ OJ C 221 of 3.9.1979.

⁷ OJ C 234 of 17.9.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.19.

seven abstentions), but was unable to give unreserved support to the proposal for admission of China to the scheme since it did not have sufficient information on the question.

1980-83 multiannual programme of the Joint Research Centre

2.3.52. In its unanimous opinion on the Commission proposal¹ the Commission stressed the importance of nuclear safety, which accounts for 48% of expenditure. It also insisted that one of the projects should take account of the problems raised by the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power station.

The Committee endorses the increased emphasis on solar energy, energy storage and transport. It also welcomes the extension of environmental research, which is to concentrate on toxic substances. While acknowledging the need to cut back the reference materials programme, the Committee calls for care to ensure that the Community Bureau of References does not suffer.

Lastly, the Committee calls for close coordination between the JRC, indirect-action Community research and national R & D programmes.

Protection of workers from exposure to harmful substances

2.3.53. By a unanimous opinion with one abstention, the Committee approved the Commission's objectives.² It calls for the maximum possible reduction in the amount of harmful substances absorbed by workers and in the periods of time to which workers are exposed to them.

The Committee considers that priority must be given to protecting workers without endangering economic growth but still preserving the Community's competitiveness in relations with other industrialized countries. It also stresses the need for adequate measures to protect the environment around places of work and hence of the local population, which could be threatened by the use of dangerous substances.

The Committee referred to the need for definitions of the terms 'agents' and 'limit values' in the draft Directive and for a fuller list of agents in Annex 1. It also asked that employers' and workers' representatives be involved in the Industrial Medicine and Hygiene Committee.

Social security for migrant workers

2.3.54. The Committee unanimously adopted an opinion on the Commission's proposal to the Council of 6 July 1979,³ for a Regulation amending the Regulation of 21 March 1972⁴ laying down detailed rules for the application of the Regulation of 14 June 1971⁵ on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

Research programme on biology and health protection (radiation protection)

2.3.55. The Committee unanimously endorsed the programme proposed by the

¹ OJ C 110 of 3.5.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.3.

² OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979 and Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

³ OJ C 249 of 3.10.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.44.

⁴ OJ L 74 of 27.3.1972.

⁵ OJ L 149 of 5.7.1971.

Commission¹ reiterating its view as to the need for further research into the effects of ionizing radiation with a view to constantly improving radiation protection standards for nuclear workers, the general public and the environment.

It also believes that everything must be done to ensure that such standards apply to all forms of radiation, including natural radioactivity.

Application of VAT to the hiring of moveable tangible property (tenth VAT Directive)

2.3.56. The Committee unanimously endorsed the Commission's proposal,² subject to a few reservations. It calls for the quickest possible harmonization of VAT rates in the Member States, for this alone will solve the problems that still arise in inter-State trade.

The Committee asked the Commission to confer again with experts and representatives of the business community so as to study certain technical aspects in greater depth.

Technological research in the field of clay minerals and technical ceramics

2.3.57. The Committee approved the programme³ unanimously (with two abstentions), stressing its importance to the industry.

The Committee considers that, since the Community's ceramics firms are predominantly small or of medium size, the need for cooperative research at Community level, involving existing industrial, State and university research centres, has been felt for a long time. The promotion of such new efforts will lead to better quality, new products and energy savings and thus make the industry more competitive.

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2.3.58. The Committee also gave unanimous opinions on Commission proposals on the common organization of the market in dried fodder,⁴ on production aid for dehydrated potatoes⁴ and on seeds.⁵

By a large majority (with 12 votes against and 6 abstentions) it approved the proposal for a scheme of aid for the marketing of aubergines grown in the French Antilles.⁶

ECSC Consultative Committee

202nd meeting

2.3.59. The ECSC Consultative Committee met in Luxembourg on 27 September, with Mr Derek Ezra in the chair.

The Committee, which was briefed by the Commission in the usual way on the activities it had undertaken in matters covered by the ECSC Treaty, concentrated mainly on the forward programme for steel, the trend and short-term prospects for steel prices and revision of the coal market forecasts for 1979. It also asked the Commission to pass on to the Council a background paper setting out its views on Community coal policy, which it will itself address to Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

Steel: forward programme and prices

2.3.60. On a report from Mr Laurens (steel users' group) the Committee adopted virtu-

¹ OJ C 102 of 24.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.125.

² OJ C 116 of 9.5.1979.

³ OJ C 155 of 21.6.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.22.

⁴ OJ C 170 of 7.7.1979.

⁵ OJ C 211 of 23.8.1979.

⁶ OJ C 249 of 3.10.1979.

ally without debate an opinion endorsing the Commission's forward programme for steel for the fourth quarter of 1979.¹ The only question of real interest in this debate was whether the medium-term prospects of the European steel industry should be viewed in a pessimistic or an optimistic frame of mind. Certain members of the Committee, notably the steel producers, stressed the precarity of the situation and the need to maintain tight discipline among producers. They also emphasized the uncertainty surrounding the medium-term outlook on the market and the urgent need to prepare measures for 1980.

2.3.61. The Committee gave its reaction to the decisions on steel prices that the Commission was planning to take in 1980, working from the paper presented by Mr Davignon on 6 July.² The producers' representatives regretted that the Commission had not felt the need for an upward adjustment of orientation prices for certain products in the last quarter of 1979. They felt that stabilization of orientation prices at a level below prices actually charged was liable to distort competition with firms from non-member countries. The workers' representatives stressed the importance they attached to studying the 1980 forecasts in a more general context and the need for rapid preparation of the measures to be taken. The users, who had seen confirmation that the situation was picking up, asked to be given better information on the trend of real prices in the Community and of prices for products exported from the United States and Japan.

Replying for the Commission, the Directorate-General for the Internal Market and Industrial Affairs confirmed that the measures for 1980 would be considered as a coherent whole—prices, structural reform and finance for this purpose (including the social aspects) and protection for peripheral

regions. Even though the position as regards profits was looking brighter, he added, support measures and discipline were still necessary: the long-term outlook still gave serious cause for concern.

Coal

2.3.62. After discussing the revision of the 1979 coal market forecasts the Committee expressed a desire to make its views on Community coal policy known by means of a background paper which it asked the Commission to pass on to the other institutions. The paper proposes long-term measures to improve production and utilization capacities and calls for research into upgrading coal. For the short term it feels that measures must be taken to support sales of steam coal and coking coal to avoid excessive accumulations of stocks.

Replying for the Commission, the Director-General for Energy said that the Committee's recommendations had come just at the right time. The equilibrium of energy supplies was highly fragile; there were the beginnings of a real shortage of oil and the changeover to other sources of energy was proceeding all too slowly. Increases in oil prices (up 57% since 1 January) and the plan to restrict imports to 472 million tonnes in the years between 1980 and 1985 meant that there had to be a substantial shift in energy policy to non-oil sources, he said. Coal would be at the centre of the next Council meeting on energy, and it was to be hoped that the Council would take decisions before the end of the year. In 1990 more than 60% of all electricity would have to be generated from coal, Community mines would have to yield 250

¹ Point 2.1.17.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.73.

million tonnes and imports from non-member countries would also have to be increased. We must change over to coal, he said: the price of oil offers us a good incentive.

European Investment Bank

Loans raised

2.3.63. The European Investment Bank has launched a USD bond issue on the US capital market divided into two tranches: USD 100 million of eight-year bonds and USD 100 million of twenty-year bonds. The issue was underwritten by a syndicate of American banks headed by Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb Incorporated, The First Boston Corporation, Merrill Lynch White Weld Capital Markets Group, Salomon Brothers and Lazard Frères & Co.

Carrying a coupon of 10.125%, payable half-yearly on 15 March and 15 September, the eight-year bonds were offered for subscription at 99.60%, giving a yield of 10.46%. The bonds are redeemable at par at term but, from 15 September 1986 onwards, the Bank has the option of redeeming in advance at their nominal value all or some of the bonds still in circulation.

