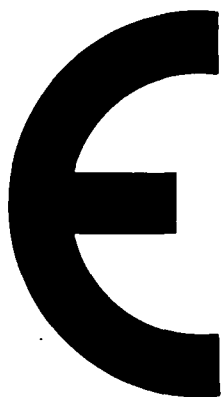


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PART ONE

SPECIAL FEATURES

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

ECU = European currency unit

BFR = Belgische frank / Franc belge

DKR = Dansk krone

DM = Deutsche Mark

DR = Greek drachma

FF = Franc français

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

IRL = Irish pound / punt

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

LIT = Lira italiana

UKL = Pound sterling

USD = United States dollar

The Athens European Council

1.1.1. Despite intense preparations during the six months between the Stuttgart and Athens European Councils, the 10 Heads of State or Government, meeting in Athens on 4 December, broke up two days later without achieving any progress on any of the Community's vital problems.

They failed to reconcile their differences over the reform of the common agricultural policy, thus stalemating any possibility of decision on revitalizing the Community and the accession of Spain and Portugal.

At his final press conference Mr Andreas Papandreou, who chaired the meeting, announced that no communiqué and no statement on political cooperation would be issued, saying:

'We felt that in view of the failure, it would not be worthy of the seriousness of the moment or of the Commission or the Council to make political proclamations. That would have simply betrayed our nakedness...'

1.1.2. After presenting his colleagues with a final draft compromise on 6 December, Mr Papandreou had to admit that the meeting was a failure and that nothing positive had been achieved by the discussions. At his conference he made the following comments:

'I do not intend to attribute the responsibility to any one country. But I must tell you that what struck me most is that we failed to secure unanimity on any of the subjects which relate to the Community's economic activity...'

And now about the proposals I made. There is a proposal for a new Messina, for a new beginning. I do not know whether anything will come of it. We agreed, though, that all the issues which remained open will be resolved by the new Presidency, which takes over on 1 January—the French Presidency. We wish it luck and hope that it will succeed where we failed...'

Answering journalists' questions, Mr Papandreou said:

'What I know is that if the French Presidency too, does not manage to find answers to the vital problems of the continent, then the end of the Community would be in sight'

Mr François Mitterrand said that Europe now knew for sure that it was in a crisis; they must now make the best of it. During a press conference the French President noted that the major crisis which had long been bubbling under the surface had now boiled over; he undertook to find remedies during France's Presidency of the Community in the first half of 1984.

For this task Mr Mitterrand would be guided by a few simple principles: Europe must remain true to itself, Europe needed to clear away the detritus of the past and open up new paths. He hoped that a political resolve would carry these countries towards the goal of an all-embracing political construction, which would give a tall historical dimension to the endeavour. France would not neglect any of its European commitments and was ready to accept sacrifices and make concessions provided that the Ten honoured the obligations of the Treaty of Rome. For Europe to remain true to her ambition, he reaffirmed the 'exporting role' of European agriculture and insisted that Europe negotiate an equitable contract with the United States so as not to leave the field wide open to American products.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl declared that despite the serious breakdown at Athens, for the Federal Republic of Germany there was no alternative to the Community. He was disappointed; it was a hard knock for Europe; the Community had no future if it could not pay its way. Chancellor Kohl believed that the next European Council, due to be held in Brussels in March, with France in the chair, 'had no alternative but to succeed': it must be meticulously prepared by many bilateral meetings and contacts, for they could not afford another fiasco.

The British Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, told reporters that the Community might have to wait until it actually ran out of money before showing willingness to reform its finances; some people often got down to dealing with their problems only when they neared the brink.

The Italian Prime Minister, Mr Bettino Craxi, found that hopes for a new stimulus had been dashed and that certain unbending attitudes had finally paralysed any agreements which might reasonably have been secured. He quoted the words with which he had concluded his speech to the Council: the Community ought to have left Athens with a new burst of speed but instead had been pulled up dangerously short. Let everyone have time to prepare for a new meeting, in the knowledge that they would then be deciding the future of European integration.

The Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Wilfried Martens, believed that Athens had lacked political drive and that the procedure of special Council meetings was inadequate. He wanted to put things into constructive perspective so that the setback might provoke awareness and spur Europe into action again.

The Irish Prime Minister, Mr Garret Fitzgerald, felt that the failure to agree on the outstanding issues could only harm the Community. It implied a lack of political will, which was the most serious shortcoming at Athens.

In contrast, Mr Pierre Werner, the Luxembourg Prime Minister, thought that the débâcle might be good for Europe.

Mr Poul Schlüter, the Danish Prime Minister, regretted this setback due, as he saw it, to too many technical problems to be settled by the Ministers.

Lastly, the Dutch Prime Minister, Mr Ruud Lubbers, stressed that the breakdown was not due solely to the British problem but was also attributable to the southern European countries, which wanted a new North-South distribution of income in the Community, and to the financial difficulties of the Member States.

The only positive feature of this European Council was that the big countries, thus divided, had been unable to dominate the smaller ones.

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, said:

'The Community failed to find the consensus demanded by the economic and social crisis and the tense international situation.

We cannot escape the seriousness of this failure; but we must not minimize or dramatize it, nor try to hide it under powder and paint.

I must pay tribute to the Greek Presidency and in particular Mr Papandreou, who right up to the last minute was calmly and doggedly trying to save the day; it is certainly no fault of his or of the Presidency that we failed to do so.

Together with the Presidency we have tried everything during the last few months. But alas, as President Mitterrand put it, a lot of little things, valid and important matters, prevented us from tackling the big issues. Thoughts were on the short term, on national and sectorial interests, rather than on the Community.

Today, like yesterday and like tomorrow, solutions to the problems confronting us can only be Community solutions; the only answer can be a European one.

I hope that this setback will make the Member States aware of the need to do something. The proposals made by the Presidency, in collaboration with the Commission, remain the focus of discussion and are the only genuinely Community proposals.

Despite all the bitterness left by such a failure, the Commission as a Community institution must keep things under control, hold the Community on course and deal with the slightest hint of breakdown. We shall do our duty! At Stuttgart, it was decided to hold a major negotiation. Today, this has failed, despite our efforts; but negotiation must go on.

What matters is to know what Europe we want. It is not the Europe of moneybags and petty squabbles, but a Europe which has regained its missing cohesion and is again marching forward.'

1.1.3. After hearing a report during the evening of 6 December by Mr Thorn and Mr Ortoli on the Athens European Council, the Commission on 7 December discussed the conclusions to be drawn from the failure, and indicated the line it would take, in the following statement:

'After Athens, disappointment runs deep. The difficulties were indeed real ones. They are now even more serious. But the failure of a European Council is not the failure of the Community and even less the failure of a historic process that is to ensure the strength and prosperity of Europe.'

The Commission will shoulder its responsibilities to ensure that the Community does not slide backwards and undo what it has already achieved, that essential progress is made without delay and that the stage is set for the revitalization of the Community.

If Community achievements are to be preserved, there must be no more uncertainty to compound that engendered by the Athens European Council. The Commission hopes that everything will be done to make possible a swift decision on the adoption of the 1984 budget. As the European Council failed to adopt the proposed economy measures, the Commission will take the decisions that are within its powers and put to the Council the necessary proposals for implementing the 1984 budget.

The decisions which will enable the Community to honour its pledges—to itself, its citizens and other countries—must be taken in good time.

It would not be right for the Community to wait until it had settled all its problems before embarking on the urgent action needed for its future development. Steps must therefore be taken immediately to restore confidence and underpin economic recovery; early decisions must be reached on the Commission proposals for projects of Community interest, where any delay would jeopardize success.

The Community's obligations to certain social categories, certain industries and certain regions are unchanged.

To uphold the Community's interests the Commission will continue to discharge its responsibilities to the full in negotiations with non-member countries.

