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BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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European Economic Community
European Atomic Energy Community

Commission of the European Communities
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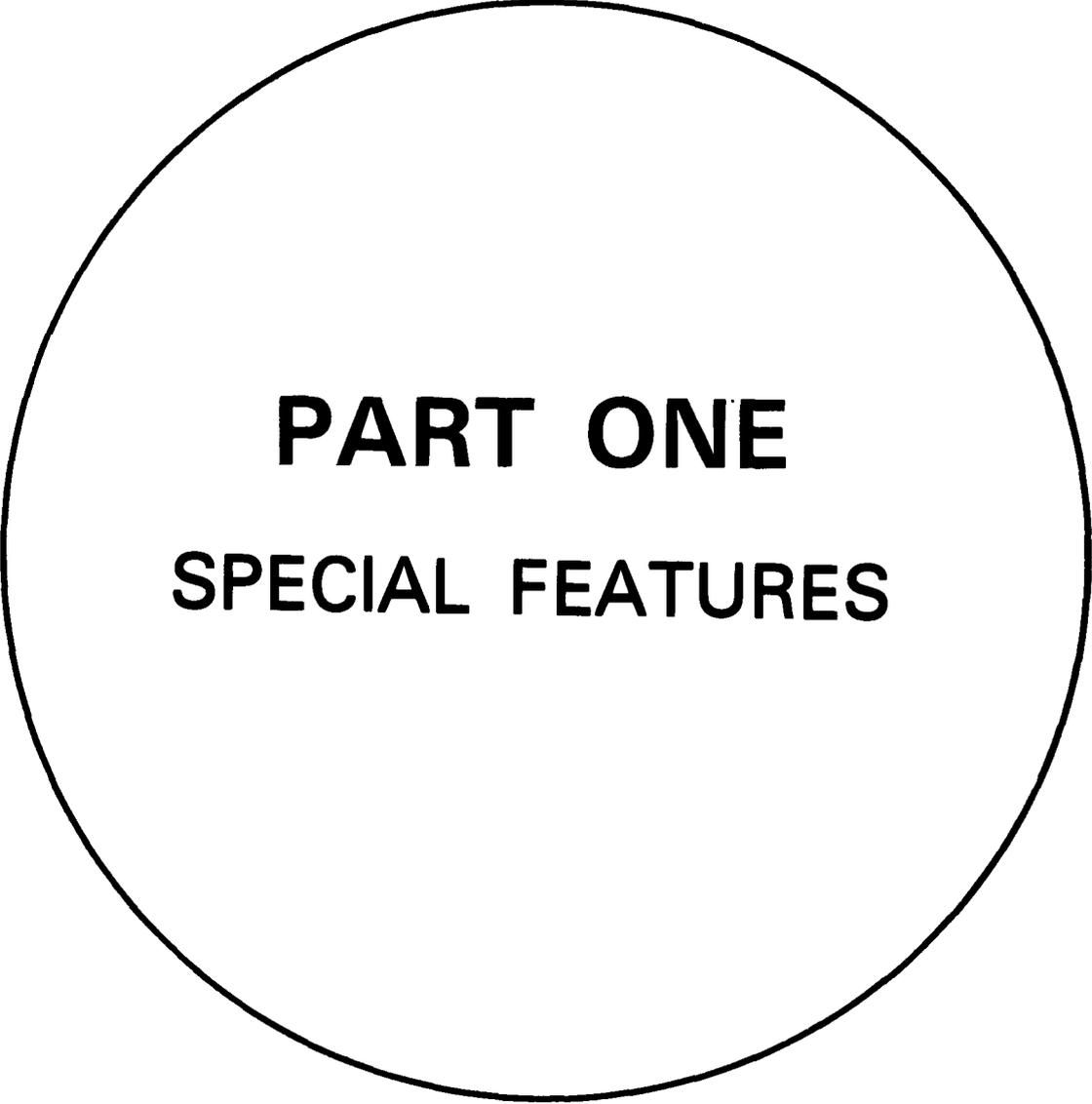
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PART ONE

SPECIAL FEATURES

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

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

DKR = Dansk krone

FF = Franc français

DM = Deutsche Mark

LIT = Lira italiana

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

UKL = Pound sterling

IRL = Irish pound

USD = United States Dollar

1. Spain's application for accession

Favourable response from the Commission

1.1.1. On 29 November the Commission adopted its Opinion on Spain's application for accession, which had been presented on 28 July 1977 by Mr Oreja, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, acting on behalf of his Government.¹

The Opinion should be read in the light of the Commission Communication to the Council dated 20 April 1978 on General Considerations on the Problems of Enlargement, and related documents—the 'Fresco'.²

In its Opinion the Commission greatly welcomes the prospect of seeing a democratic Spain become part of Europe and participate in its construction, and it has conveyed to the Council its favourable opinion on Spain's application for membership of the Community. The Commission considers that the accession negotiations should start as soon as possible and be conducted with determination to find the most satisfactory solutions to the problems to be tackled; it does not pretend that the integration of Spain will be straightforward, and it is therefore necessary for the sake of both the Community and Spain to take the necessary measures and precautions to ensure that the enterprise is successful. The yardstick of success will be whether Spain's economy can be integrated with the economy of the Community without intolerable strains on either side—with Spain being able to bridge progressively the gap still separating it from the Community—and whether, when the process of integration is complete, the Community emerges strengthened and not 'diluted'.

The need to strengthen the Community

1.1.2. The need to strengthen the Community has been proclaimed on many occasions and steps are already being taken in that direction outside the context of enlargement, though this prospect, and in particular the accession of Spain, far from detracting from the need for a stronger Community, makes that need all the more pressing and urgent.

This is a further argument in favour of seeking to ensure, as soon as possible, that there is the maximum degree of convergence of the objectives sought by the Community and by Spain, and that the means employed are appropriate. Accordingly, the Commission emphasizes in its Opinion the need to seek to work together with Spain, while the negotiations are going on, to discover what action should be taken by the two sides in the various fields. In view of the magnitude of the problems, there must be no delay in putting into effect measures to soften the impact of accession.

Industry

1.1.3. In industry three requirements need to be met:

- (i) elimination of the present imbalance in the dismantling of tariff and non-tariff barriers between the Community and Spain, this imbalance being a result of the way in which the 1970 preferential trade Agreement has been applied;
- (ii) harmonization of the basic conditions of competition—notably from the angle of taxation and aids;
- (iii) the speedy involvement of Spain in industrial restructuring schemes and in the common disciplines for the industries which are in crisis both in the Community and in Spain.

The impact of the dismantling of tariffs will be marginal for the Community, since the duties which it still applies to Spanish industrial products average around 3%; the impact on Spain will be stronger because the level of protection it enjoys from the customs tariff and non-tariff measures is distinctly higher, the 1970 Agreement not having been applied beyond the first stage. On the whole, however, the effects of the dismantling of tariff and non-tariff barriers will be appreciable only in relatively few sectors and it should therefore be possible to carry out the dismantling fairly rapidly. But this will not provide real solutions to any of the major problems. Such solutions will lie rather in the restructuring that will be necessary in Spain and in the Community.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

² Supplements 1/78 to 3/78 — Bull. EC.

Agriculture

1.1.4. The problems will result primarily from the level of self-supply which will be achieved by the enlarged Community for a number of products, notably the majority of Mediterranean products. Adoption of the common agricultural policy's mechanisms, for instance price levels and guarantees, will be bound to boost the growth of Spain's production capacity.

Enlargement will also bring with it a more than proportionate increase in the problems linked with the deficiencies in farm structures and with farmers' income differentials. It will therefore be necessary to step up efforts to reduce productivity differences between farms in the Community. Structural reform will have to match regional and sectoral requirements and will have to make allowance in particular for the situation of the least developed areas, which in fact would be the ones most affected by Spain's accession. The multiplication of the problems, affecting structures and markets, will make it all the more necessary for Community and national action in the various fields to be coordinated. It will be necessary to press ahead, before accession, with Community action in the field of structures and certain market organizations.

The active concerting of efforts with Spain will also be needed in order to ensure that any difficulties that might be encountered by the enlarged Community are not aggravated by divergent measures.

Regional and social policy

1.1.5. The preparatory measures should make it possible to achieve, both in industry and in agriculture, the fullest possible harmonization of the conditions of competition. Such measures should also be aimed at progressively diminishing the regional problems in the Community which might be exacerbated by enlargement and, so far as certain regions are concerned, by Spain's accession.

Restructuring measures in industrial sectors, both in Spain and in the Community, coupled with the acceler-

ation of the rural exodus, will inevitably have appreciable repercussions on employment in the initial stage. The size of the problems which the enlarged Community will face in the field of labour makes it even more necessary that special attention be paid to employment in the Community's coordination of Member States' economic and social policies, notably in order to ensure that, given the disparities between the rates of employment in different regions, unemployment does not force people to migrate.

In order to attain this objective, far-reaching measures should be implemented in the framework of regional programmes prepared with a view to accession. This means that adequate funds must be made available for the Community's regional policy. Such measures will of course be extended to the least-developed regions of Spain after accession.

External relations

1.1.6. The accession of Spain will have a dual impact on the Community's external relations. Firstly, it will further reinforce the Community's commercial power; secondly, it will affect certain aspects of external policy, above all in relations with the Mediterranean countries.

The consequences of Spain's accession will be relatively severe for certain of the Community's Mediterranean partners whose exports compete with those of Spain, since Spain's exports will tend to grow after accession. The Community must undertake as soon as possible an active policy to concert efforts with these countries and seek ways and means of restructuring trade.

Concerted measures

1.1.7. The preceding considerations bring out the scale and complexity of the problems arising from Spain's accession. Measures to restructure industry or strengthen agriculture, and regional schemes or social redeployment programmes require time and the mobilization of resources. Such action must be launched without delay as soon as negotiations are opened, for if a common market

is to be established between Spain and the existing Community without political, economic or social disturbance, the measures in question must have produced their effects. The Commission therefore feels that it must recommend an adequate transitional period, during which the measures to liberalize intra-Community trade and the free movement of workers may be progressively put into operation.

The transitional period

1.1.8. As the Commission stated in the 'Fresco', the transitional period must not be too long, and certainly not of indefinite duration, otherwise the cohesion of the Community might suffer. The length of the transitional period for the individual sectors, can be determined in the negotiations; in any case it should be tailored to the problems to be resolved and should be kept to the minimum compatible with the problems to be resolved.

The Commission considers that while it will be possible to undertake fairly rapidly the dismantling of tariffs and similar measures and the alignment of agricultural prices in the context of Spain's immediate adoption of the common agricultural policy, the introduction of common disciplines and coordination measures involving Spain are bound to take time. The mutual interest of the parties in ensuring that integration goes smoothly means that during this time measures permitting an orderly transition, and in particular a general safeguard clause, need to be maintained. The Commission considers that in delivering its Opinion on Spain's accession it should reiterate what it stated in the 'Fresco', namely that all these measures should be put into effect within no more than ten years.

It must be pointed out in this connection, however, that Spain will be a full member of the Community right from the first day of entry into force of the Act of Accession, and that it will participate in the transitional period as a full member, with all the duties and rights that its membership entails.

2. Creation of new own resources

1.2.1. The Commission sent a report to Parliament and the Council analysing the measures designed to meet the extra financial demands on the Community budget which will arise whenever the Community's own resources prove inadequate; in so doing, the Commission gave practical expression to the intention it has often stated in a number of communications to the budgetary authority during the year.¹ In its report the Commission examines factors which could serve as guiding principles for the decision which will have to be taken, with reference being made to institutional and economic aspects. At the present stage, it has done no more than state its own position, as it intends to put forward firm proposals at a later date.

1.2.2. The Community's present resources are based on the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources.² They include customs duties and agricultural levies collected at Community frontiers and the proceeds from up to 1% of VAT. Since this Decision was ratified by the national parliaments, a similar procedure would have to be adopted for any adjustments to the Communities' own resources.

These sources of financing lack buoyancy: they do not increase in line with increases in GNP, and indeed revenue from customs duties is decreasing in real terms.

The Commission pointed out in its budget estimates up to 1981³ that existing own resources will, in all probability, prove inadequate with regard to expenditure under the budget at the end of this period. It further believes that even on its earlier assumption of a cut-back in agricultural expenditure—which it would like to see happen—budgetary resources will still be inadequate to fund major new policies.

Consideration must also be given here to the prospect of enlargement since the Commission estimates do not take account of any new policy for Greece—which could become a member in 1981—or for the other applicant countries; the same is true for the entry into the budget of Community aid to ACP countries under the new Lomé Convention.

In the light of these factors, the Commission believes that a decision on the principle of new revenue for the

Community should be taken in good time for the 1982 Budget which, in view of the procedures to be followed, would require a decision by the Community before the end of 1979.

1.2.3. Given the nature of this problem, the Commission would prefer to prepare the ground for such a decision on which any subsequent proposal should be based; it has therefore set out its ideas now in the form of a working paper which can be used as the starting point for discussions not only within the Council and Parliament but also throughout the Community.

Among the alternative ways of raising additional revenue for the budget which the Commission considers in its report, borrowing is considered unsuitable even though this method of financing must—in the Commission's opinion—be contemplated under new common policies designed to stimulate investment. It likewise dismisses the principle of financial contributions. The conclusion reached by the Commission in its review is that a new type of own resource needs to be found. The study annexed to its Communication examines the various possibilities for this new type of own resource and the criteria which should govern its selection.

One of the institutional factors which the study recommends be taken into consideration is the need to embrace fully the concept of own resources as set out in the Treaty, i.e. tax resources payable directly by natural or legal persons in the Community, which are independent of decisions taken in the Member States and establish a direct link between the Community and the source of revenue. Turning to economic considerations, the study goes into the general principles of taxable capacity (ability to pay). It also draws attention to the choice between avoiding further widening of existing economic disparities (concept of non-regressivity), or attempting to narrow them by making use of the Budget's redistributive function (concept of progressivity). The Commission considers, as a matter of principle, that there must be no element of regressivity and that this fundamental point must be borne in mind when the final decision is taken.

The study investigates the possible ways of generating new own resources such as increasing the rate of VAT accruing to the Community, introducing a new tax on energy or petrol consumption or even transferring to the

¹ Bull. EC 5-1978, points 2.3.95, 2.3.96 and 2.3.99.

² OJ L 94 of 28.4.1970.

³ Supplement 6/78 — Bull. EC.

3. The fourth Tripartite Conference

New own resources

Community part of the revenue from existing taxes (e.g., on alcohol and cigarettes).

Since the proceeds from customs duties and agricultural levies are firmly established as Community revenue and there is no question of changing this system, the study advances the view that VAT is a sound basis for own resources since, despite the limitations and problems of the present system, it does have the advantage of being a tax which is uniformly borne by each Community citizen. Increasing the present rate also has the merit of being simple.

Finally, a corrective mechanism based on taxable capacity could be applied in order to adjust the overall impact of the revenue as a whole (with the exception of customs duties and agricultural levies); this mechanism could aim either at non-regressivity or at progressivity. At all events, the Commission believes it would be worthwhile investigating whether it would be possible to guarantee that the overall impact of Community resources (apart from customs duties and agricultural levies) would be progressive and what would be the best procedure for achieving this.

1.3.1. The fourth¹ Tripartite Conference, held in Brussels on 9 November, brought together the Ministers of Economic Affairs and Employment of the Member States and top-level representatives of workers' and employers' organizations. This meeting continued the work, begun at the previous Tripartite Conference in June 1977, of determining the actions needed to restore stability and full employment to the Community.

1.3.2. The discussion was based on a Commission document setting out the elements of a strategy for which the Commission requested the support and agreement of the participants at the Conference.

The main points of the Commission strategy were as follows:

- (i) reinforcement of economic growth through investment;
- (ii) intensified structural readaptation measures;
- (iii) appropriate labour market policies;
- (iv) certain work-sharing measures;
- (v) creation of more jobs in the private and public services sector.

This approach was favourably received by the participants at the Conference, who unanimously considered the document a good foundation for future work.

The results

1.3.3. Although participants approved of the general approach, no progress was made regarding the trade unions' main demand, which was for a 10% reduction in working time over the next four years, a proposal put forward by Mr Vetter, President of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC).

¹ Bull. EC 11-1975, points 1201 to 1205; 6-1976, points 1101 to 1105 and 6-1977, points 1.1.2 to 1.1.7.

The members of the employers' organizations and the Union of Industries of the European Community (UNICE) were unable to reach unanimous agreement to open a discussion on the question of work-sharing and the Chairman, Mr Lambsdorff, could do no more than include this item among the points to be examined in detail at future meetings.

The Chairman's conclusions

1.3.4. At the end of the Conference, the Chairman gave his own summary of the discussions, following the practice established at previous Conferences. He noted the points of agreement and submitted a programme of work to be undertaken by the Commission and discussed by the Standing Committee on Employment and the Economic Policy Committee.

1.3.5. The Tripartite Conference dealt primarily with growth and employment policy. Today's dialogue was particularly important because a return to a high level of employment is an essential objective of economic policy. There was a considerable degree of consensus in the assessment of the economic situation in Europe. The participants unanimously considered the document submitted by the Commission to be a good basis for further work in the Community. The earnest nature of today's discussions made it clear that the participants will take the ideas expressed at today's Conference as the basis for their future political decisions.

In particular it was recognized that progress had been made in combating inflation. At the same time, it was pointed out by certain participants that the overall level of inflation was still too high and that the differential in inflation rates among the Member States continued to be too marked. It was noted with satisfaction that disequilibria in the balance of payments had now been greatly reduced and there was therefore more scope for growth.

Progress towards a better economic balance in Europe was, however, being hampered by the major economic and social problems of insufficient growth and an un-

satisfactory employment situation. Only in some countries had there been a slight fall in the level of unemployment, which had been persistently high for a number of years; indeed, in other Community countries unemployment had even risen. This situation was a challenge to all those attending the Conference.

There was widespread agreement that the unsatisfactory employment situation was attributable to several causes. A comprehensive strategy by Community countries was accordingly called for, especially as future development will be made more difficult by the following factors:

- (i) demographic developments were responsible for a constant increase in the number of people seeking employment, in particular because of the growing number of school leavers and the increasing availability of women to take up a profession. As an additional factor, the number of people retiring annually had fallen in many countries;
- (ii) altered world economic circumstances and technical advance necessitated structural changes in economies with corresponding repercussions on production and employment.

The Conference agreed, albeit with minor differences, that the present Community policy was helping to improve medium-term growth prospects: the concerted overall efforts decided on by the European Council in Bremen and at the Bonn Summit had greatly improved the conditions for increased economic growth in the Community. The individual countries had introduced measures accordingly which had given a boost to growth without again upsetting the balance of payments or endangering the success of the vital anti-inflation measures. The December European Council would provide an opportunity to make an initial interim assessment of the situation.

This concerted economic action was an important condition for further economic recovery in Europe. The action already under way to remove obstacles to the constant strengthening of the economic growth rate must be continued and stepped up by all those concerned. In the next few years, greater growth was needed, not only to increase the level of employment permanently, but also to improve the quality of living, environmental and employment conditions generally and to reduce social disparities.

Higher job investment must be the cornerstone of the future strategy. However, it was generally agreed that an adequate level of investment could only be achieved if

a slower rise in costs and adequate demand could be expected both at home and abroad. Employers and unions would need to be mindful of this in taking their autonomous decisions.

In this connection, a number of participants underlined the importance for the continued growth of investment of a genuine (i.e. inflation-free) improvement in the financial strength and profitability of firms.

All those attending the conference acknowledged that an increase in public investment was also vital to lasting growth. The consolidation of public deficits which would be necessary over the next few years should not, therefore, cause public investment-spending to suffer.

World economic conditions had radically altered in recent years, compelling many firms to implement fundamental structural adjustments.

The responsibility for structural adjustments lay primarily with the firm itself. The Member States and the Community should, by appropriate framework conditions, support market-generated adaptation and innovation processes—more especially by promoting research and development—and foster willingness to make structural changes. Where such adjustments gave rise to mounting employment problems, subsidiary and temporary state adjustment aid was also needed, however, such as, for example, had been decided on for the steel industry at Community level. A number of participants also took the view that structural problems could be more effectively resolved through greater overall economic and industrial planning.

It was generally recognized that, in order to improve the employment situation, use should also be made of the possibilities and market opportunities available for public and private services, particularly since this could also lead to an improvement in the quality of life. Development programmes should therefore not be directed merely towards the needs of industry or the large industrial firms; they should also take full account of the services sector and the particular opportunities and risks for the small and medium-sized firm.

With reference to the public services sector and its expansion, the financial constraints had to be observed, however. Some Member States made it clear that they could not extend public administration any further.

It was agreed that the differences in the level of development between the regions of the Community must be reduced, particularly by mobilizing unused productive

resources in the less developed areas. The doubling of the capital of the European Investment Bank and the 80% increase in the Community Regional Fund endowment for the years 1978-81 were important steps in this direction. The measures to support agriculture in the Mediterranean regions of the Community were also a contribution.

All the participants agreed that in the entry negotiations with Spain, Portugal and Greece, account had to be taken of the particular development problems of those countries on the basis of the financial means available.

Although there was general agreement that the best way of combating unemployment was to create new jobs by implementing an active policy of growth coupled with higher investment and improved competitiveness, it would be unrealistic to expect traditional economic measures to resolve the unemployment problem overnight. Special employment policy measures would therefore have to be considered as well.

The majority of the participants agreed that every possibility of improving opportunities for youth employment not least in the public sector, must be explored to the full. Measures at Community level were also important in this connection.

In addition, measures were required to assist special problem groups (e.g. handicapped persons, older unemployed persons, mothers who wished to return to work). More use should be made of the possibilities for part-time work and more suitable jobs offered.

The workforce must be made more mobile and flexible through lasting efforts in the field of training, further training and retraining. At the same time the employment services must be so organized that vacant posts could be filled quickly by candidates seeking the kind of post in question. Some countries had already taken measures to this effect. The unions also felt that the importance and compatibility of employment premiums should be discussed more intensively at European level.

Views on the subject of shorter working hours were particularly varied. The unions' view was that work-sharing measures should be introduced side-by-side with the growth strategy. They called for basic agreement to be reached as soon as possible throughout the Community to reduce working hours overall by 10% in the next four years, by reducing the working week, increasing annual holidays and lowering the retirement age.

The employers' reaction to work-sharing measures was reserved, if not unfavourable. It was stressed in particu-

lar by employers that no hasty conclusions should be drawn until the impact of the proposed measures on the working methods and costs situation of the firms concerned had been more closely analysed. They feared that shorter working hours might impede production, particularly because of the reduced mobility and additional costs these would involve, with a corresponding adverse effect on the labour market situation. In their view, a more detailed structural analysis of unemployment was desirable.

The Government representatives referred to the position they had adopted in the Standing Committee on Employment. They recognized that reductions in the total number of hours spent working had already been made in the past and that a reduction in the working week tailored to the present competitive and financial situation as well as to the possibilities open to individual sectors might go some way towards improving the employment situation. They emphasized that agreements in this area should be negotiated primarily by the parties to a pay agreement. The main concern of any such agreements should be the effect on jobs and job-creating investment.

It was vital in the present situation that all those concerned should be aware of their social responsibility and of their solidarity with job-seekers. This also meant that where decisions were being taken on overtime working, particular consideration should be given to the alternative of taking on more staff. All abuse of the system whereby workers were seconded to different undertakings should be stopped.

Those attending the Tripartite Conference agreed that protectionism in external trade was to be avoided, since it could jeopardize millions of jobs throughout the European Economic Community. They therefore advocated the continuation of free world trade and the abandonment of protectionist principles, particularly in the current GATT negotiations. They expressed the hope in this connection that the USA and the other important industrial countries would do their utmost to ensure the successful outcome of the GATT negotiations. They also emphasized that the conditions for fair and just trade and competition should be respected by every country having a share in world trade and that special precautionary measures had therefore to be taken in the context of GATT.

All the participants advocated closer cooperation with the developing countries. The Community and the

Member States would continue and step up their development aid throughout the world.

The new European Monetary System agreed to in principle by the European Council in Bremen ought, in the view of the Tripartite Conference, to contribute decisively to improving the conditions for growth and employment on a permanent basis. The system should be so designed as to be lasting and credible and its impact should be neither deflationary nor inflationary. Moreover, the Governments and both sides of industry must work towards greater convergence of economic policy and development.

The Conference urged the Council of the European Communities and the Governments of the Member States to frame their economic and social policy decisions around the results of the Conference:

- (i) the common strategy decided at the European Council in Bremen and at the Bonn Summit, aimed at strengthening economic growth and improving the employment situation, must be implemented at the earliest opportunity in every country. Both sides of industry would play their part in promoting lasting growth, thereby bringing about lasting improvement in the employment situation;
- (ii) the European Monetary System must be directed towards helping to resolve problems in the areas of growth and employment;
- (iii) the Tokyo Round GATT negotiations must be brought to a successful conclusion as soon as possible;
- (iv) the conditions for structural change must be improved through appropriate measures;
- (v) fresh impetus must be given to the efforts to reduce disparities in the level of development of different regions of the Community;
- (vi) the special measures introduced to deal with youth employment and problem groups must be stepped up;
- (vii) the opportunities for training, further training and retraining must be adapted to the need for greater flexibility, mobility and qualifications on the part of the workers.

The Commission was instructed to promote the development of the economic and employment situation on the basis of the document it had submitted, in the light of the discussions at the Tripartite Conference and in regular consultations with representatives from both sides of industry. A number of the topics raised at this Conference should moreover be examined in greater detail

4. EEC-ASEAN ministerial meeting

Tripartite Conference

by the Commission, and discussed in the Standing Committee on Employment and the Economic Policy Committee. The following topics in particular should be discussed:

- (i) prospects and opportunities for more part-time work;
- (ii) practical possibilities for reducing the working week and their impact on employment and economic growth;
- (iii) more job and training opportunities for young people and women;
- (iv) possibilities for greater flexibility on the labour market;
- (v) extent and compatibility of employment premiums in the Community;
- (vi) effect of external trade, in particular the increasing integration of the developing countries in the world economy, on the employment structure of the Community;
- (vii) removal of barriers to job-creating investment;
- (viii) importance for growth and employment of public investment in infrastructure.'

*

1.3.6. At its 15 November sitting Parliament¹ adopted a Resolution on the results of the Tripartite Conference.

¹ Point 2.3.7 and OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

A milestone in the development of the Community's external relations

1.4.1. The first ministerial meeting between the European Communities and their Member States and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) was held in Brussels on 20 and 21 November. Those present included the Foreign Ministers of the five ASEAN countries and the Nine, and Mr Jenkins and Mr Haferkamp representing the Commission. The session was formally opened by Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, President of the Council.

The discussion ranged over virtually all the matters of common interest to the two parties and agreement was reached on many points, including the need to intensify considerably the cooperation between the Community and ASEAN and consequently to determine the bases and details of a cooperation agreement as soon as possible. The conclusions reached at the close of this ministerial meeting were embodied in a Joint Declaration.¹

At an informal meeting between the ASEAN Ministers and the Commission on 22 November, information was exchanged on various matters relating to the stepping up of cooperation between the two groups of countries. In conjunction with this meeting, Mr Jenkins and Mr Upadit Pachariyangkun, the Thai Foreign Minister, signed an agreement concerning the opening of a Commission Delegation to the countries of South and South-East Asia in Bangkok in the next few months.

The significance of the EEC-ASEAN ministerial meeting lies less in the practical deci-

¹ Point 1.4.4.

sions taken, important as they may be, than in the heightened political awareness of the new openings that have emerged for inter-regional cooperation. This consideration was undoubtedly in the thoughts of Mr Carlos Romulo, Foreign Minister of the Philippines, when he described the discussions as a 'voyage of mutual rediscovery between two regions which once had close ties but drifted apart in the post-colonial era'.

Historical background to EEC-ASEAN relations

1.4.2. ASEAN was established in Bangkok on 8 August 1967. According to the 'ASEAN Declaration' of the five countries involved, the aims of the Association are to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development and, through active cooperation and mutual assistance on matters of common interest, to promote regional peace and stability.

The ASEAN countries, situated at the crossroads of the major Asian cultures and sharing a history of glory alternating with hardship, had realized that unless they pooled their efforts they would never be able to face the challenges of the post-colonial era. However, in the absence of sufficiently precise text and binding structures, the first ventures were on a fairly modest scale. It was not until the Bali Summit of February 1976 that these weaknesses were remedied: a permanent secretariat was set up under the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation tightening the organization's structures and increasing the number of reference bodies, while a further formal text, the Declaration of ASEAN Concord, spelled out the Association's functions and aims.

Very soon after these reforms ASEAN embarked on a programme of trade, tariff, financial and industrial measures as a first step towards economic integration.

The united stand taken by the Five on most major issues in international forums has strengthened their position significantly and enables them to negotiate on an equal footing with the great economic powers—United States, Japan and now the EEC. This is entirely appropriate, given that the Association has a total population

of a least 250 million as well as an economic growth rate (6.3 to 8.9% during the period 1970-76) and, even more important, an investment rate which are currently the highest in the world.

Cooperation between the Community and ASEAN

1.4.3. ASEAN made the first move to bring about closer relations with the European Community at the time of the United Kingdom accession negotiations. The first result was a Joint Declaration of Intent in which the enlarged Community undertook 'to examine (with the developing independent Commonwealth countries in Asia) such problems as may arise in the field of trade with a view to seeking appropriate solutions, taking into account the effect of the generalized tariff preference scheme and the situation of the other developing countries in the same geographical area.'

It then became important for the ASEAN countries to coordinate their relations with the EEC. Two bodies were therefore set up around that time: the SCCAN (Special Coordinating Committee of ASEAN Nations), consisting of the Ministers of Trade of the Five, and the ABC (ASEAN Brussels Committee) composed of the ASEAN Ambassadors to the Community.

The first EEC-ASEAN contact at ministerial level dates back to June 1972 when a delegation led by Mr Sumitro, the Indonesian Trade minister, was received by the Commission at a special sitting. The regular visits exchanged since then at all levels—up to the very highest—have undoubtedly furthered and speeded up effective cooperation between the parties.

Following the signing of a Commercial Cooperation Agreement with India in December 1973 and the Community's decision to offer similar agreements to the other countries of the Indian subcontinent, the Commission sounded out the ASEAN States as to whether they would be interested in similar agreements. It emerged that they were all in favour of a cooperation agreement being concluded between the EEC and the five ASEAN countries as a group, which could not be envisaged as long as ASEAN lacked the requisite institutional structures. It was therefore agreed to set up a Joint Study

Group (JSG), composed of officials of the two organizations, which met for the first time in June 1975¹ and provides a forum for exploring the whole range of economic problems within the Community's scope and in particular the various areas of application of the Community's global policy of development aid.

The JSG's work has therefore furthered the preparation of annual adjustments to the generalized system of preferences of particular relevance to ASEAN, the framing of regulations on the origin of products for the ASEAN region (entrepot trade and cumulative origin) and the organization of seminars on the operation and use of preferences. Due use has been made of the Community budgetary items relating to development cooperation to finance projects in South-East Asia, especially in the sectors of trade promotion, retraining of officials responsible for regional integration problems and the training of managers and technicians from small and medium-sized firms.

Community cooperation with ASEAN has, however, been particularly significant in the sector of industrial cooperation and investment: two highly successful seminars on the transfer of technology have been held, one in Singapore in 1977 and the other in Kuala Lumpur this year. Close liaison has also been established between the Community Business Cooperation Centre and the ASEAN investment boards. Lastly, in April 1977,² a conference on industrial cooperation organized in Brussels with the help of a major banking group brought together for the first time some 500 businessmen and senior officials from the two regions. A similar conference is to be held in Djakarta in February 1979.

Since the Bali Summit, ASEAN has been seeking to broaden its contacts with all Community institutions and with representatives of Member States in particular. These efforts to 'institutionalize the dialogue' between the two groups of countries initially took the form of meetings between the Ambassadors of the Five in Brussels and the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Commission—in November 1977³ and again in July this year.⁴ ASEAN stressed the importance of ministerial EEC-ASEAN meetings, along the lines of the deliberations that had already taken place between the Asian ministers and their Japanese, Australian, New Zealand and United States counterparts.

Joint Declaration

1.4.4. This first ministerial meeting was therefore a source of general satisfaction and can be regarded as a success, crowned by the adoption of substantial Joint Declaration. The most important passages of this text are set out below:

'The ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Community exchanged views on current regional and international issues and developments. They reaffirmed their commitment to world peace, international cooperation and understanding, economic development and social justice. The discussions took place in a spirit of friendliness and understanding.

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Community welcomed the favourable development of ASEAN as a regional organization committed to economic growth, social progress and cultural development. They recognized ASEAN as a factor of stability and ASEAN as a factor of stability and balance which contributes to the maintenance of peace in South-East Asia.

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Community reaffirmed their support for ASEAN's efforts to achieve self-reliance, progress and stability on the basis of economic, social and cultural cooperation.

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of ASEAN recognized the work of European integration and the role played by the Europe of the Nine as a factor of economic and political stability and as an element of balance in international relations. They welcomed the outward-looking character of this integration exemplified by the desire of the member states to cooperate with ASEAN.

The Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Community and ASEAN underlined the importance which they attach to the pursuance and development of relations and reaffirmed their common will to broaden the scope of their cooperation on the basis of

¹ Bull. EC 6-1975, point 2349.

² Bull. EC 4-1977, point 2.2.80.

³ Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.2.75.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.80.

equality, respect and mutual benefit. They also agreed that this cooperation should serve their people by promoting greater prosperity, social justice and human rights...

The Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and of the Member States of the European Community viewed with serious concern the unabated flow of Indochinese refugees to the ASEAN countries. Conscious of the international implications of the problem as well as its humanitarian aspects, the Foreign Ministers of the member states of ASEAN and the European Community which have already taken steps to resolve this problem, held the view that international efforts for the expeditious resettlement of the refugees require further international consideration and deserve wider support...

ASEAN and the Community reaffirmed their determined support for international action leading to a new international economic order. They underlined the importance of achieving solutions to the outstanding problems and agreed to cooperate constructively in the coming international meetings on the outstanding issues in the North-South Dialogue, including UNCTAD V in Manila in May 1979.

They agreed on the need to arrive urgently at decisions to implement agreements reached during the Conference on International Economic Cooperation in May 1977 in particular in so far as commodity policy was concerned. The Ministers placed particular emphasis on the Integrated Programme for Commodities (IPC) and the early establishment of a Common Fund. They also agreed to cooperate closely in efforts to establish appropriate individual commodity agreements or arrangements .

ASEAN expressed its concern over measures which had been or might be adopted by the Community and which would have the effect of inhibiting exports of particular importance to ASEAN. Referring to the significant growth in the ASEAN-Community mutual trade, the Community emphasized that recent measures are of a temporary nature and must be viewed against the background of the special situation in a few sectors.

Both sides agreed that, in so far as was possible, and as was at present the case, they would seek each other's views where measures were being considered which could have an adverse effect on trade between the two regions...

ASEAN urged that, in order to facilitate ASEAN's efforts to increase exports to the Community, the Com-

munity should remove or relax tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and should also consider tariff reclassification and the stream-lining of administrative procedures. ASEAN furthermore emphasized the importance of the Community's generalized system of preference to the economic development of the ASEAN member countries and urged the Community to further improve its GSP and to make it a permanent feature of its policy...

The Community recognized the importance of ASEAN as a major supplier of many key commodities and expressed its willingness to examine, within a global context, what possibilities there were for guaranteeing the stabilization of the export earnings of the developing countries, including ASEAN, as a complement to other measures. Both sides undertook to consider favourably the possibility of promoting long-term arrangements among economic operators of the two regions for the supply of commodities.

Bearing in mind the potentials of the ASEAN region and noting the important role of foreign investment in the development of the ASEAN economies and in accelerating and diversifying their industrial capacities, the Ministers agreed on the mutual interest of the Community and ASEAN encouraging European investments in the ASEAN countries. In this connection, the Ministers agreed on the importance of investments by Community private sectors in industries including, among others, those which are labour intensive, those which rely on ASEAN's raw materials and those which would raise the technological capabilities of the ASEAN member countries...

ASEAN welcomed the extension of the Community's financial and technical assistance programmes in favour of the non-associated developing countries to cover also regional projects supplementary to the Community assistance to development projects in individual ASEAN member countries. The Community undertook to pay increased attention to ASEAN regional projects in future programmes..

The Community recognized that ASEAN is a developing region and agreed that cooperation between ASEAN and the Community should be expanded in such a manner as to contribute to ASEAN's efforts in enhancing its self-reliance and economic resilience. The two sides noted that the work of the ASEAN-Commission Joint Study Group had strengthened relations between the two regional groupings. In this context, they noted the study on long-term cooperation between ASEAN and the Community which is currently in progress.

5. A forestry policy for the Community

Community-ASEAN

It was further noted that the establishment of a dialogue as Ambassadorial level between the Permanent Representatives of the Member States to the European Communities and the Commission of the European Communities and the ASEAN Ambassadors to the Communities, had led to an intensification of Community-ASEAN cooperation.

The Community stated that the Commission would open a delegation in Bangkok in the course of 1979. ASEAN welcomed this decision.

Against this background and that of the already prevailing economic cooperation between ASEAN and the Community, and in the light of the discussions which had taken place during the meeting, ASEAN and the Community agreed that it would be desirable to place the relations between the two groupings on a more formal footing and, to this end, it was agreed that exploratory discussions on the content of a possible cooperation agreement should shortly be started between the two sides.

The Ministers agreed that this ASEAN-Community Ministerial Meeting ushered in a new era in the relations between ASEAN and the Community and that it had been very useful and beneficial to both sides.¹

1.4.5. This meeting was therefore a new development: never before had the Foreign Ministers of the EEC Member States welcomed, within the Community framework, their opposite numbers from a Third World regional grouping not associated with the Community. The friendly atmosphere and positive approach of these discussions confirmed the mutual will to establish closer links. This will reflects the new consciousness of the economic interdependence of the two regions and the much greater impact that could be achieved through an interregional rather than a bilateral approach to development problems. It shows to that both sides have become more aware of the advantages that can be expected from closer cooperation within the fast changing framework of South-East Asia.

Major initiative by the Commission

1.5.1. The Commission has put a proposal to the Council for the preparation of a forestry policy involving common objectives and principles for the nine Member States. Joint projects will be planned wherever they are needed to attain the objectives.

After several years of preparatory studies and in response to urgent representations by national authorities and industrialists' and landowners' associations, the Commission on 29 November approved for transmittal to the Council a Communication on forestry policy in the European Community together with a draft resolution concerning the objectives and principles of forestry policy¹ and a proposal for a Council Decision to set up a Forestry Committee.

This is the Commission's first major initiative in forestry, which had hitherto been approached only through projects of limited scope in sectors covered by other policies.²

The reasons for this initiative

1.5.2. Over the years the need to define forestry policy objectives for the Community has become a matter of urgency.

The fact that forests cover 31 million ha, or one fifth of the Community's land surface, that they correspond to one third of the agricultural area and that the Community accounts for one third of world trade in timber and timber products proves, if proof were needed, how important this sector is for the economy. It should also be borne in mind that forests provide one of the few, renewable natural resources in a world where rapidly growing populations and raw-material-consuming industrialization are making such resources even more precious. Hence the need for optimal management of forests throughout the world, and notably in the Community.

