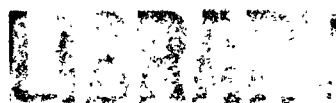


Annex

Official Journal

of the
European Communities

No 172
March 1974



English edition

Debates of the European Parliament

1973-1974 Session
Report of Proceedings
on 11 March 1974
Europe House, Strasbourg

Contents

Sitting of Monday, 11 March 1974	1
Resumption of the session, p. 2 — Tribute, p. 2 — Appointment of Members and verification of credentials, p. 2 — Reference to committee of two petitions, p. 3 — Authorization of a report, p. 3 — Documents received, p. 3 — Texts of treaties forwarded by the Council, p. 6 — Decision on urgent procedure, p. 6 — Limitation of speaking-time, p. 6 — Order of business, p. 7 — Statement by the President, p. 8 — Number and composition of parliamentary committees, p. 8 — Regulations on the common organization of the market in sugar, p. 12 — Regulation on the common organization of the market in cereals, p. 15 — Regulation on soya bean prices, p. 16 — Regulation on monetary compensatory amounts for processed agricultural products, p. 16 — Directive on health protection against the dangers of ionizing radiations, p. 19 — Approval of the minutes, p. 25 — Closure of the session, p. 25.	

NOTE TO READER

Appearing at the same time as the English edition are editions in the five other official languages of the Communities: Danish, German, French, Italian and Dutch. The English edition contains the original texts of the interventions in English and an English translation of those made in other languages. In these cases there are, after the name of the speaker, the following letters, in brackets, to indicate the language spoken: (DK) for Danish, (D) for German, (F) for French, (I) for Italian and (NL) for Dutch.

The original texts of these interventions appear in the edition published in the language spoken.

SITTING OF MONDAY, 11 MARCH 1974

Contents

1. Resumption of the session	2		
2. Tribute	2		
3. Appointment of Members and verification of credentials	2		
4. Reference to committee of two petitions	3		
5. Authorization of a report	3		
6. Documents received	3		
7. Texts of treaties forwarded by the Council	6		
8. Decision on urgent procedure	6		
9. Limitation of speaking-time	6		
10. Order of business:			
<i>Mr Bourges, chairman of the Group of European Progressive Democrats ..</i>	7		
<i>Mr De Koning, rapporteur</i>	7		
<i>Mr Durieux, chairman of the Liberal and Allies Group; Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, rapporteur; Mr Laban; Mr De Koning; Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker; Mr Lange, chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs ..</i>	7		
11. Statement by the President	8		
12. Number and composition of parliamentary committees - Debate on a motion tabled by the chairmen of the political groups: <i>Mr Thiry; Mr Giraud; Mr Thiry; Miss Lulling; Mr Vals, chairman of the Socialist Group; Mr Lagorce; Mr Durieux, chairman of the Liberal and Allies Group; Mr Mem-</i>			
		<i>mel; Mr Lücker, chairman of the Christian-Democratic Group; Mr Wohlfart; Mr Kollwelter; Miss Lulling</i>	
		<i>Adoption of the motion</i>	8
		13. Regulations on the common organization of the market in sugar - Debate on a report by <i>Mr De Koning</i> on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture:	
		<i>Mr De Koning, rapporteur</i>	12
		<i>Mr Liogier, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats; Mr John Hill, on behalf of the European Conservative Group; Mr Cippolla, on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group; Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities</i>	13
		<i>Adoption of the motion</i>	15
		14. Regulation on the common organization of the market in cereals - Debate on a report by <i>Mr De Koning</i> on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture:	
		<i>Mr De Koning, rapporteur</i>	15
		<i>Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities</i>	15
		<i>Adoption of the motion</i>	16
		15. Regulation on soya bean prices - Debate on a report by <i>Mr De Koning</i> on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture:	
		<i>Mr De Koning, rapporteur</i>	16
		<i>Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities</i>	16
		<i>Adoption of the motion</i>	16

16. Regulation on monetary compensatory amounts for processed agricultural products - Debate on a report by Mr Héger on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture:		behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment:	
Mr Héger, rapporteur	16	Mrs Walz, rapporteur	19
Mr Scott-Hopkins; Mr Cipolla; Mr Héger; Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities	17	Mr Lagorce, on behalf of the Socialist Group; Mr Premoli; Mr Eisma; Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities; Mr Premoli; Mr Scarascia Mugnozza	21
Adoption of the motion	19	Adoption of the motion	25
17. Directive on health protection against the dangers of ionizing radiations - Debate on a report by Mrs Walz on		18. Approval of the minutes	25
		19. Closure of the session	25

IN THE CHAIR: MR BERKHOUWER

President

(The sitting was opened at 5.05 p.m.)