The Commission will act to ensure that the Community emerges revitalized from the crisis. What this means in the main is well known: the European dimension must be fully exploited; the Community must be afforded the resources essential to ensure its development; a lasting solution must be found for the budget problems; the common agricultural policy must be allowed to perform its role more effectively; available resources must be efficiently managed; the accession of Spain and Portugal must be made possible.

This means an end to the clash of conflicting national interests on too many single isolated issues and a return to the procedures of the Treaty, the only ones which can make the superior interest of the Community central to the debate. This will prepare the way for agreement.

Europe belongs to its citizens. And its citizens demand of their institutions that they enable the Community to achieve economic recovery and pave the way for a better future'.

1.1.4. During Parliament's December part-session, before the debate on the Athens European Council and the report on the Greek Presidency, Mr Papandreou made the following speech:

'The fact that this European Council failed was the result, not of recent and random events, but of a process of deterioration which has been going on for years, one of internal erosion and deadlock. European Councils have been taking place one after the other, each one making well-intentioned attempts to conceal the crisis with statements of good intent. The failure to face up to the crisis, however, merely helped to compound matters.

Over the past few years, scarcely anything has been achieved on a common approach to the economic crisis and to the massive unemployment which has afflicted, and is still afflicting, Europe. Combined efforts to bridge the technology gap between Europe and its main economic competitors have been negligible. Nothing of substance has been achieved in the social sector. Virtually nothing had been done to provide the Community with the cohesion it needs, especially after its successive enlargements or for the next enlargement to which we look forward. On the contrary, as you have yourselves pointed out, inequalities have increased rather than diminished within a Community which grows ever less homogeneous.

What is to blame for this inertia? I believe that in recent years Member States' reactions to any proposals have been conditioned principally by their estimates of the effects which its acceptance or rejection will have upon their contributions to or their receipts from the Community budget. It would be an exaggeration, or at least a harsh judgment, were I to say that each party has tried to shift his problems on to his neighbour. But in the mean time scope for postponement has been shrinking all the time. This is partly because runaway expenditure, much of which was and is genuinely wasteful, combined with the effects of the crisis have led to the exhaustion of the Community's own resources, and partly because, with the European elections a few months hence, all of us are obliged, or at least ought to be obliged, to say what kind of Europe we wish to see.

This was the situation when we arrived in Stuttgart.

In line with the Stuttgart mandate, the Greek Presidency has worked towards the dual objective of growth and savings. But I am bound to say that both during preparations for the Athens meeting and at the meeting itself, I had a strong impression that savings and not growth was the primary objective; that it was an end in itself, and not the expression of a need for rational use of resources.

I think I can justly say that a considerable disparity became apparent between the objectives which were set and the willingness to make available the increased means necessary for attaining them.

In particular, in the matter of an increase in own resources, there was a strong tendency to favour a very small increase which would cover no more than the needs arising from enlargement, which were in any case viewed restrictively. This was an approach which did not lead to any substantial development, which did not correspond to any of the major challenges of our time. How can we accept that it is beyond our financial means for the Community budget in 1990 to represent something more than 1% of the Community's GDP and something less than 3% of all the national budgets of the Member States taken together? Or that expenditure on new policies must not exceed the administrative expenditure of the budget? For those were the goals set for 1990, according to the proposals for the increase in own resources.

The rigorous review of budget matters, to which I referred earlier, links the creation of a dynamic Europe with the internal budget policy of each Member State. This line of thinking makes obvious the reservations which exist in certain Member States as to the possibilities and effectiveness of Community policies.

There seem to be serious doubts whether a Community policy can produce greater or better results than the sum total of national policies. This assessment, at least in some sectors, is mistaken since, for instance, total expenditure on research in the Community Member States is higher than in Japan or the United States, but to much less effect.

Behind the conflict of interests over the fixing of expenditure on milk or in other sectors there lies, I believe, a fundamentally different perception on the part of each of us regarding the Europe of tomorrow. This clash of views took on tangible form with the two different positions which were discussed with regard to budgetary discipline. One school of thought maintained that it was first necessary to determine the available resources each year before deciding on expenditure. The other gave pride of place to laying down the common policies which will ensure the cohesion of Europe (regional policy, structural policy) and the policies which will form the Community's industrial strategy. In an attempt at compromise, the Presidency suggested increasing own resources, and put forward proposals which would make it possible to take a first step, or at least a step in the right direction, towards the development of Europe.

I consider it self-evident that expenditure must be properly directed, but it must also be controlled

and thus permit a fair allocation, an allocation which take into account the need for a transfer of resources from the richer to the poorer countries. I believe, above all, with regard to the procedure for drawing up and voting on the budget, that there should in no way, either directly or indirectly, be any restriction on the powers of the European Parliament.

I should like to point out in this connection that, quite apart from whether the various discussions are concentrated on special topics and often take on a technical character, the positions of the Member States conceal their basic political choices regarding the kind of Europe which they would like to see. The arguments used reflect a first basic choice which determines the way in which each Member State looks at Europe.

The choice quite simply is this: either we are talking about a customs union, backed by a common agricultural policy and the appearance of a regional or social policy, or we are talking about a body of States with a multiplicity of needs which can only be met in the framework of common policies.

The question where the Community's resources will come from and how much they will be is a political choice linked to the question of the common needs which Community expenditure must meet.

It is clear that these needs alter with the international economic situation, the homogeneity or lack of homogeneity of the group formed by the Member States, the pressure to hasten structural adjustments in the sector of investment and new technology.

There are, however, also other choices behind the disagreements over this or that particular problem. There is the choice of a Europe which will have its own stronger identity in the face of the rest of the world, a more coherent external commercial policy, endowed with means commensurate with those which other major world commercial powers have and use.

The problem is of course wider. It goes beyond commercial policy and is directly linked to Europe's role on the world economic and monetary stage.

A third decision we were faced with at Athens concerned the so-called British problem. We all accepted that a feature of Community solidarity consists in not placing an exceptionally large burden on a country which, while its per capita income is lower than the Community average, derives a relatively small amount from expenditure under the budget because for historical reasons its agricultural production is relatively low.

The development of new policies together with the rationalization of the agricultural policy will normally speaking constitute the long-term solutions to the problem. In the meantime, however, it will be necessary in the next few years to find a just solution but one which does not undermine certain basic principles. We therefore ruled out the concept of net balances which not only give a very incomplete picture of the position of a country in the Community system but also tend in the direction of the so-called fair return (giving as much as is taken), a concept which is also unacceptable in an economic union.

Another option which I mention last, not because I feel it to be less important, but on the contrary because it is also a dimension of all the other options to which I have referred, concerns the relations between the less-developed and more-developed countries of the Community. This, without of course ignoring Ireland's geographical situation, we refer to as the North-South problem.

Today I wish to restrict myself to aspects which were discussed in the Athens talks.

In agriculture there is unequal treatment as between products from the north and those from the Mediterranean. Northern products have greater protection *vis-à-vis* non-member countries and high rates of support which together have resulted in certain cases in the creation of enormous surpluses.

The rationalization of the agricultural policy demands measures for a return to a normal situation and, in addition, measures for preventing the creation of such surpluses for other products. Is it, however, fair and reasonable, on the pretext of the need to achieve savings, to demand a reduction in EAGGF intervention where there is no danger of surpluses? And this because a certain amount of assistance is given to compensate to some degree for the lack of adequate support and for the concessions granted to non-member countries within the framework of the Community's commercial policy?

To put this more plainly, when we start out with a situation where there is unequal treatment between northern and Mediterranean products the need to reduce agricultural expenditure cannot be distributed equally between northern and southern products.

To permit the development of a true and coherent structural policy and to achieve convergence of economies and the progressive elimination of inequalities there must be a substantial increase in the resources of the structural Funds. Within that framework it is proposed that there be additional financing for the integrated Mediterranean programmes, which are absolutely necessary to counter both the structural problems caused by the

under-development of the Mediterranean regions and the negative effects of the enlargement of the Community to include the Iberian countries (Spain and Portugal), which we all fervently desire.