The twenty-year bonds carry a coupon of 10.15%, also payable half-yearly on 15 March and 15 September; the issue price was 99.60% and the yield 10.46% calculated over the average lifetime. The bonds are redeemable at prices below par through a Purchase Fund of USD 2 million for the first seven years and subsequently at par in six annual instalments of USD 5 million and seven annual instalments of a minimum of

USD 8 million and a maximum of USD 10 million depending on the amounts not redeemed through the Purchase Fund.

The Bank has the option of redeeming in advance all or some of the bonds at declining premiums from 15 September 1991 onwards. The issue is to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange and proceeds will be used by the Bank to help finance its ordinary lending operations.

Loans granted

Belgium

2.3.64. The European Investment Bank has lent the equivalent of BFR 250 million (6.2 million u.a.¹) towards financing small and medium-scale industrial ventures in the less-favoured regions of Belgium. The funds have been provided in the form of a global loan for ten years to Société Nationale de Crédit à l'Industrie (SNCI)—Nationale Maatschappij voor Krediet aan de Nijverheid (NMKN) which will onlend the proceeds for ventures selected from amongst its own clients in agreement with the EIB.

SNCI-NMKN was granted a global loan by the Bank at the end of 1976 for BFR 750 million.² It helped to finance 24 ventures involving the creation of more than 500 jobs and safeguarding 1 100 others within a wide variety of industries ranging from food to precision engineering; these investments have

¹ EIB unit of account: conversion rates (at 29 June 1979) used by the EIB for statistical purposes during the third quarter of 1979: 1 u.a. = DM 2.52, UKL 0.63, FF 5.85, LIT 1 136, HFL 2.77, BFR 40.42, LFR 40.41, DKR 7.25, IRL 0.669, USD 1.364.

² Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2.4.72.

assisted development and industrial conversion in various regions, in particular West Flanders and the provinces of Liège and Hainaut.

Small and medium-scale ventures tend to create more jobs than larger units for the same capital input and they have an important role to play in offsetting structural difficulties (particularly redundancies in the iron and steel sector) and cyclical problems which currently affect a number of regions in Belgium.

Ireland

2.3.65. Four loans totalling the equivalent of IRL 61 million (91.2 million u.a.) have been granted in Ireland by the European Investment Bank; they will go towards the setting-up or expansion of small and medium-scale industrial ventures and to help meet the cost of a number of power supply, water and sewerage schemes. These bring to IRL 386.5 million the total amount lent by the EIB for industrial and infrastructure development in Ireland since accession to the Community in 1973. Details of the new loans are as follows:

(i) IRL 10 million to Industrial Credit Company Ltd in the form of a ten-year global loan from which ICC will onlend funds—minimum amount IRL 17 000—for small and medium-scale industrial ventures; priority will go to those making most impact in terms of creating or safeguarding employment.

Although the EIB is lending in foreign currencies, the Irish Government introduced measures to shield 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). This is the fourth such global loan concluded with ICC; a total of IRL 12.5 mil-

lion was provided in 1978¹ and May² this year and over 200 ventures involving an estimated 2 150 jobs have been selected for financing with the funds.

(ii) IRL 20 million to the Electricity Supply Board towards various works (estimated cost IRL 43.7 million) to extend and improve the country's electricity transmission and distribution network, in particular to serve industry, agriculture and tourism.

(iii) IRL 15 million also to the Electricity Supply Board, towards installation of three combustion turbine/generators (total capacity 250 MW) at Aghada, County Cork. The units—costed at IRL 34.1 million—will be used to reinforce the Board's capacity to meet peak hour demand.

(iv) IRL 16 million to the Minister for Finance; this will be passed on to local authorities in the east and south-east to help finance water supply and sewerage schemes (cost estimated at IRL 65.4 million) to serve expanding industry and population, in particular around Dublin, and growing agricultural requirements. A number of the schemes will help also to reduce pollution in fishing areas.

Italy

2.3.66. The European Investment Bank has granted seventeen loans in Italy for a total equivalent of LIT 351 100 million (309.1 million u.a.). The bulk of the money, LIT 321 000 million, goes to investment in the Mezzogiorno concerning chiefly industrial development (LIT 78 000 million, including LIT 60 000 million for small and medium-scale ventures), irrigation and water supplies

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.3.95 and 11-1978, point 2.3.85.

² Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.3.88.

(LIT 170 000 million). In the energy sector, the Bank has backed several projects designed to reduce the Community's dependence on oil imports: laying of a section of the Algeria-Italy gasline in Sicily, acquisition of pipe-laying equipment, development of an oil field in the Adriatic and commercial production of solar panels.

Industrial development

Mezzogiorno

2.3.67. Details of loans for promoting industrial development in the Mezzogiorno are as follows:

(i) LIT 60 000 million has been granted for ten years in the form of a global loan to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for onlending to Isveimer (Istituto per lo Sviluppo Economico dell'Italia Meridionale) to contribute towards financing small and medium-scale industrial ventures selected in agreement with the EIB. Between 1968 and 1978, the Bank channelled five global loans to Isveimer for a total of LIT 65 600 million; the funds were used to help finance 140 ventures involving the creation of an estimated 9 400 jobs.

(ii) LIT 6 000 million has been advanced for eight years at 9.25 % to IMI—Istituto Mobiliare Italiano for onlending to Weber SpA (a Fiat subsidiary) for extending a plant manufacturing precision components for motor vehicle engines at Bari (Apulia). The new works, costed at LIT 34 000 million, are scheduled to begin operating at normal capacity by 1981, while 200 jobs will be created.

(iii) LIT 4 000 million has been made available for eight years at 9.25 % to IMI for onlending to another Fiat subsidiary for setting-up a plant at Termoli (Molise) to

produce gearboxes chiefly for the Ritmo model. This plant's cost is estimated at some LIT 12 000 million; it should be in operation by 1981 and provide 280 new jobs.

(iv) LIT 4 000 million for ten years at 9.35 % has gone to Irfis (Istituto Regionale per il Finanziamento alle Industrie in Sicilia) for onlending to Industrie Pirelli SpA to assist with reorganizing and modernizing a tyre factory at Villafranca Tirrena (Sicily). The investment programme, costed at LIT 12 000 million, should improve productivity at the works and maintain some 1 400 jobs.

(v) LIT 3 000 million has been granted for ten years at 9.35 % to Istituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino for onlending to Fiat SpA for part-financing accommodation for workers near its three factories at Cassino (Latium), Termoli (Molise), and Sulmona (Abruzzi). A total of 738 dwellings are under construction. The cost of the project, including necessary infrastructure, is estimated at some LIT 25 000 million.

(vi) LIT 1 000 million has been advanced for eight years at 9.25 % to Isveimer for onlending to Algel SpA to extend and modernize a frozen foods factory at Cisterna di Latina (Latium). New equipment costing some LIT 9 500 million will step up productivity at the plant and maintain around 1 400 jobs. The EIB granted a LIT 3 300 million loan for this project in May.¹

Northern Italy

2.3.68. In Northern Italy, two operations have been mounted in support of the following projects:

(i) LIT 9 000 million for eight years at 10.05 % has gone to Ferrari SpA for diver-

¹ Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.3.91.

sifying and enlarging the company's coach-works at Modena and sports car factory at Maranello, Emilia. The project is expected to preserve 300 and create 200 new jobs in a region where traditional industries such as ceramics, textiles and iron and steel are in difficulty. The works are costed at LIT 19 000 million.

(ii) LIT 3 500 million has been made available for eight years at 10.05% to Sorin Biomedica SpA to bolster production of biomedical equipment, chiefly pacemakers, at the company's plant at Saluggia, Piedmont; the cost of the works is estimated at LIT 17 000 million. The venture will reinforce European capacity in this advanced technology industry (the firm works closely with research bodies in Belgium and France), while creating around 260 jobs in an area hit by the current problems of the textiles industry.