President. — The sitting is open.

1. Resumption of the session

President. — I declare resumed the session of the European Parliament adjourned on 14 February 1974.

2. Tribute

President. — I have just received news that will come as a shock to all of us.

I would ask you to rise for a moment.

This morning our colleague André Armengaud died suddenly as a result of a heart attack.

He was about to leave our Parliament because his term of office was coming to an end.

Mr Armengaud was born on 10 January 1901 in Paris, graduated as a civil engineer from the *École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées* and was a member of the French Senate from 1946.

Mr Armengaud was one of the oldest Members, having been a Member of the Common Assembly from 1956 to 1958 and of the European Parliament from 1959.

For many years, he was the active and capable chairman of the Committee on Budgets and a member of the Committee on Development and Cooperation.

On behalf of us all I have sent condolences to his family.

I suggest that we observe a few moments' silence in memory of our colleague and friend.

(The Assembly observed a minute's silence.)

3. Appointment of Members and Verification of credentials

President. — The next item is the verification of credentials.

On 12 December 1973 the Senate of the French Republic renewed its delegation.

The following were appointed: Mr Houdet, Mr Berthoin, Mr Charles Durand, Mr Jozeau-Marigné, Mr Poher, Mr André Colin, Mr Pierre Giraud, Mr Pintat, Mr Brégégère, Mr Bousch, Mr Caillavet and Mrs Goutmann.

These Members have been appointed with effect from 13 March 1974 and for a term of office of two years.

On 20 February 1974 the German Bundestag appointed Mr Georg Schachtschabel as a Representative of the European Parliament to replace Mr Arndt.

Pursuant to Rule 3(1) of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau has made sure that these appoint-

President

ments comply with the provisions of the Treaties.

It therefore asks the House to ratify these appointments.

Are there any objections?

These appointments are ratified.

In addition, on 28 February 1974 the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Republic appointed Mr Giulio Andreotti and Mr Franco Concas Members of the European Parliament to replace Mr Malfatti and Mr Ballardini.

The credentials of these Members will be verified at the Bureau's next meeting, on the understanding that, under Rule 3(3) of the Rules of Procedure, they will provisionally take their seats with the same rights as other Members of Parliament.

I congratulate colleagues whose appointments have been renewed and welcome the new Members.

4. Reference to committee of two petitions

President. — At the sitting of 12 December 1973 I informed the House that I had received from Mr Vogel, Mrs Charbonnier, Mr Monier and 42 other signatories a petition condemning the military régime in Greece.

This petition was entered under No 5/73 in the register stipulated in Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure and referred to the Legal Affairs Committee for consideration.

By letter of 28 February 1974 the committee informed me that it considered Petition No 5/73 admissible.

Following the committee's proposals, the petition has been referred to the Political Affairs Committee, as the committee responsible, which, pursuant to Rule 48(4) of the Rules of Procedure, is to consider its content and adopt a position on its further treatment, and to the Committee on External Economic Relations, which is to deliver an opinion for the Political Affairs Committee on the economic and commercial aspects of this question.

I propose that the House take note of this reference to committee.

At the sitting of 15 February I informed the House that I had received a petition from Mr Feidt, Mr Bacioccola, Mr Rieffel and 17 other signatories on action taken following the resolution of the European Parliament on the military *coup d'état* in Chile.

This petition was entered under No 6/73 in the register and referred to the Legal Affairs Committee for consideration.

By letter of 28 January 1974 the committee informed me that it considered Petition No 6/73 admissible.

Following the committee's proposal, the petition has been referred to the Political Affairs Committee, which, pursuant to Rule 48(4) of the Rules of Procedure, is to consider its content and adopt a position on its further treatment.

I propose that the House take note of this reference to committee.

5. Authorization of a report

President. — Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Rules of Procedure I have authorized, at its request, the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth to draw up a report on the information programme of the Commission of the European Communities for 1974-75.