Finally, as regards the Community's industrial strategy, it is reasonable that it should be so structured as to benefit all the regions of the Community.

Measures will have to be taken to ensure that the less-developed regions make a real contribution to research and the transfer of technologies. At the same time those regions need support for certain branches of industry which are not in such a strong position as others.

It is inconceivable that there should be a Community in which the less-developed countries are regarded principally as markets for the industrial products of the more developed Member States.

I feel that it is now time, in order not to create false impressions as to what benefits or damage each country derives from participation in the Community, to see the extent of the effects on the balance of payments. This is because there is always a tendency to restrict ourselves to revenue and expenditure under the budget. For us in Greece the worsening of the balance of trade in the two years since full accession far outweighs any benefits we derive from the Community budget.

As regard the Greek Presidency, I believe that we fulfilled our obligations as far as possible.

If we failed to agree I do not believe this was due to a lack of technical preparation. It was due to a lack of political will and a lack of imagination.

On this point I should like to emphasize that at the Athens European Council meeting, as at previous European Councils, points arose which should have been solved and must be solved at Council or Permanent Representative level. One of the unfortunate aspects of European Councils is the tendency not to solve any problem at a lower level and to heap everything onto the Summit. For future Presidencies, I feel a precondition for the success of a Summit is for the agenda to be kept to matters of substance—that is, to the major political options and decisions, those which can be understood by the peoples of Europe.

Once the failure had become evident, we did not at any moment attempt to cover it up *vis-à-vis* a public opinion which is not much interested any more in the Community, either because it does not understand or does not believe what we tell it. The crisis of confidence which affects the attitude of our peoples towards Europe is today a matter just as grave as the crisis affecting the functioning of the Community. To mislead European public opinion or cover up the failure would have been the worst option. For that reason the Presidency

showed the impasse in its true colours and assumed the responsibility of not having discussion of the other matters which the meeting was to deal with.

I should like to state that we were, naturally, anxious that the Athens meeting be crowned with success.

Obviously its utter failure, particularly as regards the question of own resources, which is linked to the furthering of the integrated Mediterranean programmes, and on the question of reforming the structural Funds of the Community, does not at all help our attempts to solve the Community's problems. And plainly with the close of the Greek Presidency the problems will again come to the fore. However we do see something positive emerging from this turn of events.

The blatant failure of the meeting bears out as it were some of our doubts as to whether we have the political will to undertake a substantial reorganization of the Community so that its functioning is acceptable to all the Member States. We have repeatedly stressed the absolute need for certain changes, because of the lack of any adjustment of the Community's institutions in the last 25 years, despite immense changes in the situation within the Community and outside it.

In this framework must be seen the suggestion we made that perhaps the time had come for a new Messina, where we would, without abandoning the spirit of the Treaty of Rome, reclarify our ideas about the important problems of our time.

It is clear that only in an atmosphere of crisis and complete failure can the impetus be created for a radical re-examination of the progress and future of Europe.

The crisis we are facing today may therefore contain the seeds of a readjustment of the Community in the right direction.

For many years the Community has had the bad habit, resulting from the defects I have referred to, of solving crucial problems not at five to midnight but at five past midnight. Somewhere between the two we have passed the torch to the French Presidency. We all join in wishing it, as it continues the efforts made in the last six months, success in this hour of truth in giving the Community an effective new impetus.

Taking the floor after Mr Papandreu, Mr Thorn enlarged upon the Commission's statement of 7 December:

'I should like to begin—not out of courtesy or as pure formality, but out of a sincere desire to be objective—by paying tribute to Mr Papandreu for the competence, and above all the impartiality and authority, with which he conducted the proceedings at the Athens European Council.

I was a witness of his diligence and genuine European commitment, and I must say before this House that the President of the Council deserved to see his efforts crowned with success.

Unhappily, we achieved nothing like that result, since the European Council was a blatant failure... This is all the more alarming in that the problems over which the Community came to grief in Athens have been under discussion within the Community for many years now.

"Europe now knows for sure it has a crisis", said President Mitterrand.

Nevertheless, the shock could be good for Europe if we learn the lessons in time...

I should therefore like first to analyse the possible causes and then draw some conclusions.

In considering what happened we must get down to basics and so shun any speculation on how far any particular Member State or individual was to blame. The fact of the matter is that the failure at Athens was a collective failure, for which nearly all the members of the European Council bear some responsibility, even though, as always, some were more flexible and others less so.

In the Commission's view an initial cause lay in the preparation procedure agreed on in Stuttgart, in that this special procedure not only hardened a tendency for the role devolving upon the European Council to swell out of all proportion... without real negotiation ever actually beginning; it also resulted in Member States tabling more and more proposals as alternatives to those of the Commission.

For some years now the regular Councils have tended to abdicate from their function, which is to take decisions, and become a kitchen for European Councils, or simply a talking shop...

This warping of Community procedures was pushed to its extreme in the "special procedure" decided at Stuttgart in order to conduct a "major negotiation" which was to produce an agreement on a final package at the Athens European Council.

The choice of this procedure unfortunately involved the risk of linking all the outstanding problems together, leaving the specialized Councils stripped of their competences, swelling the European Council agenda and confusing things technical with things political and routine management with decisions committing the future.

At Stuttgart the Commission had already warned against the risk that such a procedure might bring everything grinding to a halt. We at least managed to convince those who were tempted to hold this negotiation in an intergovernmental setting without any reference to the Treaty and Commun-

ity procedures. The Commission then did all it could to stop special Council meetings substituting for the normal decision-making authorities in a whole series of areas (internal market, research, industry, energy, and so on) where in fact considerable headway was made, but which are precariously balanced because of the connections established between the various dossiers at Stuttgart.

The rule whereby the Council may act *only* on the Commission's proposals and cannot amend them unless it is unanimous was not respected in the discussion on correcting budgetary imbalances and on financial discipline. Consequently, the European Council had before it five or six alternatives to the Commission proposals...

No wonder that with no central bearings, the Council got completely bogged down in the morass of rival formulas. No wonder either that the national proposals were all biased towards the specific interests of the countries that had put them forward.

No wonder that the failure was the result of so blatant a violation of Community procedures. The authors of the Treaty, having benefited from long experience of what intergovernmental cooperation was like, had clearly seen the need to reserve the right of initiative to the Commission, as the only way of marshalling Council proceedings around a single proposal inspired—as far as possible—by the general interest of the Community. The Member States may criticize, reject or suggest amendments to the Commission proposals, but they cannot substitute their own. The same criticism applies to the tendency to amplify and unduly enhance the function of the Council Presidency.

I must alert you to the risk that this harbours for the Community's institutional balance, and I am doing so just as the Presidency is about to change hands, in order to make it clear that is a question of principle and not of individuals.

True, there may well be some positive points. But the drawbacks would far outweigh the advantages if the Member State taking its turn in the Council chair gradually came to behave—however noble its intentions—as if it were taking charge of the destiny of the Community. Europe does not have a change of government every six months; decision deadlines are not confined to June and December. The success or the failure of a Presidency must not be judged by the results of the European Council. No one has anything to gain by that. The Presidency has its own tasks: it organizes the work of the Council on the basis of Commission proposals; it regulates the pace of the work and coordinates between the various Councils; it wields its influence at the end of debates to coax delegations into any necessary compromises...

So I wonder whether the main cause of the Athens débâcle is not the lack of genuine agreement on the scope and meaning of European integration....

What sort of Community do we want? What are our plans? How is it that the questions on which the European Council foundered in Athens are the same ones that caused the deadlock at Lancaster House in 1981? ...

No Member State has so far proposed that the Treaty be amended through the procedures of Article 236. And yet there can be no denying that on certain issues the Member States have adopted national positions that openly flout the rules of the Treaty, in seeking, for instance, to institutionalize the principle of fair return or to limit Parliament's budgetary powers.