Water supplies and irrigation

2.3.69. Three loans have been granted to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for irrigation and water supply schemes:

(i) LIT 65 000 million has been advanced for fifteen years at 9.20% to help finance irrigation of 23 600 ha of land south-east of Foggia, Apulia. This project, of which the main component is a 60 million m³ dam on the Ofanto river, is costed at LIT 160 000 million.

(ii) LIT 25 000 million has been provided for fifteen years at 9.20% for irrigating 11 800 ha and for drainage works in Campobasso province, Molise; the cost of the venture is estimated at LIT 83 000 million.

(iii) LIT 80 000 million has been made available for fifteen years at 9.20% for extending the Pertusillo aqueduct, the key to resolving the water shortage in Apulia and

Basilicata which has long impeded economic development. The cost of the project, benefiting 55 communes and around 1 500 000 inhabitants in Central Apulia, is put at LIT 300 000 million.

Energy supplies

2.3.70. (i) The Bank has lent LIT 45 000 million for building the second Italian section of the Algeria-Italy gasline. The funds have been advanced to ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi) for fifteen years at 9.65% for onlending to Snam SpA/ a company belonging to the group, for laying 225 km of gasline in Sicily (Mazara del Valla—Gagliano). The EIB has already provided LIT 100 000 million for the 245 km Gagliano-Sant'Eufemia (Calabria) section, 15 km of which cross the Straits of Messina. The entire gasline should be completed by 1984 and will cover more than 1 900 km from the Algerian/Tunisian frontier to Minervio, northern Italy. Algerian gas, earmarked mainly for the Mezzogiorno, will supply close on one-third of Italy's requirements. Total investment will come to around LIT 2 700 million.

(ii) LIT 7 000 million for seven years at 10.05% has gone to Saipem SpA, an ENI company, for developing pipe-laying equipment, a major factor in improving the Community's gas supplies.

(iii) LIT 3 000 million has been made available for six years at 9.05% to Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Sezione Speciale per il Credito Industriale, for onlending to Elf Italiana SpA for the first phase of developing the Rospo Mare oilfield, 20 km off the coast at Vasto (Abruzzi). The operating consortium comprises Elf Italiana (a subsidiary of the French group Elf Aquitaine SA) and AGIP, an ENI group company, which attracted a LIT

1 000 million loan from the EIB for this project in December 1978.¹

(iv) LIT 3 000 million has been granted for eight years at 10.05 % to Metalli Industriale SpA for reorganizing and extending facilities near Pistoia (Tuscany) mainly producing solar panels and electric cables.

The works, costed at LIT 6 300 million, will foster the development of new energy sources and promote energy savings, in line with Community priority objectives.

Road infrastructure

2.3.71. A loan for LIT 7 600 million for twelve years at 8.90% has gone to Società Italiana per il Traforo Autostradale de Fréjus (SITAF) for financing the Fréjus tunnel linking Italy with France, between the Rochemolles valley near Bardonecchia (Turin province) and the Vallée de l'Arc near Modane (Savoie). This 13 km tunnel, handling 7 300 vehicles a day, will help to improve communications between two Member States and to develop major trunk roads within the Community. It will be constructed and operated by Société Française du Tunnel Routier de Fréjus (SFTRF) and SITAF, to which the EIB has already lent FF 119.4 million and LIT 7 600 million respectively.

In addition, LIT 25 000 million has been made available to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for twelve years at 9.05% for constructing the Catania western by-pass in Sicily. This 14 km road will provide a direct link between several roads converging on Catania, including the Palermo motorway and roads serving industrial zones in the direction of Augusta and Syracuse. The project is costed at LIT 50 000 million.

The Gambia

2.3.72. Under the terms of the Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has granted a conditional loan² for 2.3 million units of account³ to the Republic of The Gambia to help finance modernization of groundnut processing facilities. This is the EIB's first operation in the country.

The funds will be made available by the Government to The Gambia Produce Marketing Board (GPMB), a public undertaking. The loan, for twenty years at an interest rate of 2%, has been financed from risk capital provided under the Lomé Convention from budgetary resources of the European Community and managed by the EIB under mandate. Costed at a total of around 5.7 million u.a., the works are designed to modernize groundnut decortication and processing facilities, chiefly at Denton Bridge, on the outskirts of Banjul, the capital. Groundnut farming accounts for over 50% of the cultivable area and brings in more than 90% of the country's export earnings.

First loans from the New Community Instrument

2.3.73. The first loans⁴ from the resources of the New Community Borrowing and Lending Instrument—a total of 231.7 million

¹ Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.3.68.

² The repayment or term of which depend on fulfilment of conditions specified when granting the loan.

³ Conversion rates used by the EIB for statistical purposes during the third quarter of 1979: 1 u.a. = approx. 2.52 Gambian Dalasies, DM 2.52, UKL 0.63, FF 5.85, LIT 1 136, HFL 2.77, BFR 40.42, DKR 7.25, IRL 0.669, USD 1.364.

⁴ Point 2.1.5.

EUA for investment projects in Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom—were announced in September by the Commission and the European Investment Bank, which has been given the mandate to make New Instrument loans on the Community's behalf. The loans were signed in Brussels on 17 September in the presence of Mr George Colley, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Ireland, Mr Filippo Maria Pandolfi, Minister of the Treasury, Italy and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, United Kingdom.

The Commission rules on the eligibility of any project for which a New Instrument loan is sought, but the procedures for obtaining such loans, the interest rates charged and other terms are comparable to those applying to loans from the EIB's own resources. The proceeds of the Commission's borrowings are deposited with the EIB, which acts on its behalf.

Details of the first New Community Instrument loans—for a total of 231.7 million EUA—are as follows:

Ireland

2.3.74. Four loans were granted to Ireland:

(i) IRL 16.5 million for twenty years to the Electricity Supply Board towards construction of a 270 MW power station at Aghada, County Cork; the station will be fuelled by natural gas discovered 60 km off the Cork coast. The project's total cost is put at IRL 66.5 million.

(ii) IRL 16.5 million for twenty years to Ireland to be used for water supply and sewerage works which Dublin Corporation and Dublin County Council are carrying out in the City, suburbs and nearby new towns to

serve the area's industrial development and growing population; the cost of the works is estimated at IRL 66 million.

(iii) IRL 13 million for twenty years to Ireland to help finance improvement works on over 20 roads in the national road network and on major roads in or adjacent to Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Dundalk; the cost is estimated at IRL 66.9 million.

(iv) IRL 12 million for twenty years to Ireland for telecommunications modernization including connection of 28 000 new subscriber lines, costed at IRL 44 million.

Italy

2.3.75. LIT 45 000 million to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for fifteen years to help finance extension of the Pertusillo aqueduct.

United Kingdom

2.3.76. Two loans for an aggregate UKL 66.3 million were granted to the United Kingdom.

(i) UKL 50 million to the Electricity Council for fifteen years for construction of the Dinorwic hydroelectric power station in North Wales (cost put at UKL 420 million). Dinorwic will work on the pumped storage principle, using off-peak power produced during the night by base-load power stations to pump water from one lake to another at a higher level. From there it will be released to flow down again, generating electricity (total capacity 1 680 MW) to meet peaks in demand.

(ii) UKL 16.3 million to Lothian Regional Council in Scotland for fifteen years; this will go towards building a dam and other measures to increase water supplies to Edinburgh

and Midlothian and reduce pollution in the Firth of Forth by major improvements to the Edinburgh sewerage system—the works are estimated to cost UKL 76 million.