¹ OJ C 301 of 15.12.1978.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 2.1.97 to 2.1.99.

The demands on forests

1.5.3. There are several reasons in favour of the development of new action going beyond the national forestry and planning policies which for a long time now have been applied successfully in the Member States, now that forests are currently experiencing severe increased pressures. Forests are required to serve several, sometimes conflicting, purposes: they must provide more and more timber, while helping to conserve the environment, offer recreational facilities and even create jobs and raise living standards in the less-favoured rural regions.

Because of these many functions, forestry policy thus influences and is influenced by other national and Community policies. The supply of timber to the forestry industries represents an essential component of the raw materials and industrial policies. Close links exist with the agricultural and regional policies, since large forest areas and marginal and submarginal agricultural land are situated in the poorest regions of the Community and forests and the industries which they support provide jobs and help to ensure a reasonable standard of living for the local populations.

The main contribution of forests to social policy consists in the fact that they enable town and city dwellers to take advantage of nature. The contribution of forests to the conservation of soil, water courses, plant life, wild life and the countryside represents a link with environment policy.

This link is illustrated by the proposal for a Council Regulation on forestry measures in certain dry Mediterranean zones of the Community¹ and by the section on forestry in the second Community action programme for the environment (1977-81).²

Effects of the Community's deficit

1.5.4. The Community balance of payments deficit for timber and timber products stands at around 8 000 million units of account per year and is exceeded in size only by the oil sector. It will continue to grow ap-

preciably well beyond the end of this century if fresh initiatives are not forthcoming.

It is estimated that annual needs—totalling at present some 200 million cubic metres—will increase by around 2% annually, while production from the Community's 31 million ha of forests—80 million cubic metres—will rise by only 1% per year. Moreover, the viability of the timber industries in the Community depends on increasing the supply of timber grown in the Community.

Finally, the often precarious situation of almost three million owners of small forestry holdings which account for 60% of forests in the Member States in deserving of the Community's attention.

The enlargement of the Community to include Greece, Spain and Portugal would increase the forest area by about two-thirds and timber production by a little over one-third, while net imports of timber and timber products would rise slightly. However, Mediterranean forestry would present a bigger problem since the forests in those parts of the Community would then represent 53% of the whole as against 28% now.

Principles and objectives

1.5.5. Principles: forests should be protected and managed as a renewable resource to supply products and services which are essential to the quality of life in the European Community now and in the future. Objectives: a sustainable increase in the economic production of timber; the conservation and improvement of the environment; public access to forests for recreation.

Forests cannot be managed sensibly if their various functions and links with other policies are considered separately and piecemeal and treated as incidentals to other policies.

In the light of the present situation and of the future prospects, the Commission therefore decided that it had to sketch out the objectives to be attained in forestry, an area whose importance has hitherto tended to be neglected among the other policies of the Community.

¹ OJ C 117 of 20.5.1978.

² OJ C 139 of 13.6.1977.



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN NOVEMBER 1978**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

European Monetary System

2.1.1. Following its discussion on the establishment of a European Monetary System, the Council reached agreement on 20 November on many constituent parts of this system and succeeded in reconciling views on other aspects, so that only a few questions were left outstanding for discussion by the European Council on 4 and 5 December.

The Council also discussed a report submitted to it by the Economic Policy Committee on the study of the measures necessary, within the framework of the European Monetary System, to strengthen the economies of the less prosperous Member States ('concurrent studies').¹

Medium-term financial assistance

2.1.2. The Council has approved² the details of an Agreement, in the form of an exchange of letters, between the Community and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) concerning the mobilization of claims held by Member States under the medium-term financial assistance arrangements. This Agreement provides, where one or more Member States which are creditors under the medium-term financial assistance system experience difficulties or are seriously threatened by balance of payments problems, for the mobilization of the claims by that State or those States through refinancing by the BIS. This refinancing will be based on stand-by credit agreements which the BIS will conclude with the creditor countries' central banks if they should so request. The details of each stand-by agreement will be

determined by agreement between the BIS and the central bank in question.

Monetary Committee

2.1.3. The Monetary Committee held its 245th meeting in Brussels on 6 and 7 November, with Mr van Ypersele in the chair. In accordance with the successive mandates given it by the European Council in Bremen, it adopted a final report on the European Monetary System.

The Working Party on the harmonization of Monetary Policy Instruments also met in Basle on 30 November, with Mr Bastiaanse in the chair, and adopted a second interim report.

Economic Policy Committee

2.1.4. The Economic Policy Committee held its 71st meeting in Brussels on 6 November, with Mr Tietmeyer in the chair. The Committee completed its study of the measures necessary, within the framework of the European Monetary System, to reinforce the less prosperous economies in the Community and adopted a report to the Council.

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2.1.5. On 17 November Parliament³ passed a Resolution on the revival of economic and monetary union and delivered its Opinion on two Commission proposals: one on the introduction of a European Monetary System⁴ and the other on the annual report on the econ-

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.2.

² OJ L 316 of 10.11.1978.

³ Point 2.3.5 and OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

⁴ OJ C 266 of 10.11.1978 and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.3.

omic situation in the Community.¹ The Economic and Social Committee also delivered Opinions on these two proposals at its session on 29 and 30 November.²

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Motorcycles

2.1.6. On 23 November³ the Council formally adopted the Directive, on which agreement had been reached in October,⁴ on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound level and exhaust system of motorcycles.⁴

Construction products

2.1.7. On 30 November the Commission sent the Council—a proposal for an outline Directive on the approximation of the laws relating to construction products and a proposal for a Resolution laying down a list of priority products to be covered by the approximation procedure.

The Directive, which is based on Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, has a special, politically very important feature: it confers on the Commission, in accordance with the fourth indent of Article 155 of the Treaty, the power to adopt specific implementing directives. This proposal is in line with a recommendation by Parliament for improved procedures removing technical barriers to trade.

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2.1.8. At its 17 November sitting Parliament⁵ delivered its Opinion on two Commission proposals relating to protection structures and towing hooks on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.⁶

Free movement of persons and right of establishment

Professions

Doctors

2.1.9. The Advisory Committee on Medical Training, meeting on 28 and 29 November, adopted an opinion on part-time training of specialists, which the Commission had requested to help it decide whether the Council Directive of 16 June 1975 needs to be adapted;⁷ Article 3 of the Directive requires the Commission to make proposals for retaining or dropping certain arrangements concerning this training.

The Committee also adopted in principle a recommendation concerning the clinical training of doctors, which should be formally adopted at the Committee's next meeting in March. The members continued their discussion of problems involved in further training for general practitioners and training for specialists. Reports on these two matters should be adopted in March.

Application of Directives on doctors, nurses and dentists

2.1.10. The Ministers of Health meeting in Brussels on 15 November considered progress made in applying the Directives on the free movement of doctors, nurses and dentists. The Commission, which presented a Communication on the subject, stated its intention to see that the Directives were applied.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.5.

² Points 2.3.63 and 2.3.64.

³ OJ L 349 of 13.12.1978.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.18.

⁵ OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

⁶ OJ C 268 of 11.11.1978 and Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.7.

⁷ OJ L 167 of 30.6.1975.

Industry: sectoral measures and restructuring

Community action for industrial restructuring and conversion

2.1.11. On 31 October¹ the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation on Community aid for industrial restructuring and conversion operations. The purpose of the proposal is to establish criteria, rules and procedures for utilizing appropriations in the budget to rehabilitate certain crisis sectors.

In the proposal the Commission defines how these operations intermesh with other Community projects and with national aid. It suggests, in particular, that the Community should act under this Regulation only if the national authorities actively support the effort and the effort is aligned on the objectives defined at Community level.

This new budgetary instrument will enable the Community to share in implementing policies defined for industries in particular difficulty, where major restructuring and conversion operations must be mounted to allow them to become competitive again.

Iron and steel

Operating the crisis plan

2.1.12. On 12 November Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for the internal market and industrial affairs, gave a detailed account to Parliament of the situation in the steel industry and, in particular, of restructuring prospects.

2.1.13. The Council, meeting on 21 November, held a wide-ranging, detailed discussion on the various aspects of the crisis plan for 1979 and on rules governing aid and restructuring problems.

The internal aspects of this plan will involve laying down minimum prices for hot-rolled wide strips, lami-

nated merchant bars and concrete reinforcing bars; publishing guide prices for certain iron and steel products; certificates on conformity concerning dealers and producers; a one year extension of the ban on alignments on offers of iron and steel products from certain non-member countries; Community rules for aid and intervention by Member States for the iron and steel industry; general objectives for steel; and medium-term budgetary prospects.

The Council agreed to resume this discussion on this subject at its meeting on 19 December when it would take a decision on all these measures.

The Council also agreed to give its assent to the introduction by December of a new system of certificates of conformity for trading, similar to the system to apply to producer undertakings, in view of the fact that the deposit system expires on 30 November.

Loans to industry

2.1.14. The Commission has decided to grant a loan of FF 30 million (about 5.3 million EUA) to Finolor under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty. This loan will help towards the partial financing of a project, which will supply the oxygen and nitrogen required by the Lorraine steelworks operated by Sacilor and Usinor. The Council gave its assent to this loan at its meeting on 20 and 21 November.²

2.1.15. The Commission also announced approval of a loan, again under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, to Brymbo Steel Works Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Guest Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd. The loan will help to finance the new billet finishing mill and reinforcement of the existing electric supply to Brymbo Steel Works. The project will replace the existing finishing mill and improve overall efficiency at the works.

¹ OJ C 272 of 16.11.1978.

² OJ C 290 of 5.12.1978.

Shipbuilding

2.1.16. The OECD Special Working Party met in Paris on 8 and 9 November¹ to consider the problems of the shipbuilding industry.

Textiles

2.1.17. In its Communication of 24 July² on general guidelines for a textiles and clothing industry policy, the Commission considered it essential, before going into details about the policy to be followed, to first consult firms, manufacturers' associations, trade unions and governments in order to identify the real problems and focus on the specific measures required.

Preparations were accordingly made with the Coordinating Committee for the Textile Industries in the EEC and the European Clothing Manufacturers' Association for a preliminary series of discussions with the various branches of these industries. A large number of meetings have thus been held with employers' representatives and trade unions from each branch of the industries.

These meetings had three main objectives:

- (i) to discover what information is needed by the textile industries and the public authorities;
- (ii) to identify the points of concern, the problems and the prospects of each branch;
- (iii) to discover what Community action they consider to be desirable or necessary.

The Commission is now studying the various suggestions made and the information obtained. This is a very complicated job as the various branches of the industries are so inextricably linked that any action taken in one area will be bound to affect the other areas too, both at Community and at national level.

Customs union

Application of the EUA in the customs field

2.1.18. On 23 November³ the Council adopted a Regulation on procedures for applying the European unit of account (EUA) to legal acts adopted in the customs field.

The old unit of account, being related to a given weight of fine gold, is no longer consistent with the monetary agreements concluded by the Member States; it was therefore necessary to establish a new definition which, to satisfy organizational requirements in the customs field, will take effect on 1 January 1979.

Common Customs Tariff

1979 Tariff

2.1.19. On 27 November the Council also adopted a Regulation⁴ updating the Common Customs Tariff; the amended CCT will apply from 1 January 1979.

The main differences in the 1979 tariff stem from:

- (i) application of the results of the GATT Article XXIV(6) negotiations on kraft paper (Decision of 20 June 1974);
- (ii) amendments necessitated by the application during 1978, or from 1 January 1979, of various regulations on the common organization of agricultural markets;
- (iii) a more detailed nomenclature designed to ensure the proper, uniform application of the agreements on trade in textile products;
- (iv) the need to clarify a number of texts and ensure that the different language versions correspond more closely;

¹ Point 2.2.31.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.22.

³ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁴ OJ L 335 of 1.12.1978.

(v) amendments necessitated by directives on the alignment of Member States' laws on units of measurement (Chapter 27);

(vi) the introduction of the EUA for the denomination of specific or mixed duties or the maximum values indicated in certain subheadings.

Flat-rate duty

2.1.20. On 27 November¹ the Council amended its Regulation of 28 June 1968² as regards the preliminary provisions of the CCT. The amendment basically is to raise—with effect from 1 January 1979—from 60 u.a. to 100 EUA the maximum value of goods sent in small consignments or contained in travellers' personal luggage to which a flat-rate 10% *ad valorem* duty may be applied.

Nomenclature

2.1.21. On 9 November the Commission adopted a Regulation³ on the classification of goods falling within subheading 02.01 2 II (b) 4 (bb) 33 of the Common Customs Tariff. Its object is to ensure the uniform application of the CCT nomenclature.

Goods for a specific use

2.1.22. On 29 November¹ the Commission amended its Regulation of 7 December 1977⁴ determining the conditions under which goods for certain categories of aircraft and ships are eligible upon importation for a favourable tariff arrangement. The aim is to streamline customs formalities in the Community, in particular with regard to Community transit.

Preferential tariff arrangements

2.1.23. In November⁵ the Commission published all the sets of preferential tariff arrangements applied by the Community (not including the generalized system of preferences).

This was the outcome of a series of coordination meetings held with the Member States' tariff experts with the aim of applying the preferential agreements concluded by the Community in a uniform manner. From this overall picture can be seen exactly what duties are actually charged on goods from non-member countries (other than developing countries) on importation into the EEC; this is important, since, although the Common Customs Tariff is applied *erga omnes*, i.e. to all non-member countries, there are also twenty-two sets of preferential arrangements being applied to various countries which have concluded agreements with the Community. The newly-published table of duties is presented in a simplified form to facilitate comprehension, and is based on instruments in force on 1 July 1978. It is to be updated on 1 January 1979.

Economic tariff matters

Suspensions

2.1.24. On 16 November⁶ the Council decided to suspend, totally or partially, the autonomous CCT duties on certain agricultural products for the first half of 1979.

2.1.25. On 27 November the Council adopted Regulations:

(i) temporarily and partially suspending, for different periods (1 January to 31 March 1979 and 1 January to 30 June 1979) the autonomous CCT duties on a number of industrial

¹ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

² OJ L 172 of 22.7.1968.

³ OJ L 316 of 10.11.1978.

⁴ OJ L 314 of 8.12.1977.

⁵ OJ C 262 of 6.11.1978.

⁶ OJ L 324 of 18.11.1978.

products, notably basic substances for the chemical industry;¹

(ii) suspending autonomous CCT duties on certain types of fish for processing, to a level of 9%, for the first half of 1979;¹

(iii) totally or partially suspending the collection of CCT duties on certain products to be used in the construction of aeroplanes of an unladen weight exceeding 15 000 kg or for the maintenance or repair of aeroplanes of an unladen weight exceeding 15 000 kg or for aeroplanes or helicopters of an unladen weight between 2 000 kg and 15 000 kg. This Regulation will enter into force on 1 January 1979 and remain applicable until 31 December 1979.²

Tariff quotas

2.1.26. On 16 November³ the Council increased the volume of the 1978 Community tariff quota opened by a Regulation dated 18 October 1977⁴ for certain plywoods of coniferous species. The volume,³ initially set at 700 000 m³, was increased to 755 000 m³, the extra amount to be placed in the reserve.

2.1.27. On 27 November⁵ the Council also increased the volume of the 1978 Community tariff quota of unwrought magnesium⁶ from 8 900 to 10 200 tonnes.

One hundred tonnes of this 1 300 tonne increase is reserved for extra-pure unwrought magnesium, 200 tonnes for unwrought magnesium not in alloy, and 1 000 tonnes for wrought magnesium in alloy. Of the additional amount fixed for unwrought magnesium not in alloy, 180 tonnes is allocated among the Member States, the remaining 20 tonnes and the 100 and 1 000 tonne volumes being earmarked for the Community reserves established at the outset.

2.1.28. On 16 and 23 November the Council adopted Regulations opening, allocating, and providing for the administration of autonomous or contractual Community tariff

quotas for 1979 for the products listed in Table 1.

Community surveillance of imports

2.1.29. In order to meet the Community's obligations towards Israel, Malta, the Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) and Mashreq (Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon), on 23 November⁷ the Council adopted several regulations establishing for 1979 ceilings and Community surveillance for imports of certain agricultural products originating in those countries.

Customs value

2.1.30. On 24 November⁸ the Commission adopted a Regulation establishing special arrangements for goods sent by post. For consignments of a commercial nature, all postal charges up to the place of destination are to be included in the value for customs purposes of imported goods. For consignments of a non-commercial nature, however, in line with current practice, the declared value of the goods will not be adjusted to include these charges. The new rules will apply from 1 January 1979.

Customs procedures with economic impact

2.1.31. On 27 November the Council adopted a Directive on the harmonization of

¹ OJ L 349 of 13.12.1978.

² OJ L 337 of 4.12.1978.

³ OJ L 324 of 18.11.1978.

⁴ OJ L 269 of 21.10.1977.

⁵ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁶ OJ L 318 of 13.12.1977.

⁷ OJ L 343 of 8.12.1978.

⁸ OJ L 330 of 25.11.1978.

Table 1 — 1979 tariff quotas

Description of goods	Quota volume (tonnes) ¹	Quota duties (%)	tonnes ¹	
			Initial allocation	Reserve
<i>Newsprint</i> ²	2 500 000 ³	0	2 259 000	241 000
<i>Rosin</i> , including 'brais résineux' ²	15 627	0	15 627	—
Certain industrial and agricultural products originating in various Mediterranean countries ⁴				
<i>Cyprus</i>				
Certain textile fibres	100	0	60	40
Outer garments falling with heading No 61.01	500	0	230	270
Sweet papers (07.01 S)	250	4.5	187	63
Dried grapes in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kg or less (08.04 B I)	500	0	375	125
Certain wines of fresh grapes, in containers holding two litres or less (ex 22.05 C I a and C II a)	10 000 hl	3 and 3.5 u.a./hl	8 600 hl	1 400 hl
Liqueur wines (ex 22.05 C)	250 000 hl	3.3 and 5.7 u.a./hl	213 040 hl	36 960 hl
<i>Spain</i>				
Other woven fabrics of cotton (55.09)	1 900	5.2 to 5.6	1 300	600
Certain refined petroleum products	1 400 000	0.6 to 2.8	1 120 000	280 000
Dried figs	200	3	130	70
Raisins	1 900	0	1 520	380
<i>Israel</i>				
Apricot pulp	150	11.9	120	30
<i>Morocco</i>				
Apricot pulp	8 250	11.9	5 800	2 450
Prepared or preserved sardines	{ 14 000	0	12 600	1 400
	{ 6 000	10	5 400	600
<i>Tunisia</i>				
Apricot pulp	4 300	11.9	3 135	1 165
Prepared or preserved sardines	100	0	80	20
<i>Turkey</i>				
Fresh or dried hazelnuts falling within sub-heading ex 08.05 G	25 000	2.5	20 000	5 000

¹ Unless otherwise indicated² OJ L 324 of 18.11.1978³ Of which an autonomous volume of 1 000 000 tonnes⁴ OJ L 343 of 8.12.1978 and L 349 of 13.12.1978

provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to arrangements for the standard exchange of goods exported for repair.¹ The user of the standard exchange arrangements enjoys partial or total exemption from import duties on products to replace goods exported for repair, including restoring them to their original condition and putting them in order under the outward processing arrangements.

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2.1.32. On 16 November² Parliament delivered its Opinion on the Commission proposal on temporary admission arrangements.³

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Licences, trademarks and business names

Approval of a trademark differentiation agreement

2.1.33. In the course of a Commission proceeding Bayer AG, Leverkusen, Germany, and Tanabe Seiyaku Co., Osaka, Japan, have reached an agreement on the use of their respective trademarks which will ensure the co-existence of both marks in the Community by providing for a distinctive addition to the Japanese mark, which is the more recent of the two.

In Europe, and in most countries of the world, Bayer AG is the proprietor of a trademark known as the Bayer cross; the word Bayer is printed once horizontally and once vertically within a circle to form a cross with the

Y at the centre, so that there are nine letters in all. Tanabe Seiyaku has a trademark consisting of a circle in which five smaller circles are arranged in the form of a cross. This so-called five-ring mark is derived from a legendary symbol originally representing five Buddha figures.

It is common ground between the two firms that the two trademarks came into existence in Germany and Japan respectively, in each case without the other firm's knowledge. The two firms are competing manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and chemicals, and each markets its products under its own trade mark. Tanabe was able to use and register its trademark in all Member States of the Community except the Federal Republic of Germany, and Bayer AG took no steps to object as its chances of success were slim, but in Germany Bayer took court action to enforce its trademark rights in reliance upon the broad interpretation in German law of the concept of potential confusion. The Landgericht and Oberlandesgericht at Munich both upheld the claim that the five-ring mark could be confused with the Bayer cross and prohibited the use of the five-ring mark in Germany.

Tanabe then filed with the Commission a complaint against the two judgments adducing two points of law in its support. First, it alleged that Bayer's exercise of its rights of action for trademark infringement was an abuse of a dominant position within the meaning of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty, since Bayer, particularly strongly placed on the relevant product market, was using its trademark rights to protect its domestic market—a substantial part of the common market—and to hinder imports of Tanabe's goods by making it necessary for Tanabe, which was already actively in business throughout the Community, to use a different trademark in Germany from that used in the other Member States. This in particular prevented imports of goods which Tanabe had sold in countries other than Germany, for it was virtually impossible to remove the trade marks from them. Second, Tanabe alleged that the two judgments constituted measures 'having equivalent effect' to quantitative restrictions under Article 30 of the EEC Treaty and claimed that there was no just justification for them on the basis of Article 36, as the German law on potential confusion was needlessly strict and unnecessary

¹ OJ L 349 of 13.12.1978.

² Point 2.3.2 and OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

³ OJ C 172 of 19.7.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.34.

for the safeguarding of the specific subject matter of the trademark right; this, it stated, was already clear from the fact that the Bayer cross and the five-ring mark co-existed without challenge in all the other Member States of the Community and in most countries of the world.

In the course of the Commission proceeding on Tanabe's complaint and of Tanabe's appeal against the judgment of the Munich Oberlandesgericht, the two firms came to a compromise settlement, under which Tanabe, which has hitherto sold its products only to processors (as opposed to end-users) and will continue to do so in the near future, can continue using its traditional five-ring mark throughout the Community, including Germany, for a three-year transitional period; thereafter it will use this trade mark only in close juxtaposition with the word Tanabe, Tanabe Seiyaku or Tanabe in Japanese characters.

Bayer AG undertakes to refrain from exercising its rights under the two judgments and also from demanding withdrawal from the market of goods sold under Tanabe's present five-ring mark (without the distinctive addition) during the transitional period. Tanabe is withdrawing the complaint it filed with the Commission.

The Commission did not influence the content of the compromise settlement, nor, in particular, the method by which the two companies propose to distinguish their trade marks; the case thus resembles the Persil case.¹ Since the settlement has produced a solution which enables goods to be traded freely throughout the entire Community, the Commission has terminated its Article 86 proceeding. The Commission further considers that it has no grounds for action against the settlement under Article 85, since competition in the common market is not thereby restricted.

Admittedly Tanabe's forthcoming obligation to use its trade mark only in conjunction with an additional word, constitutes a restriction on its freedom of business action. But this obligation is justified by the preservation of the existence of the trademark right, since all remaining possibility of conflict in relation to the two marks has thereby been removed. That the restriction is placed on Tanabe alone is warranted partly by the priority enjoyed by the Bayer cross and partly by the fact that the two firms will now both be using their substantially different business names in their respective trademarks. Now that Bayer has undertaken to refrain from exercising its rights under the two judgments, the Commission has no reason to scrutinize their compatibility with Articles 30 and 36 of the EEC Treaty.

State aids

Regional aids

Principles of coordination of regional aid systems

2.1.34. On 22 November, pursuant to its powers under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission established, in the form of a Communication to the Member States, the principles of coordination on regional aid systems² and proposed, in accordance with Article 93(1), the measures to be taken to give effect to the principles in the implementation of their existing aid systems.

The principles will be applicable for three years from 1 January 1979. As in the past, they comprise five main aspects: differentiated ceilings of aid intensity, transparency, regional specificity, the sectoral repercussions of regional aid and a system of supervision.

When the Commission last defined principles of coordination of regional aid systems on 26 February 1975,² it undertook to pursue technical studies to find ways of making comparable all forms of regional aid existing in the Community. The newly-defined principles are based on the results of these studies carried out in close cooperation with the Member States.

Four major new features are included in the principles:

(i) An alternative ceiling expressed in European units of account per job created by the investment has been introduced. Since the common method of evaluation had hitherto fixed investment as the sole denominator in considering the transparency of aids and aid systems, the studies on measurability had to take account of the employment situation in the various regions of the Community and the emphasis which some Member States now wish to give to job creation in their regional aid systems.

(ii) Common maximum amounts for regional aids to

¹ Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.1 14.

² Bull. EC 2-1975, point 2108.

projects located in the less developed regions are introduced.

(iii) The Commission has set forth its reservations on the compatibility of operating aids with the common market as some existing aids are not conditional on initial investment or job creation. These aids are to be frozen in their present form until decisions have been taken on their compatibility in the course of the Commission's review of existing aid systems under Article 93(1). No further such aids may be introduced.

(iv) New common techniques are introduced for measuring certain forms of aid (for example, loan guarantees and rent rebates). Without these techniques the aids concerned were not controlled against existing ceilings.

The combined effect of the alternative employment-related ceiling, the common ceiling for the less developed regions, the freeze on operating aids and the new techniques is to ensure that all regional aids are now subject to control.

Details of the ceilings fixed for the various categories of regions are as follows:

(i) Ireland, the Mezzogiorno, Northern Ireland, West Berlin and the French Overseas Departments (DOM):¹ for the present, ceilings have been set only for aids linked and fixed directly in relation to initial investment costs or jobs created; these ceilings are 75% of initial investment costs or 13 000 EUA per job created thereby. As from 1 January 1981, however, for investments exceeding 3 million EUA, not more than a further 25% of initial investment costs or 4 500 EUA per job created thereby can be paid by way of other aids and must be spread over at least five years. As in 1975, no ceiling has been set for Greenland because of its special situation.

(ii) The second category of regions is made up of: in France, the assisted areas which receive the regional development premium;² in Italy, the assisted areas in the regions of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Trentino-Alto Adige, Valle d'Aosta, Latium, the Marches, Tuscany, Umbria and Veneto (in so far as they are not included in the Mezzogiorno); in the United Kingdom, those parts of the country which on 1 January 1978 were assisted areas with the exception of the areas known as Intermediate Areas and Northern Ireland. The ceilings for this category are 30% of initial investment costs or 5 500 EUA per job created thereby, subject to an absolute maximum of 40% of initial investment costs.

(iii) The third category of regions consists of: the Zonenrandgebiet in the Federal Republic of Germany and

North Jutland and the islands of Bornholm, Aærø, Samsø and Langeland in Denmark. The ceilings for this category are 25% initial investment costs or 4 500 EUA per job created thereby subject to an absolute maximum of 30% of initial investment costs.

(iv) The fourth category is made up of all other regions of the Community i.e. the more central and industrialized regions. The ceilings in these regions are 20% of initial investment costs or 3 500 EUA per job created thereby subject to an absolute maximum of 25% of initial investment costs. For this category the trend must be towards a reduction in the level of aids as far as possible.

All of the above ceilings are expressed in terms of net grant equivalent calculated in accordance with the common method of evaluation developed in the context of the work on principles of coordination since they were first defined in 1971. The annex to the principles sets out the manner in which calculations are to be made in the individual cases of application of regional aid systems in order to ensure that the total of all regional aids to a single investment respect the ceilings.

As regards regional specificity, the sectoral repercussions of regional aids and the system of supervision, the broad lines of these aspects remain the same as in previous principles.

Finally, as to the development of the principles in the future, the Communication states that the level of the ceilings will be revised after three years. Before 31 December 1979 the Commission will also examine with experts from the Member States the problems of the joint application of regional and other aids. Before the same date it will also examine whether it might be possible to introduce absolute ceilings expressed in EUA per job created by initial investment, as opposed to the ceiling expressed as a percentage of initial investment, and the levels at which such ceilings might be fixed.

¹ The French Overseas Departments are Guadeloupe, Guiana, Martinique, Réunion and St-Pierre & Miquelon; they have been added to this category since 1975.

² Sixth Report on Competition Policy, point 205.

Aid to small businesses

Federal Republic of Germany

2.1.35. The Commission decided to raise no objection to a German scheme to grant loans from the ERP (European Recovery Programme) Special Fund for investments made by small businesses in order to manufacture new products.

The scheme extends the field of application of loans granted from the ERP Fund for conversion investment by industrial firms, on which the Commission stated its views in 1974. Loans on concessionary terms will now also be granted to small businesses manufacturing new or fundamentally improved products. Loans in each individual case may be up to DM 300 000 (115 000 EUA) at 5.5% (4.5% for projects in the Zonenrandgebiet) for up to ten years. Total funds of DM 120 million (46 million EUA) have been earmarked to finance the new ERP programme in 1979 (as against DM 25 million in 1978).

The new scheme aims to tackle the problems that small businesses encounter in trying to innovate and the Commission generally views this type of assistance in a favourable light. As in the case of a similar Danish scheme,¹ it considered that the provisions of the new ERP programme qualified for exemption under Article 92(3)(c) of the EEC Treaty as 'aid to facilitate the development of certain economic activities'.

Belgium

2.1.36. On 3 November the Commission decided to raise no objection to the introduction of measures of assistance to promote the expansion of small businesses under the economic reform Bill. The Bill introduced two types of assistance, an investment aid and a job creation premium:

(i) the investment aid will be paid to firms with up to fifty employees on their payroll. It will be granted for operations contributing directly to the establishment, extension, conversion or modernization of firms and will take the form of interest relief grants (up to 5% for five years), accelerated depreciation, or exemption from withholding tax;

(ii) the job creation premium (BFR 15 000 per year for five years) will be paid to firms with fewer than fifteen employees, for each additional worker taken on, provided the total does not rise above this figure.

As far as the investment aid is concerned, the Commission has always viewed assistance to encourage the financing of investment by small businesses in a favourable light, on account of the specific obstacles hampering this type of firm and the positive role they play in the growth strategy in relation both to the economy and to employment.

The Commission also felt that the job creation premium tied in with its favourable approach to assistance for small businesses on account of the job situation in Belgium, the type of firms concerned and the relatively small amount set for the premium. Checks will, however, be made after each case of application to make sure that the premium is not principally granted to certain industries now under pressure throughout the Community.

Employment and social policy

2.1.37. In November three meetings of relevance to social policy took place: the Tripartite Conference on Employment on 9 November,² the Council meeting on health on 16 November³ and the Council meeting on social affairs on 27 November.

2.1.38. At its meeting in Brussels on 27 November the Council approved two Commission proposals: one concerns equality of treatment for men and women in matters of social security,⁴ the other introduces new forms of assistance from the European Social Fund for the employment of young people.⁵ It took note of two papers from the Commis-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.1.45.

² Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

³ Points 2.1.47 and 2.1.48.

⁴ Point 2.1.46.

⁵ Point 2.1.42.

sion, the first of which concerned the second European social budget;¹ the Commission was invited, in cooperation with the Member States, to evaluate the experience gained in drawing up the second social budget and then to submit proposals to the Council for a third European social budget. The other document was the sixth report on the activities of the European Social Fund. The Council also adopted the second progress report of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work² and examined the proposal for a Directive concerning the fight against illegal immigration and illegal employment.³ Certain problems are still unsolved and the Council requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to look further into the matter.

2.1.39. The fourth Tripartite Conference on Employment held, on 9 November,⁴ brought together the Council (Ministers of Finance and Economic Affairs, Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs), representatives of employers' and workers' organizations and the Commission; representatives of the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the ECSC Consultative Committee were present as observers. The discussions were based on a document prepared by the Commission outlining a common strategy designed to achieve full employment and balanced growth in the Community. The Commission proposals were based on studies carried out on subjects selected by the Tripartite Conference in June 1977.⁵

Employment

2.1.40. On 28 November the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal for a Regulation on the organization of a labour force sample survey in the spring of 1979. The

survey should elucidate the structure and trends of employment and unemployment; it is to be carried out by the Statistical Office of the European Communities and will be the ninth in the series of surveys made every two years since 1960.

European Social Fund

2.1.41. The Social Fund Committee held a plenary meeting in Brussels on 9 and 10 November at which it examined the second batch of applications for Fund assistance submitted by the Member States.

The Committee also met on 29 November to discuss a system of weighted reduction for the allocation of Fund assistance pursuant to guidelines for the management of the Social Fund for 1979-81.⁶

2.1.42. On 27 November the Council approved a Regulation introducing new forms of assistance from the European Social Fund for the employment of young people. At its October 1977 meeting⁷ the Council had requested the Commission to present proposals for Community aid for programmes to promote the employment of young people in the Member States. There are two new types of measures: premiums for the recruitment of young people for additional jogs created by employers engaged in economic activity; subsidies for programmes involving the recruitment of young people for newly-created jobs in the public interest.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.59.

² Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.32.

³ OJ C 97 of 22.4.1978 and Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.36.

⁴ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1977, points 1.1.2 to 1.1.7.

⁶ OJ C 116 of 19.5.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.42.

⁷ Bull. EC 10-1977, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.10 and 4-1978, point 1.2.6.

ECSC readaptation measures

2.1.43. Acting under Article 56(2)(b) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided in November to contribute towards the cost of retraining workers affected by the closure or reduction in activity of a number of undertakings in the Community coal and steel industries.

In Germany, the following funds were made available:

- (i) 119 750 EUA for 743 workers affected by the closure or definitive reduction in activity of Stahlwerke Südwestfalen AG establishments;
- (ii) 503 000 EUA for 370 workers affected by the closure of the Königsborn coking plant operated by Bergbau AG Westfalen for Ruhrkohle AG;
- (iii) 506 500 EUA for the retraining of 387 workers following the closure of the Friedrich Heinrich coking plant operated in the name of and on behalf of Ruhrkohle AG by Bergbau AG Niederrhein.

In addition to the above, a sum of 56 250 EUA already made available for the training of workers affected by the closure of the Brebach coking plant of Halberghütte GmbH was increased by 2 250 EUA.

In Belgium 247 250 EUA was made available for 272 persons affected by the closure of two open-hearth furnaces and the foundry operated by SA Forges et Laminoirs of Jemappes.

A sum of 139 000 EUA already made available for 110 workers affected by the closure of the open-hearth melting shop of the SA Fabrique de Fer of Charleroi was increased by 86 750 EUA to cover another 78 persons.

In France 3 742 500 EUA was made available for the readaptation of 960 workers affected by closures and reduced activity by Charbonnages de France in 1978.

In the United Kingdom three separate amounts were made available:

- (i) 116 250 EUA for 192 British Steel Corporation workers affected by the closure of the following installations: at a works in Ebbw Vale, South Wales—skin pass and pickling line; at the Whitehead works in Newport, South Wales—merchant bar mill, hot strip mill and Taylor pickling mill;
- (ii) 3 514 500 EUA for the retraining of 3 327 workers

affected by the closure of the British Steel Corporation's East Moors works in Cardiff;

- (iii) 8 821 500 EUA for 5 960 workers affected by the closure of various coalmines in the United Kingdom in 1977.

Freedom of movement and social security for migrant workers

2.1.44. The Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers held a meeting in Brussels on 29 November, mainly devoted to an exchange of views on the concertation of migration policies with respect to non-member countries. In his introduction Mr Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission, informed the meeting that a note on the subject would be issued shortly. Since the time had come for the Commission to make proposals to implement, in this respect, the Council Resolution of 9 February 1976¹ on an action programme for migrant workers, Mr Vredeling spoke of the direction he proposed to give to Community action, which was largely in accord with the opinion issued by the Committee.²

Industrial relations

Protection of employees in the event of their employer's insolvency

2.1.45. At its session on 29 and 30 November the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion³ on the Commission's proposal to the Council concerning the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer.⁴

¹ Supplement 3/76 — Bull. EC.

² Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2212.

³ Point 2.3.65.

⁴ OJ C 135 of 9.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.48.

Social protection

Social security

2.1.46. On 27 November the Council approved the Directive on equality of treatment for men and women in matters of social security.¹

This Directive applies the principle of equality of treatment to all statutory social security schemes and social assistance schemes. As regards occupational schemes, the Council requested the Commission to prepare proposals as soon as possible after examining the technical problems in this area. It would make a decision within two years after submission of the Commission proposals. The Member States would have to align their legislation with the provisions of the Directive within six years. This is the third Directive concerning equality of treatment for men and women² and the first on the harmonization of social security provisions.

Health and Safety

Council meeting — Public Health

2.1.47. The Ministers of Health of the Member States met in Brussels on 16 November. They proceeded to review the work which the Commission had been instructed to carry out by the previous Council meeting on Public Health on 13 December 1977.³

Economic aspects of health

2.1.48. The Ministers held a detailed discussion on the economic aspects of health on the basis of three studies submitted by the Commission on the organization, financing and cost of health care in the European Community, pharmaceutical consumption and a micro-economic approach to problems relating to the cost of hospitalization.

Noting that despite the efforts being made in all Member States the growth of health care costs continued to be a matter for concern, the Council agreed that research should be focused on a number of priority matters, notably pharmaceuticals, specialized manpower, and harmonization of definitions and statistical data relating to health care. It requested the Commission to make suitable suggestions, on the basis of studies in progress, for future Community action.

Smoking and nutrition

2.1.49. The Ministers emphasized the paramount place of health education in health policies, since smoking and nutrition are important areas on which health education should lay particular emphasis.

They instructed the Commission to put forward proposals in these areas, and agreed as regards smoking:

- (i) to establish common methods by which to compare the results and to assess the effectiveness of health education campaigns on smoking;
- (ii) to carry out experimental health education campaigns in order to determine the main features of cigarette smoking by young people and to identify their effects on health and the family and socio-economic factors which may play a part in the commencement and development of cigarette smoking;
- (iii) to seek a common attitude on advertising;
- (iv) to exchange information on measures already taken by the Member States.

With regard to nutrition, they agreed:

- (i) to develop common methods in order to improve the collection and analysis of more accurate epidemiological data;
- (ii) to improve the reciprocal flow of information on the results of nutritional research;
- (iii) to exchange experience regarding the principles and methods of organizing health education campaigns on

¹ OJ C 34 of 11.2.1977 and Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2217.

² OJ L 45 of 19.2.1975 and L 39 of 14.2.1976.

³ Bull. EC 12-1977, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.4.

nutrition, with particular regard to children and adolescents;

(iv) to evaluate, using common methods if possible, the effectiveness of the educational measures taken to prevent nutrition-linked diseases.

Lastly, the Ministers instructed the Commission to put forward suggestions concerning the whole problem of drug abuse.

Mutual medical assistance

2.1.50. The Ministers discussed the question of mutual medical assistance in the event of catastrophes or particularly serious accidents or diseases.

They noted that the Commission, following certain serious accidents which have occurred recently, is planning to carry out a number of mutual health assistance activities, in particular by means of a questionnaire to be sent to the Member States in order to take stock of the efforts already being made in this field by Member States and taking into account the activities of other bodies.