It is time that we said whether we are challenging the Treaties and their basic principles or whether, instead, we are going to find ways consistent with the Treaty for reforming the Community and producing a blueprint for revitalization.

If the abscess must be burst, let us do it now, otherwise the European Council can only perpetuate the failure.

The most important lesson that the Commission has learnt from the deadlock is that we must return to the Community's normal rules and procedures in order to tackle the present difficulties and surmount them.

It is in such a return to the very principles of the Community that we shall find that second wind to enable us to clear the hurdle which brought the Community down in Athens.

The Commission will accordingly ask the specialized Councils before the year is out to resume their work in their respective fields on the basis of the proposals which have been before them for so long.

The Commission is determined to keep its proposals on the Council's desk. It will not consent to amend them until it thinks that doing so may help secure agreements compatible with Community interests.

That is the position I took in preparing for Athens and at the European Council. I will stick to it.

On several issues where decisions are urgently required, the regular Councils must act swiftly without waiting for the next European Council. This applies to agriculture ...

The decision that the European Council will eventually take on increasing own resources is not a consolation prize for the sacrifices that will be involved in the reform of the CAP. Agricultural spending must be curbed in any event.

The CAP, we all know, must inevitably become unmanageable if we maintain the principle of unlimited guarantee.

It is not for the European Council to settle the technicalities of essential adjustment, to allocate milk quotas, ... decide whether to retain or stop a premium here or direct aid there.

That is the business of the Council. Proposals are on its desk which would keep agricultural spending within the limits of the budget: it is therefore duty bound to act with no further delay, and at all events before the next marketing year begins.

Likewise, the Council must, in its appropriate composition, complete its work on reforming the ERDF, press on with implementing the Copenhagen programme for developing the internal market, define a strategy for joint action on the new technologies ... there's no lack of examples.

I will take just one more, since it is symbolic. A decision on the financing of the Esprit programme must be taken right away. The research experts have agreed on the content and scope of the programme. Industry is poised to play its part and willing to bear its share of the cost.

The Commission will make the necessary choices to keep annual expenditure within the limits imposed on the budget by the ceiling of own resources.

In the circumstances ... it would be improper for any Member State to withhold its agreement, pending conclusion of a general package, in order to keep in hand an asset of 700 million ECU. No one may hold Europe's industrial future to ransom just to gain a little extra bargaining power.

If, with the help and support of Parliament, the Commission manages to make its voice heard, if the machinery of Community decision-making can be set in motion again, instead of being jammed by special procedures putting disparate issues together in packages, the European Council can rediscover its highly strategic and political role of directing and prompting the work of the Council and taking decisions on the major political options that shape the future of the Community.

The decisions on the Community's future financial system clearly belong to that category. The European Council, alone, can and must take the decisions of principle on which any increase in Community own resources depends.

Only three issues are involved: the sharing of the budgetary burden between the States, the financial directives to guide the Council in exercising its responsibilities as one of the arms of the budgetary authority and the volume of resources to be put at the Community's disposal to make enlargement possible and provide a lasting assurance that it can continue its development.

These are indeed three basic issues which go to the very roots of the Community and will determine its future.

We must build an equitable and permanent financial system, which will eliminate the annual haggling over arbitrary budget rebates. The compromises and sacrifices that will have to be made to secure budgetary peace within the Community will not be accepted by all unless they are part of an ambitious programme for the future.

To have no ambition for Europe and to stint on the means for its development is undoubtedly the surest way for the European Council to fail, even in reshaping what has been achieved.

When reduced to its essentials in this way, the European Council's task is clearly still bristling with difficulty. But even though Athens was a failure for the reasons I have just discussed, I am looking forward confidently to the next meeting.

I am still firmly convinced that a historic endeavour like the building of Europe will not be halted by a budgetary wrangle as confined as this one.

For all of us here know how much is involved. The Community budget is less than 1% of Europe's total GDP. The budget imbalances to be corrected represent no more than a tiny fraction of the GDP of the countries concerned.

Having said that, I am not implying that this imbalance can be ignored or that the Community budget can be managed loosely and without discipline; our proposals show that the exact opposite is true.

But I owe it to the public and to Parliament to put things into proper perspective. I must remind the governments which seek to outdo each other in restrictions when talking about funds for Europe that you cannot handle a Community budget representing 1% of our total GDPs like national budgets, which redistribute an average of 40% of the national wealth of the Member State.

A second reason which justifies my faith in the future is the attachment to European integration that I detect whenever I am talking with the Heads of State or Government. Deep down, they all know and recognize that there is no alternative to the Community, that the future must lie in reactivating the integration process ...

I cannot believe that they will go on allowing themselves to be swayed by counting-house reflexes, at the risk of imperilling European unification and 25 years of noteworthy achievement, let alone the promise of the future.

I sincerely believe that we shall climb out of our present predicament if all together we learn the lessons of the failure in Athens and go back to

the principles and methods which produced the Community's early successes.

President Dankert has said that the failure of the European Council may be a healthy shock for the system. I, too, would like to believe that.

You know the conclusions that the Commission, on its side, has set out. To remind the public that the breakdown of a European Council is not the breakdown of a historic unification process, it declared on 7 December that it would "shoulder its responsibilities to ensure that the Community does not slide backwards and undo what it has already achieved, that essential progress is made without delay and that the stage is set for the revitalization of the Community".

The Commission expects that Parliament's action will be inspired by the same concern. The Community must now be governed despite—and perhaps because of—the deficiency of the European Council. It must therefore give itself the budgetary means to do this in 1984.

It is vital that at this difficult juncture the Commission and Parliament ... support each other and together demonstrate that they are capable of leading the Community along the path traced by the Treaties in the interests of Europe.'

Mr Piet Dankert, the President of Parliament, had announced in a communiqué on 6 December that he hoped the House would relaunch Europe, for the total failure registered in Athens would have dangerous repercussions on the functioning of the Community. He urged Parliament promptly to draw the necessary conclusions from the Athens fiasco and make the revival of the Community the main theme of the six months up to the European elections in June.

During the debate members commented at length on the failure, trying to account for it in various ways. Mr Ernest Glinne, Chairman of the Socialist Group, found a simple formula to describe it: 'absolute zero', and

called the Council shortsighted and faint-hearted; it had behaved like some exalted cashier, unable to distinguish between what was essential and what was just secondary. Mr Paolo Barbi, Chairman of the EPP Group, was dumbfounded that the 10 Heads of State and Government had taken no position on the conflicts threatening peace. For the European Democrats, Lady Elles thought that a failure was better than an unacceptable compromise; bad solutions created more problems than they solved. The spokesman for the Communists, Mr Guido Fanti, declared that Athens had tolled the knell of old Europe. The States had shown they were unable to react to events. For the Liberal and Democratic Group, Mr Martin Bangemann had two explanations for the Athens fiasco: the Heads of Government had the political will but lacked the capacity to take decisions; though each State was individually living in democracy, Europe was not, since it could not take a majority decision. At the end of the debate Parliament passed a resolution moved by Mr Ernest Glinne (Socialist Group), Mr Pierre Pflimlin (EPP Group), Mr Adam Fergusson (ED Group), Mr Martin Bangemann (Liberal Group) and Mr Guido Fanti (Communist Group) on the failure of the Athens European Council. Deploring the powerlessness of the European Council, Parliament called for a considerable strengthening of the Community institutions, particularly Parliament. It considered that the Council could help to reverse the situation created by the failure to take decisions in Athens by responding positively to the proposals advanced by Parliament for facilitating the restructuring of the budget and establishing conditions and prospects for a genuine European recovery.