Interest subsidies: cooperation agreement between the Commission and the EIB

2.3.77. On 27 September—together with the first contracts for loans from the resources of the New Community Instrument—the Commission, represented by Mr François-Xavier Ortoli, Vice-President, and the EIB, represented by its President, Mr Yves Le Portz, signed a cooperation agreement setting out the arrangements for implementing the Council's decision to provide 3% interest subsidies¹ from the Community budget on selected loans from the Bank's own funds and from New Instrument resources in the less prosperous member countries fully participating in the European Monetary System (Ireland and Italy).²

Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Draft budget for 1980

2.3.78. On 11 September the Council established the draft general budget of the Communities for 1980. At the present stage of the budgetary procedure it is based on the preliminary draft budget presented by the Commission as amended by the first letter of amendment¹ introduced by the Commission to take into account the Council's decisions on agricultural prices.⁴ The comparative table

(Table 5) also shows the new amendments to the preliminary draft budget made in the second letter of amendment.⁵

Before beginning its deliberations, the Council received a delegation from Parliament led by its President, Mrs Veil. This preliminary conciliation meeting enabled the delegation to communicate the newly elected Parliament's initial reactions to the Commission's proposals and to express certain concerns, in particular about the fact that agricultural expenditure absorbs the bulk of the Community budget, the foreseeable exhaustion of own resources, the gradual restriction of non-compulsory expenditure, the entry in the budget of the EDF, borrowing and lending operations and the application of the conciliation procedure.

The Council then proceeded to establish the draft budget which covers total expenditure of some 14 907 million EUA in terms of total appropriations for payments and some 15 981 million EUA in terms of total appropriations for commitments (representing increases of 8.69% and 8.74% respectively compared with the 1979 budget).

By comparison, the Commission's preliminary draft, as amended by the first letter of amendment, proposed an increase of 22.01% in total appropriations for commitments and 18.87% in total appropriations for payments compared with 1979.

The cuts made by the Council affect compulsory expenditure (CE) and non-compulsory expenditure (NCE) as follows:

(i) as regards CE, the increases proposed in the preliminary draft have been slashed from

¹ Point 2.1.6.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.88.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.71.

⁵ Point 2.3.79.

16.76% to 9.75%¹ for the total appropriations for commitments and from 17.56% to 10.74% for the total appropriations for payments; in budgetary terms this is a cut from 1 957 million EUA to 1 138 million EUA, i.e. a reduction of some 819 million EUA.² In this context, the Commission deplores the fact that yet again the Council has not acted on the Commission proposal to include in Article 929 of the budget the export refunds arising from food aid programmes now included in Titles 6 and 7 (EAGGF guarantee section);

(ii) as regards NCE, over which Parliament has certain independent decision-making powers, the proposed increase has been slashed from 42.35% to 4.84%¹ for the total appropriations for commitments and from 25.50% to -1.67% for the total appropriations for payments; this means a cut from 1 277 million EUA to 145 million EUA, i.e. a reduction of 1 132 million EUA.²

The maximum rate of increase in non-compulsory expenditure, pursuant to Article 203 of the EEC Treaty, stands at 13.3% for 1980, i.e. 401 million EUA in terms of total appropriations for commitments and 301 million EUA in terms of total appropriations for payments.³ On this basis, Parliament's margin for manoeuvre will be some 200 million EUA for the total appropriations for commitments and 150 million EUA for the total appropriations for payments.⁴

The main cuts made by the Council in the Commission section affect the following areas:

(a) only 134 of the 598 permanent posts requested have been granted;

(b) as regards energy, industry and transport, the Council has earmarked appropriations only for operations which it has already approved by a decision and for which it has received proposals; this has considerably

reduced the increases requested by the Commission. The appropriations for commitments allocated by the Council in the draft budget are as follows: energy, 81 million EUA compared with the 157.5 million EUA proposed (1979 budget: 57 million EUA); industry and transport, 10.5 million EUA compared with the 120 million EUA proposed (1979 budget: 4 million EUA). Similarly—although, as regards the research appropriations, the Council has largely agreed to the amounts included in the preliminary draft budget—it has, in general, confined itself to the operations already approved by a decision and for which it has received programme proposals. The Council has approved 309 million EUA of the 367.8 million EUA of the appropriations for commitments proposed (1979 budget: 181.4 million EUA);

(c) as regards the social sector, the Council endorsed the priority already accorded to action to combat unemployment (among young people in particular) and regional under-employment. The Council was in favour of the industrial conversion operations proposed, and allocated token entries to the budget headings concerned.

However, no action was taken on the Commission's proposal to introduce a new Chap-

¹ According to the Commission, the figures are as follows: in the case of CE, 16.23% and 9.75% for the total appropriations for commitments and 17.94% and 10.68% for the total appropriations for payments; in the case of NCE, 43.68% and 6.60% for the total appropriations for commitments and 25.59% and -1.02% for the total appropriations for payments.

² According to the Commission, the figures are as follows: in the case of CE, some 1 870, 1 075 and 795 million EUA; in the case of NCE, some 1 365, 209 and 1 156 million EUA.

³ According to the Commission, the figures are 421 and 311 million EUA respectively.

⁴ According to the Commission, the figures are 211 and 155 million EUA respectively.

ter 54 for a special contribution to the ECSC for social measures in connection with the restructuring of the iron and steel industry. The appropriations for social expenditure included in the draft budget total some 849 million EUA (total appropriations for commitments) compared with the sum of 1 134 million EUA proposed by the Commission (1979 budget: 794 million EUA) and 378 million EUA (total appropriations for payments) compared with the sum of 685 million EUA proposed by the Commission (1979 budget: 552 million EUA);

(d) as regards the Regional Fund, the Commission cut the total appropriations for commitments proposed by the Commission (1 400 million EUA) to 1 050 million EUA (1979 budget: 1 145 million EUA); total appropriations for payments have been cut from 810 million EUA to 727 million EUA (1979 budget: 699 million EUA);

(e) the Council has allocated 600 million EUA of total appropriations for commitments for cooperation with developing countries and other non-member countries. Much the same sums are involved as for 1979, as the Council has rejected both an increase in the volume of food aid and an increase in the financial effort to promote cooperation with non-associated developing countries.

The VAT rate required by way of own resources as a result of the level of expenditure approved by the Council falls from 0.88%, which reflects the level of expenditure proposed in the first letter of amendment, to 0.74%.

Second letter of amendment to the preliminary draft general budget for 1980

2.3.79. On 24 September, the Commission sent to the Budgetary Authority the second

letter of amendment to the preliminary draft general budget of the Communities for the financial year 1980.¹ The first letter of amendment,² sent on 6 July, was intended to reflect in budgetary terms the Council's decisions of 22 June on agricultural prices.

The second letter of amendment takes into account changes on the agricultural markets and legislative decisions taken in the meantime. The impact of this second letter of amendment on the preliminary draft budget, as amended, is a reduction of 40.7 million EUA in the expenditure estimates made in July. The total appropriations for the EAGGF guarantee section stand as a result at 10 379.4 million EUA. Market effects result in a drop of 76 million EUA in the levy yield, causing a very slight increase in the VAT own resources, the rate of which rises from 0.884% to 0.887%.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.80. In September, the Commission concluded the following borrowing operations:

- LFR 500 million bond issue underwritten by a consortium of Luxembourg banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of 8.75% per annum. They are for a term of eight years and have been offered to the public at 99.75% of the nominal value. Application has been made for the bonds to be quoted on the Luxembourg stock exchange.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.3.62.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.3.88.

- Private FF 100 million loan at the rate of 11% per annum for a term of ten years.

Loans granted

Loans paid out

2.3.81. Under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission paid out loans totalling 77 million EUA in September.

Industrial loans

Industrial loans were granted to six firms, to finance the following programmes:

Iron and steel industry

- Rationalization of pig-iron and steel production:
Cockerill SA, Seraing (Réhon works, France);
Irish Steel Holdings Limited, Haulbowline, County Cork;
Klöckner Werke AG, Duisburg (Georgsmarienhütte, Bremen, Haspe, Troisdorf and Osnabrück works);
Acciaierie di Piombino SpA, Piombino/Livorno.
- Rationalization of rolled sections production:
Acciaierie e Ferriere Vicentine Beltrame SpA, Vicenza.
- Rationalization of flats production:
Ilssa Viola SpA, Ponte San Martino (Aosta).