Protection of health against the dangers arising from ionizing radiations

2.1.51. On 17 November the Commission approved a proposal for a Council Directive amending the Directive laying down the Basic Safety Standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public against the dangers arising from ionizing radiations.

The purpose here is to update existing provisions for the radiological protection of workers and the general public, taking into account the most recently acquired scientific and technical knowledge as communicated by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP).

Exploitation of mineral resources on the sea bed: protection against pollution

2.1.52. The 'London 1973 Conference' on safety and methods of protection against pollution during the exploitation of mineral resources on the sea bed in North-West Europe was held in The Hague from 13 to 17 November.

Representatives of the Secretariat of the Mines Safety and Health Commission were present. The Chairman of the Working Party on Petroleum and Natural Gas and of the Committee of Experts on Eruption Prevention, was appointed Chairman of the Conference's Working party on Safety and Health on Platforms. The link between the work of these two bodies was thus strengthened.

Industrial hygiene in mines

2.1.53. On 30 November the Commission allocated 2 151 600 EUA for financing sixteen research projects and purchasing ten dust-sampling instruments. These research projects, which come under the fourth research programme on industrial hygiene in mines,¹ focus on techniques for inspecting and monitoring the atmosphere in mines and on environmental and hygiene considerations.

Regional policy

2.1.54. On 29 November the Commission held a general discussion on the guidelines for the Community's regional policy.²

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.49.

² Point 2.3.29.

Financing operations

European Regional Development Fund

Fund Committee

2.1.55. The Fund Committee held its thirteenth meeting on 28 and 29 November and gave its opinion on the draft aid decisions in the third instalment for 1978.

It also discussed problems connected with the running of the ERDF over the first four years of its operation, and adopted its work programme for the first half of 1979.

Conversion

ECSC conversion loans

2.1.56. On 8 November the Commission amended the rules currently governing loans granted under Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty. The amendments include an increase in the maximum allocation for individual loans from global loans, an increase in the maximum proportion of investments financed, and the introduction of interest subsidies on loans for industrial estate development.

It decided to have the necessary changes to the guidelines of 27 July 1977¹ published in the Official Journal, after reference to the ECSC Consultative Committee.

Financing new activities

2.1.57. On 20 and 21 November the Council gave its assent² under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty for the Commission to grant the following conversion loans:

(i) 3.73 million EUA (about UKL 2.5 million) to the Rockwool Company (UK) Ltd for the construction of a new manufacturing plant for mineral fibre and the con-

struction of administrative and amenity buildings at Wern Tarw, near Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales;

(ii) 2.49 million EUA (about LFR 100 million) in the form of a global loan to the Société nationale de crédit et d'investissement (SNCI), a body constituted under Luxembourg public law, for the establishment and extension of small and medium-sized firms in the areas of the Grand Duchy affected by a decline in the activities of the coal and steel industries;

(iii) 116.57 million EUA (about UKL 78 million) to the Ford Motor Company Ltd, to help it set up a new engine plant in Waterton, South Wales.

The Commission requested assent by letters to the Council dated 11 September, and 2 and 20 October.

Environment and consumer protection

Environment

Preventive policy for the environment and waste management

2.1.58. With a view to the special Council meeting of Environment Ministers on 18 December, the Commission presented to the Council on 20 November a Communication comprising two separate papers.

(i) The first paper concerns the role of a preventive policy for the environment in a balanced development of economic activities throughout the Community. Such a policy, which is concerned with making optimum use of natural resources and promoting quality improvements, must, like any other policy, meet the requirements of investment and employment. The most suitable instruments must therefore be determined and policy directed towards measures which will help solve the economic and social difficulties now facing the Community. Various instruments of a preventive policy for the environment deserve special attention.

¹ OJ C 178 of 27.7.1977.

² OJ C 290 of 5.12.1978.

(ii) The second paper concerns waste management, including the development of clean technologies and the question of recycling. This activity makes for savings in raw materials and energy and improves the quality of the environment, and the Ministers will examine the role of clean technologies, i.e. manufacturing processes which cause little pollution and produce little waste, and will consider measures at national or Community level by which such a policy could be put into effect.

Reduction of pollution and nuisances

Marine pollution

2.1.59. On 13 November the Commission sent to the Council three proposals on the safety of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution.¹ They concern:

- (i) harmonization of the inspection of vessels in Community ports to ensure compliance with IMCO standards;
- (ii) the piloting of vessels by deep-sea pilots in the North Sea and the English Channel;
- (iii) the conditions laid down for certain tankers entering or leaving Community ports.

2.1.60. Following the entry into force of the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, Commission representatives attended, with observer status, the first meeting of the assembly called to discuss the problems of marine pollution (London, 13 to 17 November). At this meeting, the assembly set up an administrative structure to manage the Fund. It also decided that the contribution of the contracting parties would be determined in accordance with the tonnage of crude oil imported.

2.1.61. From 21 to 24 November Commission representatives also attended the fifth

meeting in The Hague of the Committee of the Oslo Convention for the prevention of marine pollution by dumping from ships and aircraft. The meeting examined aspects connected with the dumping of waste at sea or the incineration of waste and the organization of the control and permanent monitoring of dumping.

2.1.62. The Commission was also represented at the first meeting of the Paris committee set up to implement the Convention for the prevention of marine pollution from land-based sources (The Hague, 27 to 30 November). The discussions centred on the measures to be taken against pollution of the sea by mercury, hydrocarbons and residues from the manufacture of titanium dioxide.

Freshwater pollution

2.1.63. The working party on water supply and hygiene of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution met in Coblenz on 7 November, with a representative of the Commission of the European Communities in the chair. The ground was prepared for the next plenary meeting, which is to adopt measures to combat discharges of mercury in the Rhine basin by the sodium chloride electrolysis industries.

2.1.64. The *ad hoc* committee of experts instructed to examine the draft European Convention for the protection of international waterways against pollution met in Strasbourg on 20 and 21 November. The committee considered how the draft Convention might be amended to make it consisting with commitments resulting from other international instruments binding, or liable to

¹ Point 2.1.91.

bind, several Member States of the Council of Europe.

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2.1.65. At its 15 November sitting Parliament¹ delivered its Opinion on the proposal which the Commission sent to the Council on 27 January 1978 concerning the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances.²

Air pollution

2.1.66. The special group on cross-frontier atmospheric pollution, set up following the annual session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in April 1978,³ held its third meeting in Geneva on 2 and 3 November, at which the Community presented a proposal on the subject.

2.1.67. A meeting of Commission experts was held in Brussels on 6 November to organize the inter-laboratory comparison programme for the measurement of oxides of nitrogen.

The aim of the programme is to analyse the results of measurements conducted by various Community laboratories, which may use the same measuring method or different but comparable methods. The first phase of this programme, beginning in the autumn of 1979, is the study of the calibration of apparatus.

Control of chemicals

2.1.68. On 10 November the second meeting⁴ was held in Brussels with representatives of the US Administration as part of the negotiations with the United States on the application of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

At the meeting the following questions were discussed:

(i) current state of Community activities concerning the control of new chemical substances;

(ii) current position of the Toxic Substances Control Act;

(iii) harmonization of the tests to be conducted prior release to the market;

(iv) degree of confidentiality of the information contained in notification files submitted by industries.

2.1.69. On 13 and 14 November the Commission called a second meeting of national experts on the environmental effects of fluorocarbons and the possibilities of controlling discharges. This meeting was the outcome of the Council Resolution of 30 May 1978,⁵ which proposed that this problem should be reviewed in the light of new information, with a view to drawing up a Community policy in this sector.

Noise abatement

2.1.70. On 23 November⁶ the Council formally adopted the Directive on the approximation of laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound level and exhaust system of motorcycles.⁷

Agriculture

Future development of the common agricultural policy

2.1.71. On 29 November the Commission presented a Communication intended for the

¹ Point 2.3.9 and OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

² OJ C 37 of 14.2.1978 and Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.1.29.

³ Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.2.32.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.70.

⁵ OJ C 133 of 7.6.1978 and Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.57.

⁶ OJ L 349 of 13.12.1978.

⁷ Point 2.1.6.

European Council in Brussels on 4 and 5 December concerning the future development of the common agricultural policy.¹ This was in response to the wish expressed by the European Council in Bremen last July, which had asked the Commission to formulate its ideas on the future development of the common agricultural policy, with a view to reducing surpluses and securing a better balance in the Community's budget expenditure.

Forestry

2.1.72. On 29 November the Commission approved for transmittal to the Council a major Communication on forestry policy within the Community.²

Measures in connection with the monetary situation

2.1.73. The Commission sent to the Council on 22 November³ a proposal for a Regulation on the impact of the European monetary system on the common agricultural policy.

Under the new system, the EMUA (unit of account defined by the central rates of the 'snake' currencies) will be replaced by the ECU, which is about 21% lower in value than the EMUA. This change, unless specific measures were taken by the Council, would lead to a lowering of the level of the common agricultural prices (expressed in u.a.) of the same order and, hence, to a marked alteration in the distribution of monetary compensatory amounts.

The Commission felt that such an upheaval was unacceptable. It considered that, although it would be impossible henceforth to have any system of reference other than the ECU for the common agricultural policy, this change did not automatically have to involve an alteration in the current level of prices, both in national currency and at Community level, or an alteration in the distribution of monetary compensatory amounts. For

this purpose, it appeared necessary to convert the prices and all the figures expressed in u.a. under the common agricultural policy into ECU by means of a coefficient corresponding to the differences between the ECU and the EMUA (i.e. about 1.2).

At the same time, the green rates used under the common agricultural policy will have to be adjusted by means of a coefficient corresponding to the first (1: 1.2, i.e. about 0.833).

The introduction of the ECU into the common agricultural policy still leaves untouched the problem of the differences in the levels of agricultural prices which exist at the moment on account of the green rates and the compensatory amounts which result from them. Nevertheless, it is obvious that this problem will have to be settled and the Commission will make proposals on this subject in due course.

Common organization of the markets

2.1.74. The Commission has adopted a number of measures relating to trade in cereals. On 3 November⁴ it suspended temporarily (for three days) advance fixing of the import levy, on account of the situation prevailing on the exchange markets. The fluctuations of the dollar were threatening to lead to the short-term advance fixing of levies for considerably greater quantities of cereals than those which might be envisaged in normal circumstances. On 23 November⁵ it was felt advisable to suspend the invitation to tender for the export refund on soft wheat to Central and South America.

2.1.75. Following an exchange of views on the points still under discussion concerning the working-out of new arrangements for

¹ Point 3.5.1.

² Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5.

³ OJ C 294 of 8.12.1978.

⁴ OJ L 310 of 4.11.1978.

⁵ OJ L 329 of 24.11.1978.

olive oil,¹ on 24 November² the Council adopted several measures:

- (i) general rules on aid for olive-oil production (1978/79 marketing year);
- (ii) special measures for the 1978/79 marketing year as regards organizations of olive-oil producers;
- (iii) general rules for fixing the levy on imports of olive oil by tendering procedure;
- (iv) rules on trade in oils and fats between the Community and Greece;
- (v) the flat-rate amount for unprocessed olive oil produced entirely in Greece and transported direct from Greece to the Community;
- (vi) intervention in the olive-oil sector.

The other problems, concerning general rules relating to aid for olive-oil consumption, the fixing (for 1978/79) of the representative market price, the threshold price for olive oil and the percentage of aid for consumption, will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Council devoted to agricultural matters.

2.1.76. In the absence of appropriate measures for ensuring balance on the wine market and the control of wine-growing potential, the Council adopted on 25 November³ a Regulation prolonging until 30 November 1979 the prohibition on new plantings laid down by its Regulation of 17 May 1976.⁴ It also fixed⁵ the activating prices for table wines applicable from 16 December 1978 to 15 December 1979. These prices, which activate the intervention mechanism, were raised by 2% for red wines and by 0.5% for white wines.

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2.1.77. At its session on 29 and 30 November the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion on the action programme (1979-85) for the progressive establishment of balance on the wine market, which the Commission sent to the Council on 7 August.⁵

2.1.78. In order to relieve some of the strain on the market in skimmed-milk powder, where prices are rising during the current period of reduced production, the Commission decided on 23 November⁶ on a re-

duction of 1 u.a./100 kg in the selling price for skimmed-milk powder from public storage for the period 27 November to 22 December 1978 and, in view of the state of stocks, on the offering for sale of a product taken into storage more recently.

Moreover, under the terms of Council Regulation of 28 July 1978,⁷ 100 000 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder held by the intervention agencies of the other Member States has been placed at the disposal of the Italian intervention agency for use as feed for pigs and poultry in Italy. On 30 November the Commission laid down the procedure for this transfer; initially 20 000 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder will be transferred from the German intervention agency by 15 February and 20 000 tonnes by 1 April 1979.

2.1.79. As regards beef and veal, since the Council recently⁸ increased by 30 000 head the 1978 estimate of imports of young male bovine animals intended for fattening, on 14 November⁸ the Commission altered the number of young male bovine animals which may be imported on special terms in the fourth quarter of 1978. The estimate of requirements in 1979 was set at 250 000 head by the Commission and proposed to the Council on 17 November.

Structural policy

2.1.80. On 23 November⁹ the Commission adopted a Decision approving the programme to speed up drainage operations in the less-

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.83.

² OJ L 331 of 28.11.1978.

³ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2237.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.6 and Supplement 7/78 — Bull. EC.

⁶ OJ L 329 of 24.11.1978.

⁷ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.86.

⁸ OJ L 321 of 15.11.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.87.

⁹ OJ L 344 of 8.12.1978.

favoured areas of the West of Ireland, in accordance with the Council Directive of 19 June 1978. The Commission also presented to the Council on 6 November¹ a proposal on the programme for promotion of drainage in catchment areas on both sides of the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Financial report

2.1.81. The Commission sent to the Council on 28 and 29 November the seventh financial report of the EAGGF, describing the trend in the amount and nature of the Fund's expenditure and the conditions in which Community financing was carried out during the 1977 financial year.

For the Guarantee Section, 1977 was marked by a substantial increase in expenditure (6 662.4 million u.a.) over the previous year (5 570 million u.a.). This growth is explained basically by:

- (i) the measures taken in the dairy sector to balance the market and absorb the large stocks of skimmed-milk powder (+493.5 million u.a.);
- (ii) the stepping-up of exports to non-member countries, which led to a big increase in expenditure on refunds (up by 830.6 million u.a.), not only for the dairy sector but also for sugar (up by 310.1 million u.a.) and the products resulting from the processing of agricultural products (up by 56.5 million u.a.);
- (iii) the monetary situation, which caused increased expenditure in the form of monetary compensatory amounts (up by 355.2 million u.a.).

This increase was, however, partly offset by a fall in expenditure in some sectors, in particular in storage costs for dairy products (down by 411 million u.a.) and beef (down by 110.2 million u.a.).

Since total expenditure was greater than initial appropriations (6 167.4 million u.a.), a supplementary budget was required. However, mainly on account of numerous

delays in payment, a significant proportion of the supplementary appropriations, i.e. 509.4 million u.a., was cancelled

Expenditure by the Guidance Section on common measures was up in 1977 (95.6 million u.a. compared with 69.4 in 1976); it related in particular to payments for mountain and hill farming and farming in less-favoured areas (60.1 million u.a.), for the modernization of farms (15.3 million u.a.) and to encourage the development of beef and veal production (12.8 million u.a.).

With regard to capital subsidies granted to individual projects to improve structures, 802 projects received aid totalling 247.3 million u.a. from the Fund. Expenditure on special measures amounted to 4.6 million u.a. In 1977 and 1978 a series of new common measures was adopted, including a measure for improving processing and marketing conditions for agricultural products.

Verifications of expenditure and measures to prevent irregularities were stepped up considerably along with work relating to the preparation of the clearance of the Guarantee Section's accounts. The majority of the irregularities discovered in this Section (169 cases) concern beef and veal, wine and dairy products and they mainly involve monetary compensatory amounts. As regards the Guidance Section, irregularities relate to expenditure on non-marketing premiums for milk and expenditure to encourage the development of beef and veal production.

Community food aid operations increased and a total of 183.7 million u.a. was spent compared with 111.7 million u.a. in 1976. These operations mainly involved supplying the beneficiary countries with cereals (104.5 million u.a.), dairy products (77.4 million u.a.) and sugar (1.8 million u.a.)

Conditions of competition

2.1.82. Acting under Articles 92 to 94 to the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided not to make any comments with regard to:

- (i) aid in the *Rhineland Palatinate* (Federal Republic of Germany) for the campaign against the 'scharka' virus

¹ OJ C 274 of 18.11.1978.

which affects trees bearing stone fruit, in particular damsons and plums.

(ii) *Italian draft laws:*

(a) of the region of *Molise* providing for the installation or extension of irrigation and water distribution systems;

(b) of the region of *Puglia* providing for the granting of low-interest management credit accompanied by the guarantee granted to cooperatives in accordance with the procedures and objectives laid down by outline Law 1760/1928 on agricultural credit;

(c) of the region of *Umbria* relating to aid measures involving technical assistance, demonstrations, retraining and promotion campaigns concerning association, agricultural accountancy, agricultural fairs and exhibitions;

(iii) a measure in *Denmark* authorizing certain kinds of aid (research, advertising, etc.) financed by levies in the sector of domestically produced fruit and vegetables and the financing of certain kinds of aid (research, advertising, etc.);

(iv) aid in the *United Kingdom* aimed at facilitating the purchase of land by farmers in the Isle of Man and thereby at maintaining farming activity on the island;

(v) a draft law in *Belgium* on economic reorientation, especially as regards the extension of eligibility for accelerated depreciation to agricultural and horticultural undertakings and any other provision of the law affecting the products listed in Annex II to the EEC Treaty. The Commission stresses that these measures come under the specific provisions relating to the rules on competition and other provisions of Community law.

Harmonization of legislation

2.1.83. The Commission sent several proposals to the Council in November relating to veterinary legislation.

In order to supplement existing rules in the field of intra-Community trade fresh meat and meat-based products, it submitted to the Council on 9 November¹ a proposal for a Regulation on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat and fresh poultry-meat which has been minced, ground or similarly chopped, with or without the addition of other food-stuffs, additives and condiments. These food products

are growing in importance and it is essential that intra-Community trade should be able to develop freely.

As regards Community action with a view to eradicating certain cattle diseases, the Commission has also forwarded a proposal for a Decision authorizing Italy, which is encountering certain difficulties, to postpone the deadlines for preparing and implementing its national eradication plans.

A proposal for a Directive on brucellosis, tuberculosis and swine fever, and prolonging certain derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom, was presented to the Council on 14 November.²

Finally, in order to provide a Community solution to the problems raised by health guarantees in respect of enzootic bovine leucosis in intra-Community trade, the Commission forwarded to the Council on 27 November a proposal for a Directive amending the Directive of 26 June 1964³ as regards this disease. This should make it possible shortly to introduce a mechanism avoiding regular recourse to derogations.

2.1.84. The Scientific Committee for Pesticides set up by the Commission on 21 April 1978⁴ held its first meeting in Brussels on 13 and 14 November. This advisory committee, which is made up of thirteen top experts is to concentrate initially on pesticide residues.

Farm accountancy data network

2.1.85. The Commission forwarded to the Council and Parliament on 21 November the annual report on the results of the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN). The accounting sample on which this report—for 1976/77—is based numbers nearly 17 000 holdings.⁵

¹ OJ C 280 of 24.11.1978.

² OJ C 289 of 2.12.1978.

³ OJ 121 of 29.7.1964.

⁴ OJ L 124 of 12.5.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.78.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.137.

With such a small number of returning holdings, the FADN cannot yet entirely reflect its intended field of survey, namely, all sales-oriented holdings which constitute the main activity of the head of the holding and which account for a least one 'man work-unit'. However, the returning holdings in question already make it possible to give a reasonable picture of a significant number of types of holding in the various Community regions.

In order to provide an overall view of the disparity in income among the various types of holding represented, by region, by country and for the Community as a whole, as well as of trends in this disparity, the '1976' FADN report bases itself also on a subsample of 5 500 holdings which have been constantly monitored in the nine Member States since '1973'. Use of this permanent subsample over several successive years has made it possible to determine average income levels, disregarding fluctuations in the economic situation, and to evaluate the absolute and relative position of the various types of holding considered.

The Commission's report stresses in particular the considerable variations in income which occurred in '1976' compared with previous years. These variations, due in particular to the exceptional conditions in the summer of 1976, were reflected that year in a marked reduction of income disparities within the agricultural sector in the Community. These disparities had shown a tendency to increase in previous years.

Fisheries

Conservation and management of resources

Internal resources

2.1.86. The Council meeting on fisheries held on 23 and 24 November, failed to produce an agreement between the United Kingdom and the other eight Member States on the internal system for conserving resources.

A set of Commission proposals, together with a Communication on the most difficult points of the negotiation and a paper giving the planned total catches for 1979, were before the Council. During discussion the United Kingdom described the preferential system which it wished to obtain for its fishermen: an exclusive twelve-mile zone and the abolition of the traditional rights of other Member States; a freeze on the fishing quotas of other Member States; a freeze on the fishing quotas of other Member States at the 1977 level in a zone extending from twelve to about fifty miles off most of the British coast. The Commission and eight delegations considered that the United Kingdom demands were in different ways incompatible with the Treaty. It was agreed that the President of the Council should report to the European Council on 4 and 5 December.

External aspects

2.1.87. The Council meeting on general affairs held on 20 and 21 November tried unsuccessfully to persuade the United Kingdom delegation to lift its reservation on the fisheries agreements with Norway, Sweden and the Faroe Islands.

2.1.88. Since the beginning of November the Commission has consulted Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Canada and Spain with a view to fixing the reciprocal fishing quotas for 1979. Negotiations have been held with Finland for the conclusion of a framework agreement on fisheries.

Markets and structures

Common organization of the market

2.1.89. On 15 November the Commission put to the Council the proposals for the support prices for fishery products for 1979. For certain categories of fish the proposed prices are the same as those for 1978. For others the Commission proposed increases ranging up to 5%. For redfish and anchovies it suggested a drop in the guide prices of 4% and 3.7% respectively. These proposals take into account the price fluctuations on the market during the last three marketing years, the use to which the fish are put (industrial use or human consumption) and market prospects for 1979.

Transport policy

Council meeting on transport

2.1.90. The Council, meeting in Brussels on 23 November with Mr Gscheidle, the German Minister of Transport and President of the Council, in the Chair, approved ten of the eighteen items on which a decision was required.

Shipping

2.1.91. The Council approved a series of measures designed to improve safety at sea and to prevent and combat pollution, particularly in the light of the serious accidents which have occurred recently off the Member States' coasts.

The Council endorsed:

- (i) a Directive on minimum conditions required of certain tankers entering Community seaports;
- (ii) a Directive for raising the qualifications of deep-sea pilots operating in the North Sea and English Channel

and for encouraging flying the flag of a Member State to use such pilots;

(iii) a Recommendation that Member States sign by 1 April 1979 and ratify by 31 December 1980 the 1978 IMCO Convention on the Training, Certification and Watch-keeping of Seafarers.

The Council also adopted a statement concerning the Memorandum of Understanding of 2 March 1978 between certain maritime authorities on the maintenance of standards on board merchant ships.

The Council agreed in principle to the Decision concerning the collection of information on the activities of carriers participating in cargo liner traffic between the Community and East Africa and Central America. This Decision is another step towards facing up to competition from State-trading countries.

No final decision was reached in the discussions on the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work so that the Council could reach a conclusion within three months.

Air transport

2.1.92. The Council took note of an interim report from the Presidency on the work in progress on the proposal for a Directive on the limitation by a system of noise certification of noise emission from aircraft.

Additional Protocol to the Mannheim Convention

2.1.93. The Council approved a Decision on the adoption by the Member States which are Contracting Parties to the Convention on Navigation of the Rhine of an Additional Protocol to the Convention.

The Additional Protocol will enable the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine to lay down the conditions under which vessels from third countries might be authorized to carry goods and passengers between two points situated on the navigable waterways of the Rhine basin. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine matters relating to accession by the Community. Although the Commission, is entirely in agreement with the Member States'

objectives that disturbance of Rhine shipping by vessels from State-trading countries should be avoided, it nevertheless considers that the accession of the Community to the Mannheim Convention should be decided at the same time as the acceptance of the additional protocol, in order to avoid contradicting the EEC Treaty. The Commission has therefore reserved its position.

Inland waterways

2.1.94. The Council amended on 23 November¹ its Directive of 20 January 1976² on reciprocal recognition of navigability licences for inland waterway vessels to allow until 1 January 1980 for the adoption of common provisions on technical specifications.

Transport infrastructure

2.1.95. The Council held a general discussion on the proposal for a Council Regulation on support for projects of Community interest concerning transport infrastructure. Following on from this discussion, the Commission was invited to report by 1 January 1980 on bottlenecks in transport infrastructures and on the various possible intervention procedures. The Commission was also asked, in collaboration with the Committee on Infrastructures, to work out criteria for assessing projects of Community interest.

Road transport

2.1.96. The Council was able to agree on a 10% increase in the Community quota. It was agreed that half of the increase would be allocated on a linear basis and the other half on the basis of the rate of utilization of authorizations.

The Council also amended its Regulation of 28 February 1972 on the introduction of common rules for shuttle services by coach and bus between Member States.³

No decisions were taken on commercial vehicle taxation, weights and dimensions and the European driving licence. The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to examine these matters in greater detail so that the Council could take a decision at a forthcoming meeting.

Railways

2.1.97. Following an exchange of views on common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States, the Council agreed in principle to maintain permanently in force the common rules due to expire on 31 December 1978. The Council also decided to widen the scope of the common rules to include containerized transport for an experimental three-year period. In November Parliament⁴ and the Economic and Social Committee⁵ gave their opinion on the Commission's proposal.⁶

The Council approved a Decision concerning the Community's acceptance of Resolution No 212 of the Economic Commission for Europe relating to the facilitation of health and quality inspection in the international carriage of goods by rail, as regards traffic between the Community and third countries signatories to the Resolution.

The Council noted that there were still differences of opinion concerning the proposal for a Regulation amending the Regulation of 26 June 1969 concerning the normalization of railway accounts. The Council therefore instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the questions still outstanding.

¹ OJ L 349 of 13.12.1978.

² OJ L 21 of 20.1.1976.

³ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁴ OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

⁵ Point 2.3.67.

⁶ OJ C 185 of 3.8.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.107.

Inland transport

Operation of the market

Market access

2.1.98. At its plenary session on 29 and 30 November, the Economic and Social Committee gave its Opinion on the Commission's proposal concerning acceptance of Resolution No 119 of the Economic Commission for Europe on the standardization of the forms used for authorizations for international goods transport by road.¹

Transport rates and conditions

2.1.99. On 10 November the Road Tariff Committee provided for by the Council Regulation of 12 December 1977 on the fixing of rates for the carriage of goods² adopted its first report on the development of the market for the international carriage of goods by road in the Community in 1976 and 1977. The Commission will send this report to the Council and the Member States.

2.1.100. On 10 October 1974 the Governments of the ECSC Member States and the Commission, and the Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation and the Austrian Federal Government signed two Protocols on the accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom to the Agreement with Switzerland of 28 July 1956 and the Agreement with Austria of 26 July 1957 on the introduction of through international railway tariffs for the carriage of coal and steel through these two non-member countries.

The Protocol to the Agreement with Switzerland entered into force on 17 September 1978 and the Protocol to the Agreement with Austria on 6 November 1978.

2.1.101. The Transport Committees set up by the ECSC/Austria and ECSC/Switzerland Agreements on the introduction of through international railway tariffs for the carriage of coal and steel through Austrian and Swiss territory held their ordinary meetings in Luxembourg on 9 November.

They examined a study carried out by the railways on the development of the share of the different modes of transport in the traffic concerned. They also noted with satisfaction that there were in 1977 no difficulties in applying the Agreements, which have been in force for over twenty years.

Competition

2.1.102. The Commission has authorized the application of the Deutsche Bundesbahn (DB) support tariffs for coal and steel producers in the Saar, subject to a progressive decrease in the reduction from 1 January 1982.³ On 22 July 1971 and 18 December 1975 the Commission had authorized these tariffs until 31 December 1979, subject to degressivity from 1978.

The reasons given by the German Government for its request for an extension were as follows:

- (i) the need for a stop-gap measure pending completion of the canalization of the Saar, regarded as the only means of solving the transport problem in the Saar;
- (ii) the need to maintain the tariff aid for coal and steel producers in the Saar until the major restructuring efforts launched, which have been delayed by the present economic crisis, have an effect.

The Commission does not consider that canalization is a complete and definitive solution and so rejected the argument concerning the stop-gap measure, but recognized the merits of the second argument and based its authorization on it.

¹ OJ C 237 of 7.10.1978 and Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.61.

² OJ L 334 of 24.12.1977.

³ OJ L 330 of 25.11.1978.

Approximation of structures

Taxation

2.1.103. The special group set up under the Community Action Programme for the Rational Use of Energy to study the influence of taxation on the fuel consumption of cars held its second meeting on 21 November.

It reviewed several reports by government experts and by the motor industry, on the structure of present taxes and their impact on the purchase and use of private cars.

Sufficient progress was achieved to make it possible to prepare a draft summary report for the next meeting scheduled for early March 1979. The purpose of this report will be to show the probable impact on car fuel conservation of various measures and strategies concerning the taxation of fuel and cars, if the Governments were to decide to take action in this field.

Improvement of the financial situation of the railways

2.1.104. On 6 November the Commission issued an Opinion concerning the measures proposed by the United Kingdom in Northern Ireland with a view to implementing the Council Decision of 20 May 1975¹ on the improvement of the financial situation of the railways. On the whole, the Opinion is favourable, but the Commission has asked that two points of minor importance be included in these provisions.

Sea and air transport

2.1.105. On 13 November, in the context of the measures prepared by the Commission and certain Member States following the Amoco Cadiz disaster² and the decision of the European Council in Bremen,³ the Commission sent to the Council three proposals designed to improve safety at sea.⁴

One is for a Decision rendering mandatory the procedures for ship inspection forming the subject of Resolutions of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

These control procedures are already laid down in various IMCO Resolutions but—as they only have the status of Recommendations and are thus not mandatory for the Community States—it was necessary to incorporate their content into Community law through a formal Decision by the Council. Such a Decision would make application of the Resolutions mandatory. It is also proposed that whenever these inspection procedures are amended and updated by IMCO following the entry into force of the new international instruments at present being ratified, the Member States should agree to apply these procedures at Community level.

The other two proposals concerning tankers and the piloting of vessels were approved by the Council on 23 November.

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2.1.106. At its plenary session on 29 and 30 November the Economic and Social Committee gave its Opinion on two proposals for Commission Decisions on the activities of certain third countries in the field of cargo shipping.⁵

Energy policy

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

Energy objectives for 1990 and the Member States' programmes

2.1.107. On 22 November the Commission sent to the Council a Communication on the

¹ OJ L 152 of 12.6.1975.

² Bull. EC 4-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.13.

³ Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.3.

⁴ OJ C 284 of 28.11.1978.

⁵ OJ C 259 of 1.11.1978 and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.106.

energy policy objectives for 1990. The communication forms the third annual report by the Commission to the Council on the achievement of the energy policy objectives for 1985 adopted by the Council in December 1974. It also considers what objectives should be aimed at between now and the 1990s; these will eventually be set out in a proposal to the Council.

The Communication is based on the forecasts and programmes sent by the Member States to the Commission in mid-1978. It emerges that the energy policy objectives laid down in 1974 could be achieved by 1985, but only if the Member States intensify their efforts.

The results of the 1973-77 period are fairly satisfactory (leaving aside the economic context) from the point of view of the targets: consumption is practically at the same level as in 1973, although economic activity has increased by 7%; the proportion of oil in overall consumption has fallen from 59% to 54% and dependence on imported energy from 63% to 56%.

However, there are certain negative features. For example, the production of some energy sources is not progressing as desired (continuing decline in coal, delays in nuclear programmes). The level of consumption was as much the result of the sluggish economic activity as of energy-saving measures.

Generally, speaking, the consumption and production levels initially forecast for 1985 will be reached only towards 1990. This is mainly because of lower economic growth forecasts than those used in 1974.

Prospects for the evolution of the world market up to 1990 indicate that it would be to the Community's advantage to follow a strategy designed to bring about the minimum of dependence on imported energy.

According to the Member States' forecasts, the energy balance for 1990 shows that the proportion covered by oil will be reduced to approximately 47% (52% in 1985) whilst that covered by oil imported from non-member countries will drop to 35-40% (1985: 38-43%). The proportion accounted for by natural gas will be slightly lower than in 1985 (17%) whilst that covered by coal will remain unchanged (18%); but the share of nuclear energy (production of which will have almost doubled compared with 1985) will increase to 15%. Dependence on net imports will remain unchanged as compared with 1985 (48-53% of gross consumption).

The report leads the Commission to certain conclusions as to policy options regarding Community and Member States' actions. On present assumptions, in fifteen years' time at least 50% of Community energy consumption is still expected to be covered by imports from non-member countries. The future of the world market is therefore one of the key factors in Community energy policy.

An initial set of objectives for 1990 can be set in the light of the above factors. Externally, they will consist of:

- (i) maintaining an overall limit on imports;
- (ii) further diversifying external supplies, in respect both of types of energy sources and of the geographical areas from which they are drawn;
- (iii) increasing stability of supply by intensifying the system of relations with energy-exporting countries and other importers, on the basis of a world approach enabling the Community to exert its full weight on world trade;
- (iv) contributing to the solution of world energy problems by cooperation with the developing countries within the framework of a global strategy.

Internally, energy policy is a factor balancing the Community's economy. Both economic growth and stability will be fostered by reducing dependence on imported energy by means of investment in production or by energy savings.

The Commission highlights the need to determine priorities for energy policy. In drawing up these priorities it should be borne in mind that to a large extent energy policy can be efficiently conducted at national level if the necessary coordination is provided at Community level.

The priority areas for sectoral action which could improve the 1990 energy situation or prevent increased dependence and its concomitant economic and social consequences are energy saving, primary energy sources used for electricity generation (i.e. coal and nuclear energy), and the development of conventional and new energy sources.

Measures of a more general or 'horizontal' nature should accompany the priority action mentioned above:

- (i) greater coordination of Member States' R & D programmes;
- (ii) a strong effort to stimulate energy investment;

- (iii) strengthened measures to improve public safety and environmental protection;
- (iv) more public information on the impact of energy options.

Energy savings

Demonstration projects for energy saving

2.1.108. Under the Council Regulation of 12 June 1978¹—on the granting of financial support for energy-saving demonstration projects—the Commission published a notice inviting interested parties to propose projects which could qualify for aid. It received 326 proposals. The projects were examined by the Commission departments which then consulted the Advisory Committee on the Management of Demonstration Projects, made up of Member States' representatives, in order to make a preliminary selection. On 29 November the Commission adopted a Decision granting financial aid to sixteen projects involving a total of some 5.68 million EUA.

The Decision was communicated to the Member States as required under the Regulation of 12 June 1978. The Regulation may enter into force—and hence the applicants selected by the Commission may actually be granted aid—only after the expiry of twenty working days in which Member States may refer the Commission Decision to the Council (in which case, the Council's ruling must be awaited) and after the Council has unanimously fixed, by Regulation, the maximum amount of aid to be awarded under the Regulation. The Commission therefore asked the Council to act as quickly as possible so that the Regulation could enter into force.

A second financing decision will be taken at the beginning of 1979 when all the projects received by the Commission by the deadline given in the notice have been examined.

Demonstration projects to exploit alternative energy sources

2.1.109. Under the Council Regulation of 12 June 1978² the Commission published notices inviting prop-

osals for projects relating to geothermal energy, solar energy and the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels. In response, the Commission received 36 proposals in respect of geothermal energy, 135 on solar energy and 12 on the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels.

The proposals were examined by the Commission departments, which consulted the Advisory Committees on the Management of Projects.

On 29 November, on the basis of this examination, the Commission adopted Decisions granting financial aid to:

- (i) twelve geothermal energy projects, accounting for some 8.3 million EUA;
- (ii) fourteen solar energy projects, involving some 3 million EUA;
- (iii) the initial stages of four projects on the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels, involving some 15.8 million EUA.

The Regulation will come into force subject to the same conditions as for the Regulation on demonstration projects in the field of energy savings.³

Sectoral problems

Coal

Revision of the forecasts for 1978

2.1.110. On 22 November the Commission revised the Community coal market forecasts for 1978⁴—published at the beginning of the year⁵—to take account of trends during the first six months.

¹ OJ L 158 of 16.6.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.116.

² OJ L 158 of 16.6.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.117.

³ Point 2.1.108.

⁴ OJ C 286 of 30.11.1978.

⁵ OJ C 118 of 22.5.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.89.

In 1978 consumption of blast-furnace coke in the steel industry could be slightly less than the 53 million tonnes originally forecast, in view of the slackening in steel production in the second quarter. Generation of hydro and conventional thermal electric power has remained at the preceding year's level; coal's share has improved slightly in most Member States. Coal production for the Community as a whole will be very close to the 238 million tonnes forecast.

There have been considerable price increases in France (13%) and the United Kingdom (10%) since the forecasts for 1978 were published. The Commission's target price for imported coking coal was USD 62.25 per metric ton (ARA) on 1 July 1978, and steam coal was imported in the first quarter of this year at prices between USD 33 and 34.

The original forecast for coal imports from non-Community countries (about 45 million tonnes) still seems valid. Producers' stocks at the end of the year are likely to be slightly smaller than at the end of 1977 in Germany and Belgium and slightly larger in the United Kingdom and, probably, in France.

Industrial loans

2.1.111. The Commission has decided to lend the National Coal Board UKL 10 million under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty. The loan will be used to finance three investment projects: the construction of a new coal preparation plant and materials handling facilities at Harfield colliery; the modernization of surface facilities at Wearmouth; and the construction of new coal preparation plant at Bilsthorpe.

Nuclear energy

2.1.112. On 14 November¹ the Court of Justice gave a ruling which has special repercussions on several areas of application of the Euratom Treaty. The case had been brought before the Court by Belgium and concerned the relationship between national and Community authorities with regard to

physical protection. The Court found physical protection to be part of safeguards, an area in which the Euratom Treaty gives the Community extensive responsibility.

The Court also ruled on a number of points concerning safeguards in general, supplies of nuclear fuel, the common nuclear market and the Community's property rights with regard to special fissile materials. It further emphasized that the Community's internal responsibilities directly affected its capacity to act in external matters.

Electricity

2.1.113. On 20 November² the Council adopted a Resolution on the mutual exchange of information at Community level on the siting of power stations. It had approved the Resolution on 30 October.³

Research and development, science and education

Thermonuclear fusion: proposal for a research programme

2.1.114. The Commission sent to the Council on 23 November a proposal for a five-year research programme on controlled thermonuclear fusion for 1979-83, which takes in, in accordance with the rolling programme principle, the last two years of the 1976-80 five-year programme which is in progress.

¹ OJ C 302 of 16.12.1978.

² OJ C 286 of 30.11.1978.

³ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.113.

The new programme for 1979-83 provides for a considerable intensification of Community research work, which is justified in particular by the satisfactory results recently obtained with Tokamak-type devices, and by the need to maintain the Community's competitive position in relation to the United States and Japan which have recently decided to accelerate their research work in this field.