PART TWO

ACTIVITIES
IN DECEMBER 1983

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Financing innovation

2.1.1. On 14 December Parliament delivered an opinion¹ on the proposal for a Council Decision empowering the Commission to help finance innovation within the Community.²

Economic situation

Annual Economic Report 1983-84

2.1.2. On 12 December the Council carried out its third quarterly review of the economic situation in the Community. It then adopted, on a proposal by the Commission, the Annual Report on the Economic Situation in the Community and laid down the broad economic policy guidelines for 1984 to be followed by the Member States.³

European Monetary System

Extension of interest subsidies

2.1.3. On 16 December Parliament adopted an opinion⁴ on the proposal for a Regulation⁵ to continue for two years the scheme of interest subsidies for certain loans introduced by the Council on 3 August 1979⁶ in response to the European Council's resolution of 5 December 1978.⁷ Noting that the draft general budget for 1984 contained only a token entry in respect of the 200 million ECU allocated by the 1979 Regulation, Parliament agreed that the scheme should be extended until the European Monetary System was consolidated.

Community borrowings

Balance-of-payments support

2.1.4. On the basis of an oral report by the Chairman of the Monetary Committee, the Council discussed possible changes to the loan issue procedures. The Council has

agreed to discuss this matter following its decision in May⁸ to grant a loan to France under this instrument.⁹ At that time it had asked the Monetary Committee to examine the implications of its decision, bearing in mind the principle of equality of treatment between Member States and the availability of other financial instruments.

The Council asked the Monetary Committee to continue its examination of this question and noted that the Commission reserved its right of initiative in the matter.

Monetary Committee

2.1.5. The Monetary Committee held its 297th meeting in Brussels on 16 December with Mr Camdessus in the chair. It examined the economic and monetary situation in France.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of persons and freedom to provide services

Mutual recognition of diplomas and access to occupations

2.1.6. At its meeting on 6 and 7 December the Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health, as it does regularly twice a year, reviewed the situation in the Member States with regard to the application of the Directives on free movement and the mutual recognition of diplomas with regard to the

¹ Point 2.1.23; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.3.

³ OJ L 378, 31.12.1983.

⁴ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁵ OJ C 163, 22.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.9.

⁶ OJ L 200, 8.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.

⁷ Bull. EC 12-1978, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12 and 2.1.1.

⁸ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.3.

⁹ Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.8; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.4.

professions of doctor, nurse responsible for general care, dental practitioner and mid-wife.

The Committee made a final examination of the tables prepared by the Statistical Office showing the number of doctors in 1960 and 1980. The tables should be available in the first half of 1984. Similar tables giving statistics on nurses, dental practitioners and midwives should be completed later. As is its custom every year, the Committee also produced tables giving statistics on the migration of doctors, nurses responsible for general care and dental practitioners. This year's tables relate to 1982 and are published on pages 23 to 25.

Tourism

2.1.7. On 16 December Parliament delivered a favourable opinion¹ on the Commission's communication setting out initial guidelines for a Community tourism policy² and on a draft Council resolution on such a policy.³

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

2.1.8. On 14 December the Commission adapted to technical progress⁴ the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 relating to the installation of lighting and light signalling devices on motor vehicles and their trailers.⁵

This measure, which amends the 1976 Directive for the fourth time,⁶ takes account of the experience gained in this area and supplements some of the technical descriptions in order to make it easier to reproduce test results and make it possible ultimately to have more effective checks on the conformity of products with the approved prototype.

Foodstuffs

2.1.9. On 13 December the Council amended⁷ for the second time⁸ its Directive

of 18 December 1975 relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption,⁹ changing some of the designations and adapting the Directive to the Directive of 18 December 1978 on the labelling of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer.¹⁰

2.1.10. Further to its Decision of 25 November,¹¹ on 13 December the Council again amended⁷ its 1964 Directive concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption,¹² extending the authorization of thiabenzadole from 16 December 1983 to 15 February 1984 so as to avoid any break in the traditional flows of trade in citrus fruit and bananas.

Small business Business Cooperation Centre Distributive trades

Small business

2.1.11. The European Year of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Craft Industry was rounded off at a conference held in Strasbourg on 8 and 9 December chaired by Mr Dankert and Mr Pflimlin, respectively President and Vice-President of Parliament. After examining the conclusions of the numerous symposia, seminars and other events held during the year,¹³ the 300 participants adopted an action programme for a

¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² Supplement 4/82—Bull. EC; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 1.4.1.

³ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.8.

⁴ OJ L 9, 12.1.1984.

⁵ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

⁶ OJ L 109, 22.4.1982.

⁷ OJ L 357, 21.12.1983.

⁸ OJ L 206, 29.7.1978.

⁹ OJ L 24, 30.1.1976.

¹⁰ OJ L 33, 8.2.1979.

¹¹ OJ L 335, 30.11.1983.

¹² OJ 12, 27.1.1964.

¹³ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.11; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.13; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.20; Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.15.

Community policy to support small business in the following areas:

- establishment and development of small firms (financial support; promotion of innovation and new technologies; training of management and workers; administrative environment, information, advice, assistance);
- opening up of the Community to small business (Community market; legal, economic, social and tax environment; peripheral regions);
- access of small business to world markets.

Industry

Steel

Stepping up the crisis arrangements

2.1.12. On 14 December the Council issued a favourable opinion, having been consulted under Article 61 of the ECSC treaty, on the draft Commission Decision on minimum prices, and on 22 December gave its assent under Article 95 to the draft Commission Decisions introducing a system of guarantees, a production certificate and an accompanying document to go with deliveries of certain steel products. On 23 December the Commission adopted the relevant Decisions.¹ Parliament had asked that this be done as a matter of urgency in a resolution passed on 15 December.²

On 22 December the Council also reaffirmed the need to maintain traditional flows of trade.³

Minimum prices

2.1.13. The Commission adopted a Decision on minimum prices, as a means of reinforcing the quantitative measures taken under the crisis arrangements. These arrangements provide for the introduction of a specified rebate off the guide price for each product concerned.

Minimum prices are to be introduced on 1 January for hot-rolled wide strip, hot-rolled

narrow strip, hot-rolled sheet, reversing-mill plate, cold-rolled sheet and beams. Exceptions will be made for supplies to shipyards, offshore equipment and hot-rolled strip for tubes and pipes.

Guarantees

2.1.14. The Commission adopted a Decision establishing a guarantee system for certain steel products and a system for the verification of the minimum prices.

The guarantee system is intended to facilitate and speed up the recovery of fines by the Commission. A guarantee of 15 ECU per tonne is to be deposited by each firm coming under the system in a special bank account opened for the purpose; the tonnage involved corresponds to that part of production to be delivered in the Community in the current quarter and products subject to the minimum price obligation. To obviate certain difficulties with the legal implementation of the system it was agreed that it would in practice operate under the authority of the Commission.

Accompanying document and production certificate

2.1.15. The Commission adopted a Decision introducing a production certificate and an accompanying document for deliveries of certain products.

Under this Decision, steel producers and dealers will be required to provide an accompanying document to go with their deliveries to other Member States of steel products of the relevant categories, including products originating outside the Community.

In the case of products originating in non-Community countries, producers and dealers will be required to use the accompanying document drawn up by the importer. This will contain information on quantities and prices intended, by means of customs con-

¹ OJ L 373, 31.12.1983.

² Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

³ Point 2.1.16.

trols in the exporting countries and the importing country, to provide transparency of cross-border movements of the steel products in question.

In respect of deliveries to other Member States, producers will be required to hand over to dealers a production certificate. Member States will periodically record, in accordance with the rules laid down by the Decision, for each of the steel products concerned:

- the quantities received from the other Member States by Member State of consignment, these quantities being broken down by Member State of production;
- the quantities of products originating in the Community imported from non-member countries.

*

Traditional trade flows

2.1.16. At its 22 December meeting the Council confirmed that traditional flows of trade needed to be maintained. The restructuring of the steel industry rests on a principle of solidarity as expressed in the rules of the quota system and the aids code; the maintenance of traditional trade flows is in line with this principle, without which there could be diversion of trade by some companies at the expense of others.