6. Documents received

President. — Since the session was adjourned, I have received the following documents:

(a) from the Council of the European Communities, requests for an opinion on:

- a supplement to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation modifying Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and No 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community (Doc. 347/73 - Supplement).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment;

- the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation supplementing Regulation (EEC) No 2142/70 as regards the import system for carp and trout (Doc. 375/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on External Economic Relations for its opinion;

- the amendments to the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for

President

- I. the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to analytical, pharmaco-toxicological and clinical standards and protocols in respect of the testing of proprietary medicinal products;
- II. the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to publicity for proprietary medicinal products and to package leaflets;
- III. the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to matters which may be added to proprietary medicinal products for colouring purposes (Doc. 377/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Public Health and the Environment;

- the communication from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on the implementation of the 'Guidelines and priority measures for a Community energy policy' (Doc. 386/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Public Health and the Environment and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs for their opinions;

- the amendments to the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for

- I. a regulation supplementing Regulation No 1009/67/EEC on the common organization of the market in sugar
- II. a regulation fixing for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year derived inter-intervention prices, intervention prices for raw beet sugar, minimum prices for beet, threshold prices, the guaranteed quantity and the maximum amount of the production levy
- III. a regulation amending Regulation No 120/67/EEC on the common organization of the markets in cereals
- IV. a regulation extending to soya beans the system of prices applicable to oil seeds (Doc. 388/73).

Parts I and II of this document have been referred to the Committee on

Agriculture, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on External Economic Relations for its opinion, and parts III and IV to the Committee on Agriculture;

- the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive amending the Council Directive of 15 February 1971 on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat (Doc. 389/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Public Health and the Environment, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion;

- the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels (Doc. 390/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Public Health and the Environment, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology for its opinion;

- the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Article 4(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 974/71 as regards the monetary compensatory amounts applicable to processed agricultural products (Doc. 397/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Budgets for its opinion;

- the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) N° 3574/73 of the Council of 27 December 1973 wholly or partially suspending common customs tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (Doc. 398/73).

This document has been referred to the Committee on External Economic Relations, as the committee responsible, and the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion;

- (b) from the committees the following reports:

- interim report by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker on behalf of the Committee on Development and Cooperation on the future sugar policy of the Community,

President

- with particular reference to imports of sugar from the developing countries and in the light of the Commission's Memorandum of 12 July 1973 (Doc. 376/73);
- report by Mr André Rossi on behalf of the Committee on Budgets on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the harmonization of excise duties on beer (Doc. 378/73);
 - report by Mr André Rossi on behalf of the Committee on Budgets on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision setting up a Committee on Excise Duties (Doc. 379/73);
 - report by Mr Pierre-Bernard Cousté on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations on the Agreement between the EEC and the Lebanese Republic (Doc. 380/73);
 - report by Mr Egon Alfred Klepsch on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations on the trade agreement concluded between the European Economic Community and the Federative Republic of Brazil (Doc. 381/73);
 - report by Mr Donal Creed on behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain pre-packaged products (Doc. 382/73);
 - supplementary report by Mr Karl-Heinz Walkhoff on behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment on the amended proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the approximation of Member States' legislation on cosmetic products (Doc. 383/73);
 - report by Mr James Gibbons on behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for
 - I. a decision on the setting up of a general committee on safety at work
 - II. a decision to confer on the Mines Safety and Health Commission the task of continuing its preventative action in the field of safety at work in the whole range of extractive industries (Doc. 384/73);
 - report by Mrs Elisabeth Orth on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive supplementary to Council Directive No 71/286/EEC, dated 26 July 1971, concerning statistical surveys to be carried out by Member States to determine the production capacity of certain fruit-tree plantations (Doc. 385/73);
 - report by Mrs Hanna Walz on behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive to amend the directives laying down basic safety standards for the health protection of the population and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiations (Doc. 387/73);
 - report by Mr Francis Vals on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the amendment to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 as regard the definition of liqueur wine and of certain grape musts (Doc. 392/73);
 - report by Mr Jan de Koning on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the amendments to the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for
 - I. a regulation supplementing Regulation No 1009/67/EEC on the common organization of the market on sugar
 - II. a regulation fixing for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year derived intervention prices, intervention prices for raw beet sugar, minimum prices for beet, threshold prices, the guaranteed quantity and the maximum amount of the production levy (Doc. 393/73);
 - report by Mr Jan de Koning on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the amendment to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation No 120/67/EEC on the common organization of the market in cereals (Doc. 394/73);
 - report by Mr Jan de Koning on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the amendment to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation extending to soya beans the system of