Over and above the funds remaining at the end of 1978 for the present Fusion research programme and those which were originally earmarked for JET until the end of 1980, the Commission proposes to allocate new resources estimated at 222.3 million EUA (including 45.3 million EUA for JET) to the 1978-80 programme. This Community involvement in the financing of associations between the Commission and various bodies which contribute to the programme and in financing the JET Joint Undertaking will enable work costing more than 900 million EUA to be carried out during the 1979-83 five-year period; this amount should be compared with some 500 million EUA which had originally been earmarked for the five-year period from 1976 to 1980. The Community staff assigned to the new programme will be the same as laid down in the previous Council decisions,¹ i.e., 113 employees for the non-JET part of the programme and 150 temporary staff for JET.

The proposed programme, which is mainly focused on magnetic confinement and in particular the Tokamak line and plasma heating, involves the following main aspects:

- (i) the construction of the JET device which should be finished in 1983;
- (ii) operation of several medium-sized magnetic confinement devices (mainly Tokamaks) which are at present under construction or already operational;
- (iii) design and possibly construction of two new medium-sized Tokamaks, one with a very high field, intended for ignition experiments, and the other with superconducting coils, intended for heating experiments;
- (iv) development of high-capacity heating systems and their application in the Tokamaks;
- (v) preparation of the post-JET project;
- (vi) a restricted programme on inertial confinement;
- (vii) implementation of a more substantial programme on fusion technology, in particular in the materials field.

Science, research and development

European Science Foundation

2.1.115. The European Science Foundation,² in whose work the Commission takes an active part, in particular through the participation of the Director-General for Research, Science and Education in the Foundation's Executive Council and through the work of Commission experts in several working parties set up by the Foundation, held its annual general meeting in Strasbourg on 7 and 8 November.

The Foundation reviewed the progress achieved during the year in many fields covering a wide range of disciplines such as astronomy, the mathematical sciences, the social sciences, archaeology, the humanities, genetic engineering, marine and space sciences and the problems of European comparative law; other sectors are also under review.

International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation

2.1.116. The First Plenary Conference of the International Nuclear Cycle Evaluation Programme (INFCE), held in Vienna from 27 to 29 November, was attended by representatives of the fifty-seven participant countries (including the Member States), of the Commission and of four international organizations.

The Conference reviewed the progress made in work undertaken by the eight specialist working parties set up in October 1977,³ in which Commission experts are actively taking part through studies carried out by several of its Directorates-General. The aim of the INFCE programme is to devise a technique for analysing nuclear fuel cycles in order to minimize the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons without jeopardizing energy supplies or the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

¹ OJ L 90 of 3.4.1976 and L 151 of 7.6.1978.

² Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.1.102.

³ Bull. EC 10-1977, point 2.1.86.

After expressing satisfaction on the progress so far made by the eight specialist working parties, the Conference laid down guidelines for their future research which should be completed in November 1979. The second Plenary Conference of the INFCE will be held at the end of February 1980.

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2.1.117. At its session on 29 and 30 November¹ the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion on the Commission's proposal to the Council concerning the decommissioning of nuclear power plants.²

Multiannual programmes

JET Council

2.1.118. At a meeting on 10 November the JET Council filled the remaining posts of heads of divisions and services for the Project. Earlier appointments were made in July.³ The Project's staffing structure has therefore now been finalized at both directorate⁴ and executive levels, except for the Head of the Scientific Department.

The JET Council also adopted the draft budget for 1979 (a commitment of 68 million EUA and a staff of 275, including 125 Commission employees; the budget will be considered as finally approved when the 1979 European Communities' budget is adopted.

A draft amendment to the Statutes was adopted to enable Switzerland to join the Joint Undertaking;⁵ the JET Council approved its rules of procedure and appointed as Vice-Chairman Mr G. Schuster, Director-General for Research, Science and Education at the Commission.

Advisory Committees on Programme Management (ACPMs)

2.1.119. The ACPM responsible for the non-nuclear part of the direct-action programme on measurements, standards and

reference techniques (METRE) and the indirect-action programme on reference materials and methods—Community Bureau of References (CBR) met on 7 and 8 November at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) Petten Establishment.

After hearing progress reports on the work done under both programmes, the Committee expressed a favourable opinion on three indirect-action projects to be implemented immediately after approval by the Council of the proposal⁶ for the 1979-82 programme in this area of research.

The Committee also visited the Petten Establishment's organic chemistry and high-temperature materials laboratories, and decided to devote its forthcoming meeting to a discussion of guidelines for the new programme which the JRC is preparing for the 1980-84 period, in accordance with the rolling programme principle.

2.1.120. The ACPM responsible for the direct and indirect-action programmes on solar energy met on 7 and 8 November at the JRC's Ispra Establishment. After reviewing the work in progress and visiting Ispra's specialized facilities, the Committee decided to devote its forthcoming meeting to discussing guidelines for the new JRC programme.

2.1.121. The ACPM responsible for the direct-action programme on supervision of fissile materials met at Ispra on 15 and 16 November and began discussing guidelines for the forthcoming JRC programme. It also delivered a favourable opinion on the possibility of the JRC collaborating with the United States Department of Energy on research into supervision of fissile materials.

2.1.122. The ACPM responsible for the indirect-action programme on radiological pro-

¹ Point 2.3.71.

² OJ C 146 of 21.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.98.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.127.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.124.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.2.65.

⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.122.

tection met on 13 and 14 November and recommended that seven new projects be accepted under the present 1976-80 programme; it also delivered a favourable opinion on the work programme to be continued in 1979 for contracts in progress. The Committee pursued the discussions it began in June¹ on the preparations of a proposal for a new indirect-action programme for 1980-84, which would take in the last year of the present programme. The Committee examined in detail a project drawn up by the Commission and recommended that it be shortly submitted to the Council.

2.1.123. The ACPM responsible for the 1978-80 indirect-action programme on uranium exploration and extraction, meeting on 14 and 15 November, pursued the initial examination it made in September² of the forty-six proposals received following publication of the Commission's notice.³ The Committee recommended that the Commission partially finance (up to a ceiling of 50%) twenty-seven of the proposed projects; this would commit approximately 2.6 million EUA of the total of 3 million EUA earmarked for the programme.

Advisory Committee on Scientific and Technical Training

2.1.124. Meeting on 15 November the Advisory Committee on Scientific and Technical Training selected a second group of candidates for the award of a research grant under the 1977-80 indirect-action programme.⁴ The Committee recommended that 45 of the 106 applicants be awarded grants; added to the 35 candidates selected in May,⁵ this brings the total number of grants awarded in 1978 to 80.

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2.1.125. On 14 and 15 November Parliament⁶ delivered its Opinion on three Commission proposals to the Council concerning safety in thermal water reactors,⁷ a revised environmental research programme⁸ and a second multiannual concerted-action programme on medical research and public health.⁹ The Economic and Social Committee also gave its Opinion on the third of these proposals at its session on 29 and 30 November.¹⁰

Education

Education

2.1.126. The meeting of the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council scheduled for 27 November was cancelled during the preceding week, although at the meeting of the Education Committee on 3 November the delegations were unanimous in their conclusions on most of the proposals arising from the implementation of three Communications transmitted by the Commission in 1978 relating to the study of the Community in schools,¹¹ the teaching of modern languages¹¹ and the admission of students to higher education establishments.¹² The Council meeting was cancelled because two delegations could not satisfactorily resolve the institutional problems raised by the new proposals for Community activities in respect of education.

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¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.126.

² Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.83.

³ OJ C 110 of 15.5.1978.

⁴ OJ L 10 of 3.1.1977.

⁵ Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.118.

⁶ Points 2.3.10 and 2.3.11 and OJ C 296 of 11.12.1978.

⁷ OJ C 146 of 21.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.97.

⁸ OJ C 173 of 20.7.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.120.

⁹ OJ C 213 of 7.9.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.123.

¹⁰ Point 2.3.69.

¹¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3.

¹² Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.85.

2.1.127. At its 16 November sitting Parliament¹ passed a Resolution containing a favourable opinion on the proposals set out in the Communications on the study of the Community in schools and the teaching of modern languages.

2.1.128. Under the Resolution of February 1976² of the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council comprising an action programme in the field of education, the Commission, in collaboration with the British Broadcasting Corporation, organized a seminar on 21 and 22 November in Brussels attended by representatives of the radio and television networks in the Member States. The seminar provided an opportunity to clarify the role of the mass media in the education of migrant workers.

2.1.129. In a working document just published, Professor Henri Janne and Professor Bertrand Schwartz have made a synopsis for the Commission of the host of ideas and proposals which have been floated in recent years on two problems which have particularly caught the attention of education and training authorities: the role of continuous education and the need to rework national policies with the aim of fostering a system in which work, leisure, vocational training and further education are harmoniously combined.

This paper, compiled with the collaboration of the Institute of Education of the European Cultural Foundation, contains several suggestions and is intended to stimulate talks and discussions on how the proposed measures might be applied in the Community.

The professors devote much of their report to an appraisal of the measures recommended to enable young people of 15 to 25 years of age to combine work, vocational training and further education in order to cope with the hazards of unemployment.

Scientific and technical information and information management

Second three-year plan of action

Euronet: negotiations with Switzerland

2.1.130. In accordance with the task assigned to it by the Council,³ the Commission entered into negotiations with a Swiss delegation in Luxembourg on 29 November with the aim of preparing the way for an agreement concerning the extension of the Euronet network to Switzerland.

In view of the benefit to be gained from such an extension, both for the Commission and for Switzerland, the parties wish to conclude the negotiations rapidly so that the necessary technical arrangements, which at all events will require some considerable time, will not be delayed further.

¹ Point 2.3.13.

² OJ C 38 of 19.2.1976.

³ OJ L 311 of 4.11.1978.

2. External relations

Multilateral trade negotiations

Enlargement

Spain

2.2.1. On 29 November the Commission adopted the Opinion on Spain's application for accession to the Communities,¹ as required by the Treaties.

Accession negotiations: Greece

2.2.2. The eighth session of ministerial-level negotiations was held in Brussels on 6 November. The Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee reported on the work done at deputy level since the previous ministerial session² and there were substantive discussions on the question of Greek participation in the Community institutions. Attention was focussed primarily on the 'numerical' adjustments in the composition and operation of Community institutions and bodies that will result from Greece's accession and certain institutional problems connected with the adaptation of Community secondary legislation.

2.2.3. In November the Commission adopted formal proposals relating to own resources, right of establishment and transport. Since the beginning of the year the Commission has submitted to the Council fifteen sets of proposals for common positions.

2.2.4. The Commission and the Greek Delegation continued their examination of Community secondary legislation in the agricultural sector.

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2.2.5. At its session in Brussels on 29 and 30 November the Economic and Social Committee delivered its Opinion on Greece's application for membership of the Community.³

Political cooperation

Annual report to Parliament

2.2.6. On 15 November Mr Genscher, the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany and Chairman of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States meeting in political cooperation, presented the annual report on political cooperation to Parliament.⁴

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2.2.7. On 14 November Parliament⁵ passed a Resolution concerning the situation of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union.

Multilateral trade negotiations

High-level meetings in Geneva

2.2.8. A series of meetings took place on 15, 16 and 17 November between the major negotiating partners. Mr Haferkamp, accompanied by Mr Gundelach, and Mr Davignon had several meetings with Mr Strauss, President Carter's Special Representative, Mr Ushiba, the Japanese Minister, Mr Garland, the Australian Minister, and Mr Jack Warren, the Canadian representative.

The progress of negotiations in all fields since the last series of meetings in Geneva in July was reviewed and the political impetus was provided for this crucial stage in the negotiations.

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.8.

² Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.2.2.

³ Point 2.3.73.

⁴ Points 2.3.3 and 3.4.1.

⁵ Point 2.3.4.

Mr Haferkamp was particularly concerned to clarify the general context of the negotiations, in view of the uncertainty created by the expiry of the discretionary powers vested in the United States Administration under the Trade Act (Section 331) to waive the application of countervailing duties during the negotiations; these powers are due to lapse on 3 January and the United States Congress adjourned without extending them.¹ Mr Strauss was keen to clarify the intentions of the United States Administration; it plans to notify, in December, its intention to conclude the negotiations, a procedure which in itself triggers off the statutory 90-day period during which Congress must be consulted, and it will submit to Congress, as soon as the new session begins, a bill extending the powers of Section 331 of the Trade Act; pending the adoption of this legislation, all the legal possibilities will be employed by the Administration to avoid having to apply countervailing duties.

Mr Haferkamp was also able to meet representatives of the developing countries taking part in the negotiations and he had wide-ranging discussions on all aspects of interest to those countries. The representatives of the developing countries took the opportunity to reiterate their request for special and differentiated treatment and their opposition to the possibility of the selective application of the safeguard clause, except in cases where such an application had been agreed by the exporting country or authorized by the committee of signatories if one is set up.

2.2.9. At its meeting on 21 November the Council reviewed the progress of the negotiations on the basis of a detailed report from the Commission. Mr Haferkamp expressed the view that the assurances given by Mr Strauss seemed adequate and he submitted to the Council a number of options on matters of substance.

Recalling its discussions in October,² the Council confirmed that as far as the Community was concerned the negotiations could be concluded only after the US Congress had extended the waiver, thereby dispelling any uncertainty. It called on the Commission to continue to apply every effort to the negotiations in order to clear up any obscure points that remained and to explore the major points of a truly balanced overall agreement with the major partners, with due account being taken of the points of view expressed during the discussions.

Agriculture

2.2.10. The Dairy Products and Meat Subgroups of the GATT Group on Agriculture met in Geneva on 13 and 14 November and 8 and 9 November respectively.

They continued work on finalizing the texts of the relevant multilateral agreements. Progress was made on some of the points in contention.

The members of both subgroups are ready to resume discussions at the request of their chairmen, so that the deadlines for the principal negotiations can be respected.

North-South dialogue: Development cooperation

International standards governing working conditions

2.2.11. On 10 November the Commission transmitted a Communication to the Council on development cooperation and the observance of certain international standards governing working conditions. It concerns the implementation of a principle already stated in the memorandum on the renewal of the Lomé Convention³ namely the possibility of a link between the advantages offered by the Community to the developing countries (particularly in the trade field) and the observance of certain standards, this link to apply to all the developing countries, including the ACP States.

Aims — The Commission wishes to make it absolutely clear that the Community's aim will be to help countries benefiting from its cooperation to base their economic growth on conditions which are compatible with social progress. It considers that its proposal will strengthen the support of Community business and labour for an

¹ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.2.11 and 10-1978, point 2.2.9.

² Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.2.10.

³ Bull. EC 2-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.4.

open development cooperation policy by reserving preferences for the many countries which are endeavouring to keep economic growth in step with social progress and by not making exceptions for the few cases where under-development is used as an excuse for inhuman working conditions.

Adoption of four basic standards — From among the vast body of standards covered by the 151 conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Commission has chosen four which it considers fundamental: States are called upon to take measures to:

- (i) promote equality of opportunity and treatment in the matter of employment and occupation (race, colour, religion, sex);
- (ii) limit the duration of the working week in industry (maximum of forty-eight hours, the standard laid down in an ILO convention dating back to 1919);
- (iii) secure the abolition of child labour in industry (fourteen years to be the minimum age);
- (iv) to look after the health and ensure the safety of children and adolescents at work.

The standards chosen are considered as representing a minimum, for certain business and labour circles in the Community would like the Community to go further in this direction. However, by giving priority to the observance of standards which directly affect people, the Community's action will have significant political scope and will thus accelerate the trend towards greater observance of basic human, social and trade union rights.

Method of application — The Commission considers that effective application of the standards adopted should be monitored by the International Labour Office, the ILO's executive body, given its specialized knowledge in this field and also its considerable moral authority. Although it will be for the ILO to judge whether the standards are being observed, sole responsibility for the application of the arrangements will lie with the Community. The principles and scope of the arrangements will be the same for all developing countries. Procedures will vary according to the type of relations involved between the countries concerned and the Community.

International Code of Conduct on transfer of technology

2.2.12. The United Nations Conference on an international code of conduct on transfer

of technology was held from 16 October to 11 November in Geneva, under the auspices of UNCTAD. The Conference made some progress in drafting the text of the future code but did not attain its real objective, which was to negotiate the final version of the code and to take the decisions required for its adoption. In view of this, the Conference agreed to convene a second session to last two weeks in the first quarter of 1979 and even discussed the possibility of a third session in the autumn.

The Commission was represented at the Conference. Given that the future code raises certain problems for the Community, mainly regarding the participation of the Community as such in the adoption of the code and the compatibility of the code with Community law, the Commission transmitted to the Council last September¹ a Communication drawing attention to these problems and proposed that the Community should adopt a joint position on them in the negotiations on the code. Community coordination on these questions has begun and will continue in the coming weeks in preparation for the second session of the Conference.

UNCTAD Integrated Programme, commodities and world agreements

Common Fund

2.2.13. The Negotiating Conference on the Common Fund for Commodities resumed in Geneva from 14 to 27 November.

No final agreement was reached, but as definite progress was made, the Conference will continue from 26 February to 2 March 1979 in an attempt to achieve a sufficiently comprehensive result before UNCTAD V in Manila.

The Chairman of the Conference, Mr H. E. Walker (Jamaica) drew his own conclusions from the negotia-

¹ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.2.22.

tions as regards a possible compromise. The Common Fund could be provided with:

- (i) USD 700 million in direct contributions from Member States (including USD 400 million in compulsory contributions to finance buffer stocks and a target USD 300 million in voluntary contributions to the second window to finance stabilization measures other than stocks);
- (ii) contributions from international commodity agreements (ICA) in the form of deposits, callable capital and guarantees.

Neither the group of industrialized countries nor the group of 77 are bound by Mr Walker's personal conclusions. But both sides made notable concessions to help reach a compromise. The first group accepted the principle of direct State contributions to the capital of the Common Fund and that of a second window to finance still unspecified measures other than buffer stocks. For the first window the deposit—credit ratio for ICAs belonging to the Common Fund was lowered from 75-25% to 40-60%. On this point the group of 77 moved from an initial position of 0-100% to 30-70%, thereby accepting the principle of a pooling of the ICAs resources. The industrialized countries are strongly attached to this principle.

Preparatory meetings

Cotton

2.2.14. Intergovernmental experts held a third preparatory meeting on cotton¹ in Geneva from 6 to 10 November under the UNCTAD Integrated Programme for Commodities.

At the centre of the discussions were the fluctuations in cotton prices on international markets over the last four or five years, the aim being to determine the real extent, the nature, the causes and the consequences in order to decide whether there was a need for stabilization measures on an international level.

It emerged that views about fluctuations on prices and their consequences differed appreciably from one delegation to another and the conclusions to be drawn were widely divergent. Some countries felt that stabilization measures were necessary and that they could take the form of an international storage system, whereas others

felt that the situation and real development in prices did not justify such measures.

The Community representatives stressed that the causes of the fluctuations, which are never easy to judge with any accuracy, included factors outside the cotton market (the energy crisis, world monetary problems and inflation, and the economic depression). It recognized that although the studies and discussions undertaken left doubts as to the need for and effectiveness of worldwide measures, particular problems did arise for certain developing producer countries whose economy depended largely on cotton, and that these particular problems could be enough to justify taking appropriate international measures.

In conclusion it was agreed that the UNCTAD Secretariat would prepare papers for the next meeting (to be convened early in 1979) setting out the possible choices for market stabilization and the measures which could be taken to protect exporting developing countries against the consequences of excessive price fluctuations. The Secretariat's study will be based on the various approaches contained in existing papers and on the comments and suggestions made during the discussions.

The question of setting up a Cotton Development International was also raised (such a body would be concerned with research, development and marketing), although at the same time it was agreed that market promotion measures currently being applied by the International Institute for Cotton need to be retained and strengthened.

Commodities and world agreements

Cereals

2.2.15. The negotiating conference on a new International Wheat Agreement met in Geneva from 6 to 24 November but had to adjourn.

A good deal of progress was made in defining the nature and scope of the mechanisms of the agreement, and some progress was made on special provisions for developing countries in relation to their reserve stock obligations; but on the key questions of price range and reserve stock levels attitudes remained far apart. This was

¹ Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.2.8 and 3-1978, point 2.2.17.

particularly the case on prices: the four main exporters insisted that the level of the trigger price, which initiated reserve stock accumulation, must not be lower than their production costs; the developing importers proposed a price range very much lower, while the Community and Japan sought a realistic compromise without success.

The Conference therefore finally noted the progress made to date and requested its chairman to reconvene the Interim Committee of the Conference as soon as possible to try to resolve the outstanding problems and to recommend a new date for the final phase of the Conference.

Sugar

2.2.16. The Community has now agreed to meet the International Sugar Council's *ad hoc* informal group on accessions, in order to explain in detail the Community's 'equivalent obligations' concept which was outlined in the closing stages of the negotiating conference but which the conference was unwilling to pursue at that time.

The meeting will take place on 15 December and will be confined to explanation and clarification on both sides. A Community decision on how to proceed thereafter will be taken in the light of the outcome of the discussions.

Concurrently, in the context of Article XVI of the GATT, Australia and Brazil have called for panels to be set up to examine prejudice to their exports resulting from the Community's policy of export refunds. The Australian panel has already been set up.

Generalized system of preferences

2.2.17. At its session on 29 and 30 November the Economic and Social Committee¹ gave its Opinion on the Commission proposals concerning the Generalized Preferences Scheme for developing countries for 1979.²

Commercial, industrial and technical cooperation

2.2.18. A seminar of reciprocal trade information took place from 16 to 22 November in Lima, Peru. Its aim was to assess the results of trade promotion measures undertaken by the Community in favour of the Andean Group countries in 1977 and 1978 and to draw up a draft promotion programme for 1979. During this seminar, the delegations of the five countries concerned and the delegation of the Junta of the Cartagena Agreement informed the Community delegation of the line they wanted to take for their foreign trade and specified the measures undertaken to improve their exports.

A draft programme for 1979 was drawn up and will be submitted for the approval of the competent authorities.

2.2.19. Latin American business missions, organized by the Commission with the co-operation of the foreign trade bodies of the Member States of the Community, visited the European cities in November: London, Paris, Milan, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Amsterdam and Rotterdam. Business men from Honduras presented wooden doors and furniture, those from Salvador clothing and leather work and those from Venezuela iron, steel and aluminium items.

Trade missions from Nepal and Pakistan were organized by the Commission during November. As guests of the Chambers of Commerce in Paris, London, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen, Milan and Brussels, Nepalese businessmen discussed exports of jute and leather products, carpets and craft products. Pakistani businessmen presented rubber articles tools, craft products and subcontracting possibilities in engineering.

¹ Point 2.3.66.

² Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.2.22.

2.2.20. A delegation from the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDIA) headed by its chairman, Mr Ayari, visited Brussels from 8 to 10 November and met Mr Cheysson.

The object of the visit was to examine the progress made so far in the projects which ABEDIA and the EEC are cofinancing in Africa and to discuss possible joint future commitments.

It should be pointed out that the EEC and ABEDIA are currently participating in nine different projects involving total commitments of 217.5 million EUA.

These meetings were also an opportunity to examine the means of strengthening and developing this cooperation by the creation of a permanent system for consultation and exchange of information.

Food aid and emergency aid

Emergency aid

2.2.21. The Commission has decided to grant emergency aid to the victims of the recent events in Lebanon (400 000 EUA) and Nicaragua (90 000 EUA).

This aid will consist in supplying basic requirements such as food and medicine through the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Catholic Relief Services.

2.2.22. The Commission also decided:

- (i) on 15 November to grant emergency aid of 30 000 EUA to the victims of a typhoon in the Philippines. This relief work, carried out through Caritas Neerlandica, consists in supplying medicine and clothing;
- (ii) on 29 November to grant emergency aid of 25 000 EUA to enable Caritas Belgica to supply preserved foods, clothing and blankets to the victims of the recent floods in Thailand;

(iii) the same day to grant emergency aid of 25 000 EUA to enable the League of Red Cross Societies to come to the aid of victims of natural disasters in Sri Lanka.

2.2.23. The Commission decided on 9 November to grant emergency food aid to the victims of floods in India, through the League of Red Cross Societies, amounting to 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder. This operation will cost an estimated 202 000 EUA.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.24. An exhibition of teaching aids was organized in Brussels from 21 to 23 November by a group of non-governmental organizations specializing in development aid (NGO). The exhibition, to which the Commission gave financial and logistic support, was a new experiment in cofinancing with NGOs in educating the Community public on development matters (relations with the Third World).

International organizations

United Nations

UNIDO

2.2.25. The Community participated actively in the second consultation meeting on the fertilizer industry organized by UNIDO (Innsbruck, 6 to 10 November).

This meeting came under the programme of consultations pursuant to the Lima Declaration and Plan of Ac-

tion and Resolution 3362 adopted at the seventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1975. The general aim of the fertilizer consultation, as defined by the UNIDO Secretariat, is to study the means of increasing world production of fertilizers and, in particular, to increase the share of developing countries in this production.

The 250 participants included representatives from governments, industry and trade unions. Contract procedures for the construction of new fertilizer plants were one of the main topics of discussion.

Conference on Science and Technology for Development

2.2.26. In order to agree on the position that the Community and its Member States will adopt at the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, to be held in Vienna in August 1979, the Council bodies have decided to follow the procedure adopted for the preparatory meeting of the European region held in Bucharest in June¹ and to entrust this work to an *ad hoc* group of experts from the Member States and the Commission. This *ad hoc* group met for the first time on 17 November. It called on the Commission to study the plan of action drawn up by the Conference Secretariat and is to meet again early in January 1979 to discuss this matter prior to the meeting of the Preparatory Committee scheduled for a fortnight later.

Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology

2.2.27. At its meeting in Geneva from 16 October to 11 November² the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology made some progress without, however, actu-

ally adopting the code of conduct as intended. The Conference—in which the Community is represented—is to meet again in 1979.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Annual session of the Contracting Parties

2.2.28. The annual session of the Contracting Parties to GATT was held in Geneva on 27 and 28 November and concentrated on three main topics referred to by the Chairman of the Contracting Parties, Mr De Geer, in his opening address and by other delegates.

The participants expressed general concern about the dangers of certain protectionist tendencies and called for the freest possible international trading system. Secondly, a balanced outcome to the multilateral trade negotiations would help attain this objective; this was stressed by representatives of both industrialized and developing countries. Finally, thoughts should now already be cast ahead to the follow-up to the Tokyo Round and to the problems which will arise then. A number of Contracting Parties proposed that a work programme be drawn up by the GATT Secretariat for the period after the multilateral negotiations and suggested that a special session might be held early in 1979.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Development Assistance Committee

2.2.29. The principal OECD donor countries met on 14 and 15 November for the 17th annual high-level meeting of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). They

¹ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.2.36.

² Point 2.2.12.

considered three main points: the guidelines for a new international development strategy, the OECD proposal for a programme to increase investment in the developing countries and the possibilities for improving aid procedures and payments.

Discussions on the strategy question were concerned mainly with world economic interdependence. The Commission representative stated that the Community intended to work actively for real progress towards a more just and equitable economic order and recalled that it had already submitted a draft resolution to the 33rd United Nations General Assembly.

The proposal for a programme for increasing investments in the developing countries was well received, but the DAC wanted various aspects to be dealt with in detail before there could be any question of introducing it into the North-South Dialogue.

The DAC will continue its work on this last matter. It decided to convene an informal high-level meeting of experts in 1979 to discuss experience in the field of payments, and two informal meetings with experts from the developing countries and with Arab donors.

Steel Committee

2.2.30. The Steel Committee set up by the OECD Council in October after long discussion held its first meeting in Paris on 20 November. A Commission delegation attended.

This first meeting was essentially procedural: a technical working party was set up and its priority tasks defined; the principle that representatives of the industry and of the trade unions participate in the Committee's work was approved (details of this participation have still to be decided). At its meeting in January 1979, the Committee will consider—in addition to these points—whether to set up a working party to prepare the more political discussions.

Working Party on Shipbuilding

2.2.31. The OECD Working Party on Shipbuilding met in Paris on 8 and 9 November.

During the meeting Japan announced a shift of emphasis in its shipbuilding policy and outlined a programme, now finalized, aimed at cutting back capacity by roughly 35%. To avoid increasing the burden on shipyards, however, it did not intend to retain the arrangement applied in 1977 and 1978 whereby prices were raised by 5%, though the other main price control measures would continue to operate.

In connection with the Working Party's discussions on export credit terms for ships, the Commission was asked to state the Community's line; it is currently examining the matter.

Western European Union

WEU Assembly

2.2.32. The Commission was represented at the second part of the Western European Union Assembly's session which was held in Paris from 20 to 23 November. The Assembly adopted a set of recommendations on European external relations, disarmament, strategic arms limitation and European arms policy. On this last subject, it urged the WEU Council to consider whether the restructuring of European arms production could not be made the responsibility of the European Community in view of its competence for industrial, customs and research questions.

Commercial policy

Formulating and implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.33. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries,¹ the Commission took the following measures to relax import restrictions:

France-Bulgaria: exceptional opening of an additional import quota for sheep (other than pure-bred breeding animals);

France-State-trading countries: extension of the suspension of quantitative restrictions on imports of unwrought aluminium until 31 December 1980.²

Investigation, surveillance and safeguard measures

2.2.34. The Commission decided³ to initiate an anti-dumping anti-subsidy procedure concerning sodium carbonate originating in Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union. It also initiated an anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedure concerning fibre building board originating in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union.⁴

Specific measures of commercial policy

Textiles

Negotiations

2.2.35. An agreement between the Community and Hungary on trade in textiles was initialled on 30 November. This brings to twenty-four the number of agreements that the Community has negotiated with non-member exporting countries under the Multifibre Arrangement.

Steel

Negotiation of arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.36. There were a number of debates in November within the Community institutions and organs concerning the extension for 1979 of the crisis plan for steel based on the decisions taken by the Council in December 1977.

The outcome was that the crisis arrangements in operation—both internal and external—will be renewed for a year, with special attention being paid to the rules governing aid and restructuring problems.

The communiqué issued after the Council meeting on 20 and 21 November indicated that external arrangements similar to those operating in 1978 will be applied, subject to certain adjustments in the light of experience. In the meantime it was agreed that the Commission should continue its talks with the non-member countries in preparation for the conclusion of the arrangements.

¹ OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

² OJ C 290 of 5.12.1978.

³ OJ C 227 of 21.11.1978.

⁴ OJ C 286 of 30.11.1978.

Speaking both at the Council meeting and to the press, Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for industrial affairs, noted that the parties concerned had every reason to be satisfied with the way the arrangements had operated and the urgent request from the non-member countries for their renewal was clear evidence. Differences between internal and external prices had narrowed considerably, he pointed out.

2.2.37. The Commission and a number of non-member countries held discussions in November on steel market trends and problems. In Tokyo on 15 and 16 November the ECSC-Japan contact group¹ reviewed developments in the steel situation in the Community countries and in Japan and discussed the application of the Community-Japan arrangement and prospects for cooperation in 1979. Similar talks were held with Sweden in Stockholm on 16 and 17 November.

2.2.38. The OECD Steel Committee, which was set up by the OECD Council in October, held its first meeting in Paris on 20 November.

Anti-dumping arrangements

2.2.39. By a Recommendation dated 23 November,² the Commission also decided to suspend the definitive anti-dumping duty iron or steel coils for re-rolling, originating in South Korea,³ which it introduced on 19 April.⁴

Mediterranean countries

Agreements with the Maghreb countries, the Mashreq countries, Israel, Portugal and Malta

2.2.40. The Cooperation Agreements with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon and the Additional and Financial Protocols with Israel, Portugal and Malta entered into force on 1 November.⁵

Greece

2.2.41. The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee held its fifteenth session in Paris from 23 to 25 November under the joint chairmanship of Mr Pezmazoglou, Chairman of the Greek Parliament Delegation, and Mr De Clercq, Chairman of the European Parliament Delegation. Mr Kontogeorgis, Minister without Portfolio in the Greek Government with special responsibility for relations with the EEC, Mr von Dohnanyi, President of the Association Council and President of the Council of the Communities, and Mr Natali, Vice-President of the Commission, also attended the meeting.

The Joint Committee's discussions were focused on Greece's forthcoming accession to the Community and the development of the EEC-Greece Association Agreement. There was also a brief exchange of views on political questions of interest to both sides.

At the close of the session, the Joint Parliamentary Committee adopted several recommendations concerning association and accession which were forwarded to the Association Council and other competent bodies.

At an information meeting organized during this session representatives of economic and social circles in Greece and the Community discussed the question of freedom of establishment against the background of accession.

Cyprus

2.2.42. On 23 November⁶ the Council adopted a Regulation on the conclusion of

¹ Point 2.2.56.

² Point 2.2.30.

³ OJ L 330 of 25.11.1978.

⁴ OJ L 106 of 19.4.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.2.49.

⁵ OJ L 295 of 20.10.1978 and L 297 of 24.10.1978; Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.2.51.

⁶ OJ L 332 of 29.11.1978.

the Financial Protocol between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus, which was signed in Brussels on 15 September 1977.¹

Israel

2.2.43. On 23 November the Commission organized a symposium in Brussels on industrial opportunities in Israel. The many participants were made aware of new openings for foreign investment in Israel.

2.2.44. On 28 November the Commission transmitted to the Council a Communication on the exploratory talks held on 25 September, together with a recommendation for a decision concerning the negotiation of an agreement with Israel.

ACP States and the OCT

Visits to the Commission by the Presidents of Kenya and Gambia

2.2.45. The President of the Republic of Kenya, Mr Daniel Arap Moi, visited the Commission on 16 and 17 November. In his talks with Mr Jenkins and Mr Cheysson, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development, both sides laid stress on the close ties linking Kenya and the Community institutions.

2.2.46. The President of the Republic of Gambia, Mr Jawara, visited the Commission on 24 November in his dual capacity of Head of State and Chairman of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for drought control in the Sahel. His talks with Mr Jenkins and Mr Cheysson were mainly concerned with Community aid to the Inter-State Committee and questions connected with programmes for Gambia under the Lomé Convention.

Negotiations for the renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention

2.2.47. The negotiations, which started in September between the Commission and the ACP ambassadors, are now advancing at a much faster pace. Working parties dealing with the various areas of cooperation met almost every day in November. The discussions produced a clear picture of the negotiation issues and clarified the parties' positions. In some cases, the beginnings of consensus can be discerned while in others, the parties tried to determine more accurately the nature and extent of disagreement.

The main purpose of this first round is to prepare for the ACP-EEC Ministerial Conference scheduled for 21 December, when guidelines are to be established for the second round due to start in January 1979.

The Council took note, on 21 November, of a Commission report on the progress of the negotiations and began preparations for the Ministerial Conference. It reiterated the Community's hope that the overall timetable agreed by both parties when the negotiations opened would be respected. It also gave the Commission some additional directives concerning the system for stabilizing export earnings and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to look more closely at several matters still unsettled, in particular the Stabex and fisheries.

Lomé Convention

Accessions to the Convention

2.2.48. On 20 November the Council endorsed on behalf of the European Economic Community a draft Decision of the ACP-CEE Council of Ministers approving the accession of Dominica—a former British territory which became independent on 3 November—to the ACP-EEC Lomé Convention.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1977, point 2.2.29.

Once the ACP States have given their approval too—which they will do within the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers—and Dominica has deposited its instrument of accession, this country will become the fifty sixth signatory State of the Lomé Convention.

To ensure that Dominica does not lose certain benefits, especially financial ones, which it derives from the association of the overseas countries and territories to the Communities, the Council decided the same day¹ that the arrangements laid down in the Decision of 29 June concerning the association of the OCT to the EEC should remain provisionally applicable to Dominica after independence.

2.2.49. The agreements on the accession of the Republic of Cape Verde, Papua-New Guinea and the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe to the Lomé Convention, signed in Brussels on 28 March 1977,² came into force on 1 November.³

Trade, industrial, financial and technical cooperation

Trade cooperation

2.2.50. The Cameroon and Togo Governments have obtained technical assistance from the Commission for setting up external trade development centres.

Four ACP States took part in the international food fair held in Paris from 13 to 18 November, under the Community programme and with the Commission's technical and financial assistance.

Export earnings

Stabex

2.2.51. On 30 November the Commission adopted a second instalment of 1977 trans-

fers under the system for stabilizing export earnings set up by the Lomé Convention. These transfers, set out in Table 2, concern four ACP States, involve three products and amount to 15 250 407 EUA, bringing 1977 transfers to a total of 31 125 209 EUA.

Table 2

Recipient ACP State	Product	Amount of transfer in EUA
<i>Mauritania</i>	Iron ore	3 605 602
<i>Western Samoa</i>	Bananas	99 313
<i>Swaziland</i>	Iron ore	3 368 878
<i>Tanzania</i>	Sisal	8 176 614
	Total second instalment	15 250 407

In the first two instalments for 1977, 38% of transfers have been allocated to States exporting products that have been affected by unfavourable economic circumstances (Mauritanian iron ore, sisal) while 62% consist of compensation for loss of earnings due to local conditions.

All the transfers, which are in the form of grants, are to the poorest countries.

The Commission also decided to grant two further advances for 1978. One (1 283 000 EUA) to Gambia for groundnuts, and the other (160 000 EUA) to Tonga for bananas. With the advances granted to Senegal in July, advances for 1978 total 20 443 000 EUA.

European Development Fund

New financing decisions

2.2.52. In November the Commission decided to finance the following projects on

¹ OJ L 331 of 28.11.1978.

² Bull. EC 3-1977, point 2.2.51.

³ OJ L 287 of 13.10.1978.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.72.

which favourable opinions had been given by the EDF Committee:

	(EUA)
<i>Lesotho</i> — rural post offices:	1 500 000
<i>Surinam</i> — college of technology Paramaribo:	1 100 000
<i>Ivory Coast</i> — village water engineering:	9 400 000
<i>Upper Volta</i> — development of rice growing in the Comoe regional development area (ORD):	2 968 000
<i>The Caribbean</i> — development of livestock:	1 000 000
<i>Botswana</i> — Mbatse — Ramatlama road:	4 945 000
<i>Fiji</i> — island jetties:	1 474 000
<i>Central African Empire</i> — improvement of river transport:	2 500 000
<i>ACP-OCT</i> — provisional overall amount for financing scholarships and training grants for vocational and further training during the academic years from 1976 to 1979:	3 800 000
<i>Netherlands Antilles</i> — sum for financing a multiannual training programme (1976-80):	2 450 000
<i>ACP-OCT</i> — overall commitment authorization for the financing technical cooperation and trade promotion projects under the accelerated procedure:	2 000 000
<i>Zaire</i> — Kikwit and Mandaka higher teacher training institutes:	8 000 000
<i>Ethiopia</i> — practical education:	2 100 000
<i>Upper Volta</i> — development of stock-farming in the Sahel regional development area (ORD):	1 550 000
<i>East Africa</i> — (Jibuti-Ethiopia-Kenya-Somalia-Sudan) — exceptional aid for locust control measures:	1 300 000

Zaire — exceptional aid for the repatriation and resettlement of Zairian refugees 4 000 000

Other countries

Industrialized countries

United States

2.2.53. The seventeenth meeting in the series of six-monthly high-level consultations¹ between the Commission and the United States Government was held in Washington from 27 to 29 November. The Commission delegation was led by Mr Haferkamp and the United States Delegation was led by Mr Richard Cooper, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

The discussions covered the present economic and monetary situation, the establishment of the European Monetary System, energy, the problems relating to the North-South Dialogue, the Law of the Sea and bilateral trade relations. The multilateral trade negotiations were dealt with in a series of side meetings.