Having already decided that flows of trade from non-member countries should follow the lines indicated in the negotiating brief given to the Commission, in particular the triple clause, the Council recognized that Community steelmakers' deliveries must be in conformity with their traditional pattern of trade on their domestic markets and on the markets of other Member States. It also recognized the need to provide for the monitoring, and comprehensive and precise identification, of trade flows within the Community.

Where a Member State considers that in respect of products covered by Article 58 or Article 61 there is a disturbance of traditional flows, it will have up to 15 days from the communication of the quarterly

statistics to lodge a complaint with the Commission; the Commission will examine the basis of the complaint and its causes.

If this examination reveals a change which does not conform to the principles described above, the Commission will, after consulting the Council if necessary, take whatever action is appropriate within the Treaty.

Social measures

2.1.17. At its 8 and 9 December meeting the ECSC Consultative Committee examined the operating budget for 1984.¹ It deplored the reduction of appropriations for social measures in the steel industry from 110 million to 62.5 million ECU.

Technical research

2.1.18. The Commission published a communication in the Official Journal² asking companies to submit their observations on pilot/demonstration projects which it intends to carry out.³

2.1.19. On 6 December the Commission sent the Council a memorandum seeking its assent to the provision of financial aid under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty for a steel pilot/demonstration project programme.⁴

Shipbuilding

2.1.20. In 1983 the Community shipbuilding industry suffered an unprecedented recession, evidenced not only by a falling-off in orders but also by a major decline in its world market position.

In view of this the Community is looking for ways of improving its competitiveness internally and of ensuring that, externally, trading partners take their fair share of the

¹ Point 2.4.34.

² OJ C 328, 2.12.1983.

³ Point 2.1.231.

⁴ Point 2.1.230.

burden of the crisis. Although Japan had promised to make efforts in this direction, its shipyards consolidated their market position in 1983 despite the continuing slump in world demand. The Community therefore asked Japan, at a consultation meeting held in Tokyo at the end of November as part of the international cooperation arrangements set up in the industry under OECD auspices, to keep more closely to its commitments.

The Community might have to ask its other trading partners to curb their expansion where it is seriously disturbing the market and slowing the return to a balanced situation.

Automobiles

2.1.21. Further to the position paper it published in 1981,¹ in December the Commission adopted a report on measures and rules applying in the automobile industry.² The report is in two parts, the first giving an account of the Commission's activities since 1981 both internally (vehicle specifications, reduction of exhaust emissions, etc.) and externally (relations with Japan), and the second dealing with market developments in 1981 and 1982.

Electronics and information technology

Esprit

2.1.22. On 1 December the Council reached full agreement on all aspects of the Esprit programme other than financing. Most delegations confirmed their agreement on a total of 700 million ECU in appropriations considered necessary for financing the Community's participation in the programme over five years. Two Member States wanted time to consider the matter before taking a decision on financing. A pilot phase is in progress, and the projects selected for this phase are to form a link with the final phase of the programme, which is to begin on 1 January 1984.

Industrial innovation and the information market

Industrial innovation

Financing innovation in small businesses

2.1.23. On 14 December Parliament welcomed³ the proposal for a Council Decision empowering the Commission to help finance within the Community by granting 'European innovation loans'.⁴ It urged that special attention be paid to small businesses and emphasized the importance of the choice of financial intermediaries and of adequate publicity directed at potential beneficiaries.

Customs union

Simplification of customs formalities

Accession to the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods

2.1.24. On 14 December the Economic and Social Committee endorsed the Commission recommendation calling upon the Council to conclude the 1982 International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods.⁵

General legislation

2.1.25. The Regulation introducing arrangements for movement within the Community of goods sent from one Member

¹ Supplement 2/81 — Bull. EC; Bull. EC 6-1981, point 2.1.22.

² COM(83) 633.

³ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁴ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 2.1.44 and 2.1.45.

⁵ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.28.

Table 1 — *Number of doctors who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1982 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)¹:*

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 515 ³	96	25	76	13	8 ²	629	38	6	246
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	24	9	13	3	0	0	38	2	5	0
France	68	15	3	1	6	3	20	0	0	2
Italy	49	15	1	1	0	1	59	0	1	12
Netherlands	78	2	1	29	4	1	18	3	0	0
Belgium	29	29	0	37	0	2	24	0	0	2
Luxembourg	21	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
United Kingdom	32	8	2	5	0	0	7	29	0	0
Ireland	0	1	2	0	1	0	365	1	0	0
Denmark	30	0	1	0	1	0	7	1	0	0
Greece	184	16	2	0	1	1	90	2	0	230
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR) ⁴	76	11	14	6	0	0	39	2	5	35
France	55	0	3	1	6	4	24	0	1	7
Italy	55	18	0	1	0	0	59	0	0	201
Netherlands	39	3	1	0	4	1	18	3	0	1
Belgium	32	32	0	63	0	2	27	0	0	2
Luxembourg	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	24	9	2	5	0	0	0	29	0	0
Ireland	2	1	2	0	1	0	364	0	0	0
Denmark	17	0	1	0	1	0	7	1	0	0
Greece	87	19	2	0	1	1	91	3	0	0

¹ This table, as the heading suggests, does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess but in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant doctors). It does include all migrant doctors, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State. In France, however, unlike the other Member States, migrants may follow a course of specialized training without having received authorization to practise. They do not therefore appear in the statistics provided by France for this table.

² All Luxembourg medical students have to obtain their training abroad; those who subsequently become established in their home country have therefore not been included in the table.

³ Not including Hesse. In the case of Germany, unlike the other Member States, the table includes doctors who obtained their qualification in Germany and also practise there.

⁴ Not including the Saar.

Table 2 — *Number of nurses responsible for general care who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1982 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)¹:*

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 373 ²	151	48	34	65	57	238	514	7	8
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	*	20	10	12	3	10	37	2	0	1
France	*	5	6	16	14	19	4	0	0	0
Italy	*	7	11	1	2	1	3	0	0	0
Netherlands	*	13	5	0	7	3	47	2	1	1
Belgium	*	60	5	8	32	24	3	0	0	0
Luxembourg	*	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	*	37	5	4	5	0	0	0	2	1
Ireland	*	4	1	2	0	0	124	510	0	0
Denmark	*	5	3	1	0	0	17	0	4	0
Greece	*	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	5
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR)	*	21	17	12	17	10	37	2	3	5
France	*	0	6	6	22	19	4	0	0	0
Italy	*	7	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	0
Netherlands	*	13	6	0	21	2	48	2	1	1
Belgium	*	60	8	8	0	24	2	0	0	0
Luxembourg	*	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	*	41	5	4	12	1	0	510	3	2
Ireland	*	4	1	2	0	0	124	0	0	0
Denmark	*	5	3	1	0	0	17	0	0	0
Greece	*	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0

¹ This table, as the heading suggests, does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess but in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant nurses). It does include all migrant nurses responsible for general care, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State.

² In the case of Germany, unlike the other Member States, the table includes nurses who obtained their qualification in Germany and also practise there.

Table 3 — *Number of dental practitioners who are nationals of one Member State and obtained their basic qualification in another (authorization to practise issued in 1982 in one of the States listed at the head of the columns below)¹:*

	Germany (FR)	France	Italy ²	Netherlands	Belgium	Luxembourg	United Kingdom	Ireland	Denmark	Greece
Total	± 71 ³	11		6	2	5	62	0	1	6
Nationals of:										
Germany (FR)	15	2		0	0	0	1		0	2
France	4	0		0	1	1	2		0	1
Italy	0	0		0	0	0	0		0	0
Netherlands	6	1		2	0	0	3		0	0
Belgium	6	4		2	0	2	2		0	0
Luxembourg	1	0		0	0	0	0		0	0
United Kingdom	7	0		1	0	0	0		0	0
Ireland	2	0		0	0	0	47		1	0
Denmark	14	3		1	1	0	3		0	0
Greece	16	1		0	0	2	4		0	3
Qualified in:										
Germany (FR)	± 21	2		1	0	0	1		0	4
France	4	0		0	1	1	2		0	1
Italy	0	0		0	0	0	0		0	0
Netherlands	7	1		0	0	0	3		0	0
Belgium	6	4		3	0	2	2		0	0
Luxembourg	0	0		0	0	0	—		0	0
United Kingdom	8	0		1	0	0	—		1	1
Ireland	0	0		0	0	0	47		0	0
Denmark	13	3		1	1	0	3		0	0
Greece	11	1		0	0	2	4		0	0

¹ This table, as the heading suggests, does not include Community nationals who acquired their basic qualification in a Member State whose nationality they do not possess and in which they were authorized to practise (these are effectively migrant students rather than migrant dental practitioners). It does include all migrant dental practitioners, including those intending to follow a specialized training course in another Member State, provided they have received authorization to practise in that State.