Conversion loans

A conversion loan was paid to:

Società Nazionale Cogne SpA, Aosta (Valle d'Aosta, Italy).

Loans decided on

2.3.82. The Commission also took three decisions on the granting of industrial loans totalling 66.5 million EUA to:

Coal industry

- Rationalization and modernization of collieries:
National Coal Board, London: Thorne colliery (South Yorkshire), Tilmanstone colliery (Kent), Blidworth colliery (Nottinghamshire) and Woodville sales yard (Nottinghamshire).

Iron and steel industry

- Rationalization of pig-iron and steel production:
Thyssen Aktiengesellschaft (formerly August Thyssen-Hütte), Duisburg (Beckerwerth and Bruckhausen works);
Société lorraine de laminage continu (Sollac), Paris (Sérémainge works).



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. 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 EMS 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 September	17 September	28 September
1 month	$10\frac{1}{8}$	$10\frac{3}{4}$	$10\frac{1}{4}$
3 months	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$10\frac{7}{8}$	$10\frac{7}{8}$
6 months	$10\frac{5}{8}$	$10\frac{7}{8}$	$10\frac{3}{4}$
12 months	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$10\frac{5}{8}$	$10\frac{1}{2}$

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 September ¹	17 September ²	28 September ³
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.5517	40.2043	40.2326
German mark	2.52999	2.50481	2.48777
Dutch guilder	2.77506	2.75246	2.75931
Pound sterling	0.615654	0.649070	0.649544
Danish krone	7.29667	7.22045	7.26913
French franc	5.90013	5.85356	5.85499
Italian lira	1 132.13	1 126.51	1 145.01
Irish pound	0.672886	0.666423	0.668086
United States dollar	1.38615	1.38349	1.42770
Swiss franc	2.29684	2.25509	2.21579
Spanish peseta	91.5549	91.3590	94.2995
Swedish krona	5.84427	5.83765	5.89104
Norwegian krone	6.97647	6.93130	6.96431
Canadian dollar	1.61625	1.60914	1.65713
Portuguese escudo	68.2815	68.7596	69.9572
Austrian schilling	18.4981	18.0477	17.9033
Finnish mark	5.33320	5.33752	5.30747
Japanese yen	306.990	308.906	319.305

¹ OJ C 222 of 4.9.1979.

² OJ C 235 of 18.9.1979.

³ OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979.

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
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.8193 ¹ 40.5951 ²
Danish krone	7.08592
German mark	2.81432 ¹ 2.78341 ²
French franc	5.71259 ³ 5.42697 ⁴ 5.50961 ²
Irish pound	0.652840
Italian lira	1 005.00 ⁴ 1 048.84 ³
Dutch guilder	2.81459 ¹ 2.79914 ²
Pound sterling	0.552199 ⁴ 0.581264 ²

¹ For pigmeat, milk products and wine.

² For the other products.

³ For pigmeat.

⁴ For 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 5-1979

Point 2.1.77

Appointment of members of the group of high-level independent experts in the field of nuclear safety.

OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979

Point 2.3.70a

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the communication from the Commission to the Council: 'Energy objectives for 1990 and programmes of the Member States'.

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.70b

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision for a research and training programme for the European Atomic Energy Community on the plutonium cycle and its safety.

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Bull. EC 9-1979

Point 2.3.71

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a second five-year programme (1980 to 1984) on radioactive waste management and storage (indirect action).

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.72

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the possible ways of achieving better coordination of the Member States' economic policies with a view to greater convergence of economic performance.

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.73

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a specific Council Directive on the overall migration limit for the constituents of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.74

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the:

— communication from the Commission to the Council concerning forestry policy in the Community,

— proposal for a Council resolution concerning the objectives and principles of forestry policy,

— proposal for a Council Decision setting up a Forestry Committee.

OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.75

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine and Regulation (EEC) No 817/70 laying special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions.
OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.76

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the communication from the Commission to the Council on the action programme (1979 to 1985) for the progressive establishment of balance on the market in wine.
OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.77

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation concerning interest rebates for certain loans with a structural objective.
OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

Point 2.3.79

Economic and Social Committee

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation introducing Community measures for the prevention of classical swine fever.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive prolonging, in respect of brucellosis, tuberculosis and swine fever, certain derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of the aid to producers for the 1978 harvest.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation defining the conditions under which a person may be permitted to make a customs declaration.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to safety requirements for power cranes for building work.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the operating space, access to the driving position (entry and exit facilities), and to the doors and windows of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 74/150/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.
OJ C 227 of 10.9.1979

3. Infringement procedures

Reasoned opinions

3.3.1. In September the Commission issued reasoned opinions on the following cases:

- infringement of Article 52 of the EEC Treaty—French nationality requirement for certain staff in private research and information agencies (France);
- infringement of Article 30 of the EEC Treaty—attaching of tax seals to imported bottles of alcoholic beverages (Italy).

Proceedings in the Court of Justice

3.3.2. Two new cases, 149 and 150/79, were brought before the Court under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty, both concerning Belgium.¹

The Court found for the Commission in Case 232/78 against France.²

¹ Point 2.3.39.

² Point 2.3.40.

4. The Community at the United Nations

Extracts from the speech made at the General Assembly on 26 September by Mr O'Kennedy, President of the Council and of European political cooperation, on behalf of the Community

3.4.1. 'I am honoured to have the opportunity today of addressing this Assembly as President-in-Office of the European Community and of European Political Cooperation.

A world-wide political system of independent nations has come into being since this Organization was founded, and each year the Member States come together in this universal forum to debate the problems of our global society; for mankind now sees itself increasingly as one.

Our task now is to order our affairs globally in a manner that measures up to the economic and political objectives of a global society. This requires that we come to grips both with the problems of inequity within the world economy and with the need to resolve conflict and tension without resort to war.

Injustices of which we may have previously been only partly aware must, in a global society, be redressed, if dangerous division and dissension are to be avoided. Conflicts which in the past could be seen as local and limited now have an impact on all of us.

The need for wisdom and understanding in the management of human affairs is clear, as we face these dangers and come to see the limits of our resources and our environment. We have the framework in which to apply this wisdom. The United Nations and its family of organizations provide a forum in which interests can be accommodated and reconciled if we accept the implications of our interdependence.

What is needed is a determination to make a full use of the opportunities thus provided to act together in the interests of the human family. This means seeking to resolve actual or potential conflict, to organize the world economy more equitably, to relieve human suffering and to promote respect for human rights. On behalf of the nine

countries for which I speak, I repeat that we are actively committed to the United Nations as the "centre for harmonizing the actions of nations" envisaged by the Charter.

We nine countries, as Member States of the European Community, feel that we exemplify in a particular way the aim of "harmonizing the actions of nations" because our Community grew out of the determination to make a new beginning in a continent so often torn by war. In building that Community we do not seek to impose a static and rigid order on our diversity, but rather, by a slow and patient process of growth, to move towards a closer union between our peoples.

Two developments in the past year illustrate this process. First, our peoples have voted together in the first direct elections to send representatives to a common parliament. This was, I believe, the first such international election in history. It is important to us because it is evidence of our commitment to democracy and because it involves the citizens of the Community in a new and more direct way in shaping its future. Secondly, a decision was taken to enlarge our Community further. Greece signed the treaty by which it will become the tenth member in 1981; negotiations are continuing for the accession of Portugal and Spain; and we are of course continuing to develop our relations as a community with other associated States in our region.

It is on behalf of this growing Community and its Member States—a Community where old enemies have become friends and partners in a movement towards closer integration—that I speak to you today in this wider world forum. We accept fully the responsibilities that go with our economic weight and we seek to develop with the rest of the world a relationship of friendship and cooperation that will take full account of the interdependent nature of our global society.

The world economic situation is extremely difficult. For 1979, the Community is likely to register a reduced economic growth rate of 3% and in 1980 this may fall to 2%. We have been less successful than we hoped in dealing with inflation and unemployment. In facing up to this state of affairs, the Community looks not only to its own interests but also to international economic well-being.