The discussions on the North-South Dialogue centred on the forthcoming UNCTAD V in Manila and the renewal of the Lomé Convention. The main bilateral points discussed concerned the steel industry, fisheries and certain agricultural products.

While in Washington, Mr Haferkamp was received by President Carter, who assured him that he was determined to secure the approval of Congress for the extension of the waiver.

EFTA countries

Switzerland

2.2.54. Mr Jenkins, the Commission President, paid an official visit to Switzerland on 13 and 14 November. On 13 November Mr

¹ Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.2.62.

Jenkins spoke to the Society for the Development of the Swiss Economy in Basle on the establishment of the European Monetary System. The same topic was raised on 14 November during talks with four of the seven members of the Federal Council. These talks also covered the strengthening of cooperation between Switzerland and the Community, international trade and the enlargement of the Community. This was the first official visit to Switzerland by a Commission President.

Japan

2.2.55. At its meeting on 20 and 21 November the Council took stock of relations with Japan. It took note of Mr Haferkamp's declared intention to present an overall report on EEC-Japan relations to the Council at its next meeting. This report would take account of the results of the high-level consultations between the Commission and Japan to be held on 8 and 9 December. The Council agreed to use this opportunity to discuss all the issues relating to EEC-Japan relations.

2.2.56. The ECSC-Japan contact group met in Tokyo on 15 and 16 November. Exploratory talks took place on the renewal of the steel arrangements for 1979.

New Zealand

2.2.57. The third round of unofficial talks between the Commission and New Zealand was held in Brussels on 21 and 22 November.¹ The New Zealand Delegation was led by Mr F.H. Corner, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and the Commission delegation was led by the Director-General for External Relations and the Director-General for Agriculture.

The wide range of matters discussed included a review of economic developments in New Zealand and the Community, the multilateral trade negotiations, bilateral issues (notably New Zealand's agricultural exports), Lomé II and matters relating to development policy, and relations with other countries, in particular the ASEAN countries, Australia, China and Japan.

The New Zealand delegation emphasized that New Zealand wishes to develop further its relations with the Community and its Member States. The ties with Europe are of fundamental importance for New Zealand as the Community is New Zealand's principal trading partner, providing 31% of its imports and taking 30% of New Zealand exports. New Zealand is therefore concerned to maintain access for her agricultural exports to the Community market. Despite vigorous efforts to diversify exports and markets, there are limits to the extent to which changes can be realized and access to the Community market remains essential. New Zealand is engaged in strengthening and restructuring its economy, which has been acutely affected by the recession in recent years, and a slow but steady improvement now seems possible.

The Commission stated that New Zealand's preoccupations are well understood. It is aware that the dairy and sheep industry represents the backbone of the New Zealand economy and that dependence on the Community as an outlet is of vital importance. The Commission stressed that New Zealand for its part has to recognize that the Community is confronted with great difficulties and that efforts will have to be made to find solutions that take account of the serious problems facing the Community in the sectors concerned.

It was suggested that the Community and New Zealand could cooperate even more closely in implementing development programmes. New Zealand's expertise as regards the Pacific could be particularly valuable to the Community. There should also be closer contacts and more frequent exchanges of views as regards the positions to be adopted on international issues.

¹ Bull. EC 3-1977, point 2.2.67.

Developing countries

Asia

Association of South-East Asian Nations

2.2.58. The first meeting between the Community and ASEAN at ministerial level took place in Brussels on 20 and 21 November.¹

Welcoming the participants on behalf of the Community, Mr Genscher, President of the Council, stressed that the very permanence of the two regional groupings was obviously a factor that contributed to peace and stability. He also confirmed that the Community wished to strengthen cooperation with ASEAN.

Speaking on behalf of ASEAN, Mr Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, was pleased to note that after some initial hesitations the Community was beginning to appreciate the nature and fundamental objectives of ASEAN. Mr Jenkins stressed certain aspects of the common experience of the two regional groupings in the field of regional integration and in particular the effectiveness of political will to overcome the inevitable obstacles.

The ministers agreed on a joint declaration² which set out the objectives and procedures of cooperation between the two groups of countries and referred to the possibility of a formal agreement being concluded to give substance to this cooperation.

Latin America

2.2.59. Discussions were held in Caracas on 8 and 9 November, at the invitation of the Venezuelan Government, between Mr Hurtado, Minister of State and Chairman of the Venezuelan Investment Fund, and a Commission delegation. These discussions, which centred on the search for means to set up economic and social cooperation in the Caribbean, proved very constructive and will be followed by a Venezuelan mission to Barbados in January 1979. The task of this

mission will be to identify projects suitable for cofinancing in the various States in the Eastern Caribbean.

State-trading countries and the CMEA

CMEA

2.2.60. A CMEA delegation, led by the Secretary of the organization, Mr Faddeev, met a delegation from the European Communities led by Mr Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission, in Brussels from 22 to 25 November.

When Mr Haferkamp visited Moscow in May this year,³ it was agreed to speed up the work on establishing relations between the two organizations and to convene a meeting of experts in July⁴ for this purpose. This meeting would be followed by another meeting at a higher level.

During these discussions the two delegations reaffirmed their joint intention to conclude an agreement. The CMEA delegation stated that it was not against the member countries of the CMEA negotiating with the Community on any trade matters once the agreement currently under discussion had been concluded.

Mr Haferkamp stressed the need to put an end to the present abnormal situation so that negotiations could begin as soon as possible on the real economic problems. He mentioned the concrete steps that the Community had already taken in this direction by accepting the principle of an agreement between CMEA and the Community, by accepting that the agreement should be concluded by the Council of the Communities and by starting these negotiations despite the fact that the Commu-

¹ Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

² Point 1.4.4.

³ Bull. EC 5-1978, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.81.

nity's May 1974 proposal to open negotiations with interested CMEA member countries had not yet been taken up. Mr Haferkamp noted that the CMEA side had not shifted its ground in this matter.

In his capacity as head of the Community delegation, Mr Haferkamp put forward a proposal which could help bring the conclusion of the agreement nearer. Two of the points proposed were that the CMEA member countries should be party to the agreement and that the trade clause should be supplemented by a reference to the principles of the CSCE Final Act and specific references to the nature of future agreements to be negotiated between the Community and the CMEA member countries. Mr Haferkamp stressed that his proposal should be taken as an indivisible whole and that its various parts constituted a balanced compromise between the requests made by the two sides. He hoped that the CMEA Delegation would agree to this proposal, subject to confirmation if need be. In that event, after approval by the respective authorities, the experts could begin work on an actual draft agreement in January 1979.

Mr Haferkamp then expressed disappointment that the CMEA delegation was not able to give a favourable reply, even subject to confirmation, to the concrete proposal put forward by the Community delegation. He particularly regretted the absence of concrete proposals from the CMEA Delegation and repeated that a meeting of experts in January 1979 would be useful only if the proposal put forward by the Community delegation were to be accepted, subject to confirmation if necessary. He added that he understood that the CMEA Delegation might need time for further reflection and that he would await the Delegation's reply.

For the continuation of the negotiations, it was agreed that the CMEA would examine the proposal and forward its reply in writing.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.61. The President of the Council and the President of the Commission have received Their Excellencies Mr Bengt Rabaeus (Kingdom of Sweden), Mr Fulgence Michael Kasaura (United Republic of Tanzania) and Mr R.M. Tait (Canada), who presented their letters of credence in their capacity as heads

of their countries' missions to the European Communities (EEG, ECSC, EAEC) with effect from 7 November.

The new ambassadors succeed Mr Erik von Sydow (Sweden), who has retired, Mr Daniel Narcis Mtonga Mloka (Tanzania) and Mr Marcel Cadieux (Canada), who have been appointed to other duties.

¹ OJ C 289 of 2.12.1978.

3. Institutional and political matters

Institutional developments — European policy

Report on European Union

2.3.1. As requested by the European Council at its meeting on 29 and 30 November 1976, the Commission presented its second report¹ on progress made towards European Union.

The report notes that 1978 may be regarded first and foremost as a year of reflection prior to certain major decisions by the European Council. The highlights of the year were the Copenhagen and Bremen European Council meetings,² which, on the institutional and political side, resulted notably in the fixing of dates for the first European elections and the declaration on democracy, confirming the democratic nature of the Community's evolution. At the same time measures to assist sectors in difficulty served to strengthen the Community's cohesion in its straitened economic circumstances. This was most evident in two sectors: steel, where Community discipline was instituted to combat the crisis, and textiles, where the Community managed to curb the abnormal rise in imports. Work also began on reshaping the structures of the industries, with appropriate measures being taken to deal with the social aspects.

There were also some developments concerning the Community's financial instruments: revised rules were put forward for the Social Fund and the Regional Fund (on which the conciliation procedure is now in its final phase) and the Commission was equipped with a new instrument for Community borrowing and lending to encourage investment.

The need to restore the balance on markets with a structural surplus prompted the Com-

mission to present to the European Council its general views on how the common agricultural policy should be developed,³ the object being to obtain political support for the main lines proposed in the paper.

With the Copenhagen Summit decision on the principle of a European Monetary System, economic and monetary union is now again becoming a plausible objective. As the report states, 'monetary stability and budgetary discipline coupled with effective financial solidarity have come to be seen as the only answer to the many mutually contradictory problems afflicting the European economy'. At Bremen the Heads of Government decided that a study should be conducted to determine what measures were needed to strengthen the economies of Member States within a European Monetary System. In view of the magnitude of the problems involved in enlargement the Commission examined, in its general considerations⁴ on the matter, how the Community's institutions could be strengthened to meet the challenge.

The Commission also emphasizes that while internal strengthening progressed, the Community's presence continued to be felt increasingly on the world scene. In the Community's action here priority was given to two matters: negotiations for the renewal of the Lomé Convention and the GATT multilateral trade negotiations.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1977, points 1.1.1 and 1.1.2; Supplement 8/77 — Bull. EC.

² Bull. EC 3-1978, preliminary chapter and 6-1978, points 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.

³ Point 3.5.1.

⁴ Supplements 1/78, 2/78 and 3/78 — Bull. EC.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament

Part-session in Strasbourg from 13 to 17 November

2.3.2. As usual during the November sittings,¹ the development of political cooperation was reviewed in a report by the President of the Council followed by a debate. Another subject with political overtones—the situation of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union—prompted a lively debate. Three other high spots were economic and monetary issues (the European Monetary System in particular), the steel industry and the results of the Tripartite Conference. The more technical subjects included the environment, nuclear safety, medical research, education, shipping and aviation, trading with Israel, relations with Yugoslavia and food aid. Several Commission proposals were approved without debate. These included improvements to the wine regulations (particularly the extension until 30 November 1979 of the prohibition on planting new vineyards);² introduction of temporary importation arrangements;³ abolition of postal charges for customs presentation.⁴

In reply to an oral question, the Commission spoke about the arrangements to be made for the Mediterranean countries in connection with the enlargement of the Community. On 13 November the House suspended its proceedings for a ceremonial sitting with the President of Portugal, Mr Antonio Ramalho Eanes, who was on an official visit.

Political cooperation

Annual report (15 November)

2.3.3. The German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Genscher, President of the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, made a lengthy statement on the results of political cooperation between the Nine on matters of foreign policy.⁵ He considered that progress had been made since political cooperation had been intensified and extended to new spheres. Mr Genscher reviewed the fronts on which it had been deployed: enlargement, the United Nations, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and terrorism. He concluded his statement with the view that coordination of the foreign policies of the Nine was steadily gaining a significance which needed to be emphasized even stronger in the years ahead. It was enhancing the capacity for action at world level of each of the Member States, whose interests were not subordinate to a broader whole but given due consideration within it.

¹ 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 296 of 11.12.1978 and the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 236.

The political group and nationality of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: C-D = Christian Democrats, S = Socialists, L = Liberals and Democrats, C = European Conservatives, EPD = European Progressive Democrats, COM = Communists and Allies; B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

² Point 2.1.76.

³ OJ C 172 of 19.7.1978; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.34.

⁴ OJ C 240 of 10.10.1978.

⁵ Point 3.4.1.

His statement was, generally speaking, somewhat coolly received; instead of a recital of facts, members would have preferred a more political presentation offering a blueprint and prospects for cooperation in the future. Likewise, the artificial distinction between Community activities and political cooperation again came in for scathing criticism. Except for Mr Bordu (*COM/F*), all speakers called for stronger political cooperation and the closest possible coordination with Community activities.

Echoing the disappointment expressed for the Socialists by Mr Dankert (NL), Mr Bertrand (B) on behalf of the Christian Democrats rose in turn to deplore the lack of political vision in the President's speech and the lack of any progress in affirming a European identity. The Liberal spokesman, Mr Johnston (UK), felt that political cooperation could prove to be highly positive if it was backed by sufficient resolve; the Nine had shown a capacity to work together and thus exert a powerful and benign influence, yet there could be no excluding questions of defence and security. Speaking for the Conservative Group, Lord Bethell (UK) agreed that against the failures to attain a common position, political cooperation could be credited with some successes, such as the stance adopted at the Belgrade Conference; nevertheless some improvements should be made to the mechanics. Dwelling in particular on the problems of southern Africa, Mr Sandri (I) for the Communists and Allies Group, called for a Europe which would fulfil the hope of the third world countries by helping with autonomous measures to democratize international relations. Lastly, Mr Brugha (IRL) speaking for the European Progressive Democrats, stressed that the success of political cooperation hinged to a large extent on the Community's internal development and, first and foremost, on establishing a European Monetary System.

Reacting to the particularly critical attitude of the Socialist Group, Mr Genscher explained that his aim had been to give an account of what had been done and not to expound political concepts on which the members of the Community were known to agree. Mr Genscher went on to say that despite the upbraodings by certain members, the Nine nevertheless really had a policy in regard to both the African continent and the other parts of the world, even if, where Iran was concerned, they were still not all of the same mind. Then turning to the problems of enlargement, raised by several speakers, Mr

Genscher pointed out that the question of accession of the applicant countries ought not to be considered primarily from the economic angle but as a truly political decision serving to strengthen democracy in Europe.

Human rights (14 November)

2.3.4. Mr Berkhouwer (*L/NL*) presented a report on the situation of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union. Recalling that in the Helsinki Final Act signatories had undertaken to respect 'human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief' and to promote the reunification of families, the Resolution deplored the constant violation of the human rights and basic freedoms of the Jewish Community in the Soviet Union. It urgently appealed to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, the Council and the Commission to do all in their power to persuade the Soviet authorities (in preparing the ground for the Madrid Conference) to release the men and women who had been convicted for expressing their determination to exercise their rights.

At the end of the debate, Mr Brunner pointed out that the Commission had no competence to act on this matter, saying that on the general issue of human rights, one should avoid the pitfall of defamatory and propagandist outbursts. A happy medium must be found between public statements and the direct, discreet and confidential interventions which can be made.

Economic and monetary union (16 and 17 November)

2.3.5. With the European Council due to meet in December, Parliament devoted an

extensive debate to economic and monetary questions, and in particular all that was being done to establish a European Monetary System.

The report presented by Lord Ardwick (*S/UK*), which Parliament adopted, came out unequivocally both in favour of relaunching economic and monetary union (even if monetary union based on a single European currency cannot be envisaged at one fell swoop) and of establishing a new European Monetary System. The persistent economic recession combined with a structural crisis called louder than ever for a fresh sustained effort towards such a union. As stated in Lord Ardwick's report, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs felt that the deliberations now under way within the Council should lead to the establishment of a coherent, strict and comprehensive monetary system which, if it was to be a success, must be very soon supported by national and Community economic policies aimed to promote the convergence of Member States' economic policies and mechanisms, the arrangements which the European Council might adopt would regenerate through the new system all the difficulties encountered by the snake, and this should be avoided at all costs.

While waiting for sufficient details on the Commission's proposal for establishing a European Monetary System,¹ Parliament, as stated in the Resolution in the report presented by Mr Pisani (*S/F*), which it adopted, hoped 'to be able to hold a debate on the policy as a whole and have access to the necessary information during its December part-session'. It pointed out 'as of now that, even with its new responsibilities, the Fund cannot by itself guarantee the success of the European Monetary System or its development into economic and monetary union unless a common economic policy and converging national policies are developed by the Member States'.

Parliament also had before it the draft report presented by Mr Stetter (*C/DK*) on the Commission's proposal relating to a decision adopting the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and laying down the economic policy guidelines for 1979.²

The Resolution concluded that the proposals were more theoretical than practical; because they had been submitted so late in the day, the national parliaments had no possibility, when formulating their policies, of heeding the views of the Commission and Parliament or the guidelines set by the Council.

Parliament reiterated that the high degree of convergence of Member States' economic policies called for by the Council Decision of 18 February 1974³ had still not been attained and stressed the fact that inadequate co-ordination of Member States' economic policies entailed the risk that the new European Monetary System might be a failure. The Resolution called on the Commission to place greater emphasis on drawing up specific guidelines for the Community as a whole and quantitative guidelines for the Member States' monetary, credit and budgetary policies—guidelines that ought not only to reflect Member States' planned policies, but also to show what contributions the individual Member States need to make to achieve the objectives set by the Community. Parliament repeated its request⁴ to the Commission to invoke Article 11 of the Council Decision of 18 February 1974 where a Member State departs from the guidelines laid down by the Community. The Commission was also asked to ensure that the official coordination mechanisms were made more efficient, with the Council Decision of 18 February 1974 being amended in accordance with the guidelines sketched out in the Commission Communication addressed to the Council on 11 October 1977,⁵ bearing in mind that properly co-ordinated economic policies were needed for monetary cooperation.

Since the time in which it was obliged to prepare its opinion on short-term economic policy was too short, Parliament also called on the Commission to put forward immediately a proposal for a Council Decision under which the Parliament directly elected in 1979 would be provided with full, up-to-date and prompt information on the economic situation in a manner that properly reflected the importance attached to short and medium-term economic policy difficulties and the development of economic and monetary cooperation.

The first member to speak on behalf of his Group, Mr Pisani (*S/F*), said that the Socialists were inspired by a European resolve and committed to economic and monetary union, an essential prerequisite and factor for a more elaborate political edifice. Any system, however, must take account of the priority on employment which called for determined policies at all levels, both national and Community. 'Overall programming' was fine and so

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, points 2.1.1 to 2.1.4.

² Bull. EC 10-1978, points 2.1.5 to 2.1.8.

³ OJ L 63 of 5.3.1974.

⁴ OJ C 83 of 4.4.1977.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1977, point 2.1.5.

were a common resolve and discipline, but different circumstances required different policies. Mr Pisani was therefore warning the Council and the Commission against the risk of a preferential monetary approach whereby the strongest countries would impose on the others a system which tied them down without helping them enough.

Mr Müller-Hermann (*C-D/D*) stated that his Group unanimously supported the efforts by the Heads of State and Government to evolve a European Monetary System and wished them every success. But all the Member States had to join in. It would be a tragedy if one of them—the United Kingdom—stayed out.

Like the previous speaker, Mr Zywiets (*L/D*) welcomed the initiative shown by the Heads of State or Government but stressed the need for convergence of national economic policies. Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (*C/UK*) also conveyed the positive attitude of his Group, hoping that due consideration would be given to the different economic situations in the Member States and that an overstringent discipline would not be imposed on all right at the outset and thus avoid producing a 'two-tier' system. Mr Leonardi (*C/I*) announced that, contrary to their French colleagues, the Italian Communists would endorse the reports presented by Mr Pisani and Lord Ardwick; on the other hand they would abstain on Mr Stetter's report, which was clearly too formal (as was the Commission's proposal). Lastly, Mr Nybourg (*EPD/DK*) voiced his Group's disappointment with the Commission's proposal on establishing a European Monetary System, contending that it was not adequately developed.

In his arguments in favour of the European Monetary System, the Council President, Mr Lahnstein, retraced its outline as drawn at the European Council in Bremen: advance the convergence of economic policies by means of a Community operation involving transfers of resources. The system was not meant to be 'anti-dollar', but the counterpoint to a strong dollar, a direction in which—most significantly—President Carter had set out. In the Bremen concept, all the Member States were to join the system straightaway. Nevertheless it was up to each government to take the decision; special and temporary conditions were also provided: enlargement of margins for floating currencies (without creating a 'two-tier' system). Mr Lahnstein also found forceful answers to the fear of German predominance in the European Monetary System as expressed by Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (*C/UK*) and other members.

Speaking at the end of the debate, Vice-President Ortoli considered Mr Stetter's report. He recognized the value of a better coordination between the schedules of the Commission and Parliament so that they could work more effectively together. But he thought that Parliament had got the wrong impression from the Commission's report. It was the 'result of months of work together to carry through a concerted operation ... and had in fact provided the basis ... of a further effort for concerted growth within the Community'.

Turning to Mr Pisani's report, Mr Ortoli emphasized that the deadline of 1 January 1979 for the start-up of the EMS must be met. A zone of monetary stability must be established in order to consolidate the common market, and this justified recourse to Article 235 of the Treaty.

Answering various speakers, Mr Ortoli explained that at the outset there would be no transfer of ownership of reserves made available to the EMCF. Countering some of the criticisms, he indicated that the Commission's position was not a step backwards from the Bremen statements, which provided for a transitional stage. He emphasized the value of this, for it would enable the Community to work out how to organize the later stage.

Mr Ortoli said in conclusion that every effort must be made to ensure that all the Member States could participate in the system.

Coming finally to the report by Lord Ardwick, the Vice-President said that he found this to be a most valuable paper which covered both the philosophy and the history of economic and monetary union. But though EMU could clearly be seen as the spine of European Union, it was also the answer to other pressing considerations than those behind the quest for solutions to the economic crisis. Mr Ortoli also stressed the

importance of a high degree of convergence of national economies for the success of a monetary system.

Steel

(14 November)

2.3.6. In response to the wishes expressed during Parliament's October debate on steel,¹ Mr Davignon, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for industrial policy, made a lengthy statement on the present situation of the industry.

Sketching the background to the Commission's operations, he reminded the House that, pursuant to the Treaty of Paris, the Commission was duty bound to take action against the serious disruption of the steel market, caused by the world steel crisis. The restructuring now under way, which was meant to make the Community industry competitive again, must be wedded to industrial diversification and social readaptation, since the industry counted 700 000 workers towards whom the Commission bore a responsibility.

Restructuring posed the problem of reducing surplus capacity (now 40 million tonnes). The question was, were the industry's present difficulties temporary or permanent? There was also increasingly a move to substitute products with a high added value, which, even if it was the path which the Community would be best advised to take, could result in the creation of new overcapacity.

What was the role of the Commission and the Community in all this? Not to assemble a programme spelt out in detail but to define with the help of governments and companies an overall concept. Moreover, the socially adverse effects inherent in restructuring meant that the Community had to bring in supporting measures both internal (forward production programme, harmonization of capacity utilization rates, production according to

needs) and external (negotiation of voluntary arrangements with non-member countries).

Having stated that the average loss on a tonne of steel produced now amounted to BFR 1 000, Mr Davignon summarized the Commission's objectives for 1979:

- (i) checks to ensure that national programmes were in line with the general objectives;
- (ii) proposal for overall coordination of public aid;
- (iii) bigger ECSC loans—with interest relief (600 million EUA per year up to 1983, i.e., a quarter of the investments by steelmakers and States);
- (iv) prices and quantities to be maintained at the 1978 level;
- (v) extension of steel arrangements (for quantities and prices);
- (vi) a start on conversion (target: 100 000 jobs between now and 1985, i.e., an outlay of 300 million EUA over six years);
- (vii) more emphasis on the social aspect: early retirement, improved shift work, reduction of overtime.

These measures meant that the ECSC would have to command 180 million EUA in 1979 (compared with 90 million in 1973), to be provided by allocating to the ECSC budget the customs duties raised on coal and steel.

The main issues raised in Mr Davignon's statement will be considered in a major debate during Parliament's December sittings.

Results of the Tripartite Conference

(14 and 15 November)

2.3.7. In his account of the results of the Tripartite Conference, Mr Vredeling spoke of his 'mixed feelings'.

Highlighting the positive features, he stressed the role played by the Commission's Communication addressed to the parties concerned, by means of which some cohesion

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.8.

² Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.50.

had been maintained; the broad agreement on the economic strategy recommended by the Commission and on the need for selective stimulation of economic growth, and the establishment of a European Monetary System; the agreement which was also reached on social policy: employment policy (notably to help young people) and sectoral policy.

On the debit side, Mr Vredeling pointed to the failure to secure the hoped for agreement in principle on work-sharing: unions and employers had disagreed on the questions of shorter working hours, less overtime, flexible retirement systems or longer holidays, although, said Mr Vredeling, the employers had been reserved rather than openly hostile.

The governments had shown keen interest in the reduction of working hours while emphasizing that any measures applied in that area should be on a Community scale. Mr Vredeling mentioned that during the preparatory stage of the Conference, it had also been suggested that European agreements be drawn up on work-sharing. Nothing was said at the end about a possible further Tripartite Conference; this could depend on improving the process of concertation between unions and employers.

For the Christian Democrats, Mr van der Gun (NL) moved a resolution, which the House approved. Reiterating the earlier warning against inadequate preparation of the Conference, it regretted deeply the failure of the negotiations between the unions and the employers. He considered that in future the negotiations between the social partners must be intensified with a view to achieving an appropriate distribution of available work, this being one of the most important elements in the establishment of a genuine employment policy.

Environment

Council work (15 November)

2.3.8. Mr Willi Müller (S/D) and other members put an oral question to the Council

to have it explain why it was not meeting its own deadlines for acting on Commission proposals for Directives under the first and second action programmes for the environment.

In his answer the Council President, Mr von Dohnanyi, indicated that there were ten proposals involved: four on water, three on atmospheric pollution, one on noise abatement, one on the protection of fauna, and the last a recommendation on the cost of anti-pollution measures in industry.

Mr von Dohnanyi stressed that the delays were due to material or procedural difficulties or to issues of substance or a combination of both. He announced that a Council meeting on environmental issues was planned for December.

Protection of groundwater against pollution (15 November)

2.3.9. The Commission's proposal for the protection of groundwater against certain dangerous substances² was considered in a report presented by Mrs Squarcialupi (COM/I), who emphasized the value of such waters since they made a major contribution to meeting the Community's needs.

The motion for a resolution contained in the report, which Parliament adopted, endorsed 'the appeal to Member States to take more stringent measures than those provided for under the Directive but regrets that the Commission has not shown such stringency in its proposal'. Acting on the rapporteur's suggestions Parliament approved a number of amendments which would widen the scope of the proposal; the Commission was asked to submit, as soon as possible, proposals for directives on discharges from agricultural activities. Parliament also held that 'efforts should be made to encourage a different approach to environmental problems by establishing a balance between industrial development

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.6.

² OJ C 37 of 14.2.1978.

and protection of the environment and public health, having regard also to the large number of unemployed in the Member States for whom jobs could be created through environmental protection programmes and depollution measures...’.

Research and development

Multiannual programme for the environment (15 November)

2.3.10. Parliament in the main approved the Commission proposal to extend considerably the second multiannual programme on the environment for 1976-80 (indirect action).¹

In its Resolution the House particularly requested the Commission to ‘concentrate environmental research increasingly on pinpointing “nuisances” in good time so as to be able to combat them effectively’.

Safety in thermal water reactors (14 November)

2.3.11. Parliament endorsed the Commission’s proposal for the adoption of an EAEC research programme on safety in thermal water reactors (indirect nuclear action).²

The report presented by Mr Veronesi (COM/I), which the House adopted, recognized ‘the enormous political, environmental and economic importance of safety problems in the management of nuclear plant for the production of electrical energy’. In his conclusions the rapporteur considered that the programme satisfied a real technical, political and economic need and constituted one of the lines of action taken by the Community in order to improve the understanding of phenomena related to the safety of nuclear installations, which was of crucial importance for the future of this type of energy. In endorsing the proposal, Parliament recommended ‘that the choice and financing of specific research projects be based on an objective evaluation of priorities, avoiding too-broad a spread of support for isolated and unproductive activities’.

Medical research (15 November)

2.3.12. Parliament heartily commended the proposal for a second medical and public health research programme.³

The report presented by Mr Ney (C-D/L) ‘warmly welcomes the submission of this... programme as a further major incentive towards the international coordination of costly national efforts to treat physical handicaps and the diseases of modern civilization’, and generally approved the detailed programme of five multiannual concerted-action projects, for each of which a special concerted action Committee should be established. The Resolution which Parliament adopted also hoped that the ‘Commission will also be able to turn its attention at an early date to the treatment of eye diseases, lumbar complaints, talipes equinus and periodontosis’.

Education (15 and 16 November)

2.3.13. The debate on education based on the report by Mr Power (EPD/IRL) established the lines along which the House hoped a Community education policy would develop.

Commending the initiatives recently taken by the Commission in education,⁴ Parliament considered that the standing exchange of views which needed to be organized with the Commission on these matters should, to yield worthwhile results, be confined to certain clearly defined areas, such as language teaching (which is a matter requiring close attention), since ‘every child in the Community should have the opportunity of acquiring working knowledge of at least one Community language apart from his or her mother tongue’, schooling for migrant children, which should be a ‘high priority’, and instruction in Community studies as an integral part of every school syllabus.

¹ OJ C 173 of 20.7.1978 and Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.120.

² OJ C 146 of 21.6.1978; Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.97.

³ OJ C 213 of 7.9.1978; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.123.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3.

But like most of the speakers during the debate, the House expressed concern in its Resolution lest 'the creation of common means of communication impose cultural uniformity on the citizens of Europe, as it is of great importance to protect the languages and cultures of all the Community countries, including those of ethnic and linguistic minorities and, particularly, those in serious danger of extinction'.

When they spoke, both the Council President, Mr von Dohnanyi, and the Commission representative, expressed similar feelings and considered the debate to be an invaluable fillip to the efforts in that field.

Transport

Shipping

(16 November)

2.3.14. Parliament approved an interim report prepared by Mr Jung (*L/D*) on two draft decisions¹ concerning the activities of certain non-member countries in cargo shipping.

Considering it 'vital that the Community's shipping interest be protected against various practices of certain non-member countries which are undermining the competitive position of the Community's merchant fleets', the House supported the Commission's suggestion for establishing 'an information system for a two-year period with a view to obtaining a clearer insight into the actual situation in the field of cargo liner transport'. It pointed out, however, that the setting-up of such a system 'must not be used as a pretext for not taking joint counter-measures, in the meantime, should the restrictive practices of certain countries prove to be jeopardizing the Community's maritime interests'.

During the debate it was emphasized that those engaging in unfair practices were the shipping lines of State-trading countries and lines which operated under flags of convenience. The Commission has undertaken to examine the problem of flags of convenience in a second stage.

Air traffic

(15 November)

2.3.15. The problems involved in air traffic control and flight safety, particularly with the

Eurocontrol agreement due to expire in 1983, were brought up in an oral question by Mr Fuchs (*C-D/D*) and other members.

The Council President indicated that this question was still under consideration; the Council was awaiting the opinion of the Permanent Representatives Committee in order to decide whether civil aviation should be included in transport policy.

For the Commission, Mr Burke pointed out that Eurocontrol would continue to exist after 1983 but that the control procedures would again fall within the competence of the national authorities, since the Commission bore no responsibility in the matter.

External relations

Community relations with Yugoslavia

(13 and 14 November)

2.3.16. Parliament expressed its concern over the 'disappointing trend' in Yugoslavia's exports to the Community and the consequent increase in Yugoslavia's trade deficit.

The report presented by Mr De Clercq (*L/B*), which the House adopted, alerted the Community authorities to the importance of Yugoslavia for the Community, which transcended the bounds of economic and trade relations as such. In the resolution motion the rapporteur stressed the need 'for closer cooperation to improve the structure of trade between the two parties on the basis of the complementarity of their economies, and to promote development in the various sectors of the Yugoslav economy'.

Without minimizing the difficulties encountered, Parliament urged—bearing in mind existing agreements with the other Mediterranean countries—that it be made easier for Yugoslavia to export to the Community, thus providing revenue to pay for its imports from the Community, and hoped that the settlement of social questions would be an integral part of the new Agreement.

¹ OJ C 259 of 1.11.1978.

In his comments Mr Haferkamp emphasized that, on account of its trade deficit with the Community, Yugoslavia was putting up the very same argument to criticize the Community which the Community used in regard to Japan. The present trend must therefore be gradually reversed otherwise Yugoslavia would import less from the Community. Political resolve must override shortsighted economic concern.

Trade between the Community and Israel (15 November)

2.3.17. The impact of the trade agreement between the Community and Israel for the promotion and diversification of trade was the subject of an oral question to the Council and the Commission from the Committee on External Economic Relations.

In their answers Mr von Dohnanyi and Mr Jenkins both felt that the Agreement had made a positive contribution. Between 1975 and 1977 Israel's exports to the Community had increased by 72%—from 573 million EUA to 983 million EUA—while the Community's exports to Israel had increased by 14%—from 1 300 million EUA in 1975 to around 1 500 million EUA in 1977. The Council President explained that negotiations could not be opened with Israel for possible improvements until careful consideration had been given to the report to be made by the Commission after the exploratory talks conducted in September. Mr Jenkins added that the Commission intended to address the report to the Council very soon.

Management of food aid

2.3.18. Under the present arrangements the Council was entirely responsible for the management of food aid. The Council takes the decisions, fixes the quantities to be allocated to each recipient and even determines

whether consignments will be delivered fob or cif. Its authority thus extends to matters of detail, which often leads to long delays in the granting of aid.

The report presented by Mr Lezzi (S/I) took a favourable view of the Commission's proposal¹ which aimed for better management and swifter handling of Community food aid by improving the division of responsibilities between the Council and the Commission—on which fell the responsibility for executing the budget.

The spokesman for the Committee on Budgets, Mr Scott-Hopkins (C/UK) held that since food aid was the result of a policy decision, it ought to be under Parliament's budgetary control and therefore classified as non-compulsory expenditure. The Commission should not, as it proposed to do, allow the Council a right of veto on the management of aid. This view was endorsed by Mr Aigner (C-D/D) and Mr Croze (L/F) who emphasized that the Commission must assume full responsibility for execution of the budget. Mr Veronesi (COM/I) argued that food aid was to be regarded as a structural operation and called for the collaboration of all the developed countries. Mrs Dunwoody (S/UK) deplored the Community barriers against products of the third world and the lack of multiannual programmes which allow for the type of food aid desired by the recipients. Mr Bersani (C-D/I) pointed to the need for an improvement in the quality of aid.

Answering the speakers, Mr Cheysson pointed out that the Commission had been urging multiannual commitments for years all to no avail. He maintained that the criteria for aid and the selection of recipients were objective, regretted the misuse by the Council of its management powers and then contested Mr Scott-Hopkins' opinion on how the expenditure was to be classified. According to Parliament's argument, it should have the last word. Since the proportions of national aid and Community aid were not fixed in advance, this would amount to empowering Parliament to fix the amounts governments were to give, which, to the Commission, was going very far, indeed too far.

¹ OJ C 168 of 13.7.1978.

The Mediterranean

2.3.19. The fears expressed by many Mediterranean countries that their preferences will be eroded in the wake of enlargement prompted Mr Van Aerssen (C-D/D) to ask the Commission in an oral question whether it did not think that a conference of all the Mediterranean States should be convened, as proposed by the Tunisian Prime Minister, to discuss these problems.

In his answer Mr Gundelach confirmed that enlargement would eat into the trade preferences enjoyed by the other Mediterranean countries. These would all eventually be affected as far as industrial products were concerned; as regards agricultural products, enlargement would affect mainly Morocco, Tunisia and Israel.

In order to withstand the social, economic and even political effects of this situation, the Commission would propose that, in parallel with enlargement, global measures be taken to assist all the other countries of the Mediterranean so as to achieve a new acceptable balance.

Council

2.3.20. The Council held eight meetings in November on health, economic and financial affairs, foreign affairs, agriculture, the budget, transport, fisheries and social affairs.

543rd meeting — Health (Brussels, 16 November)

2.3.21. *President:* Mrs Huber, German Minister for Youth, Family Affairs and Health, and Mr Wolters, State Secretary, German Ministry for Youth, Family Affairs and Health.

Commission: Mr Vredeling, Vice-President.

Economic aspects of health: The Ministers closely examined the economic aspects of health on the basis of a series of studies presented by the Commission.¹

Smoking, nutrition and drug abuse in sport: The Ministers then reviewed health education policy with particular reference to smoking, nutrition and drug abuse in sport.²

Advisory Committee on Health: The Ministers took note of a memorandum from the United Kingdom Delegation on the possibility of setting up an Advisory Committee on Public Health. They also noted the comments made by some delegations on the subject.

Vaccinations: Following a discussion of questions raised at Community level regarding vaccinations, the Ministers agreed that such questions should continue to be dealt with by the World Health Organization.

Mutual medical assistance: The Council looked into the question of mutual medical assistance in the event of natural disaster, major accidents or particularly serious outbreaks of disease.³

544th meeting — Economic and Financial Affairs (Brussels, 20 November)

2.3.22. *President:* Mr Matthöfer, German Finance Minister.

Commission: Mr Jenkins, President, and Mr Ortoli, Vice-President.

European Monetary System: Following its preparatory work on the establishment of a European Monetary System, the Council reached agreement on many of the elements

¹ Point 2.1.48.

² Point 2.1.49.

³ Point 2.1.50.

of the system. The views of the Ministers on other aspects were reconciled, leaving only a few points to be dealt with by the European Council on 4 and 5 December. A general report would be submitted to the European Council taking stock of progress in the study of measures necessary, within the framework of the European Monetary System, to strengthen the economies of the less prosperous Member States.

545th meeting — Foreign Affairs
(Brussels, 20 and 21 November)

2.3.23. President: Mr von Dohnanyi, Minister of State, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Commission: Mr Jenkins, President; Mr Ortolini and Mr Haferkamp, Vice-Presidents; Mr Cheysson, Mr Brunner, Mr Giolitti, Mr Davignon and Mr Tugendhat, Members.

Euratom-Australia relations: The Council noted that progress had been made in preparing the brief for the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Australia on nuclear matters. It also asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to complete its work as soon as possible.

Relations with Japan: The Council took note of the Commission's outline of the position—based on the guidelines laid down by the Council—it intended to take at the high-level consultations due to be held in Tokyo on 8 and 9 December with the Japanese Government, further to the joint communiqué of 24 March 1978. The Commission will report to the Council when it again discusses EEC-Japan relations at its December meeting.

ACP-EEC Negotiations: Mr Cheysson, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development, informed the Council of the progress made in the negotiations the Commission is conducting—on the

basis of the Council's directives—with the plenipotentiaries of the ACP States for the renewal of the Lomé Convention. The Council expressed its satisfaction at the Commission's conduct of the negotiations.¹

Accession of Dominica to the Lomé Convention: The Council approved on behalf of the Community a draft Decision of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers approving the accession to the Lomé Convention of Dominica.²

Preparations for the European Council: Acting in accordance with the general instructions received from the European Council, the Council set about preparing the items which could appear on the agenda for the European Council meeting on 4 and 5 December.