² Italy has until 28 July 1984 to give effect to the dentists Directives.

³ Not including Schleswig-Holstein. In the case of Germany, unlike the other Member States, the table includes dental practitioners who obtained their qualification in Germany and also practise there.

State for temporary use in one or more other Member States, which had already been agreed in principle at the Council meeting on 25 November,¹ was formally approved on 19 December.²

Customs procedures with economic impact

Temporary importation

2.1.26. On 21 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation on the temporary importation of means of transport.³

This proposal, whose purpose is to harmonize at Community level the temporary importation of transport, including pallets and containers, is the necessary adjunct to the Regulation of 21 December 1982 on temporary importation arrangements.⁴

Adoption of this proposal will enable persons wishing to make use of the arrangements to enjoy equal treatment, irrespective of the Member State through which they enter the customs territory of the Community.

Common Customs Tariff

2.1.27. On 12 December the Council amended⁵ the Regulation of 28 June 1968⁶ on the Common Customs Tariff, creating two new subdivisions in CCT heading No 92.11. Tariff protection of certain sound reproducers with laser optical reading systems is to be temporarily increased from 1 January 1984, while customs duties on certain reel-to-reel tape recorders are to be temporarily reduced from the same date.

2.1.28. On 23 December the Commission adopted a Regulation on the tariff classification of certain types of seasoned meat⁷ and amending the Regulation of 28 June 1968 on the Common Customs Tariff.⁸ This instrument defines the products in question more strictly.

Nomenclature

2.1.29. On 28 and 29 November and 12 December the Commission adopted five

Regulations for the purpose of ensuring uniform application of the CCT nomenclature:

- amending for the fifth time the Regulation of 17 April 1975⁹ laying down conditions for the entry of port, Madeira, sherry, Setubal muscatel and Tokay (Aszu and Szamorodni) wines falling within subheadings 22.05 C III a) 1 and b) 1 and 2 and 22.05 C IV a) 1 and b) 1 and 2;¹⁰
- amending for the seventh time the Regulation of 20 December 1979¹¹ laying down conditions for the entry of flue-cured Virginia type, light air-cured Burley type (including Burley hybrids), light air-cured Maryland type and fire-cured tobacco, falling within subheading 24.01 A;¹⁰
- classifying rotary electric windscreen-wiper motors in subheading 85.01 B I b);¹²
- laying down the analytical procedure to be used for determining the meat content in products falling within subheadings 16.02 B III a) 2 aa), bb) and cc);¹²
- classifying birds' eggs, whole, cooked, whether or not in shell, suitable for human consumption, in subheading 21.07 G I a) 1.¹³

Economic tariff matters

Suspensions

2.1.30. On 19 December the Council adopted two Regulations totally or partially suspending CCT duties on certain products originating in Malta and Turkey.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.37.

² OJ L 2, 4.1.1984.

³ OJ C 4, 7.1.1984; COM(83) 741 final.

⁴ OJ L 376, 31.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.31.

⁵ OJ L 351, 14.12.1983.

⁶ OJ L 172, 22.7.1968.

⁷ OJ L 366, 28.12.1983.

⁸ OJ L 172, 22.7.1968.

⁹ OJ L 111, 30.4.1975.

¹⁰ OJ L 336, 1.12.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 341, 31.12.1979.

¹² OJ L 352, 15.12.1983.

¹³ OJ L 358, 22.12.1983.

Tariff quotas

2.1.31. In December the Council adopted a number of Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas in respect of the following products:

- (i) certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within CCT subheading ex 22.05 C, originating in Algeria (1984);¹
- (ii) prepared or preserved sardines, falling within CCT subheading 16.04 D, originating in Morocco (1984);²
- (iii) prepared or preserved sardines, falling within CCT subheading 16.04 D, originating in Tunisia (1984);²
- (iv) certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within CCT subheading ex 22.05 C, originating in Yugoslavia (1984);¹
- (v) newsprint falling within CCT subheading 48.01 A (1984), and extending this quota to certain other types of paper;³
- (vi) certain fishery products.⁴

2.1.32. On 14 December the Council adopted a Regulation² increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1983 by the Regulation of 17 December 1982⁵ for newsprint falling within CCT subheading 48.01 A.

Generalized Tariff Preferences

2.1.33. In 1984 the Community will continue to apply a system of generalized tariff preferences in respect of developing countries and territories. To this end, the Council adopted on 16 December three Regulations (EEC) and one Decision (ECSC) fixing the scheme and the arrangements for implementing it in respect of certain industrial, textile, agricultural and steel products.⁶

Community surveillance of imports

2.1.34. On 12 December the Council adopted a Regulation establishing ceilings

and Community surveillance in respect of certain petroleum products refined in Turkey and establishing Community surveillance of imports thereof (1984).²

Value for customs purposes

2.1.35. On 6 December the Commission amended⁷ its Regulation on the declaration of particulars relating to customs value (D.V.1) and on documents to be furnished.⁸ The aim of this amendment is to increase, from 1 January 1984 onwards, the amounts in national currencies below which Member States may waive the requirement for the declaration of particulars referred to in form D.V.1.

Origin of goods

2.1.36. On 19 December the Council adopted, on a proposal from the Commission,⁹ a Regulation establishing new measures for stepping up Community action to prevent fraud in the textile sector.¹⁰ These measures include improved procedures for the exchange of information between Member States and the Commission, and the introduction of Community administrative cooperation and fact-finding missions to non-member countries.

2.1.37. In December the Council also adopted four Regulations, the first of them defining the concept of originating products for the purposes of the GSP, and the three others derogating from the first in respect of three regional groups: ASEAN, the Central American Common Market and the Andean Group.¹¹

¹ OJ L 354, 16.12.1983.

² OJ L 355, 17.12.1983.

³ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.39.

⁴ OJ L 371, 31.12.1983.

⁵ OJ L 361, 22.12.1982.

⁶ OJ L 362, 24.12.1983.

⁷ OJ L 345, 8.12.1983.

⁸ OJ L 154, 21.6.1980; OJ L 335, 12.12.1980.

⁹ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.41.

¹⁰ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 372, 31.12.1983.

Competition

General rules applying to undertakings

New rules for exemption of exclusive distribution and purchasing agreements

2.1.38. On 30 December the Commission published a notice¹ concerning two Regulations it adopted in June on the application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to categories of exclusive distribution agreements and exclusive purchasing agreements.² This sets out the main criteria by which the Commission judges whether an exclusive distribution or purchasing agreement is covered by the block exemption. The notice is without prejudice, however, to the jurisdiction of national courts to apply the Regulations by virtue of their own powers, nor does it necessarily indicate the interpretation which might be given to the provisions by the Court of Justice.