Last December the European Council agreed to establish the European Monetary System (EMS). This was a means of bringing about a greater measure of monetary stability within the Community. But it was also intended to have a stabilizing effect on international economic and monetary relations in the interests of industrial and developing countries alike. The adjustments, made during the past weekend, took place within the rules of the system and proved that the system works effectively.

The European Council's determination in Strasbourg to frame new energy guidelines for the Community to deal with present and future needs made a significant contribution to the outcome of the Tokyo meeting in June and more particularly to the adoption of energy-saving measures and plans for developing new forms of energy. At the same time, the Community is looking forward with particular interest to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. The Community has also noted with great interest Mr Waldheim's proposal for a world energy institute.

On trade questions we have opposed protectionist tendencies and we have confirmed our commitment to an open system of international trade. I would recall that, despite the recession, the Community has consistently increased its imports from developing countries, especially imports of manufactured goods.

In the view of the Community, the recent successful conclusion of the multilateral trade negotiations, held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), is a decisive step towards the greater liberalization of international trade. The substantial tariff and non-tariff concessions made by the Community and its partners, which were directed to the developing countries to a significant extent, should encourage those countries to participate more fully in the GATT system. The Community has always supported legal recognition of the right of developing countries, and especially of the least developed, to "special and differential treatment". Moreover, in the post-multilateral trade negotiations phase, the Community will participate actively in the dialogue with the developing countries on trade matters.

The Community's relations with the developing countries have intensified considerably in recent years, reflecting the growing interdependence of the world economy. Through its own development cooperation programmes and through its involvement in the global dialogue on international cooperation for development, the Community has committed itself to the goal of establishing a more just and equitable international economic order. We are determined to continue the promotion of close and harmonious relations with the developing countries, taking fully into account their urgent need for economic and social development. We attach great importance to the work towards a new international development strategy for the 1980s. In the same spirit, at the recent session of the Committee of the Whole, the Community undertook to be ready to consider constructively any proposals which may be made with a view to promoting a more effective and fruitful dialogue.

It is in this context that the Community and its Member States are studying the proposal of the Group of 77 concerning global negotiations relating to international economic cooperation for development. Numerous questions on the precise implications of this initiative remain to be clarified. The answers to these questions would considerably assist us in our consideration of this important initiative.

It is understandable perhaps that developing countries should express dissatisfaction at what must seem to them to be the slow pace of developments in the North-South Dialogue. The widespread conditions of hunger and deprivation which still prevail among large sections of the population in many developing countries are a particular source of concern and must continue to receive urgent and priority attention from the entire international community. Following the Ottawa Conference, the Community reaffirms its commitment to fight the dramatic problem posed by world hunger by facilitating and encouraging food production in developing countries and by taking the necessary measures to accelerate the implementation of the various food aid programmes adopted by the Community.

None of the issues of the Dialogue, however, lends itself to easy solution, while many which are structural in nature can only be gradually pursued.

Nevertheless, the Community does not feel that the achievements in the Dialogue to date can be lightly dismissed. For example, we welcome the March 1979 compromise on the fundamental elements of the Common Fund. It is also our sincere belief that the results of the fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the multilateral trade negotiations contain worthwhile advances for developing countries.

The Community is also pursuing its own development cooperation in favour of all developing countries, particularly the least developed. Recently, the Community concluded negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States on a successor agreement to the First Lomé Convention. Its provisions, particularly on trade, Stabex and financial and technical cooperation, contain appreciable improvements on the old one. We in the Community believe that this is a worthy successor. It retains and consolidates the progressive features of the first Convention and introduces a number of new elements based on the experience we have gained and designed to respond to the specific needs of our partners, the African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

The future holds great promise. In the immediate term, however, the entire international community faces an immense challenge and each of us must shoulder a fair share of the burden. The Community is ready to assume its responsibilities, confident that all others will do the same.

The nine members of the European Community believe that this Assembly is an important instrument for facilitating agreement in the field of disarmament and arms control. The first substantive meetings of the reformed and reactivated disarmament bodies, agreed upon in the final document of the tenth special session, took place this year. The Nine participated actively in the first substantive meeting of the Disarmament Commission. This meeting agreed by consensus on the elements of a comprehensive programme of disarmament and this will now be referred to the Committee on Disarmament. A number of the Nine are members of the new Committee on Disarmament and they took an active part in its work. We welcome the intensive work which has taken place in the Committee, for example on questions relating to chemi-

cal weapons and to so-called negative security assurances.

We also welcome the signature at Vienna by President Carter and President Brezhnev of the recent agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on the limitation of strategic arms. We strongly hope that this will give a new impetus to the *détente* process and make a positive contribution to the atmosphere in which international disarmament negotiations are pursued. We look forward to the early entry into force of the agreement and the prospects for further reductions of nuclear weapons afforded by the continuation of the SALT process between these countries.

The Nine are deeply committed to the continuation and expansion of international *détente* and we have played our full part in the process of relaxation of tensions and the development of cooperation in Europe initiated by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The Final Act is a unique document in that it covers not only relations between States but also those between individuals and between governments and individuals. As its provisions are put into effect an improvement in these relations becomes apparent, which in turn reduces tensions in Europe.

The 1977 Belgrade meeting afforded the signatory States an opportunity to review progress made in this respect. The Nine are preparing for the Madrid meeting next year in a constructive spirit and in the hope that the meeting will be able to record an improved level of implementation of the provisions of the Final Act in all the signatory States.

The Nine continue to hope that it will be possible to achieve in the Middle East the just, lasting and comprehensive settlement to which this Assembly is overwhelmingly committed. They believe that such a settlement must be based on Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), applied in all their parts and on all fronts. It must also be based on the principles set out by the Nine in their statement on 29 June 1977 and on several occasions subsequently.

These principles are as follows: first, the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force; secondly, the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967; thirdly, respect for the sovereignty,

territorial integrity and independence of all States in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries; and fourthly, recognition that, in the establishment of a just and lasting peace, account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

The Nine emphasize that it is essential that all parties to the negotiations accept the right of all States in the area to live within secure and recognized boundaries with adequate guarantees. Equally, of course, it is essential that there be respect for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. These include the right to a homeland and the right, through its representatives, to play its full part in the negotiation of a comprehensive settlement.

Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), together with the principles I have mentioned, taken as a whole, set the essential framework for a peace settlement. In the view of the Nine it is necessary that they be accepted by all those involved—including the Palestine Liberation Organization—as the basis for negotiation of a comprehensive settlement in which all the parties will play their full part.

Such a settlement would win the endorsement and support of the international community and would meet the legitimate rights and interests of all parties. This includes Israel, which is entitled to exist at peace within secure boundaries that are accepted and adequately guaranteed; and the Palestinian people, who are entitled, within the framework set by a peace settlement, to exercise their right to determine their own future as a people.

The Nine recognize of course that such a settlement is not easy to achieve. But they believe it must be the continuing aim of the international community to promote it. They are convinced that such a comprehensive settlement would bring peace at last to the region; and they recall that they have already expressed their readiness to consider participating in guarantees in the framework of the United Nations.

The past year has seen some major developments to which the Nine, in view of their close connections with the region, are particularly sensitive.

One of these was the signature last March of agreements between Egypt and Israel. In their declaration of 26 March last, the Nine stated their position on these agreements.

Since the signature of these agreements, which the Nine see as a correct application of the principles of Resolution 242 (1967) as far as Egyptian-Israeli relations are concerned, there has been progress towards improved relations between Egypt and Israel and there have been withdrawals of Israeli forces in Sinai. The Nine note these recent developments and recall that one of the basic requirements of a comprehensive settlement is an end to the territorial occupation which Israel has maintained since the conflict of 1967. The Nine will continue to follow the situation closely and will seek in every way they can to advance the aim of a comprehensive and lasting peace settlement involving all parties and dealing with all of the fundamental issues I have mentioned.