Yugoslavia: The Council examined the main questions arising in connection with the drawing up of new negotiating directives. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare the specific contents of the directives.

Conciliation procedures: The Council examined the questions still outstanding for the continuation of the conciliation procedures with the Parliament concerning the new regulations on regional policy and the framework regulation on financial aid to non-associated developing countries. It noted that the Presidency would continue its work in contact with the delegations and Parliament with a view to concluding the conciliation procedures so that it could act at its next meeting.

Generalized preferences for 1979: The Council laid down guidelines for the continuing preparation of the generalized preferences scheme for 1979.³ It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue this

¹ Point 2.2.47.

² Point 2.2.48.

³ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.2.22.

important work so that a decision could be taken at the December Council meeting at the latest.

Negotiations on the Common Fund: The Council examined progress in the negotiations on the Common Fund on the stabilization of basic products.¹

GATT multilateral trade negotiations: On the basis of a detailed report by the Commission the Council closely examined the progress made in the negotiations and instructed the Commission to pursue them further.²

Right of establishment and freedom to provide service for architects: The Council instructed the Commission to hold consultations to enable it to take a decision at its 19 December meeting on the instruments concerning the right of establishment and freedom to provide services for architects.

Steel: The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on various aspects of the anti-crisis system for 1979 and reviewed the rules governing aid and restructuring problems.³

546th meeting — Agriculture (Brussels, 20 and 21 November)

2.3.24. *President:* Mr Ertl, German Minister of Agriculture.

Commission: Mr Gundelach, Vice-President.

Wine: The Council discussed in detail the proposals for the progressive establishment of balance on the market in wine.⁴

The Council also agreed to extend for one year the measures designed to adjust wine-growing potential to market requirements by prohibiting plantings.⁵

Olive oil: The Council agreed in principle on several proposals concerning new arrangements for olive oil.⁶ It agreed to resume discussions on other problems at its next meeting on agriculture.

547th meeting — Budget (Brussels, 20 November)

2.3.25. *President:* Mr von Dohnanyi, Minister of State, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Lahnstein, State Secretary, German Ministry of Finance.

Commission: Mr Tugendhat, Member.

Draft General Budget for 1979: Following talks with a delegation from Parliament, the Council gave a second reading to the draft General Budget of the Communities. It examined and voted on the amendments and proposed modifications tabled by parliament.⁷ The Council agreed to forward the amended draft to Parliament for debate at the December plenary part-session; the political decision on the endowment of the Regional Fund would be taken by the European Council on 4 and 5 December.

548th meeting — Transport (Brussels, 23 November)

2.3.26. *President:* Mr Gscheidle, German Minister of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications.

Commission: Mr Burke, Member.

Safety at sea: The Council approved a series of measures designed to improve safety at sea, particularly in the light of the recent serious accidents off Member States' coasts.⁸

Mannheim Convention: The Council approved a Decision on the signing by certain Member States of an Additional Protocol to the revised Convention for Navigation on

¹ Point 2.2.13.

² Point 2.2.8.

³ Point 2.1.15 and 2.2.36 to 2.3.39.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 1.4.1 to 1.4.6 and Supplement 7/78-Bull. EC.

⁵ OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

⁶ Point 2.1.75.

⁷ Point 2.3.91.

⁸ Point 2.1.91.

the Rhine of 17 October 1868 and on the accession of the Community to the Convention.¹

Aircraft noise: The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue work on the proposal for a Directive on the limitation of noise emission from subsonic aircraft by a system of noise certification, so that it could take a decision at an early date.

Weights and dimensions: The Council held a detailed discussion on the weights and dimensions of commercial road vehicles. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of all relevant proposals from the Commission in preparation for the Council's subsequent work.

Information on shipping: The Council agreed in principle to a Decision on the collection of information about the activities of carriers participating in cargo liner traffic in certain areas of operation.²

Community driving licence: The Council discussed in detail the proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of the laws relating to motor vehicle driving licences. Following a suggestion by the United Kingdom Delegation that the Directive should apply initially only to cars and motor cycles, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work so as to allow the Council to take a decision at its next meeting on transport.

Taxes on commercial road vehicles: The Council isolated the last remaining points to be resolved concerning the first Directive on the adjustment of national taxation systems for commercial road vehicles.³ It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine them in greater detail so that the Council could take a decision at a forthcoming meeting.

Combined rail/road carriage: The Council agreed in principle on common rules for certain types of combined rail/road carriage of goods between Member States.⁴

Liner Conferences: The Council discussed in detail possible accession to the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work so that the Council could conclude it in the very near future.

Transport infrastructure: The Council held a general discussion on the proposal for a Council Regulation on support for projects of Community interest in transport infrastructure.⁵

Community quota: The Council reached a consensus on the increase in the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁶

Railway accounts: The Council discussed the proposed amendments to the common rules for the normalization of the accounts of railway undertakings. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the questions still outstanding so that it could take action at its next meeting.

549th meeting — Fisheries (Brussels, 23 and 24 November)

2.3.27. President: Mr Ertl, German Minister of Agriculture.

Commission: Mr Gundelach, Vice-President.

Fisheries policy: The Council resumed discussion of all the problems involved in intro-

¹ Point 2.1.93.

² Point 2.1.91.

³ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.106.

⁴ Point 2.1.97.

⁵ Point 2.1.95.

⁶ Point 2.1.96.

ducing a common fisheries policy. At the end of the discussion the President announced his intention to report to the European Council on the deadlock.

550th meeting — Social Affairs
(Brussels, 27 November)

2.3.28. President: Mr Ehrenberg, German Minister for Labour and Social Affairs.

Commission: Mr Vredeling, Vice-President.

Second social budget: Following the presentation by the Commission of the second European social budget,¹ the Council stressed the importance of the information it provided. The Council invited the Commission, in co-operation with experts from the Member States, to evaluate the lessons that could be drawn and then to make proposals for a third European social budget.

Youth employment: The Council agreed to the Regulations on the creation of new aid from the European Social Fund to assist young people.²

Equality between men and women in matters of social security: The Council agreed to the Directive on the progressive implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in matters of social security.³

Commission

Activities

2.3.29. The Commission held four meetings in November. Its work focused on three points: preparations for the European Council on 4 and 5 December, continuation of the work on accession in accordance with the schedule, and preliminary discussions on ECSC conversion, agricultural prices, regional

policy and transport infrastructure. A number of Communications were adopted on the budget and own resources, the steel industry, industrial conversion and readaptation, regional aid, the Social Fund, energy, and European Union.

Own resources: The Commission adopted the final version of its report on the future financing of the Community budget.⁴

European Monetary System and common agricultural policy: The Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Regulation on the impact of the European Monetary System on the common agricultural policy.⁵

Agricultural prices: In preparation for the European Council, the Commission held a preliminary discussion on factors to be considered in fixing agricultural prices for next year and measures for combating production surpluses.

Steel: After a first reading, the Commission approved the draft forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1979.

ECSC conversion: The Commission discussed policy and future action on conversion in the steel industry. It approved guidelines for drafting a communication.

Man-made fibres industry: The Commission examined the problems facing the man-made fibres industry. It reached the provisional conclusion that, as it stood, the agreement between the principal firms in the industry, which had been notified before the summer, was not compatible with the Treaty, and that possible amendments to it should be urgently discussed with the parties involved.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.59.

² Point 2.1.42.

³ Point 2.1.46.

⁴ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3; Supplement 8/78 – Bull. EC.

⁵ Point 2.1.73.

Regional policy: The Commission held a general discussion on guidelines for the Community's regional policy, and stressed the need for an active regional policy to be fully integrated with the other common policies, which should be conducted with due regard for their likely regional impact. The Commission considered that the Regional Fund should play a more active role in providing assistance, in particular by strengthening regional development programmes and setting up operations funded jointly from other Community resources.

ERDF assistance to the motor industry: Following an exchange of views on the situation in the motor industry, the Commission agreed that aid from the Regional Fund would continue to be granted for investment in that industry. The Commission considered that although the industry was not likely to run into marketing problems in the short term, the steady growth of investment in increased output could, in the long term lead to excess capacity.

Regional aid schemes: The Commission adopted a Communication to the Council on principles for coordinating regional aid schemes.¹

Social Fund: The Commission adopted two Communications to increase the redistributive effect of assistance from the European Social Fund in line with the guidelines for the management of the Fund set out in its April Communication.¹ These Communications concerned:

- (i) a weighted reduction method to be used in assessing applications for aid from the Fund as from 1978;
- (ii) a list of the priority regions which would receive assistance from the Fund for unemployed young people.

International standards on working conditions: The Commission adopted a Communication

to the Council on development cooperation and the observance of certain international standards governing working conditions.²

Energy: The Commission adopted a report to the Council on energy objectives for 1990 and Member States' energy programmes.³ It also adopted, subject to final approval in the 1979 Budget, a number of decisions on financial assistance for demonstration projects concerned with energy saving and the exploitation of new energy sources.⁴

Transport infrastructure: The Commission held a preliminary discussion on the Community's future role in developing a European network of transport infrastructures. A number of principal routes or major civil engineering works were of European interest, both for the development of the Community—in its present form and after enlargement—and for facilitating its links with non-member countries. A European policy to promote and speed up large investment projects of this kind would have positive results in the medium and long term both for the countries directly concerned and for Europe as a whole, and would bring immediate benefits in employment and economic development.

Construction products: The Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to construction products, along with a proposal for a Council Resolution laying down a list of the priority products to be covered.⁵

Enlargement: The Commission adopted its Opinion on Spanish accession to the Com-

¹ OJ C 116 of 19.5.1978; Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.42.

² Point 2.2.11.

³ Point 2.1.107.

⁴ Point 2.1.108.

⁵ Point 2.1.7.

munity¹ as required by the Treaty. It also adopted proposals for briefs to negotiate with Greece on own resources, and on right of establishment and freedom to provide services.

Report on European Union: The Commission adopted its annual report on European Unit, for consideration at the European Council on 4 and 5 December.²

Investment in the sugar industry: The Commission adopted a Communication to the Council in which it warned the Member States that national export promotion policies were encouraging the establishment of new sugar firms, particularly in the ACP countries, which will add a further 900 000 tonnes to the stocks of an already depressed world market. The Commission considered that the countries concerned should get together in order to rationalize national and Community policies promoting investments with no immediate prospects of viability.

Establishment of a European analysis and research institute: The Commission sent a recommendation to the Council for a brief to negotiate with European countries outside the Community with a view to establishing a centre for research to economic and social policy and the development of European integration.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.30. Several preliminary consultation meetings were held in November with experts from the European Trade Union Confederation covering the following topics: regional policy, general guidelines for a textiles and clothing industry policy, employee participation in the public sector, the Eighth Directive on auditors' qualifications, social and economic trends and employment protection, and the common agricultural policy.

An information meeting was held for representatives of the Economic and Social Committee on cooperation between the European Community and the EFTA States.

The Commission also continued consultations with trade organizations on its general guidelines for a textiles and clothing industry policy.³ Representatives of the European Metallurgists Federation were consulted on the aircraft industry, trade union leaders in the coal and steel industry were brought in to discuss the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1979, and a meeting with representatives of artists and performers dealt with Community action in the cultural sector.

Court of Justice⁴

Composition of the Court

2.3.31. The Court of Justice elected for a period of one year ending on 6 October 1979:⁵

J. Mertens de Wilmars, Judge, as President of the First Chamber

Lord Mackenzie Stuart, Judge, as President of the Second Chamber

The Chambers of the Court are constituted as follows:

First Chamber:

J. Mertens de Wilmars, President of Chamber,

A.M. Donner, A. O'Keefe and G. Bosco, Judges,

¹ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.8.

² Point 2.3.1.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.22.

⁴ For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and the European Court Reports.

⁵ OJ C 263 of 7.11.1978.

Advocates-General: H. Mayras and J.-P. Warner;

Second Chamber:

Lord Mackenzie Stuart, President of Chamber,

P. Prescatore, M. Sørensen and A. Touffait, Judges,

Advocates-General: F. Capotorti and G. Reischl.

The Court also elected for the same period: Advocate-General F. Capotorti as First Advocate-General.

New cases

Procedure under Article 228 of the EEC Treaty

2.3.32. On 13 November 1978, the Commission requested the opinion of the Court of Justice pursuant to the second subparagraph of Article 228 (1) of the EEC Treaty on whether the draft international agreement on natural rubber being negotiated under the auspices of UNCTAD was compatible with the EEC Treaty, and more particularly on whether the Community was empowered to conclude that agreement.

Case 240/78 — Atalanta Amsterdam BV, Amsterdam v Produktschap voor Vee en Vlees, Rijswijk

2.3.33. The College van Beroep voor het Bedrijfsleven, The Hague, requested the Court of Justice on 3 November 1978 to give a number of preliminary rulings on Regulations Nos 2763/75 and 1889/76 on the granting of private storage aid for pigmeat¹ in order to establish which authorities were responsible for granting this aid and to decide whether the security paid by the storer was forfeit where he did not fulfil 'without delay'

the obligations imposed under the storage contract; the Court was further asked for an interpretation of the word 'obligations' in Article 4(2)(b) of Regulation No 2763/75 and Article 5(2) of Regulation No 1889/76, and finally, if the obligations referred to in these articles were not the same, whether Article 5(2) of Regulation No 1889/76 was valid.²

Cases 241, 242 and 245 to 250/78 — Fa. DGV — Deutsche Getreideverwertung und Rheinische Kraftfutterwerke GmbH, Frankfurt/Main, et al. v (1) Council, (2) Commission

2.3.34. On 3, 6 and 10 November 1978, a number of manufacturers of maize groats and meal used by the brewing industry submitted to the Court of Justice claims for damages for losses which they claim to have suffered as a result of the fact that, following the judgment of the Court of Justice in Joined Cases 124/76 and 20/77,³ the Council and Commission had restored the provision for refunds to producers of these products with effect from 19 October 1977 instead of from 1 August 1975.

Cases 243/78 and 243/78 R — SpA Simmenthal, Aprilia v Commission

2.3.35. An Italian undertaking specializing in the manufacture of preserved meat brought an action before the Court of Justice on 3 November 1978 to annul the Commission Decision of 27 October 1978 fixing the minimum selling prices for frozen beef put up for sale by the intervention agencies and specifying the quantities of frozen beef for processing which may be imported under

¹ OJ L 282 of 1.11.1975, and OJ L 206 of 31.7.1976.

² OJ C 300 of 14.12.1978.

³ Bull. EC 10-1977, point 2.3.60.

special terms in the fourth quarter of 1978.¹ The applicant requested the Court to declare that a number of Community acts relating to that decision were inapplicable.

This action was accompanied by an application for the Court to adopt interim measures ordering the application of the above decision to the results of invitation to tender It P 4 to be deferred and suspending the application of the special system of rules governing the importation of frozen meat for the processing industry for 1979 until the Court has given its judgment in Case 92/78.²

Case 244/78 — Union Laitière Normande, Condé-sur-Vire v French Dairy Farmers Ltd, London

2.3.36. In view of the fact that the United Kingdom authorities had refused to issue a distribution licence in respect of standardized whole milk imported from France unless the latter was not used for human consumption or unless it was reprocessed in the United Kingdom, the Tribunal de commerce, Paris, before which the case had been brought, requested the Court of Justice on 6 November 1978 to give a preliminary ruling on whether these measures were compatible with Regulation No 566/76 amending Regulation No EEC No 1411/71 as regards the fat content of whole milk³ and with Articles 30 and 36 of the EEC Treaty.

Case 251/78 — Fa. Denkavit Futtermittel GmbH, Warendorf v Minister für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Forsten des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf

2.3.37. The Münster Verwaltungsgericht requested the Court of Justice on 10 November 1978 to give a number of preliminary rulings on whether it was compatible with Articles 9, 30 and 36 of the EEC Treaty and Regulations Nos 804/68 and 2727/75 (com-

mon organization of the markets in milk and cereals)⁴ for the German authorities to require a veterinary certificate to be produced and a bacteriological inspection to be carried out in respect of the importation of animal feedstuffs containing animal products, or to dispense with these formalities while applying a number of measures which had to be complied with when importing such products.

Case 252/78 — A. Broe v Commission

2.3.38. An official brought an action before the Court of Justice on 13 November 1978 to annul the Commission decision providing for the recovery from him of undue payments made in the form of a household allowance.

Case 253/78 — Ministère public v (1) B. Giry, Vesinet (2) S.A. Guerlain, Paris, jointly and severally liable

2.3.39. In criminal proceedings against the sales management of a company manufacturing perfumes, for refusing to sell to perfumeries in a certain town on the ground that the company had a concession agreement with another perfumery in the same town, the Tribunal de grande instance, Paris, asked the Court of Justice on 14 November 1978 to give a ruling on whether certain luxury goods, the trademark image of which played an important role, could fall within the scope of the exemption in Article 85 (3) of the EEC Treaty.

Case 254/78 — Sarl Prost-International, Nantes v Fa. Sägemühle E. Brodbeck, Remchingen-Wilderdingen

¹ OJ L 326 of 21.11.1978.

² Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.3.34.

³ OJ L 67 of 15.3.1976.

⁴ OJ L 148 of 28.6.1968, and L 281 of 1.11.1975.

2.3.40. On 17 November 1978, the Karlsruhe Oberlandesgericht requested the Court of Justice, pursuant to the Protocol on the interpretation of the Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters,¹ to interpret Article 27 (2) of that Convention.² The question is whether a party against whom enforcement is sought can resist the making of an order for enforcement on the ground that he was not served in due time with the document instituting proceedings, even where he has not taken measures to defend his interests after being informed subsequently of the state of the proceedings.

Case 255/78 — (1) A. Anselme (2) R. Constant v Commission

2.3.41. Two Commission officials brought an action before the Court of Justice on 22 November 1978 to annul the decision of the selection board rejecting their application for an internal competition, and also to annul the competition in question.

Case 256/78 — W. Misenta v Commission

2.3.42. An official of the Joint Research Centre, Ispra, brought an action before the Court of Justice on 23 November 1978 to annul the implied decision by the Commission rejecting his complaint concerning the system applied by the Commission for reimbursing medical expenses.

Case 257/78 — Mrs E. Devred, née Kenny-Levick v Commission

2.3.43. On 27 November 1978, a Commission official brought an action before the Court of Justice to annul the Commission's decision withdrawing the expatriation allowance from the applicant.

Case 258/78 — (1) Firma L.C. Nungesser KG, Darmstadt, (2) K. Eisele, Darmstadt v Commission

2.3.44. In its decision of 21 September 1978, the Commission held that certain contracts and transactions relating to breeders' certificates for maize seed and to multiplication rights and exclusive sales rights for this seed³ infringed Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty.

Two addressees of this decision brought an action before the Court of Justice on 27 November 1978 to annul this decision.

Case 259/78 — Wünsche Handelsgesellschaft, Hamburg v Hauptzollamt Bremen-Freihafen

2.3.45. The Bundesfinanzhof requested the Court of Justice on 29 November 1978 to give a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Article 2(2) of the Agreement establishing an Association between the EEC and the United Republic of Tanzania, the Republic of Uganda and the Republic of Kenya⁴ in order to ascertain the system of rules to be applied to the importation of preserved pineapples.

Judgments

Case 56/77 — Agence Européenne d'Intérims SA (AEI), Brussels v Commission

2.3.46. A Belgian firm specializing in supplying temporary staff brought an action be-

¹ OJ L 204 of 2.8.1975.

² OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

³ OJ L 286 of 12.10.1978.

⁴ OJ L 282 of 28.12.1970.

fore the Court of Justice on 3 May to annul the Commission Decision of 1 March 1977 whereby the latter had, without giving its reason in writing, rejected the applicants' tender following a restricted invitation to tender for the supply of temporary staff. The action included a claim for damages.¹ In its Judgment of 23 November 1978, the Court dismissed the action.

Case 140/77 — T. Verhaaf v Commission

2.3.47. A Commission official brought an action before the Court of Justice on 17 November to have the Commission's Decision of 21 January declared void in so far as it rejects his claim to the flat-rate installation allowance.² In its Judgment of 9 November 1978, the Court dismissed the action.³

Joined Cases 4/78, 19/78 and 28/78 — Enrico Salerno et al. v Commission

2.3.48. Three candidates for an external competition organized by the Commission brought an action before the Court of Justice on 4 January, 22 February and 3 March 1978 respectively to annul the decision of the examining board rejecting their candidacy.⁴ In its Judgment of 30 November 1978, the Court annulled the decision of the examining board.

Case 7/78 — The Queen v (1) E.G. Thompson, (2) B.A. Johnson, (3) C.A.N. Woordiviss

2.3.49. In hearing a criminal case concerning fraudulent imports into the United Kingdom of gold coins and exports of silver-alloy coins, the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division asked the Court of Justice on 16 January for a number of preliminary rulings on whether such coins should be considered as

'capital' or 'goods' and whether in the latter case the restrictions imposed on their free circulation by a Member State can be justified on grounds of public policy (Article 36 of the EEC Treaty).⁵

In its Judgment of 23 November 1978, the Court held that Articles 30 to 37 of the EEC Treaty do not apply to silver-alloy coins which are legal tender in a Member State and to gold coins minted in a third country but which are in free circulation in a Member State, whereas a prohibition imposed by a Member State on the exportation of silver-alloy coins which are no longer legal tender in that State and which may be neither melted down nor destroyed on national territory, which measure is adopted for the purpose of preventing such coins from being melted down or destroyed in another Member State, is justified on grounds of public policy within the meaning of Article 36 of the EEC Treaty.

Case 16/78 — Criminal proceedings against M. Choquet, Reutlingen

2.3.50. The Local Court of Reutlingen, in the course of criminal proceedings, asked the Court of Justice on 16 February for a preliminary ruling on whether it is compatible with Community law for a Member State to require a worker from another Member State, residing in its territory, to hold a driving licence issued by its authorities.⁶

In its Judgment of 28 November 1978, the Court held that although, in principle, the re-

¹ Bull. EC 5-1977, point 2.3.47.

² Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.3.32.

³ OJ C 300 of 14.12.1978.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.3.40; Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.3.38; Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.25.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.3.43.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.3.35.

quirement that such a licence be obtained is not incompatible with Community law, it is so where the conditions laid down under national law in relations to non-nationals cannot reasonably be regarded as being necessary for road safety.

Case 21/78 — K.O. Delkvist v Anklagemyndigheden som repraesentant for Landsnaevet for Omnibuskørsel

2.3.51. In a case concerning the granting of authorization to a passenger transport operator, the Copenhagen Byret asked the Court of Justice on 24 February for a number of preliminary rulings on the validity and direct applicability of Directive 74/562/EEC on admission to the occupation of road passenger transport operator in national and international transport operations,¹ and especially on the question whether the provisions of the Danish Penal Code concerning the requirement relating to good repute are compatible with Article 2(1)(a) of the directive.²

In its Judgment of 29 November 1978, the Court held, *inter alia*, that an examination of the directive had failed to disclose any factor capable of casting doubt on its validity and that a legislative provision of the kind contained in Article 78 of the Danish Penal Code must be regarded as a provision validly laid down by the State in question within the terms of the directive.

Case 23/78 — N. Meeth, Piesport/Mosel v Firma Glacetal Sarl, Vienne-Estresin

2.3.52. The German Federal Court of Justice requested the Court of Justice on 27 February 1978 to interpret the first paragraph of Article 17 of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial matters³ in order to determine whether that provision permits an agreement on jurisdiction whereby each party

to a contract of sale, residing in different States, can be sued only before the courts of the State of which he is a national and, if so, whether such an agreement rules out the possibility of one party invoking set-off against a claim made by the other party in the court having jurisdiction to adjudicate on that claim.⁴

In its Judgment of 10 November 1978, the Court replied in the affirmative to the first question and held, as regards the second question, that a court hearing an action pursuant to such an agreement may take into consideration set-off that is connected with the legal relationship in dispute.⁵

Case 31/78 — Francesco Bussone, Venasca v Ministero dell' Agricoltura e Foreste

2.3.53. In a case arising from the fact that certain formalities relating to the marketing of eggs could be carried out only by the Italian public authorities, the Pretore di Venasca requested the Court of Justice on 10 March to give a preliminary ruling on a number of questions relating to whether this exclusive right and the fact that the formalities in question were carried out only upon payment of a sum far in excess of the cost of such formalities, despite the fact that this was not provided for in the regulations governing this sector, were compatible with Community law.⁶

In its Judgment of 30 November 1978, the Court held that Community regulations on certain marketing rules applicable to eggs must be interpreted in the sense that the

¹ OJ L 308 of 19.11.1974.

² Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.3.40.

³ OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

⁴ Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.3.42 and OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

⁵ OJ C 300 of 14.12.1978.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.28.

Member States are authorized to confer on the public authorities the exclusive right to carry out certain formalities relating to inspection and to provide for payment in respect thereof. However, it is for national courts to decide whether the amount payable in respect of such inspection is justified or otherwise. The Court also added that the direct applicability of Community regulations is not affected by the adoption of national rules required to be adopted under those regulations for their implementation. In conclusion, the Court held that a national rule whose application does not depend on the nationality of traders but takes into consideration only the place where economic activities are carried on, is compatible with Article 7 of the EEC Treaty.

Case 33/78 — Ets Somafer SA, Uckange v Saar-Ferngas AG, Saarbrücken-Schafbrücke

2.3.54. In a case relating to the reimbursement of costs incurred by a German unertaking in taking safety measures to safeguard its installations from possible damage resulting from the dynamiting of a building by a firm having its principal establishment in France, the Higher Regional Court of Saarbrücken submitted to the Court of Justice on 13 March a number of questions relating to the interpretation of the words 'branch', 'agency' or 'establishment' in Article 5(5) of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.¹

In its Judgment of 22 November 1978, the Court stated that the need to ensure legal certainty and equal rights and obligations for both parties, calls for an interpretation that is autonomous and, consequently, common to all the Contracting States, of the concepts referred to in Article 5(5) of the Convention. The Court subsequently interpreted the concepts 'branch, agency or other establishment'

and 'operations' in this provision and added that it is, in each case, for the court hearing the matter to identify the elements enabling the existence of an actual centre of operations to be established and to classify the legal relationship in dispute by reference to the concept of operations.

Case 83/78 — Pigs Marketing Board (Northern Ireland) v R. Redmond

2.3.55. In connection with criminal proceedings instituted in respect of the carriage of pigs without the authorization of the Pigs Marketing Board, the Armagh Magistrates' Court asked the Court of Justice on 16 March for a preliminary ruling on whether the rules applied by the Board were compatible with Community law.²

In its Judgment of 29 November 1978, the Court held that a market system, at national or regional level, laid down by the legislation of a Member State and managed by a body which has power, thanks to the compulsory powers vested in it, to control the sector of the market in question by measures such as subjecting the marketing of the goods to a requirement that the producer shall be registered with the body in question, the prohibition of any sale otherwise than to that body or through its agency, on the conditions determined by it, and the prohibition of any unauthorized carriage of the goods in question are incompatible with Community law.

Case 87/78 — Firma Welding and Co., Hamburg v Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Waltershof

¹ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.30 and OJ L 299 of 31.12.1972.

² Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.34.

2.3.56. In a case in which a German importer of maltrin (a syrup classified under heading 17.02 of the CCT) challenges the method of calculating the sucrose content of this product and hence the calculation of the levy and of the monetary compensatory amount, the Finance Court of Hamburg requested the Court of Justice on 29 March to rule on the validity of the second paragraph of Article 72(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 837/68 on detailed rules for the application of levies on sugar,¹ as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 878/693,² and, in the event of its invalidity, on whether the national authorities are authorized, in their own right, to lay down the method of verifying the sucrose content with a view to calculating the levy and the monetary compensatory amount.³

In its Judgment of 30 November 1978, the Court held that an examination of the provision in question had failed to disclose any factor likely to affect its validity.

Case 88/78 — Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Jonas v Firma H. Kendermann OHG, Bingen

2.3.57. In a case concerning the payment of monetary compensatory amounts on the export of wines assembled from wines from different Member States, the Federal Finance Court asked the Court of Justice on 30 March for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of Regulation (EEC) No 945/70 of 26 May 1970 establishing the types of table wine.⁴ It also requested the Court to rule whether Regulation (EEC) No 2448/75 of 25 September 1975 suspending the monetary compensatory amounts for certain wines⁵ should be interpreted as meaning that if a wine which is exempted from the suspension is one of the components of the assembled wine, the monetary compensatory amounts are payable in respect of the proportion of that wine present in the mixture and, if that is not the correct interpretation, whether the latter regulation is valid.⁶

In its Judgment of 30 November 1978, the Court ruled on the classification of certain assembled wines. It held that, in the case of assembled wines in respect of which no monetary compensatory amounts were payable, those amounts could not be paid in respect of the proportion of wine present in the assembled mixture which in its pure state would give rise to the payment of such amounts and concluded that Regulation (EEC) No 2448/75 was valid.

Case 93/78 — L. Mattheus, Windeck/Opperzau v Doego Fruchtimport & Tiefkühl eG, Dortmund

2.3.58. A trader had stipulated in a contract for hire of services that the contract could be terminated before the agreed date if it were found that the accession of Greece, Spain and Portugal was legally impossible to achieve; such findings had to be made by the Court of Justice. The abovementioned trader had broken the contract because he believed accession to be legally impossible and the Local Court of Essen asked the Court of Justice on 14 April for a preliminary ruling on whether Article 237 of the EEC Treaty lays down limits not only of form but also of substance in respect of the accession of non-member countries, what those limits are, and whether such limits make the accession of the three States in question impossible in the foreseeable future.⁷

In its Judgment of 22 November 1978, the Court of Justice declared that it had no jurisdiction to decide these matters.

¹ OJ L 151 of 30.6.1968.

² OJ L 114 of 13.5.1969.

³ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.38.

⁴ OJ L 114 of 27.5.1970.

⁵ OJ L 250 of 26.9.1975.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.39.

⁷ Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.3.35.

Case 97/78 — Fine imposed on F. Schumalla, Emmerich-Elten

2.3.59. In hearing a case concerning the payment of a fine for infringement of transport regulations, the Higher Regional Court of Düsseldorf asked the Court of Justice on 24 April for a ruling on the validity of Regulation (EEC) No 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport.¹ In its Judgment of 28 November 1978, the Court held that this regulation was valid.

Case 243/78 R — SpA Simmenthal, Aprilia v Commission

2.3.60. In connection with an action to annul the Commission Decision of 27 October 1978 fixing the minimum selling prices for frozen beef put up for sale by the intervention agencies,² the applicant submitted a request for interim measures seeking postponement of the application of this decision until the Court had given its decision in Case 92/78.³ By Order of 29 November 1978, the Court rejected this request.

Procedure under Article 103 of the EAEC Treaty — 1/78

2.3.61. After obtaining the comments of the Commission, the Kingdom of Belgium applied to the Court of Justice on 3 June, Under the third paragraph of Article 103 of the EAEC Treaty, for a decision on its right to adhere, in the absence of any concurrent participation by the Community, to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials, Facilities and Transports which is being prepared.⁴

In its ruling of 14 November 1978, the Court held that the participation of the Member States in a convention on the physical protection of nuclear materials, facilities and

transports, such as the convention which is being negotiated within the IAEA is compatible with the provisions of the EAEC Treaty only on condition that, in so far as its own powers and jurisdiction are concerned, the Community as such is a party to the convention on the same lines as the Member States and that the obligations entered into under the convention are, on the Community's part fulfilled in the context of the institutional system established by the EAEC Treaty in accordance with the distribution of powers between the Community and its Member States.

Economic and Social Committee

163rd plenary session

2.3.62. The Economic and Social Committee held a plenary session on 29 and 30 November with the Committee's Chairman, Mrs Baduel Glorioso, presiding. Mr Ortoli, Vice-President of the Commission, took part in the discussions on the economic situation in the Community.

Opinions

European Monetary System

2.3.63. By 80 votes for, 4 against and 6 abstentions, the Committee adopted its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Monetary System, de-

¹ OJ L 77 of 29.3.1969 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.3.39.

² OJ L 326 of 21.11.1978.

³ Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.3.34.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.3.32.

signed to change the value of the unit of account used by the European Monetary Cooperation Fund.¹

The Committee approved the setting-up of the system aimed at bringing about greater monetary stability and solidarity in the Community and at world level. It should be organized and operated in a manner sufficiently flexible to enable realistic exchange rates to be established and maintained, such rates to reflect the balance in economic relationships between the participating countries. However, the Committee felt that it must be able to give an Opinion on every aspect of the proposed system's operation and rules, in order to assess its effects on the different economic and social policies of the Community, particularly on the common agricultural policy. This could be done as soon as new information was forthcoming from the Commission.

Annual report of the economic situation in the Community

2.3.64. The Committee's Opinion, adopted by 35 votes in favour, 27 against and 12 abstentions welcomes the new presentation of the Commission's annual report² in that it has introduced an analytical document in the form of an annual economic review. However, it criticized the Commission for not including in the annual report the data essential for the plausibility of the policies proposed.

Overall, the Committee's view is that the Community should aim at growth of the Nine's respective economies, as a means of reducing unemployment.

It is sceptical, however, of the possibility of the Community's achieving in the foreseeable future, the growth figures recorded in the 1960s. The implications of this on the labour market must therefore be faced up to. It considers the claim made in the Commission's annual report that unemployment in the Community has peaked, to be premature and without foundation. It says that the continuing unsatisfactory situation on the labour market calls for intensified measures to promote employment. The measures should be designed to strengthen economic growth and redistribute the work available. It should also include action aimed at the restructuring of industry. Anticyclical measures are not enough to

achieve an acceptable level of employment within a reasonable space of time.

The Committee furthermore holds that growth must come not only from short-term fiscal stimuli, but by a package including the introduction of the EMS and restructuring measures. Growth policies are said by the Committee to have been less than successful because foreign demand has fallen off. It urges the Commission to put forward policies that will help to resolve deficit countries' debts, these imbalances having an adverse effect on the world economy and on world trade. Special emphasis is put by the Committee on a selective attitude towards growth, in the implementation of expansionary policies, taking into account factors such as employment, energy, the environment, the position of developing countries and the social and regional implications of structural changes.

Protection of employees

2.3.65. In an Opinion adopted by 83 votes in favour, 2 against and 9 abstentions, the Committee approved the aim of the proposal for a Directive concerning the protection of employees in the event of their employer's insolvency.³ It points out that the insolvency of employers has a particularly severe effect on employees, particularly since bankruptcy proceedings often take a very long time.

The Committee considers that the financial protection proposed in the draft Directive is in the interest not only of employees, but also of employers and the economy as a whole. It also notes that in most Member States in which measures similar to those proposed have already been taken, funds are provided solely by the employers. This is justified since employers' insolvency is completely outside the employees' control and is simply a business risk.

The Committee also considers that the Member States can use public funds to finance the measures and that the decision on how employees' claims should be submitted should be taken at national level. Although em-

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.3.

² Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.5.

³ OJ C 135 of 9.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.48.

employers should contribute towards the financing, the public authorities and employees could also contribute.

Generalized tariff preferences

2.3.66. By a large majority (4 votes against and 10 abstentions) the Committee approved the Commission proposals for the 1979 scheme of generalized tariff preferences for developing countries.¹

The Committee is pleased that the Commission has gone some way towards allaying the anxiety it expressed at previous consultations on the matter. Nevertheless, it recommends that the Community scheme become more selective as regards both countries and products and benefit those countries most in need; it also recommends that a policy be sought which is compatible with the international arrangements concluded by the Community in the sectors concerned. In the specific case of textiles, the Committee cannot accept the Commission's proposal because of the precarious situation in this sector. It proposes that the 1978 scheme be re-adopted with an increase to benefit the poorest developing countries.

Combined road/rail transport

2.3.67. The Committee unanimously approved the Commission proposal amending the Directive on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States² inasmuch as it puts the present system on a permanent footing.

It regrets, however, that it cannot approve the proposal to extend the liberalization from all quotas and authorizations to both international and national traffic, irrespective of the road transport firm responsible for carriage in the initial and final stage. If this proposal were to go through, it would mean that such traffic would no longer be subject to national rules governing to the market.

The Committee agrees, however, with the Commission's proposal to extend the rules of the Directive to cover combined road/rail container carriage. It considers the extension justified because an increasing number of containers transported internationally by road would be able

to use this technique. Furthermore, the Committee considers that the present distinction between swap bodies (to which the Directive applies) and containers is an artificial one: nor does it take into account the fact that these two types of container in practice fulfil the same economic function. All the underlying arguments behind the Directive thus argue in favour of including container traffic in a liberalized combined road/rail transport system, thus making this technique more attractive for the markets concerned.

Preservatives

2.3.68. The Committee unanimously approved the proposal for a Directive amending the Directive concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption.³

It stresses the importance of compliance with the provisions on consumer information when the Directive is put into effect in national laws and hopes that the Commission will take up the whole range of products used for treating fruit and vegetables at the earliest opportunity given that certain fungicides which are authorized in the Member States are not covered by the Directive.

Second programme of medical research

2.3.69. In its unanimously-adopted Opinion the Committee welcomed the continuing Community action on medical research⁴ and proposed that attention should also be given to cancer research, in particular the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the disease and after-care.

Balancing the market in wine

2.3.70. By 37 votes to 28, with 10 abstentions, the Committee adopted its Opinion on

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.2.22.

² OJ C 185 of 3.8.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.107.

³ OJ C 247 of 18.10.1978.

⁴ OJ C 213 of 7.9.1978; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.123.

the Commission Communication to the Council on the 1979-85 action programme for the wine sector.¹ It points out that if the last two harvests were taken into account, the Commission's forecasts would be much lower.

It also notes that since the introduction of a common wine policy in April 1970 the Community's potential wine output does not seem to have grown. Because of improvements in techniques, planting methods and general care several table-wine-producing regions have shown an increase in yield per hectare; but overall it seems that potential Community wine output has levelled out, if not decreased. The Committee feels, however, that there is still a risk of cyclical surpluses. Effective machinery is needed to prevent temporary imbalances on the market and price falls.

Decommissioning of nuclear power plants

2.3.71. The Committee approved by a very large majority (only one vote against) the proposal concerning the adoption of a five-year Community research programme costing 6 million EUA on the decommissioning of nuclear power plants.²

The Committee notes that taking a nuclear power plant out of service, including final dismantling, requires special measures to protect man and his environment. It points out that although studies have shown that the decommissioning of modern nuclear power plants poses no fundamental difficulties, relatively little practical experience has been gained so far. It therefore believes that research efforts must be stepped up and particular importance attached to protecting staff engaged in decommissioning work.

Thermal water reactors

2.3.72. By a similarly large majority with one vote against the Committee also approved the proposal for a five-year Community research programme costing 8.8 million EUA on safety in thermal water reactors.³

Since there are many international programmes in this field, the Committee believes that the greatest possible

care is needed to avoid duplication. It also considers that, when the programme is reviewed after two years of operation, it should, if necessary, be modified so as to ensure that maximum useful results are obtained at the end of the five-year period. It notes that there are no qualified workers' representatives on the different Committees which will monitor the programmes and reiterates its view that qualified and competent experts from the Member States representing all those affected by nuclear energy (employers, workers and users) should also be involved, particularly in working out a common viewpoint on basic matters such as safety requirements.

