

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1977 - 1978

5 January 1978

DOCUMENT 473/77

ORAL QUESTION (0-78/77)

with debate, pursuant to Article 47 of the Rules of Procedure
by Mr NYBORG, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats
to the Council of the European Communities

Subject: Shipping

The European shipping industry is at present in a state of crisis inter alia because of the subsidy and dumping policies practised in this field by some non-member states.

The Community's importance in world trade is considerable and there is a natural connection between the possibilities for expansion in the shipping and shipbuilding industries and the unemployment problems in these sectors.

In view of the fact that the problems in the shipping industry must be solved in the context of international agreements, since a number of major shipping nations are not members of the Community:

1. Will the Council state whether it intends to ask the Commission to draw up a policy for the Community shipping and shipbuilding industries that can be reconciled with agreements at international level?
2. Does the Council intend to ask the Commission to submit proposals for the phasing out of subsidy arrangements in the shipbuilding

sector in the various Member States so as to avoid distortion of competition and bring about harmonization in the field of European shipping and shipbuilding policy?

3. Will the Council try to avoid unnecessary bureaucracy in the implementation of provisions needed for regulating shipping and shipbuilding at both Community and international levels?
4. Will the Council also ask the Commission to draw up proposals for total liberalization for ships registered in a member country and engaged in traffic between Community ports?