It follows that the Nine must view with the greatest regret any action or statement which aggravates the present situation or places an obstacle in the way of a peace settlement. Accordingly, they strongly deplore continued acts of violence by any of those involved. The Nine are opposed to the Israeli Government's policy of establishing settlements in occupied territories in contravention of international law and they cannot accept claims by Israel to sovereignty over occupied territories, since this would be incompatible with Resolution 242 (1967). The security of Israel, which the Nine consider essential, can be guaranteed, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians given effect, within the framework of a comprehensive settlement.

The Nine are fully aware, too, of the importance of the question of Jerusalem to all parties. They know that an acceptable solution to this problem will be vital to an overall settlement on the basis I have indicated. They consider, in particular, that any agreement on the future status of Jerusalem should guarantee free access by all to the Holy Places; and they do not accept any unilateral moves which claim to change the status of the city.

The problem of Lebanon is clearly related to the larger problem of the Middle East as a whole. The Nine have frequently reaffirmed their support for its independence, sovereignty and territorial integ-

ity. They did so most recently in a statement issued by the nine Foreign Ministers at their meeting in Dublin on 11 September. This statement also recognized the courageous efforts made by the Lebanese Government to promote the security of its people and the restoration of its authority over the whole of its territory.

Violence has none the less continued in several parts of Lebanon as is clear from current news reports. The Nine recognize that there has been some improvement in the situation particularly in the south of the country since the recent meeting of the Security Council requested by the Government of Lebanon. They are concerned however about the constant harassment of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil), of which certain members of the Nine form part, and about the difficulties which have been placed in its way as it attempts to fulfil its mandate. They are particularly disturbed about the military and financial aid from outside Lebanon to those who have made it difficult for the United Nations Force to carry out its mandate. They call on all parties to give full support to Unifil and to respect the decisions of the Security Council.

The Nine remain convinced that the United Nations peace-keeping operations can play a particularly useful role in helping to prevent violence between parties to a conflict, thus facilitating a peaceful settlement. They are ready to contribute to such operations in the future, as they have done in the past.

A problem which is particularly close to us in the Community is that of the intercommunal conflict on the island of Cyprus. When the 10-point communiqué agreed to between President Kyprianou and Mr Denktash was published, following their meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General on 18 and 19 May last, the Nine were hopeful that this heralded a breakthrough in the stalemate in the intercommunal talks which has existed for so long. In particular, we welcomed the commitment by the two parties to carrying out intercommunal talks in a continuous and sustained manner, while avoiding any delay, and to abstaining from any action which might jeopardize the outcome of the talks. It was with considerable regret that we noted the suspension of the talks within such a short time of the resumption on 15

June. The Nine continue to believe that the best means for achieving a solution to the question is to be found within the framework of the intercommunal talks under the auspices of the Secretary-General, whose efforts to further the progress between the parties concerned have been consistently supported by the Nine.

Africa has witnessed in the past year a number of developments which have been the focus of world concern. We should not underestimate the dangers arising from political tensions and from the economic difficulties that confront many African States.

The Charter recognizes the possibilities for action at the regional level. The countries of Africa have come together in a number of forums to cooperate and to seek a common approach to African problems. In this context, the Organization of African Unity has a pre-eminent role. The Nine, for their part, share the view that African problems can best be resolved through African solutions. They reject the concept of the establishment of spheres of influence in Africa by outside Powers. The Nine do not themselves seek to impose their political and social system on Africa; rather they reaffirm their desire to cooperate to the fullest extent possible with Africa in promoting its economic development in a spirit of partnership.

The situation in southern Africa remains a source of deep concern.

The oppressive apartheid system in South Africa is of particular concern. The Nine condemn and reject this system of institutionalized racism, which is an insult to human dignity and which denies to the majority of the people the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. They reaffirm that the purported independence of so-called "homelands" such as Transkei, Bophutatswana and Venda is a false solution to the problems of apartheid. The Nine have repeatedly stated their belief that a peaceful future for South Africa necessitates the creation of a society which permits the full participation of all the inhabitants of South Africa in the political, social and economic life of their country. They believe that change in South Africa is as inevitable as it is essential. The Nine note and welcome the internal debate on this sub-

ject within South Africa, and they hope that this debate may lead to concrete and positive results. The Nine have sought to encourage this process of change in a number of ways, including the adoption of a code of conduct for subsidiaries of companies doing business in South Africa. They will continue their efforts to promote the process of peaceful change in order to bring about the ending of the system of apartheid and the establishment of a society with freedom and justice for all. They reaffirm their commitment to use the collective weight of the European Community to influence South Africa to this end.

On Namibia, one cannot help but feel disappointed at the very slow progress in resolving the remaining difficulties in the way of a peaceful settlement. The Nine have supported the efforts made by the Secretary-General, the five Western States and the front-line States to implement the plan adopted by the United Nations and they have rejected unreservedly all efforts to impose an "internal settlement" in Namibia. Such a settlement would not gain international recognition and would merely delay the day when the people of Namibia achieve genuine self-determination. In May this year, in this Assembly, the Nine again expressed their grave concern at the lack of progress and drew the attention of the South African Government to the consequences that could result. They urgently requested the South African Government to accept without delay the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) and to permit the deployment of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group. This remains the view of the Nine.

Since the resumed session, efforts to reach agreement have been renewed. The outcome will depend on the political will of the parties involved—particularly South Africa which has a responsibility in this regard—to overcome the points of difficulty which do not justify the failure to implement the United Nations plan. Accordingly, the Nine express the earnest hope that all concerned will now agree to the very early implementation of the plan in the light of the arrangements now being discussed. This will avoid the very grave consequences of failure and secure great benefits for the people of Namibia and for all the people of southern Africa.

The Nine, in their statement on Rhodesia of 11 September, welcomed the understanding reached by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Lusaka and the action of the United Kingdom Government in inviting the parties to attend the constitutional conference in London. They trust that this will make possible a solution to the conflict on the basis of genuine majority rule. Continued bloodshed will only serve to prolong the suffering of all the people of Zimbabwe. The Nine therefore reaffirm their support for a peaceful settlement acceptable to all the parties involved. Once such a settlement has been achieved the Community is ready to play its part in assisting the development of independent Zimbabwe.

The attention of the world has been focused during the past year on the suffering and death caused by large-scale movements of refugees in South-East Asia.

This problem does not exist in isolation—it is a consequence of the instability and widespread unrest in the region. I have already outlined, in Geneva on 20 July, the views of the Nine on the refugee problem. We believe that everyone should enjoy the right to leave his country freely and re-enter freely, but should not be obliged to leave because of fear or because conditions have been made intolerable. We note with satisfaction the measures agreed at the Geneva meeting and the proposed expansion of the programme previously established by the Government of Vietnam and the High Commissioner for Refugees. We hope that all concerned will honour the understandings given there. Our Governments await with interest the report of the Secretary-General on the situation and on the implementation of the action plan agreed at Geneva. We are well aware, however, that the measures already agreed are only partial remedies. The problem of refugees can best be resolved if there is a settlement of the wider problems of the region.

The Nine are also gravely concerned about the situation in Cambodia. It is a matter of utmost urgency that effective humanitarian relief be given to the people of that country. We are ready to support in appropriate ways relief efforts which are already under way, or which may be launched in the future. If such relief efforts are to be effective and to benefit the Cambodian population, they

should be properly supervised, independently administered, and directed to help all those in need.

A solution of the political problem of Cambodia is essential to the peace and stability of South-East Asia as a whole. Any such solution must, in our view, be based on an independent Cambodia with a genuinely representative Government, free from any foreign military presence, maintaining friendly relations with all the countries of the region, and having the benefit of international assistance for reconstruction.

Our Charter reaffirms faith in “the dignity and worth of the human person”. To fulfil this we must continue our efforts to promote respect for and observance of human rights. Since the adoption in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the effort to promote these rights has had mixed results.