Greece's application for Community membership

2.3.73. In an own-initiative Opinion adopted by 48 votes for with 2 against and 9 abstentions, the Committee approved the principle of Greece's entry into the Community, considering that from the political angle it would be beneficial both to the existing Community and Greece.

However, it makes a number of critical observations regarding the effects of accession on agriculture, sensitive industrial products and the free movement of workers. It argues for a graduated timetable to give the economies and, more particularly, the agricultural sector of the Community and Greece time to adapt. The Committee feels that the transitional measures should be accompanied by a two-way safeguard clause.

Finally, it believes that competition between the Nine and Greece must not be distorted by artificial incentives, such as subsidies for the transport of both processed and non-processed agricultural products and export subsidies for industrial goods. It urges all regions and sectors of the Community to bear the burden of the consequences of accession.

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¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.6 and Supplement 7/78 — Bull. EC.

² OJ C 146 of 21.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.98.

³ OJ C 146 of 21.6.1978 and Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.1.97.

The Committee also adopted opinions on the following: fruit juices,¹ fresh meat,² materials for the blind,³ educational, scientific and cultural materials,⁴ standardization of forms used in international goods transport by road⁵ and cargo shipping.⁶

ECSC Consultative Committee

196th meeting

2.3.74. The ECSC Consultative Committee held its 196th meeting in Luxembourg on 30 November, with Sir Derek Ezra, the Committee Chairman, in the chair. Mr Brunner and Mr Davignon, Members of the Commission, also attended.

The Committee studied a number of proposals dealing with energy and steel.

(i) After a discussion of the energy situation in the Community, with special reference to coal, the Committee gave its views, under the first paragraph of Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty, on the draft Commission Decision relating to coal and coke for the Community steel industry.⁷ It approved the draft and also a proposal for a Council Regulation on Community financial measures to extend intra-Community trade in power-station coal.⁸ A Resolution was adopted on this subject.

(ii) The Committee examined three draft Decisions which would extend the crisis programme for the steel industry into 1979. It also approved the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1979.

Lastly, it agreed that the rate of ECSC levies should remain unchanged in 1979.

Energy — coal

2.3.75. There was a discussion of the energy situation, particular attention being given

to coal, with Mr Brunner in attendance. Mr Brunner said he was not convinced that the ECSC targets set for 1985 could in fact be reached. Although the Community had reduced its dependence on external energy supplies from 63 to 56%, it was not certain that this dependence could be reduced to 50% by 1985. As regards coal in particular, where the target set provides for a yearly production figure of 250 million tonnes, great efforts would have to be made to improve productivity and to allow the European coal industry to hold its own on the market. The Commission was proposing a plan to encourage intra-Community trade, to encourage the use of coking coal and to support the construction of coal-burning power stations. Speakers in the debate generally supported the Commission proposals.

Crisis programme for the steel industry

2.3.76. Almost unanimously (with one abstention and one vote against), the Committee approved three draft Decisions extending the application of the crisis programme into 1979, though proposing certain changes to make the support mechanism simpler and more effective. The changes concern the prohibition on aligning on offers of iron and steel products originating in certain non-member countries, the extension to stock-

¹ OJ C 184 of 2.8.1978 and Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.1.12.

² OJ C 223 of 27.9.1978 and Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.56.

³ OJ C 187 of 5.8.1978.

⁴ OJ C 190 of 9.8.1978.

⁵ OJ L 237 of 7.10.1978 and Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.61.

⁶ OJ C 259 of 1.11.1978 and Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.106.

⁷ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.120.

⁸ OJ C 243 of 13.10.1978; Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.74.

holders of certain obligations already imposed on producers, and the continued application of minimum prices for hot-rolled wide strip, merchant bars and concrete reinforcing bars.

Mr Davignon gave the Committee assurances regarding compliance with arrangements reached with non-member countries. He also said he expected that producers and stockholders would respect price lists, and that they would accept a satisfactory measure of supervision. On the setting of minimum prices, particularly for merchant bars, he could not see the Commission easily allowing exceptions. He said he wanted to state clearly that if price discipline was not observed within the Community, the incomes of producers would not improve enough to allow them to restructure their production mechanisms and implement an adequate social policy.

1979 Budget

2.3.77. The Committee also studied the ECSC Operational Budget for 1979, which clearly reflects the impact of the crisis in the steel industry. It expressed satisfaction at the Commission's decision not to change the rate of levies, which remains fixed at 0.29%. In the Committee's view, the main part of ECSC resources should be raised from customs duties on ECSC products; the Committee accordingly hoped that action would be taken on the proposal which the Commission had transmitted to the Council.¹

European Investment Bank

Loans granted

United Kingdom

2.3.78. The European Investment Bank has signed with the National Water Council a framework agreement concerning the equivalent of up to UKL 210 million (315 million EUA) and has granted a loan to the Grampian Regional Council worth UKL 5 million (7.5 million EUA).

Framework agreement

2.3.79. Under the agreement with the National Water Council, the EIB will favourably consider loans up to a total amount of UKL 210 million.

The National Water Council (NWC) will act as intermediary in contracting loans and then passing them on to regional water authorities to finance works which they carry out. This framework agreement builds upon the close relationship existing between the EIB and the water industry. Since 1975 and prior to this new arrangement the NWC has already borrowed UKL 174.5 million in nineteen loans to help to finance water supply/sewerage schemes undertaken in five of the ten regional water authorities in England and Wales. The EIB's contribution to date has been welcomed by the industry which is keen that the Bank should extend its support on a more programmed basis.

Over the coming years the industry's capital expenditure will continue to run at a high level; the framework agreement constitutes a declaration of intent by the EIB, subject to safeguards, to finance a substantial share of this where the expenditure concerns projects assisting development of less favoured regions. As before the EIB will seek to support not only the improvement of water supplies as such—basic to almost any economic activity—but also the upgrading of sewerage and sewage disposal facilities, the present inadequacy of which constitutes in many areas a serious restriction on possibilities for industrial growth.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.3.92.

The first two loans under the new framework agreement, totalling UKL 22.4 million, are as follows:

(i) UKL 14.0 million for fifteen years at 9.9% to be lent to the North West Water Authority for various water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal schemes concerning Merseyside, Warrington, Wigan, Brunley, Hyndburn, Heysham and Lancaster plus, further north in West Cumbria, the towns of Silloth and Millom;

(ii) UKL 8.4 million for fifteen years at 9.9% to be lent to the Severn Trent Water Authority for various water supply, sewerage and drainage works in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, principally to serve industrial development in and around the Mansfield-Alfreton Growth Zone, plus flood prevention works concerning over 20 000 acres of low-lying arable land in North Lincolnshire.

Aberdeen infrastructure

2.3.80. Separate from the framework agreement, a loan worth UKL 5 million has been made directly to Grampian Regional Council for fifteen years at 9.9% to help to finance road improvements and works to develop water supplies and sewerage infrastructure in the Aberdeen area; these have been made necessary by the rapid development of the North Sea oil and gas industry and related activities which have placed pressure on existing facilities. A first loan, also for UKL 5 million, was provided by the EIB for the works in April this year.

2.3.81. A loan equivalent to UKL 1 million (1.5 million EUA) has been provided by the European Investment Bank, to help meet the cost of improvements to the telecommunications network in the Hull area (North East England). The loan has been granted to Kingston upon Hull City Council for twelve years at an interest rate of 9.5%.

The work to be carried out will make possible about 18 000 new subscriber connections by spring 1981; they will also help to adapt the local network to a changing pattern of demand, linked to the creation of industrial zones, and also housing areas, on the outskirts of the city.

Considerable efforts are being made to attract new industrial activities to these zones to counter unemployment problems in the area, which have worsened over the last two or three years with the difficulties affecting

the fishing industry, upon which Hull has traditionally been heavily dependent. Hull is the only area in the United Kingdom where the telephone network is not directly controlled by the Post Office, although it is operated under Post Office licence and it is, of course, fully integrated with the Post Office national system. It is the last of several independent telephone services which in the early years were run by local authorities.

The European Investment Bank has already provided four loans totalling UKL 70.9 million to the Post Office for development of telecommunications in Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and North East of England.

2.3.82. The European Investment Bank has made three new loans for a total equivalent to UKL 15 million (22.5 million EUA) for industrial and energy projects in the United Kingdom. Details are as follows:

(i) UKL 5 million lent to UKF Fertilisers Limited for ten years at 8.35% for expansion of its works at Ince, Cheshire (part of the Merseyside Special Development Area).

Additional units for the production of nitric acid and ammonium nitrate, due for completion in the second half of 1980, should provide an extra 100 jobs, a welcome contribution in view of Merseyside's serious unemployment problems.

(ii) UKL 5 million to the Cooperative Wholesale Society Ltd (CWS), for eight years at 7.9% to reorganize and modernize an industrial complex at Shieldhall, Glasgow.

For the most part, the project concerns new plant for production and bottling of non-alcoholic drinks; nearly 700 jobs should be safeguarded (the alternative to this investment would have been to close down, because of the obsolescence of existing equipment) plus about 60 extra jobs created.

(iii) UKL 5 million to the State-owned British Nuclear Fuels Limited to finance part of its share in the URENCO gas centrifuge uranium enrichment plant being built at Capenhurst, Cheshire; the loan is for fifteen years at 10.10%.

The project is being carried out by URENCO (UK), of which 75% of the capital is held by British Nuclear Fuels; the remainder is held in equal share by Uran—Isotopentrennungsgesellschaft mbH (URANIT) and Ultra Centrifuge Nederland NV (UCN), representing, respectively, German and Dutch interests.

This plant (annual production should be equivalent to fuelling for one year four nuclear power stations of 1 000 MW output) will help to develop uranium enrichment capacity within the Community to cover a substantial and growing proportion of Europe's needs from the beginning of the 1980s.

Belgium

2.3.83. The European Investment Bank has granted a loan for BFR 2 500 million (62.2 million EUA) to Sociétés Réunies d'Énergie du Bassin de l'Escaut (EBES) towards financing construction of the third section of the Doel nuclear power station, 15 km from Antwerp. The loan is for eight years at 9.2% per annum.

EBES supplies electricity to the greater part of northern Belgium, serving a combined population of 2 million. The power station already has two generating units powered by pressurized-water reactors, each with an output of 392.5 MW; these are to be reinforced by two further units with capacities of 897 MW and 1003 MW respectively. The third unit, which will cost an estimated total of around BFR 34 500 million is scheduled to come on stream in or about mid-1980.

The loan is in line with the Community's energy policy which is aimed at reducing dependence on imports and at diversifying sources of supply: in conjunction with the Tihange power station, which has already received EIB loans in 1970 (BFR 800 million), 1972, (BFR 700 million) and 1974 (BFR 730 million), the Doel power station should in 1985, following completion of its third and fourth units, help to reduce Belgium's dependence on imported energy by some 7%. At the present time, the country imports around 84% of its energy requirements, mainly in the form of oil; this is among the highest levels within the Community. The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) is also contributing towards financing these investment projects.

Ireland

2.3.84. Three loans for a total equivalent to IRL 22 125 000 (33.2 million EUA) have been granted in Ireland by the European Investment Bank for water supply and sewerage schemes in the Dublin area, to support

various small and medium-sized industrial ventures and also for a new car ferry between Ireland and Great Britain.

They raise IRL 224 million the total lent by the EIB for investment projects in Ireland since the country's accession to the Community in 1973; of this amount IRL 78.5 million has been provided so far this year.

The largest of the new loans, worth IRL 13.5 million, has been granted to Ireland through the Ministry of Finance for twenty years at 9.35%. The proceeds will be used to finance works which Dublin Corporation and Dublin County Council are carrying out (estimates cost IRL 63.5 million) to improve the sewerage and water supply infrastructure in Dublin City, its suburbs and the nearby new towns of Blanchardstown, Ronanstown and Tallaght. These works are of key importance to the region's development. Over a fifteen-year period (1976-91) the population of the area is forecast to grow by more than 25% to reach about 1 150 000. Existing facilities would not be adequate to cope with this increase nor the accompanying industrial development expected.

Small businesses

2.3.85. A global loan worth IRL 5 million has been made to the Industrial Credit Company Ltd (ICC), which will on-lend the funds in lesser amounts (minimum IRL 17 000) to small-scale manufacturing ventures; the loans will be for ten years at a fixed interest rate of 9%. The investment schemes will be chosen in agreement with the EIB, priority going to those which promise to make the most impact in terms of employment. In making this global loan the EIB seeks to strengthen an important part of the Irish economy; according to recent figures, undertakings employing less than 100 people accounted for 90% of the country's manufacturing firms and about 36% of employment.

A similar loan, for IRL 2.5 million, was provided to the ICC in June this year; over forty ventures (expected to create about 500 jobs) have been selected for financing with the funds.

Car ferry

2.3.86. A loan equivalent to IRL 3 625 000 has been made to help finance a new car ferry which the British and Irish Steam Packet Company Limited (B+I line) will operate on its routes between Ireland and Great Britain.

The loan has been granted to the Ministry of finance for eight years at 8%; the proceeds will be on-lent to B+1 line through the Shipping Finance Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of the Industrial Credit Company. The 6 800 tonnes vessel will be able to carry 1 500 passengers and about 340 cars or some 40 commercial vehicles. Recruitment of crews and shore-based staff should provide about 210 jobs.

In April this year the Bank provided a loan of IRL 1 375 000 for the same project, the total cost of which is put at over IRL 15 million. The EIB gives its support because the new vessel will help to improve communications between Community countries, not only between Ireland and the United Kingdom but also between Ireland and the Continent where much of the car ferry traffic originates.

Federal Republic of Germany

2.3.87. The European Investment Bank has granted a loan for the equivalent of DM 2.2 million (0.9 million EUA) to TAD Pharmaceutisches Werk GmbH for new facilities at its pharmaceuticals plant at Cuxhaven in the north of Germany.

The loan, for eight years, goes towards a DM 4.5 million investment in construction of a 3 100 m² building, enlargement of various production and research operations and purchase of new machinery and equipment, all aimed at permitting the firm to continue the expansion of its activities. This project should lead to about forty new jobs in a regional development area where most employment depends on fish processing, which in turn is exposed to the difficulties affecting the fishing industry.

This is the EIB's second loan to TAD; in 1973 it lent DM 1.8 million for the construction of the plant in question, which now employs 210 people mainly in production of veterinary pharmaceuticals.

Yugoslavia

2.3.88. The European Investment Bank has made a loan for 25 million EUA (about 618 million dinars) to help to finance construction of five sections of the future Trans-Yugoslavian Highway. The borrowers are independent authorities responsible for road

building in Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, and the autonomous province of Vojvodina, to the west of Belgrade. The loan will be for fifteen years at a rate of 9.65% per annum.

The Trans-Yugoslavian Highway, which is to be completed by 1992, will replace the present two-lane highway that is often congested and ill-suited to today's traffic. The new highway will be 1 163 km long; 63 km have already been finished and a further 230 km are under construction. The EIB is helping to finance 60 km of the highway, including, more particularly, the Belgrade thoroughway section, the connection with the Greek frontier and the Ljubljana by-pass, subsequently linking up with the Ljubljana-Trieste motorway which is nearing completion. The new highway will be the centre-piece of Yugoslavia's road network and will constitute the most direct route between the Community and Greece, Turkey and the Middle East. The benefits are considerable for both Yugoslavia and the European Community in terms of developing trade, savings in time and distance travelled, improved comfort and road safety.

This is the EIB's second loan in Yugoslavia: the first, for the equivalent of 25 million EUA, granted in November 1977, went towards extensions to the country's high voltage grid, interconnections with the Greek and Italian networks and, via the latter, with other European countries.

Both these loans are in line with the cooperation policy agreed between the European Community and Yugoslavia and spelled out in the joint Belgrade declaration of December 1976, following which the Bank's Governors authorized the EIB to make up to 50 million EUA available in loans for projects of common interest to Yugoslavia and the Community.

Under current negotiations concerning further cooperation, the Bank could be invited to continue financing projects in Yugoslavia.

Caribbean Community

2.3.89. Under the terms of the Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has

granted a global loan worth 3 million EUA (about USD 4 million) to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) which will use the resources to help to finance capital investment projects, principally in the industrial, tourism, infrastructure and twelve sectors. The loan has been provided for twelve years at an interest rate of 6.8%, after deduction of a 3% interest subsidy from the European Development Fund.

As an institution associated to the Caribbean Community (Caricom), the CDB aims to support the harmonious economic growth of the sixteen borrowing member countries¹ and promote their economic cooperation and integration. The projects to be assisted via this global loan facility will be selected in agreement with the EIB from both the public and private sectors. The Caricom countries are either signatories to the Lomé Convention itself or are covered by the decision taken by the Council of the European Communities to extend to Overseas Countries and Territories financial aid of a nature similar to that provided under the Convention.

This is the Bank's second operation in the Caribbean region: in 1977, the EIB granted to the Caribbean Investment Corporation (CIC) a loan for 1 million EUA to help it to finance participations in small and medium-sized industrial and tourism concerns. The loan provided from European Development Fund resources which are set aside under the Lomé Convention and Council Decision for risk capital operations managed by the EIB.

Guyana

2.3.90. Under the terms of the Lomé Convention, the European Investment Bank has lent 3.2 million EUA (about 11 million Guyana dollars) to help to finance the development of forestry resources in the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

The operation takes the form of a conditional loan² granted to Guyana at an interest rate of 2%, the term fixed in principle at twenty years, to enable it to cover half the cost of subscribing the capital of a new State enterprise—the Demerara Wood Company Limited—which is being set up to exploit some 220 000 ha of forest situated up-country between the Demerara and Essequibo rivers. The loan is drawn from resources

which, under the Lomé Convention, are set aside for various kinds of risk capital operations, the management of which is entrusted to the EIB.

Apart from construction of a sawmill, the project involves setting up a township for about 420 workers, transport facilities and the acquisition of logging equipment. Most of the production—mainly hardwood lumber and poles—will be exported to North America and Europe. Opening up these major natural resources will help to broaden the base of Guyana's economy, spreading development to a previously uninhabited region of the interior, at the same time bolstering the country's foreign exchange earnings.

In addition to the EIB's contribution, other finance for the scheme is being provided in the form of a loan on special conditions from the Community's European Development Fund (EDF) and loans from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. Total European Community support (i.e. EIB loan plus EDF special loan) will cover some 36% of project finance requirements, which are put at about 25 million EUA.

Financing Community activities

Budget

General Budget

Second letter of amendment to the draft General Budget for 1979

2.3.91. On 8 November the Commission adopted the second letter of amendment to the draft General Budget for 1979 and sent it to the budgetary authority on 16 November. The letter amends the method of finan-

¹ Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St Lucia, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands.

² Repayment of the loan is conditional upon the company achieving a predetermined profitability level.

cing the Budget by reintroducing GNP-based financial contributions for the Federal Republic of Germany, which had confirmed that it would not be able to apply the Sixth and Ninth Directives on the harmonizations of the VAT base by 1 January 1979. If other Member States are in the same position and inform the Commission and the budgetary authority in time, the necessary amendments can still be made before the Budget is finally adopted.

The Commission is nevertheless determined to take action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty against any Member State which have not applied the uniform VAT base by 1 January 1979.

The VAT base figure for Belgium has been reduced from 475 to 418 million EUA, as Belgium's VAT-based revenue for 1978 is 12% down on the original forecast. It was this revenue figure which was used in calculating the VAT base for 1979.

Second Council reading of the draft Budget for 1979

2.3.92. On 20 November the Council examined the amendments and proposed further modifications to the draft Budget adopted by Parliament at the second October part-session.¹ Those accepted by the Council involve 612.8 million EUA in total appropriations for commitments and 309.5 million EUA in total appropriations for payments in non-compulsory expenditure and, in compulsory expenditure, 16.0 million EUA in total appropriations for commitments and 12.8 million EUA in total appropriations for payments.

In December the Council will meet to decide what position to adopt prior to the second reading by Parliament, particularly as a new rate of increase for non-compulsory expenditure will have to be set.

Own resources

2.3.93. On 8 November the Commission approved the definitive form of its 'green paper' on methods of financing the Community Budget in the future.² Having noted that existing own resources will no longer cover expenditure in the early 1980s, the Commission concluded that additional sources of revenue will have to be found for the Community which are unlikely to cause excessive administrative problems or aggravate the economic disparity between Member States and which will even help to reduce that disparity. The report describes a number of possible sources and then proceeds to comment on them. The aim is to initiate wide-ranging discussions in Parliament and the Council (the budgetary authorities) to be followed by Commission proposals in due course. The Commission believes that a decision on new own resources will be required in 1979.

Applying the European unit of account (EUA) to acts adopted by the Community institutions

2.3.94. The Council sent to Parliament in the form of a 'common position' the proposal for a Regulation presented by the Commission in October 1976³ with a view to the possible initiation of the conciliation procedure. This Regulation includes an article covering the introduction of the EUA into the customs field from 1 January 1979.

To comply with the Council Resolution of 27 June 1974 concerning measures to be taken with a view to simplifying the tasks of the customs administration, any amendments concerning customs matters must be

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, points 2.3.25 and 2.3.27.

² Points 1.2.1 and 1.2.3.

³ OJ C 271 of 17.11.1976.

published six weeks before the date fixed for their implementation.¹

Therefore, as adoption of the provisions concerning the customs services was urgent, the Commission separated the article containing the provisions on customs matters from the 'common position' sent by the Council and has turned it into a proposal for a specific regulation. This proposal was sent to the budgetary authority on 6 November and adopted by the Council on 23 November with the agreement of Parliament.²

Amending the Financial Regulation

2.3.95. With a view to making certain amendments to the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977, the Council, on 20 November, adopted a 'common position' in the form of a draft Regulation embodying the provisions proposed by the Commission for simplifying the budgetary presentation of the research and investment appropriations.³ The Council has not yet, however, taken a position on the other parts of the Commission proposals, including the point as to whether the terms or programme decision are binding or indicative.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans granted

Loans paid

2.3.96. In November the Commission paid out a total of 48.2 million EUA in loans under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty.

A total of 44.6 million EUA was paid out in industrial loans and conversion loans to finance the following programmes:

Industrial loan

Steel industry

— Rationalization of pig-iron and steel production:

Acciaierie di Piombino SpA, Piombino/Livorno

Conversion loan

Germany — North Rhine-Westphalia:

Ruhrkohle AG, Essen (Monopol colliery).

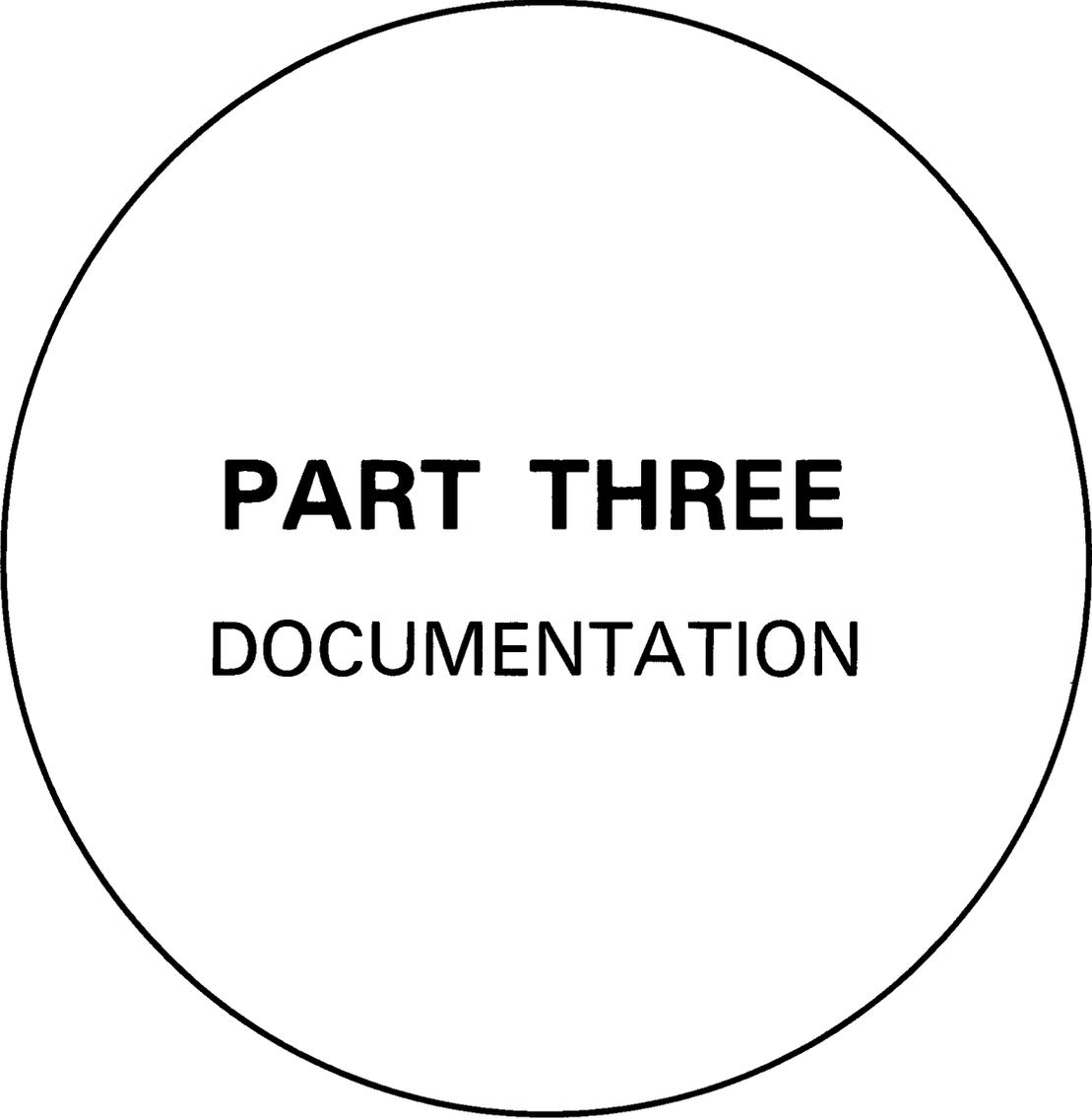
Low-cost housing

Loans for the construction or fitting-out of low-cost housing amounted to 3.6 million EUA.

¹ OJ C 79 of 8.7.1974.

² OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978.

³ Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.3.99.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. Units of account

Units of account

European unit of account

Changeover from the unit of account to the EUA

3.1.1. On account of the severe disturbances in international monetary relationships and the replacement of the system of fixed parities by floating exchange rates, the Community decided to introduce a new unit of account. Whereas the old unit of account (u.a.) was defined by reference to a given weight of fine gold, with fixed parities, the new 'basket' unit of account (EUA) reflects the day-to-day fluctuations between the various currencies on the foreign exchange markets.

A 'basket' unit of account is made up of different national currencies; the European unit of account is thus defined by reference to a sum of fixed amounts of Member States' currencies. When the EUA was introduced in 1975, these fixed amounts were obviously not chosen at random but took account, among other things, of the size of each Member State's economy.

The value of one EUA is the sum of the values of the following amounts: BFR 3.66, LFR 0.14, DM 0.828, HFL 0.286, UKL 0.0885, DKR 0.217, FF 1.15, LIT 109 and IRL 0.00759.

Depending on whether the rates of these different currencies are those recorded on the market in Brussels, Copenhagen or Paris, etc., the rate of the European unit of account is given in Belgian francs, Danish kroner or French francs, etc. The effect of this definition is that the value of the EUA in any national currency moves in line with changes in the weighted average of exchange rates in all the currencies in the basket; in other words, it reflects the aggregate movement in those currencies (Table 1).

The value of the EUA in the Member States' currencies is determined each day by the Commission on the basis of the official exchange rates notified by Member States' central banks; the value of the EUA is also calculated in a number of other currencies. Rates for the value of the EUA in the various national currencies are published

Table 1 — *Values in national currencies of one European unit of account*

National currency	2 November ¹	15 November ²	30 November ³
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	39.5260	39.4920	39.7817
German mark	2.51708	2.51877	2.51933
Dutch guilder	2.71963	2.72092	2.73255
Pound sterling	0.680707	0.676282	0.672037
Danish krone	6.97656	6.95335	6.98309
French franc	5.77430	5.77696	5.77919
Italian lira	1 120.17	1 118.45	1 112.55
Irish pound	0.680707	0.676282	0.672055
United States dollar	1.35363	1.33059	1.31044
Swiss franc	2.16521	2.18146	2.25840
Spanish peseta	95.8670	94.4051	93.6425
Swedish krona	5.82292	5.78553	5.81009
Norwegian krone	6.72210	6.69129	6.69556
Canadian dollar	1.57537	1.56342	1.53597
Portuguese escudo	60.8092	61.4184	61.2026
Austrian schilling	18.4313	18.4241	18.4602
Finish mark	5.37768	5.29029	5.31308
Japanese yen	253.372	252.377	258.928

¹ OJ C 260 of 4 11 1978

² OJ C 272 of 16 11 1978

³ OJ C 288 of 1 12 1978

daily.¹ In addition, anyone may contact the Commission to obtain this information.

Scope of application of the EUA

3.1.2. Since it was devised in 1975, the EUC has been phased into use in 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

The European unit of account is now used in all areas of Community activity, apart from the common agricultural policy, operations of the European Monetary Co-operation Fund (EMCF), and the customs field. It will be used for customs purposes from 1 January 1979 onwards.

The EUA has also been in use for some time in the fields of banking and commerce (Table 2).

Table 2 — *Annual interest rates on bank deposits denominated in EUA*

	2 November 1978	15 November 1978	30 November 1978
1 month	7 ³ / ₄ - 8 ³ / ₄	7 - 8	8 - 9
3 months	8 ⁵ / ₈ - 9 ⁵ / ₈	8 - 9	8 ³ / ₈ - 9 ³ / ₈
6 months	8 ³ / ₄ - 9 ³ / ₄	8 ³ / ₈ - 9 ³ / ₈	8 ⁵ / ₈ - 9 ⁵ / ₈
12 months	8 ⁷ / ₈ - 9 ⁷ / ₈	8 ³ / ₄ - 9 ³ / ₄	8 ³ / ₄ - 9 ³ / ₄

¹ (Rates obtaining in Brussels)

'Green' rates

3.1.3. The old unit of account (u.a.) is still used in connection with the common agricultural policy. However, the conversion procedures applied have been substantially modified; conversion into national currencies

of common agricultural prices expressed in units of account (u.a.) has long ceased to be based on fixed parities determined by reference to a given weight of fine gold and is now determined by 'representative rates', which are used in the agricultural field only. Generally referred to as 'green' rates, representative rates are fixed by decision of the Council (Table 3). The difference between these rates and the rates obtaining on the exchanges is offset by monetary compensatory amounts.

The market rates for the snake currencies (Benelux, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany) are taken to be

Table 3 — *Conversion rates into national currencies for the unit of account used in connection with the common agricultural policy*

National currency	November 1978
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	49.3486
Danish krone	8.56656
German mark	{ 3.41258 ¹ 3.40238 ⁵
French franc	{ 6.45761 ² 6.00103 ¹ 6.22514 ⁵
Irish pound	{ 0.739700 ¹ 0.786912 ⁵
Italian lira	{ 1 096.00 ³ 1 030.00 ⁴ 1 154.00 ⁵
Dutch guilder	3.40270
Pound sterling	{ 0.586638 ¹ 0.634204 ⁵

¹ For olive oil, wine and fisheries products

² For pigmeat.

³ For wine.

⁴ For olive oil and fisheries products

⁵ For other products.

¹ In the Official Journal of the European Communities and in the press

² OJ L 104 of 24.4.1975

³ OJ L 327 of 19.12.1975

⁴ OJ L 356 of 31.12.1977

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

Units of account

their central rates, with the result that the compensatory amounts for these countries are not changed unless the central rates and the representative rates are adjusted. The monetary compensatory amounts for the other Member States are normally fixed each week on the basis of the average exchange rate of the relevant national currency against the currencies in the snake.

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 4-1978

Point 2.3.53

Opinion on the communication from the Commission to the Council on a Community plan of action in the field of radioactive wastes.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.54

Opinion on the communication from the Commission to the Council entitled 'The fast-breeder option in the Community context—justification, achievements, problems and action perspectives'.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.55

Opinion on the supplementary Commission proposals on the fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and certain related measures.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.56

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 68/414/EEC of 20 December 1968 imposing an obligation on Member States of the EEC to maintain minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.57

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision empowering the Commission to issue loans for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.58

Opinion on the proposals for:

— a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products

— a Council Regulation relating to the Northern Ireland Milk Marketing Board.

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation laying down a transitional measure for the Community financing of a consumer subsidy for butter referred to in Regulation (EEC) No 880/77.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Bull. EC 5-1978*Point 2.3.74*

Opinion on the communication from the Commission to the Council entitled 'Reorganization of the Community shipbuilding industry'.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.75

Opinion on the proposals for:

— a Council Regulation concerning the adaptation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, with a view to applying it to self-employed persons and their families.

— a Council Regulation concerning the adaptation of the Annexes to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, with a view to applying it to self-employed persons and their families.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.76

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive concerning the approximation of the legislation of the Member States, in order to combat illegal migration and illegal employment.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.77

Opinion on part-time employment: its effects in the current state of the labour market.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.78

Opinion on the proposal for a Seventh Council Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes—common system of value added tax to be applied to works of art, collectors' items, antiques and used goods.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.79

Opinion on the proposal for an Eighth Council Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes—arrangements for the refund of value added tax to taxable persons not established in the territory of the country.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.80

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 73/173/EEC on the approximation of Member States' laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents).

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.81

Opinion on the draft for a Council Decision concerning the activities of certain State-trading countries in cargo liner shipping.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.82

Opinion on the Commission communication to the Council on marine pollution arising from the carriage of oil (Amoco-Cadiz).

OJ C 269 du 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.83

Opinion on the programme of work to be carried out in the veterinary, zootechnical and animal protection spheres (staff required for such work).

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.84

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation concerning accession to the United Nations Convention on a code of conduct for liner conferences.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.85

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1192/69 on common rules for the normalization of the accounts of railway undertakings.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.86

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member State concerning the general requirements of construction and certain types of protection for electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.87

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to hot-water meters.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.88

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision adopting a European Economic Community concerted action in the field of physico-chemical behaviour of atmospheric pollutants.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Point 2.3.89

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision adopting a European Economic Community concerted action in the field of analysis of organic micro-pollutants in water.

OJ C 269 of 13.11.1978.

Bull. EC 9-1978**Point 2.1.7**

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the roll-over protection structures of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors—static tests.

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the towing hooks and reserve on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

OJ C 268 of 11.11.1978.

Bull. EC 10-1978**Point 2.1.104**

Commission Decision of 25 October 1978 setting a time limit for the conclusion of the negotiations between professional organizations for the establishment of reference tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.

OJ L 326 of 21.11.1978.

Point 2.1.119.

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the implementation in the solar-energy sector of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1302/78 concerning the granting of financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources.

OJ C 259 of 1.11.1978.

3. Infringement procedures

Reasoned opinions

3.3.1. In November the Commission issued a reasoned opinion in the following case:

Failure to apply Regulations 3 and 4 concerning social security for migrant workers to nationals of Member States who have completed periods of insurance in Algeria (France).

4. Report on political cooperation

Annual report to Parliament on political cooperation presented on 15 November by Mr Genscher, Chairman of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States meeting in political cooperation

3.4.1. 'I should like to say how glad I am to have this opportunity of reporting to the European Parliament on the progress of European political cooperation over the last year.

Parliament is about to be transformed. Next year 180 million European voters are to elect their own Parliament. The people in our countries will thus be involved in the process of European union and will be aware of their own collective responsibility for its progress. For these reasons I already consider that our relations with Parliament in the field of political cooperation are of the utmost importance.

In the report¹ which he presented to this House a year ago to the day in his capacity as President-in-Office of the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, Mr Simonet spoke of further progress in political cooperation.

This positive development has continued. A year is, however, a relatively short period in the ongoing process of European union.

My report therefore touches on problems which we have previously dealt with and which all of us will also have to work to solve in the future and as we know, possibly for some considerable time. In the speech I made when the Federal Republic of Germany took over the Presidency in the European Community, I spoke of Europe's growing involvement in a world of partnership in which the Nine, since the beginning of European political cooperation, have regularly opened up new areas in which to act jointly. In doing so they have participated in a policy of the fair balance of interest and international partnership.

In performing this task the Nine have grown in stature and they will continue to perform it in the future.

Since the last report presented to this House on the work of political cooperation, there have been many meetings between the nine, which at all levels and at every suitable opportunity have harmonized their position on questions of external policy.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1977, points 3.2.1 to 3.2.10

In doing so the Nine have taken every opportunity of extending their cooperation in terms of the subjects covered.

In the period covered by the Belgian Presidency in 1977, the Danish Presidency in the first half of 1978 and the Presidency of the Federal Republic of Germany since 1 July 1978, four official meetings of Ministers have taken place, as well as a number of other discussions on subjects connected with European political cooperation. The second official meeting under the German Presidency is due to take place in Bonn next week.

In Hesselet (Denmark) in May and in Gymnich at the end of October the Foreign Ministers met for their regular informal exchange of ideas to which they have been invited by each Presidency since 1974. These meetings, which began at the initiative of the then German Foreign Minister Walter Scheel, have become more and more successful.

The Political Committee has met every month, and its work has been prepared by its working parties in over 100 sittings.

Since November 1977 there have been three meetings of the European Council, which has also dealt regularly with important questions of external policy. After each of the four Ministers' meetings the current Presidency invited the Political Affairs Committee of this Parliament to a detailed colloquy which I am sure both sides found informative and satisfactory, on all questions of political cooperation.

In our answers to Parliamentary questions we have made every effort to provide comprehensive information, that is if the subject of the question had actually been dealt with in political cooperation meetings. Besides the meetings arranged as part of political cooperation, there have been many other opportunities at all levels for the Nine to meet and to extend existing cooperation. In this context I should first of all like to mention cooperation at the United Nations, which is the most important basis for our joint representation in this international body.

Mr President, the European Community is about to be enlarged from nine to twelve Member States. The negotiations with Greece on accession to the Treaty of Rome have progressed well, and we hope to conclude the main part of them before the end of this year.

Negotiations with Portugal were formally opened on 17 October this year. It is to be hoped that the Community will soon take a basic policy decision on Spain's

application for membership; I would like this to be before the end of the year.

Political cooperation has taken account of this development in the question of the applicant countries. It is gearing itself to full participation by the applicant countries in political cooperation as soon as they become Member States of the Community. Since by its very nature political cooperation cannot be the subject of formal negotiations, the Nine have agreed in painstaking discussions on other informal methods of acquainting the new Member States with the common external policy of the Nine.

Greece and Portugal were accordingly given formal notification on 26 June and 17 October respectively of the existence of political cooperation. At the same time they were given basic documents relating to European political cooperation. In addition, in accordance with the agreed procedure, Greece has been kept constantly informed since September of the work carried out as part of European political cooperation and at the beginning of this month received all the important documents and other material resulting from it.