President

- prices applicable to oil seeds (Doc. 395/73);
- report by Mr Egon Alfred Klepsch on behalf of the Committee on Cultural Affairs and Youth on the Convention setting up a European University Institute (Doc. 396/73);
 - report by Mr Charles Emile Héger on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Article 4(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 974/71 as regards the monetary compensatory amounts applicable to processed agricultural products (Doc. 399/73);
 - report by Mr Cornelis Laban on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the organization of an intermediate survey as part of a programme of surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings (Doc. 400/73);
 - report by Mr Jan Baas on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation concerning the system of trade with third countries in the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables (Doc. 401/73);
 - report by Mr Pierre-Bernard Cousté on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations on the commercial cooperation agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India (Doc. 402/73);
 - report by Mr Giovanni Boano on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation modifying Council Regulation (EEC) No 3574/73 of 27 December 1973 on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (Doc. 404/73);
 - report by Mr Ferruccio Pisoni on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation modifying Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and No 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community (Doc. 405/73);
 - report by Lord Reay on behalf of the Committee on Development and Co-operation on the results of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Parliamentary Conference of the EEC-AASM Association (Rome, 30 January to 1 February 1974) — (Doc. 406/73);
 - report by Mr Jean-Eric Bousch on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs on the economic situation in the Community (Doc. 407/73).
- (c) from the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, a motion for a resolution on appropriate medium- and long-term measures for the further alleviation of the energy supply crisis in the European Community (Doc. 344/73 rev.).
7. *Texts of treaties forwarded by the Council*
- President.** — I have received from the Council of the European Communities certified true copies of the following documents:
- Exchange of letters amending Article 5 of Annex 1 to the agreement establishing an association between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco;
 - Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the supply of common wheat and skimmed milk powder as emergency food aid;
 - Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Chad on the supply of soft wheat, maize and sorghum as food aid.
- These documents will be placed in the archives of the European Parliament.
8. *Decision on urgent procedure*
- President.** — I propose that Parliament deal by urgent procedure with reports not submitted within the time-limits laid down in the rules of 11 May 1967.
- Are there any objections?
- The adoption of urgent procedure is agreed.
9. *Limitation of speaking-time*
- President.** — In accordance with the usual practice and pursuant to Rule 31(4) of the Rules

President

of Procedure, I propose that speaking-time for all items of the agenda be allocated as follows:

- 15 minutes for the rapporteur and one speaker for each political group;
- 10 minutes for other speakers;
- 5 minutes for speakers on amendments.

Are there any objections?

That is agreed.

10. *Order of business*

President. — The next item is the order of business for the sitting of today, Monday, 11 March 1974, the last day of the 1973-74 session.

At its meeting of 28 February 1974, the enlarged Bureau prepared a draft agenda, but in view of subsequent developments I propose that Parliament adopt the following order of business:

- Motion for a resolution tabled on behalf of the political groups on the number of committees of the European Parliament and their membership. (Doc. 391/73).

The report by Mr Schwabe on a system of bracket tariffs for the carriage of goods between Member States (Doc. 392/73) is not yet available. It will therefore be considered at a later sitting.

- Report by Mr De Koning on sugar prices (Doc. 393/73);
- Report by Mr De Koning on the common organization of the market in cereals (Doc. 394/73);
- Report by Mr De Koning on soya bean prices (Doc. 395/73);
- Report by Mr Héger on monetary compensatory amounts for processed agricultural products (Doc. 399/73);
- Report by Mrs Walz on health protection against the dangers of ionizing radiations (Doc. 387/73).

I call Mr Bourges.

Mr Bourges, Chairman of the Group of European Progressive Democrats. — (F) Mr President, Mr De Koning's report on the fixing of sugar prices was put on the agenda of the present part-session because a meeting of the Council of Agricultural Ministers was due to take place tomorrow. In the meantime, this meeting has been postponed. In addition, the House will have

occasion to return to this subject on Friday during the discussion of Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker's report on Community sugar policy. In the circumstances, it seems to us to be more logical to arrange a joint debate of these two reports, which could take place on Wednesday or Thursday.

This arrangement would enable the House to conduct a more thorough debate on the Community's sugar policy.