On the one hand, human rights have been defined in an extensive, if not yet complete, series of international instruments. An ever-increasing awareness of these concepts has developed. No State can now hope to avoid criticism where gross and consistent violations occur.

On the other hand, the gap between ideal and reality is, too often, distressingly large. Millions suffer from hunger and oppression. Torture, though few admit responsibility, is still practised. Individuals are still imprisoned or exiled because of their political views. Others disappear without trace. Executions take place, apparently without full respect for judicial process.

We, in the Nine, see all human rights and fundamental freedoms as interdependent. Political and economic rights are not in contradiction. They reinforce and complement each other. Freedom from want without freedom from torture and ill-treatment is not enough. Likewise, the right to participate as a citizen in the political process cannot be easily exercised by the starving. The realization of each category of rights needs to be vigorously pursued.

While human rights have been defined, it has not so far proved easy to devise means by which they may be safeguarded. The Nine believe that agreed procedures accepted by States under existing

instruments should be fully and effectively used. A continued international dialogue is needed on ways and means of securing greater respect for human rights. Further progress can be made in regional organizations. The Nine will continue to contribute actively to the debate and to seek support for proposals to promote respect for human rights and for their implementation.'

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ISBN 92-825-0000-4

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Komplet sats. Vollständiger Satz. Complete series. Jeu complet. Serie completa. Complete serie

BFR 1 500 DKR 264 DM 95 FF 218
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LIT 6 250 HFL 15,50 UKL 3.55 IRL 3.70
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De offentlige bevillinger til forskning og udviklingsarbejde 1970-1978. December 1978.
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Pris pr. bind. Einzelpreis. Price per volume . Prix par volume . Prezzo di un volume . Prijs per deel

BFR 850 DKR 152,60 DM 53 FF 122,40
LIT 23 600 HFL 58 UKL 13.40 USD 22.50

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 LIT 8 500 HFL 20,60 UKL 5 USD 11

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 LIT 1 200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0.75 USD 1.45

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15. Beretning fra Det stående Udvalg for sikkerheds- og sundhedsforhold i Kulminerne for året 1977.
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 LIT 11 300 HFL 27,50 UKL 6.60 USD 13.50

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CB-28-79-132-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0908-7
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 LIT 4 300 HFL 10,30 UKL 2.55 USD 5

CA-28-79-261-2A-C ISBN 92-825-1320-3
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 LIT 11 250 HFL 27,50 UKL 6.20 USD 13.60

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No publications / Pas de parution /
Nessuna pubblicazione / Niets verschenen

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CA-28-79-617-4A-C ISBN 92-825-1312-2
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LIT 8 500 HFL 20,60 UKL 5 USD 10

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Landbrugsmarkeder: priser. Vegetabiliske produkter 1973-1978. Juli 1979.
Agrarmärkte: Preise. Pflanzliche Produkte 1973-1978. Juli 1979.
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LIT 1 400 HFL 3,40 UKL 0.80 USD 1.70

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BFR 45 DKR 7,90 DM 2,85 FF 6,50
LIT 1 200 HFL 3,10 UKL 0.75 USD 1.45

CB-NS-79-017-DA-C ISBN 92-825-1219-3
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1979. 279 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL).

BFR 220 DKR 38,80 DM 14 FF 32
LIT 6 200 HFL 15,20 UKL 3.60 USD 7.50

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Ekspresinformation – Social sikring
Schnellbericht – Sozialschutz
Rapid information – Social protection
Note rapide – Protection sociale
Nota rapida – Protezione sociale
Spoedbericht – Sociale bescherming

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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Løn og indtægter
Schnellbericht – Löhne und Einkommen
Rapid information – Wages and incomes
Note rapide – Salaires et revenus
Nota rapida – Salari e redditi
Spoedbericht – Lonen en inkomens

(EN/FR)

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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Undervisning og uddannelse
Schnellbericht – Bildung und Ausbildung
Rapid information – Education and training
Note rapide – Éducation et formation
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(EN.FR)

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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

Ekspresinformation – Beskæftigelse og arbejdsløshed.
Schnellbericht – Beschäftigung und Arbeitslosigkeit.
Rapid information – Employment and unemployment.
Note rapide – Emploi et chômage.
Nota rapida – Occupazione e disoccupazione.
Spoedbericht – Werkgelegenheid en werkloosheid.

(EN.FR)

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 Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

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Roheisen und Stahlerzeugnisse – Grundpreise und Stahlunternehmen
Pig Iron and Steel – Basic Prices and Iron and Steel Undertakings
Fontes et aciers – Prix de base et entreprises sidérurgiques
Ghise ed acciai – Prezzi base e imprese siderurgiche
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Indicatori congiunturali dell'industria
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Månedsoversigt over transport
Monatsübersichten des Verkehrs
Monthly tables of transport
Tableaux mensuels des transports
Tabelle mensili dei trasporti
Maandgegevens van het vervoer

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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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Månedlig statistik for mælk
Monatliche Statistik von Milch
Monthly statistics of milk
Statistiques mensuelles du lait
Statistiche mensili del latte
Maandelijkse statistieken van melk

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Månedlig statistik for æg
Monatliche Statistik von Eiern
Monthly statistics of eggs
Statistiques mensuelles des œufs
Statistiche mensili delle uova
Maandelijkse statistieken van eieren

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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
Selling prices of vegetable products
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
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Agricultural Markets - Series Prices: Vegetable Products
Marchés agricoles - Série Prix: Produits végétaux
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Landbouwmakten - Serie Prijzen: Plantaardige produkten

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Monatsstatistik: Zucker
Monthly Statistics: Sugar
Statistiques mensuelles: Sucre
Statistica mensile: Zucchero
Maandstatistiek: Suiker

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EG—Index der Erzeugerpreise landwirtschaftlicher Produkte
EC—index of producer prices of agricultural products
Indice CE des prix à la production des produits agricoles
Indice CE dei prezzi alla produzione dei prodotti agricoli

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Ekspresinformation – Vegetabilsk produktion
Schnellbericht – Pflanzliche Erzeugung
Rapid information – Crop production
Note rapide – Production végétale
Nota rapida – Produzione vegetale
Spoedbericht – Plantaardige produktie

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Gratis / Gratuit / Gratuito

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Schnellbericht – Agrarpreise
Rapid information – Agricultural prices
Note rapide – Prix agricoles
Nota rapida – Prezzi agricoli
Spoedbericht – Landbouwprijzen

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**Ekspresinformation – Undervisning og uddannelse
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Rapid Information – Education and training
Note rapide – Éducation et formation
Nota rapida – Istruzione e formazione
Spoedbericht – Onderwijs en opleiding**

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**Vegetabilsk produktion
Pflanzliche Erzeugung
Crop production
Production végétale
Produzione vegetale
Plantaardige produktie**

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Monthly statistics of meat
Statistiques mensuelles de la viande
Statistiche mensili della carne
Maandelijkse statistieken van vlees**

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Monthly statistics of milk
Statistiques mensuelles du lait
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Maandelijkse statistieken van melk**

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Monthly statistics of eggs
Statistiques mensuelles des œufs
Statistiche mensili delle uova
Maandelijkse statistieken van eieren**

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**Salgspriser for animalske produkter
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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Salgspriser for vegetabiliske produkter
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Selling prices of vegetable products
Prix de vente de produits végétaux
Prezzi di vendita dei prodotti vegetali
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Einkaufspreise der Betriebsmittel
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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Bollettino trimestrale della pesca
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Monthly statistics: Sugar
Statistiques mensuelles: Sucre
Statistica mensile: Zucchero
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EG-Index der Erzeugerpreise landwirtschaftlicher Produkte
EC-index of producer prices of agricultural products
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Indice CE dei prezzi alla produzione dei prodotti agricoli

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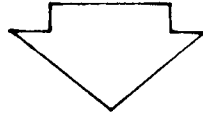
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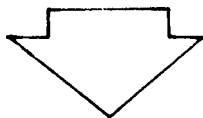
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