Political cooperation meetings have also dealt with questions concerning relations with Turkey, which after the enlargement of the Community will, as you know, be the only country to have an association agreement with the Community with the prospect of accession. As part of their political cooperation, the Nine also intend to take account of this fact. On 23 September they offered Turkey, through the Presidency special procedures of increased mutual information. This offer is still being examined by the Turkish Government. With regard to cooperation in the United Nations, I consider this particular part of cooperation to be especially important. European political cooperation in the United Nations has steadily improved and increased during the most recent General Assemblies. Our common position has been prepared by analyzing the results of each General Assembly and, since 1977, by advance planning for the next General Assembly.

The most important events this year with regard to the United Nations were:

- special session on disarmament from 24 May to 30 June 1978;
- the conference against racism in Geneva from 14 to 25 August 1978;
- the 33rd General Assembly, which was on 19 September 1978.

Both at the beginning and at the end of the special session on disarmament, the Nine made joint statements expressing their conviction that alternatives to the international arms race can and must be found. This must go hand in hand with efforts to eliminate the causes of tension and injustice in the world. In its statement of 7 July in Bremen, the European Council made specific mention of the final document of the special session on disarmament and expressed the hope that this theoretical framework would provide the basis for practical progress at future negotiations.

Attention was also paid to what the Nine had to say at the 33rd General Assembly of the United Nations. At the very beginning of the session on 26 September, I had honour, as President-in-Office of the Council, of presenting a comprehensive Community statement setting out the basic position of the Nine on important international questions. Both in their preparations for this session and during it, the Member States increased the coordination of their positions in all areas and strengthened their cooperation across the board in the search for universally acceptable solutions. In this context their special efforts are directed towards passing a joint policy resolution to reinforce UN peacekeeping measures and at international efforts for the protection of human rights. In a statement marking the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December, they will put forward their position on human rights.

Political questions which may require coordination with the Nine are also dealt with in the special bodies of the United Nations. At the moment there is just such an instance in Unesco where the draft of a declaration on the mass media raises fundamental questions of the freedom of thought and expression.

On 30 October before the Unesco General Conference, I stated our point of view on behalf of my country, namely that any draft which subject the mass media to State supervision or seeks to establish State responsibility for them is unacceptable to us. As the country currently assuming the Presidency, we have therefore played a significant role in the drawing up by the Nine of certain amendments.

It is important to us that in a question of this kind, which touches on the fundamental values of our conception of liberty, the Nine should defend their convictions jointly. It is especially within the United Nations that the Nine are aware of the growing interdependence in today's world.

In my Unesco speech I was able to draw attention to the basic commitment of the Nine to the principle of international partnership. The Europe of the Nine is not a merely inward-looking Community. It is the world's, and especially the Third World's longest trading partner and the largest donor of development aid.

We can see today that our example has helped the idea of regional groupings of countries with equal rights to gain ground all over the world. The Nine support this development. Their common stance before the United Nations helps to propagate this idea.

The Member States of the Community have always followed most closely and actively supported the struggle against racism and for human rights all over the world. They delivered joint statements at the International Day against Racial Discrimination on 21 March and at the opening of the United Nations World Conference Against Racial Discrimination on 15 August. On these occasions they unequivocally condemned all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

The Nine have also tried to exert their influence bilaterally in order to promote the cause of human rights. In joint representations a number of governments they expressed their concern at the human rights situation in various countries.

My predecessor in office referred in the report presented a year ago to the increasing importance of Africa for cooperation between the Nine on external policy. This tendency has become even more marked. The Nine have followed events in Southern Africa in particular most closely and with great concern. What is happening there, and also in Zaire and in the Horn of Africa has constantly been at the centre of discussions at all levels of political cooperation.

On several occasions the Nine have jointly stated their position on the problems of Africa. In doing so they have always made it clear to all involved that they support peaceful solutions, i.e. solutions achieved through negotiation. They have repeatedly said that they are willing to help to bring about these solutions by means of increased economic aid.

With regard to the situation in Zaire, at the European Council in Bremen the Nine expressed their support for the humanitarian actions of certain Member States. They assured that country of their continued support, not least in the economic field.

The Nine continue to hope that for Zimbabwe it will prove possible, despite all the difficulties, to arrive at a

peaceful solution with the participation of all the parties involved. They remain convinced that the British-American Rhodesia plan offers the most realistic chance of ensuring that country's peaceful transition to independence. To this end they make use of every opportunity to convince those directly and indirectly involved of the need for a speedy, mutually agreed solution to the conflict and to persuade them to take part in a multilateral conference.

With regard to Namibia, the Nine have from the outset supported the initiative of the Western members of the Security Council for a peaceful transition. This position was unequivocally stated both at the meeting of the European Council in Bremen on 6 and 7 July and in a statement by the Foreign Ministers on 25 July. I also expressed this position of the Nine in a letter to Secretary-General of the UN on the occasion of the Namibia conference in August. All these statements were based on the hope that the initiative of the Western Members of the Security Council would be successful. When these proposals were accepted by all the parties involved in July, there was every reason to be hopeful. We are therefore all the more shocked to hear of the South African Government's decision to hold elections in Namibia without the participation of the United Nations. The Nine supported the appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General for continued efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Namibia conflict on the basis of the Waldheim report.

They have also made an urgent appeal to the South African Government to consider the wide-ranging consequences of a rejection of the West's Namibia plan. The Nine will therefore continue to bring their joint influence to bear in opening the way, even at this stage, to a peaceful transition in Namibia.

The Member States of the Community will not cease to urge South Africa to change its system of apartheid peacefully and rapidly. This system, like any other kind of racial discrimination, contradicts in all its aspects the basic convictions of Europeans. Only if South Africa guarantees human rights for all its citizens and enables them to live together as equals can the country look forward to a peaceful future.

The Nine are bringing all their influence to bear to bring about this change.

The code of conduct for firms with subsidiaries, branches or agencies in South Africa, which was adopted on 20 September last year, is an important step towards this goal. We must now wait for the first reports by the

firms concerned on the progress made in the application of this code of conduct, which are due to be submitted and examined before the end of this year. The Nine will continue their efforts to persuade other countries to follow their example. For this purpose a meeting with representatives of the other OECD member countries has been called on 17 November in Bonn with a view to these countries' adopting the code of conduct.

With regard to the decision by the United Nations Security Council on an arms embargo on South Africa, the Member States of the Community have supported this decision from the outset and are strictly complying with it.

Over the past year. Mr President, the attention of the Nine, like that of the whole world, has also been fixed on the Middle East. President Sadat's courageous initiative gave the Nine special grounds for hoping that the way was open for practical, peaceful solutions, and in their statement of 22 November last year they expressly welcomed his journey to Jerusalem and the resulting dialogue between Egypt and Israel. Similarly, they also paid tribute to the outcome of the Camp David Conference in a statement by the Foreign Ministers in September this year and congratulated those involved on the courage which had made this outcome possible. These joint statements reflect the continuing validity of the basic principles on which their attitude towards a peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict is based as laid down in the European Council statement of 29 June 1977.

The Member States of the Community have followed the situation in the Lebanon with great concern. As early as April this year the European Council expressed its deep concern at the tragic events in that country. In this statement the Nine stressed their support for the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Lebanon. Later, in their statement of 6 July, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine demanded the immediate cessation of hostilities and called on all parties involved to support President Sarkis. The Member States of the Community continued to be deeply concerned at the current situation, which threatens not only the existence of the Lebanon but also the stability of the whole region. They particularly emphasized this in their recent statement of 23 October. They appeal to all those with any influence on the events in the Lebanon to be mindful of their responsibility for peace and express the hope that all the parties involved will actively help to strengthen the authority of the Lebanese Government throughout the country as demanded in the UN Security Council resolutions on the

Lebanon. Any party which breaks the cease-fire must be aware of its responsibility for the consequences before the eyes of the whole world.

With regard to the Euro-Arab dialogue, the third sitting of the General Committee in October last year gave grounds for optimism with regard to the future of the dialogue.

However, the Euro-Arab dialogue was affected by certain delays which were the result of developments in the internal relations between the Arab partners. Technical work is nevertheless being continued. Another meeting of the General Committee, planned for February this year, did not take place, and so hopes for the impetus needed to revive the dialogue came to nothing. Since then the Nine have repeatedly stated their view that it is very important for the continued existence of the Euro-Arab dialogue that there should soon be a meeting of the General Committee. They therefore welcomed the recent invitation from the Arab side to attend a meeting of the General Committee in Damascus, to be held in December of this year. This strengthens our hope that in the coming year the Euro-Arab dialogue will devote itself more intensively to its tasks.

Last year political cooperation also dealt more thoroughly with the political situation in Asia and the relations of the Nine with Asian countries than had previously been the case.

The fact that in Brussels next week the first conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Community and the ASEAN countries is due to take place is a practical example of these efforts. This conference has been prepared with great care by both sides, and on the European side the institutions both of the Community itself and of political cooperation have been involved in it. We knew from the outset that the ASEAN countries were also very interested in a political dialogue. This is in keeping with the view on the European side that this important meeting should not be confined to economic questions only. This weighting of the subjects to be covered by this meeting demonstrates the interest which the nine Community countries and the ASEAN countries, as regional groupings, have in each other. On the European side we wish in this way to pay tribute to the role of the ASEAN as a stabilizing factor in South East Asia.

We also regard this conference with the ASEAN countries as a contribution to the widening of mutual relations. I am convinced that the conference will also provide an opportunity to put forward European views on

problems involving refugees in Indochina. All in all I am sure that this conference will do a great deal to strengthen mutual relations and, in the context of political cooperation, will be the starting point for giving increased attention to political developments in Asia and relations with ASEAN.

Mr President, in March this year the follow-up meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe came to an end in Belgrade. In a joint declaration at the end of the meeting the Nine stressed their intention to continue playing an active role in the process begun in Helsinki. Joint work on the subject—also with a view to the next follow-up meeting planned for 1980 in Madrid—is already under way. There was a meeting of experts in Bonn from 20 June to 28 July to do the preparatory work for the Scientific Forum to be held in Hamburg on 18 February 1980.

On 31 October in Montreux the meeting of experts on the peaceful settlement of disputes began. In February next year a meeting of experts on the Mediterranean region is to be held in Valletta. To a very great extent the Nine coordinate their approach in all these areas in joint preliminary work.

In May and June the Member States of the Community expressed in a joint statement their deep concern that the process begun by the CSCE was being jeopardized by the conviction of human rights supporters in the Soviet Union and other East European countries. As signatories to the Final Act they claim the right to urge that human rights, basic freedoms and all the other basic principles laid down in the Final Act be respected by all their fellow signatories. The Nine will continue to strive for a balanced implementation of the Final Act and will not lose sight of this aim during their intensive preparations for the Madrid meeting.

As part of political cooperation the Member States of the Community have continued their efforts to combat terrorism.

On the basis of a draft agreement, drawn up by a group of senior officials from the Ministers of Justice, on the implementation of the European Anti-Terrorist Convention between the Member States of the Community, the Ministers of Justice of the Nine decided at their meeting on 10 October to initial the agreement and to recommend its ratification in the Member States.

At the same time further attention was given to the French proposal for the creation of a European judicial area for criminal prosecution, and as a first step in this

direction work was continued on a general extradition agreement for all serious criminal offences. The Ministers of the Interior of the Member States continued their cooperation in all areas of internal security. Their meeting on 30 November in Bonn will deal with the results obtained by the working party of senior officials commissioned by them.

*

Mr President, ladies and gentlemen, it is becoming increasingly important for the Nine to have a coordinated external policy. In the years to come it will be our task to increase the scope and effectiveness of this joint approach.

When the Nine speak with one voice, it is a daily reminder to the world that European union is coming closer. The international political influence of each Member State is increased by this common approach. In this strife-torn world the interests of Europeans are clear: the ideal of a liberal, democratic order. Europe must be determined to stand up for these ideals together. The same applies to the ideal of peace. For all Europeans war has ceased to be an instrument of policy. The more unified they are, the more effectively will Europeans cope with the task of preserving peace. At the same time we wish to hold political cooperation in Europe up as an example of how countries in a particular region can work together in partnership, equality and solidarity.

The basic principle of Europe is the participation of all Member States in the formulation of common policy by accommodating—and not subordinating—the interests of each one in a broad whole. By virtue of its guiding idea and its basic structure, the Europe of the Nine is thus designed to lead the way to a world of universal partnership.

5. Future development of the common agricultural policy

Commission Communication of 29 November for the European Council in Brussels

3.5.1. The complete text of the Commission Communication of 29 November to the European Council of 4 and 5 December in Brussels is as follows:

‘1. At the meeting of the European Council in Bremen on 6 and 7 July 1978, the Commission was asked to give “its reflections on the future development of the common agricultural policy, with a view to reducing surpluses which should lead to a better balance of expenditure within the Community budget.”

2. *The common agricultural policy is and always has been a cornerstone in the construction of the Community.* Its objectives, as defined in Article 39 of the Treaty of Rome, have lost none of their validity. The common agricultural policy has created the conditions of a common market for agricultural commodities; it is based on three fundamental principles: unity of the market (through common prices); Community preference (mainly through variable levies); and financial solidarity (through the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund). It ensures security of food supplies to some 260 million consumers while stabilizing agricultural markets and protecting the incomes of more than 8 million farmers. It is also a major factor in world trade. Its political, economic and social consequences range far beyond agriculture. In addition the way in which its budget is borne by the Community rather than by member governments has been an engine of European integration.

3. *In recent years the application of the common agricultural policy has met with serious difficulties.* It faces three fundamental problems. First, the imbalance between supply and demand in several major agricultural markets is worsening. Secondly, income disparities within the agricultural sector remain substantial. Thirdly, monetary upheavals have disrupted the common agricultural market. By itself the common agricultural policy cannot solve the agri-monetary problem. It can only partially help to eliminate income disparities. But it must accept the overall responsibility for restoring market equilibrium.

4. *The imbalance between supply and demand in several major agricultural markets is worsening.* Structural surpluses exist for milk and sugar. In 1978 milk production is expected to increase by 3.5 million tonnes and expenditure in this respect will amount to 3 200 million European units of account. As for sugar, for the second year running the Community will be left with a surplus

equal to more than a quarter of its domestic production. This should be taken into account in the proposals for the sugar beet quota in 1979, and in the review of the quota as such in 1980. There are actual or potential difficulties for wine, olive oil and some tobacco varieties; some difficulties could be aggravated by the possible enlargement of the Community. The market balance for cereals could be threatened by record harvests in the Community and by increasing imports of competing products.

These increasing imbalances are due to a certain number of factors. A rapidly growing productivity leads to an explosion of production; this evolution is encouraged by the level and the unlimited nature of price support. Internal consumption is stagnating, while export opportunities are limited. The problem is aggravated by such extraneous factors as certain import obligations (for example, 1.4 million tonnes of ACP sugar, and 120 000 tonnes of New Zealand butter), low levels of protection against imported animal feed (for example tapioca and soya), the use of such substitutes as margarine for butter and other vegetable oils for olive oil, and the fiscal policies of some Member States (for example excise duties on wine).

5. *Incomes disparities within the agricultural sector remain substantial.* The second major difficulty arises from the continuing regional disparities between agricultural incomes and between the yield on different sorts of production (incomes from arable farming are twice those in livestock farming). At present three-quarters of the farms in the Community produce only a quarter of its output. Incomes disparities are due to numerous factors, some of which are of long standing. The problem goes much wider than the common agricultural policy. But the implementation of the Mediterranean package and the measures for Western Ireland will be a step in the right direction. No policy of structural reform could succeed in isolation. It must form part of a determined programme of regional and social development.

6. The third major difficulty arises from *the monetary upheavals which have disrupted the common agricultural market.* The system of monetary compensatory amounts and green rates, which has been introduced to cope with their effects on agriculture, has, by eliminating the normal consequences of exchange rate changes and generating artificial distortions in competition, led to a virtual isolation of the agricultural sector within the Community economy as a whole. The continuation of the system jeopardizes the common agricultural policy itself.

7. For balance of payments reasons the Community must preserve its traditional exports to world markets and conduct an effective export policy, using, among other things, the export restitution system. However, such a policy must not hamper the necessary discipline on world markets; it must take account of the limited nature of new world outlets and of the impossibility of solving surplus problems by increasing exports.

8. *The expenditure* in the Community budget on agriculture is now around 8 700 million European units of account (70% of the budget, in the absence of Community financial responsibility for other major areas). An important part of the total expenditure on agriculture is used for surplus production and for monetary compensatory amounts. The growing discrepancy between Community and world market prices makes export refunds more expensive. A better balance of expenditure would depend on measures taken to solve these problems.

9. The Commission asks the European Council to endorse the following guidelines for future policy. These guidelines should be seen in the framework of the 1979/80 price package which the Commission will shortly put forward.

a. *Prices: The Commission believes that a rigorous price policy is essential so long as major market imbalances exist.* It will propose a general price freeze for the 1979/80 marketing year. It considers that the general income situation of the farming community does not preclude such a price policy.

b. *Milk: The biggest single problem is in the milk sector.* From the beginning of the 1979/80 marketing year, *the Commission proposes that any increase in milk production would automatically induce either a reduction in intervention prices or an increase in the coresponsibility levy in the milk sector.* The coresponsibility levy would make additional funds available for financing key elements of our milk policy. Unbearable income effects would be alleviated by a selective scheme of income subsidies for small farmers without alternatives.

c. *Structural policy: Existing structural directives should be strengthened and adapted to take better account of regional needs, specific market difficulties, and the changing economic environment.* The structural policy must go hand in hand with the prices policy. The set of measures which has already been approved for the Mediterranean areas and Western Ireland would be complemented by other specific regional actions. If and where necessary, selective income subsidies for small farmers could also be used in sectors other than milk.

10. The Commission welcomes the introduction of a European Monetary System (EMS) and has already presented proposals to the Council to adapt the mechanisms of the common agricultural policy to it. The introduction of the new system does not mean that the present price differences in Member States will disappear. But the Commission urges the European Council to agree that the *Community should dismantle systematically all existing monetary compensatory amounts* once the European Monetary System has been fully established and become effective, taking account, where necessary, of compensations to producers or consumers.

11. The Commission believes that alongside the restoration of market equilibrium and dismantling of monetary compensatory amounts there would be a *reduction in the expenditure on agriculture*. This involves some provision of funds for transitional expenditure to alleviate the social consequences.

12. The Commission believes that the Community has an immense interest in the long-term stability of international trade in agricultural commodities. It should work towards this end through *new consultative arrangements in the current multilateral trade negotiations*, while insisting on full reciprocity and equality of obligations with our partners.

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Enkeltudgivelser – Einzelveröffentlichungen Non-periodicals – Isolés – Non periodici – Eenmalig

1

Intet offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung /
No publications / Pas de parution /
Nessuna pubblicazione / Niets verschenen

*) CC-AB-78-013-EN-C

The People's Republic of China and the European Community.

Europe information: External Relations 13/78.
September 1978.

Gratis

2

Intet offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung /
No publications / Pas de parution /
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*) CC-AB-78-013-FR-C

La république populaire de Chine et la Communauté européenne.

Europe information: Relations extérieures 13/78.
Septembre 1978.

Gratuit

3

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
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*) CB-AK-78-014-FR-C ISSN 0378-4428

Bibliographie sur les relations de la Communauté avec les pays du bassin méditerranéen.

Bulletin de renseignement documentaire n° B/14.
Juillet 1978.

1978. 129 p. (FR).

BFR 40	DKR 6,50	DM 2,50	FF 5,50
LIT 950	HFL 2,75	UKL 0.65	USD 1.15

*) CC-AB-78-013-IT-C

La Repubblica popolare cinese e la Comunità europea.

Europa informazione: Relazioni esterne 13/78.

Settembre 1978.

Gratuito

*) CC-AB-78-013-NL-C

De Volksrepubliek China en de Europese Gemeenschap.

Europa informatie: Buitenlandse betrekkingen 13/78.
September 1978.

1978. 15 p.

(DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

Gratis

*) CC-AB-78-014-DA-C

Grækenland og Det europæiske Fællesskab.

Europa information: Forbindelser med tredjelande 14/78.

September 1978.

Gratis

*) CC-AB-78-014-DE-C

Griechenland und die Europäische Gemeinschaft.

Europa information: Auswärtige Beziehungen 14/78.

September 1978.

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*) CC-AB-78-014-EN-C

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COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

*) CB-AK-78-014-FR-C ISSN 0378-4428

Bibliographie sur les relations de la Communauté avec les pays du bassin méditerranéen.

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Juillet 1978.

1978. 129 p. (FR).

BFR 40	DKR 6,50	DM 2,50	FF 5,50
LIT 950	HFL 2,75	UKL 0.65	USD 1.15

*) CC-AB-78-013-DA-C

Den kinesiske Folkerepublik og De europæiske Fællesskaber.

Europa information: Forbindelser med tredjelande 13/78.
September 1978.

Gratis

*) CC-AB-78-013-DE-C

Die Volksrepublik China und die Europäische Gemeinschaft.

Europa information: Auswärtige Beziehungen 13/78.

September 1978.

Gratis

*) CC-AB-78-014-FR-C

La Grèce et la Communauté européenne.

Europe information: Relations extérieures 14/78.

Septembre 1978.

Gratuit

*) CC-AB-78-014-IT-C

La Grecia e la Comunità europea.

Europa informazione: Relazioni esterne 14/78.

Settembre 1978.

Gratuito

*) CC-AB-78-014-NL-C
Griekenland en de Europese Gemeenschap.
 Europa informatie: Buitenlandse betrekkingen 14/78.
 September 1978.
 1978. 7 p. Gratis
 (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL)

5

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
 COMMISSION - COMMISSIONE - COMMISSIE

*) CB-NF-78-007-DA-C ISBN 92-825-0600-2
Gradvis oprettelse af ligevægt på vinmarkedet.
 Handlingsprogram 1979-1985 og rapport fra Kom-
 missionen.
 Suppl. 7/78 — EF-Bull.
 1978. 46 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0601-0
Schrittweise Stabilisierung des Weinmarktes. Aktions-
 programm 1979-1985 und Bericht der Kommission.
 Beilage 7/78 — Bull. EG.
 1978. 52 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0602-9
**Progressive establishment of balance on the market
 in wine.** Action programme 1979-1985 and report
 from the Commission.
 Bulletin of the EC, suppl. 7/78.
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*) CB-NF-78-007-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0603-7
**Établissement progressif de l'équilibre sur le marché
 viti-vinicole.** Programme d'action 1979-1985 et rapport
 de la Commission.
 Bull. CE — Suppl. 7/78.
 1978. 50 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0604-5
**Instaurazione progressiva dell'equilibrio sul mer-
 cato vitivinicolo.** Programma d'azione 1979-1985 e
 relazione della Commissione.
 Bollettino delle CE, suppl. 7/78.
 1978. 50 p.

*) CB-NF-78-07-NL-C ISBN 92-825-0605-3
**Geleidelijk herstel van het evenwicht op de wijn-
 markt.** Actieprogramma 1979-1985 en verslag van
 de Commissie.
 Bulletin van de EG, Suppl. 7/78.
 1978. 44 p.
 (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL).

BFR 75 DKR 12 DM 5,10 FF 10,50
 LIT 1 800 HFL 5,25 UKL 1.20 USD 2.10

*) CB-NK-78-001-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0475-1
**Synoptic tables of the specific measures taken by
 the Member States of the European Communities
 in the field of commerce.**
 Studies: Series Commerce and distribution no 3. Sep-
 tember 1977.
 1978. 160 p.

*) CB-NK-78-001-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0407-7
**Tavole sinottiche dei provvedimenti specifici adot-
 tati dagli Stati membri delle Comunità europee nel
 settore del commercio.**
 Studi: Serie commercio e distribuzione n. 3. Settembre
 1977.
 1978. 162 p.

*) CB-NK-78-003-NL-C ISBN 92-825-0408-5
**Overzichtstabellen van de specifieke maatregelen
 van de Lid-Staten van de Europese Gemeenschap-
 pen inzake handel.**
 Studies: Serie handel en distributie nr. 3. September
 1977.
 1978. 164 p.
 (DE.EN.FR.IT.NL).
 BFR 200 DKR 34,50 DM 12,80 FF 28
 LIT 5 250 HFL 13,80 UKL 3.40 USD 6

*) CB-NU-78-002-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0316-X
**Étude sur la construction électrique grand public
 et sa distribution en France.** Vol. 1: Évolution de la
 concentration dans l'industrie de la construction
 électrique grand public. Par le Prof. J. Lebraty, MM.
 A. Chiavelli et M. Rainelli, CERME Bruxelles. Mars
 1978.
 Série évolution de la concentration et de la concu-
 rence n° 2-1978.
 1978. 306 p. (FR).
 BFR 275 DKR 47,50 DM 17,50 FF 39
 LIT 7 200 HFL 18,80 UKL 4.60 USD 8.40

*) CB-NU-78-008-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0542-1
**Étude sur la concentration, les prix et les marges
 dans la distribution de produits alimentaires.** Tome
 2: Évolution de la concentration et des prix dans la
 distribution alimentaire en France. Par G. Gherzi, M.C.
 Allaya et M. Allaya, Institut agronomique méditerranéen
 de Montpellier (IAM). Septembre 1978.
 Série: Évolution de la concentration et de la concurrence
 n° B 8-1978.
 1978. 264 p. (FR).
 BFR 275 DKR 47,50 DM 17,50 FF 39
 LIT 7 200 HFL 18,80 UKL 4.60 USD 8.40

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CA-24-78-936-6A-C ISBN 92-825-0515-4
Betalingsbalanser. Samlede angivelser 1970-1977.
 Juli 1978.
Zahlungsbilanzen. Gesamtangaben 1970-1977.
 Juli 1978.
Balances of payments. Global data 1970-1977.
 July 1978.

Balances des paiements. Données globales 1970-1977. Juillet 1978.

Bilancio dei pagamenti. Dati globali 1970-1977. Luglio 1978.

Betalingsbalansen. Totale cijfers 1970-1977.

Juli 1978.

1978. 118 p.

(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL).

BFR 300	DKR 52	DM 19	FF 42
LIT 7 900	HFL 20,50	UKL 5	USD 9.15

7

KOMMISSIONEN - KOMMISSION - COMMISSION
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CA-24-78-710-6A-C ISBN 92-825-0504-9

Beskæftigelse og arbejdsløshed 1971-1977.

Juli 1978.

Beschäftigung und Arbeitslosigkeit 1971-1977.

Juli 1978.

Employment and unemployment 1971-1977.

July 1978.

Emploi et chômage 1971-1977.

Juillet 1978.

Occupazione e disoccupazione 1971-1977.

Luglio 1978.

Werkgelegenheid en werkloosheid 1971-1977.

Juli 1978.

1978. 222 p.

(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL).

BFR 500	DKR 86	DM 32	FF 70
LIT 13 200	HFL 34	UKL 8.50	USD 16

*) CB-NN-77-033-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0156-6

L'apprentissage en Irlande. Par M. Th. McCarthy.

Études: Série politique sociale n° 33. Juillet 1976.

1978. 88 p. (EN,FR).

BFR 110	DKR 18	DM 7	FF 15
LIT 2 650	HFL 7,50	UKL 1.80	USD 3

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CD-NC-78-044-EN-C

Spectral analysis on liquid steel. Method of measurement and analysis. By A. Wittmann, R. Gatti, G. Nevez, Institut de recherches de la sidérurgie française, St. Germain-en-Laye. Convention n° 6210-60/0/79. Final report.

Steel research reports. 1977. EUR 5858.

1978. 51 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NC-78-062-EN-C

Transformation of cold-formed thin steel elements. Rolling mills and transformation. By G.m.f.K.

Düsseldorf — Sercom, Liège — C.T.I.C.M. Puteaux — Breda, Milano. Convention n° 6210-33. Final Report. Steel research reports. 1978. EUR 5129.

1978. 37 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NC-78-068-FR-C

Influence du bore sur la trempabilité et la microstructure d'aciers Fe-NiCO. 12. Par Ph. Maitrepierre, IRSID, Saint-Germain-en Laye. Convention n° 6210-61/400. Rapport final. Recueil de recherches « Acier ». 1978. EUR 6056.

1978. 50 p. (FR).

Seulement disponible en microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NC-78-069-DE-C

Entwicklung und Erprobung von verfahrenstechnischen Möglichkeiten zur Vergleichmäßigung des Schmelzergebnisses von Kupolöfen. Institut für Gießereitechnik. Forschungsvertrag Nr. 6210-87/1/101. Abschlußbericht.

Forschungshefte „Stahl“. 1978. EUR 5991.

1978. 140 p. (DE).

Nur in Mikroform erhältlich:

BFR 180	DKR 32	DM 11,60	FF 27,20
LIT 5 000	HFL 12,40	UKL 3	USD 5.80

CD-NC-78-063-EN-C

Machinability of steels. Properties of steel in use. By Technische Hochschule, Aachen. Convention n° 6210-44/1/011. Final report.

Steel research reports. 1978. EUR 5132.

1978. 41 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NC-78-065-DE-C

Ermittlung der Bruchzähigkeit mit Hilfe von Reißaufweitungsmessungen. Von W. Dahl, W.-B. Kretschmann, H.C. Zeislmair, Institut für Eisenhüttenkunde der Rheinisch-Westfälischen Technischen Hochschule, Aachen. Forschungsvertrag Nr. 6210-KE-1-102. Abschlußbericht.

Forschungshefte „Stahl“. 1978. EUR 5988.

1978. 128 p. (DE).

Nur in Mikroform erhältlich:

BFR 180	DKR 32	DM 11,60	FF 27,20
LIT 5 000	HFL 12,40	UKL 3	USD 5.80

CD-NC-78-066-FR-C

Application des traitements thermomécaniques à haute température aux aciers soudables. Par A. Le Bon, C. Rossard, IRSID, Saint-Germain-en-Laye. Convention n° 6210-61/100. Rapport final.

Recueil de recherches « Acier ». 1978. EUR 6055.

1978. 74 p. (FR).

Seulement disponible en microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NC-78-067-FR-C

Contre-flexion des cylindres de laminoir. Par D. Doubel, G. Dolle, G. Haralamb, B. Letemps, P. Ratte, IRSID, Saint-Germain-en-Laye. Convention n° 6210-71/3/031. Rapport final.

Recueil de recherches « Acier ». 1978. EUR 6052.

1978. 96 p. (FR).

Seulement disponible en microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

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CA-24-78-904-3A-C

ISBN 92-825-0546-4

Kohlestatistik 1977. September 1978.

Coal Statistics 1977. September 1978.

Statistiques du charbon 1977. Septembre 1978.

1978. 82 p. (DE/EN/FR).

BFR 150	DKR 26	DM 9,60	FF 21
LIT 4 000	HFL 10	UKL 2.50	USD 50

CD-NB-77-050-FR-C

Application de la mécanique des terrains à la conduite des travaux miniers. Par CERCHAR, Paris. Convention n° 6220-AD/3/303. Rapport final.

Recueil de recherches « Charbon ». 1977. EUR 5829.

1978. 29 p. (FR).

Seulement disponible en microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

CD-NB-78-064-DE-C

Gebirgsverfestigung. Steinkohlenbergbauverein, Essen.

Vertrag Nr. 6220-AB/1/102. Abschlußbericht.

Forschungsheft „Kohle“. 1978. EUR 5984.

1978. 134 p. (DE).

Nur in Mikroform erhältlich:

BFR 180	DKR 32	DM 11,60	FF 27,20
LIT 5 000	HFL 12,40	UKL 3	USD 5.80

EUR 6044

Theoretical studies on the utilization of reciprocal salt pairs for solar heat storage. By F.W. Reiter.

Joint Research Centre, Ispra Establishment, Italy. Energy.

1978. EUR 6044.

1978. 37 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

EUR 6062

Energy requirement for north sea oil by secondary and tertiary production methods. By R.J. Peckham,

J.K. Klitz. Joint Research Centre, Ispra Establishment,

Italy. Energy. 1978. EUR 6062.

1978. 14 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

EUR 6092

The separation of H₂SO₄ and H₂ throughout the bunsen reaction as a step in thermochemical cycles for hydrogen production. By G. Pierini and B. Spelta.

Joint Research Centre, Ispra Establishment, Italy.

Energy. 1978. EUR 6092.

1978. 35 p. (EN).

Only available as microfiche:

BFR 90	DKR 16	DM 5,80	FF 13,60
LIT 2 500	HFL 6,20	UKL 1.50	USD 2.90

10

Intet offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung /

No publications / Pas de parution /

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11

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CA-24-77-051-6A-C

ISBN 92-825-0523-5

Fiskeri — Fiskeriprodukter og fiskeriflåden 1974-1975. Juli 1978.

Fischerei — Fischwaren und Fischereiflotten 1974-1975. Juli 1978.

Fisheries — Fishery products and fishing fleet 1974-1975. July 1978.

Pêche — Produits et flotte de la pêche 1974-1975. Juillet 1978.

Pesca — Prodotti e naviglio della pesca 1974-1975. Luglio 1978.

Visserij — Visserijprodukten en vloot 1974-1975. Juli 1978.

1978. 134 p.

(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL).

BFR 500	DKR 88	DM 32,25	FF 72
LIT 13 650	HFL 34,80	UKL 8	USD 15.50

*) CB-NA-78-047-FR-C

ISBN 92-825-0500-6

L'épandage des effluents d'élevage sur les sols agricoles dans la CE. I. Bases scientifiques pour une limitation des épandages et critères pour des dispositions réglementaires.

Informations sur l'agriculture n° 47. Janvier 1978.

1978. 188 p.

*) CB-NA-78-047-NL-C

ISBN 92-825-0501-4

De mest- en giersverspreiding op landbouwgrond in de EG. I. Wetenschappelijke basis voor het beperken van de verspreiding en criteria voor regulerende maatregelen. Informatie over landbouw nr. 47. Januari 1978.

1978. 162 p. (EN,FR,NL).

BFR 175	DKR 30,20	DM 11,20	FF 24,60
LIT 4 600	HFL 12	UKL 3	USD 5.50

*) CB-NF-78-007-DA-C

ISBN 92-825-0600-2

Gradvis oprettelse af ligevægt på vinmarkedet. Handlingsprogram 1979-1985 og rapport fra Kommissionen. Suppl. 7/78 —EF-Bull.

1978. 46 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-DE-C ISBN 92-825-0601-0
Schrittweise Stabilisierung des Weinmarktes. Aktionsprogramm 1979-1985 und Bericht der Kommission. Beilage 7/78. — Bull. EG. 1978. 52 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0602-9
Progressive establishment of balance on the market in wine. Action programme 1979-1985 and report from the Commission. Bulletin of the EC, suppl. 7/78. 1978. 44 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-FR-C ISBN 92-825-0603-7
Établissement progressif de l'équilibre sur le marché viti-vinicole. Programme d'action 1979-1985 et rapport de la Commission. Bull. CE — Suppl. 7/78. 1978. 50 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-IT-C ISBN 92-825-0604-5
Instaurazione progressiva dell'equilibrio sul mercato vitivinicolo. Programma d'azione 1979-1985 e relazione della Commissione. Bollettino delle CE, suppl. 7/78. 1978. 50 p.

*) CB-NF-78-007-NK-C ISBN 92-825-0605-3
Geleidelijk herstel van het evenwicht op de wijnmarkt. Actieprogramma 1979-1985 en verslag van de Commissie. Bulletin van de EG, Suppl. 7/78. 1978. 44 p.
 (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL).
 BFR 75 DKR 12 DM 5,10 FF 10,50
 LIT 1 800 HFL 5,25 UKL 1.20 USD 2.10

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Intet offentliggjort / Keine Veröffentlichung /
 No publications / Pas de parution /
 Nessuna pubblicazione / Niets verschenen

13

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14

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CD-NA-78-007-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0537-5
Multiple controllers in a CAMAC crate. Joint Research Centre, ESONE Committee. Physical sciences. 1978. EUR 6500.
 1978. 36 p. (EN).
 BFR 120 DKR 20,70 DM 7,60 FF 16,80
 LIT 3 150 HFL 8,20 UKL 2 USD 4

CD-NI-78-002-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0557-X
Production of biological catalysts, stabilization and exploitation. By D. Thomas, laboratoire de technologie enzymatique, Université de technologie de Compiègne, France. Study Contract No 345-77-7. Biological sciences. 1978. EUR 6079.
 1978. 230 p. (EN).
 BFR 800 DKR 140 DM 51 FF 112,80
 LIT 21 400 HFL 55 UKL 13.20 USD 26

CD-NO-78-011-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0528-6
Study of the techniques for the determination of the enteric viruses. Part I: The viruses in drinking-water. Part II: The protozoa in water. By Mme S. De Mayer, Institut d'Hygiène et d'Épidémiologie, Bruxelles. Environment and quality of life. 1978. EUR 6029.
 1978. 126 p. (EN).
 BFR 450 DKR 78,30 DM 28,60 FF 62
 LIT 11 850 HFL 31 UKL 7.50 USD 14

CD-NO-78-013-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0529-4
On the future average mercury content of air, soil and river sediments in the EEC and in the world's oceans. By R.H. Van Enk. Joint Research Centre, Ispra Establishment, Italy. Environment and quality of life. 1978. EUR 6023.
 1978. 54 p. (EN).
 BFR 250 DKR 43,50 DM 16 FF 34,50
 LIT 6 600 HFL 17,20 UKL 4.20 USD 7.80

CD-NO-78-018-EN-C ISBN 92-825-0530-8
Report of a feasibility study on the distribution and use of simulated water samples for comparative bacteriological analysis. By G.I. Barrow and D.C. Miller, Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro and, R.D. Gray and G.H. Lowe, Public Health Laboratory, Newport. Environment and quality of life. 1978. EUR 6037.
 1978. 50 p. (EN).
 BFR 365 DKR 63 DM 23,25 FF 51,30
 LIT 9 600 HFL 25 UKL 6 USD 11.50

CD-NB-77-050-FR-C
Application de la mécanique des terrains à la conduite des travaux miniers. Par CERCHAR, Paris. Convention n° 6220-AD/3/303. Rapport final. Recueil de recherches « Charbon ». 1977. EUR 5829.
 1978. 29 p. (FR).
 Seulement disponible en microfiche:
 BFR 90 DKR 16 DM 5,80 FF 13,60
 LIT 2 500 HFL 6,20 UKL 1.50 USD 2,90

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Études: Série éducation n° 3. Septembre 1976. 1978. 92 p. (FR).

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Betalingsbalancer. Samlede angivelser 1970-1977. Juli 1978.

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(DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL).

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Kohlestistik 1977. September 1978.

Coal Statistics 1977. September 1978.

Statistiques du charbon 1977.

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 LIT 4 000 HFL 10 UKL 2.50 USD 5

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Europa en het onderwijs.

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Resultaten van de conjunctuurenquête bij het bedrijfsleven in
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Selling prices of animal products
Prix de vente de produits animaux
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Agrarmärkte - Serie Preise: Tierische Produkte
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BFR 1 650	DKR 270,50	DM 105	FF 221,50	} A + B
LIT 39 300	HFL 112	UKL 26.40	USD 45.50	

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