President. — Mr Bourges proposes that Mr De Koning's report on sugar prices should be removed from today's agenda and discussed at a later sitting together with the interim report by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker on the Community's sugar policy.

I call Mr De Koning.

Mr De Koning, rapporteur. — (NL) Mr President, I have no objection to Mr Bourges' proposal, but I should like to point out two things. Firstly, the connection between the report by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker and my report is not as close as Mr Bourges assumes. Secondly, I shall myself unfortunately be unable to be here next Friday. If the House accepts Mr Bourges' proposal, I would urge you to place these reports on Wednesday's or Thursday's agenda.

President. — I call Mr Durieux.

Mr Durieux, Chairman of the Liberal and Allies Group. — (F) Mr President, contrary to what some people think, I consider that these two reports should not be dealt with together; on this point I am in agreement with Mr De Koning. In any case, however the House decides, even if it decides for a joint debate on these two reports, I would prefer this debate not to take place on Friday. The number of Members present on Friday would be too small to justify dealing with a report of such importance. It was my intention to make this point on Wednesday morning during the discussion of the agenda for the new part-session.

I therefore see no objection to having a joint discussion of the two reports on condition that it takes place on Wednesday or Thursday at the latest, but in any case not on Friday.

President. — We still have to decide whether we are to discuss the report by Sir Douglas Doods-Parker on Wednesday or Thursday or whether we should postpone its discussion until a later part-session.

I call Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker.

Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, rapporteur. — I am delighted to hear the suggestion that my report should be discussed on Wednesday or Thursday. I was invited to draw up this report last September. I have been ready to present it since November, and I think that four months since then is quite long enough a delay. May I ask that it be taken on Wednesday? That is the day on which I was told last week it would be discussed.

President. — In view of the proposals that have been made, I should like to suggest to the House that these reports should not be discussed this evening but that we should take them together on Wednesday. The time required for preparation will prevent us from doing this today.

I call Mr Laban.

Mr Laban. — (NL) Mr President, I should like to express my support for the view advanced by the rapporteur, Mr De Koning. There is hardly any connection between the reports and, as I see it, we run the risk of seeing Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker's report removed from the agenda.

The important thing is that the sugar producers should know as quickly as possible what their production objectives should be. The reports caused no controversy in the Committee on Agriculture. I consider it most important that all three of Mr De Koning's reports be dealt with as quickly as possible.

President. — Mr Laban moves that Mr De Koning's report be dealt with separately from Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker's report.

What is the rapporteur's position?

Mr De Koning, rapporteur. — (NL) Mr President, I accept Mr Laban's proposal.

President. — The rapporteur agrees that his report could be discussed separately this evening.

I put to the vote the proposal made by Mr Laban and seconded by the rapporteur that the De Koning report on sugar be discussed this evening.

The proposal is adopted.

The problem remains as to when the House should deal with Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker's report. I call Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker.

Sir Douglas-Dodds-Parker, rapporteur. — Mr President, I assume from what you have just said that it can be taken Wednesday, which would appear to be the agreement of the

Assembly before we put this other point to the vote.

President. — I call Mr Lange.

Mr Lange, chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs. — (D) Mr President, I have no objection to Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker's report being dealt with on Wednesday, except that it should be taken before and not after the economic policy question, so that we do not have to go on into the evening with our discussion of these very important economic policy matters. In any case, Mr President, we shall be fixing the agenda tomorrow or Wednesday and need not therefore debate this now. That is all I wanted to say.

President. — We cannot reach a formal decision on this point during this sitting. The general view is, however, that we should discuss this report on Wednesday instead of on Friday.

Are there any objections to the proposed order of business?

That is agreed.

11. Statement by the President

President. — Contrary to the notice which has been distributed, the constituent meetings of the committees will take place tomorrow, 12 March 1974, and not today.

12. Number and composition of parliamentary committees - Debate on a motion tabled by the chairmen of the political groups

President. — I have received a motion for a resolution, with request that it be considered by urgent procedure pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure, on the number of committees of the European Parliament and their membership, tabled by Mr Lückner on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Radoux on behalf of the Socialist Group, Mr Durieux on behalf of the Liberal and Allies Group, Mr Liogier on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, Sir John Peel on behalf of the European Conservative Group, and Mr Amendola on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group (Doc. 391/73).

I would remind the House that we have already decided to treat all items on the agenda as urgent.

I therefore propose that we consider this motion for a resolution immediately.