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Prohibited horizontal agreements

Non-competition clauses in the sale of businesses

2.1.39. On 12 December the Commission took a Decision relating to non-competition clauses contained in agreements for the transfer of ownership of a business.³ The Decision concerns two agreements, notified to the Commission, for the sale of businesses by the Dutch group Nutricia. In 1979 Nutricia sold off its subsidiary Remia BV to a Mr de Rooij under a sales agreement which contained a clause obliging Nutricia not to compete with de Rooij in the market for sauces in the Netherlands for a period of 10 years. In 1980 Nutricia entered into a second agreement whereby another subsidiary, Luycks Producten BV, was sold to Zuid-Hollandse Conservenfabriek, likewise containing a non-competition clause, for a

period of five years, relating to Nutricia's activities on the European pickles and condiments market.

A previous Commission decision, *Reuter/BASF*,⁴ established that non-competition clauses, although normally in restraint of competition, are not caught by the prohibition of restrictive practices (Article 85(1) of the Treaty) where their sole aim is to guarantee the transfer to the purchaser of the full commercial value of the assets sold, and are justified in cases where intangible assets such as know-how, good will and clientele are transferred with the business. In assessing the legality of such clauses under Articles 85, their duration and scope must be examined.

The *Reuter/BASF* case involved the transfer of both goodwill and know-how incorporated in the business sold. The transfer agreement prohibited the seller for eight years from carrying on certain activities. The Commission indicated that, in any event at the date of its decision (being approximately five years after the takeover), the restriction of competition imposed upon the transferor was no longer necessary for taking effective charge of the acquired undertaking.

The present Decision develops this policy further in dealing with cases where the transfer involves only goodwill incorporated in the business. Judging the non-competition period in its economic context and taking into consideration the duration of accompanying temporary sales arrangements as well as the need for the acquirer to enjoy a supplementary period in order to consolidate its hold on the customers, the Commission has set the permissible period of protection with respect to the Nutricia/Luycks agreement at two years.

However, a longer period may be granted in special circumstances. In the Nutricia/

¹ OJ C 355, 30.12.1983.

² OJ L 173, 30.6.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.57.

³ OJ L 376, 31.12.1983.

⁴ Decision of 26 July 1976: OJ L 254, 17.9.1976.

Remia case it has been recognized that a longer period of protection of up to four years was required in view of an ancillary agreement under which the purchaser was given a two-year licence to use the seller's principal trade mark, after which the mark could again be used immediately by the seller to re-enter the market.

As far as territorial scope is concerned, such clauses should only cover the market on which the products concerned were produced or sold at the time of the transfer of the business.

Permissible forms of cooperation

Publication of price lists and conditions of sale applied by undertakings in the steel industry

2.1.40. On 8 December the Commission adopted a Decision¹ supplementing Decision No 37-54 on the publication of price lists and conditions of sale applied by undertakings in the steel industry to the sale of special steels.² Henceforth the price lists published are to include carbon steels and high-speed steels.

Know-how agreement and requirements contract

2.1.41. On 6 December the Commission granted negative clearance in respect of a know-how agreement and exemption in respect of a five-year requirements (exclusive purchase and use) contract.³

These agreements were notified to the Commission by Schlegel Corporation of New York (Schlegel) and Compagnie des Produits Industriels de l'Ouest SA of Nantes (CPIO). The know-how agreement relates to the production of weatherseals for motor vehicles and the requirements contract to a new weatherseal strengthening element, called 'wire carrier', which is used in the production of automotive weatherseals.

Schlegel is a manufacturer of rubber and plastic products. It has developed the know-how for the production of weatherseals and the wire carrier, which it produces itself

Schlegel makes its know-how available to CPIO, which now manufactures weatherseals with Schlegel know-how and wire carrier. CPIO is required to purchase and use exclusively Schlegel wire carrier for a period of five years.

The Commission has granted a negative clearance to the know-how agreement because it is non-exclusive and permits CPIO to manufacture the weatherseals throughout the Community and to sell them worldwide. However, the exclusive purchase and use contract for wire carrier was considered to fall within Article 85(1) because for a period of five years it limits CPIO in its freedom to use, buy, develop or manufacture any alternative product and, given CPIO's supplies to the French automobile industry, it forecloses approximately 12% of the French weatherseal market to other Community suppliers.

The Commission has, however, exempted the wire carrier contract under Article 85(3) because Schlegel has undertaken to supply CPIO with its required quantities during the contract period, which constitutes a security of supply for CPIO. This is an essential benefit for an automotive original equipment supplier in order to avoid any disruption of the car manufacturer's production. It also permits Schlegel to better plan in advance the production of wire carrier. The agreement does not eliminate competition in respect of a substantial part of the relevant product market. It also allows consumers a fair share of the resulting benefit in that the quality of weatherseals may be improved by the incorporation of a new weatherseal strengthening element.

¹ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

² OJ 18, 1.8.1954.

³ OJ L 351, 14.12.1983.

Joint venture in coal gasification

2.1.42. On 8 December the Commission exempted the acquisition of a holding by the German firm Deutsche BP Aktiengesellschaft in an existing joint subsidiary, Carbon Gas Technologie GmbH, and its participation in the cooperation agreement setting up the subsidiary.¹

Carbon Gas Technologie was originally set up by the German groups Deutsche Babcock and Flick for the purpose of developing and subsequently exploiting a combined pressure gasification process. Twelve months ago, Flick transferred its holding to a third party. The three parties now involved entered into a contractual agreement not to compete with the joint subsidiary, thereby also ruling out competition between themselves. In addition, they undertook to make available to Carbon Gas Technologie all their present and future know-how in this field free of charge and agreed that a party withdrawing from the joint subsidiary may not make use of the know-how available to it for a period of five years.

However, it has been possible to grant the exemption sought because the main activities in which the shareholders are engaged are complementary as regards the object of the cooperation. Accordingly, and on account of the high costs of such R&D programmes, the Commission takes the view that, compared with the individual efforts that would be required of the parties if they had remained competitors, the large-scale industrial application of this specific coal gasification process will be facilitated and accelerated by cooperation, and consumers will be allowed a fair share of the resulting benefit.

The shareholders have amended their agreement, thereby ensuring that the results of the joint R&D work can be exploited by each of them. They have dropped a clause imposing on each shareholder a general prohibition on competing in the relevant market with the other shareholders for a period of seven years in the event of its withdrawing from the joint subsidiary. They have also deleted a clause that would have enabled them to share the market.

Cooperation between international oil companies

2.1.43. On 12 December the Commission decided to grant international oil companies an exemption to enable them to cooperate with one another with a view to redistributing oil and oil products in case of shortages.¹

Following the oil crisis in 1973 and 1974, 21 governments, all members of OECD, decided to adopt an International Energy Programme (IEP), under which the International Energy Agency (IEA) was created. The object of the IEP is to help the participating countries to distribute available oil and oil products among them in an oil crisis, so that no country or group of countries will suffer disproportionately. Governments and the IEA have asked a large number of international oil companies to assist them in carrying out the necessary redistribution of oil and oil products, because these companies possess the knowledge and expertise needed for this task. In fact, the redistribution could not take place without their assistance.

Representatives from the oil companies will work together with the IEA secretariat at OECD headquarters in Paris. They will have access to each other's otherwise confidential company data and information and may be called on to redirect oil to where it would not have gone had a crisis not occurred.

The Commission believes that the envisaged cooperation between oil companies is beneficial to consumers as well as to the general economy of the countries involved. The oil companies must inform the Commission of any redistribution taking place, and representatives of the Commission will have access to such redistribution activities and any other meetings between the participating oil companies.

¹ OJ L 376, 31.12.1983.

Cooperation between Volkswagen and Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nürnberg

2.1.44. On 5 December the Commission authorized a cooperation agreement between Volkswagen AG (VW) and Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nürnberg AG (MAN) which stipulates that both parties will develop and manufacture a joint range of lorries of 6 to 9 tonnes and supply each other with assemblies and parts for use in their separate commercial vehicle ranges.¹ The development and manufacture of the main components is shared, with each party specializing in certain items.

Previously VW's range of commercial vehicles all lay below this class, while MAN's all lay above it.

The cooperation contributes to improving the production of goods, as the parties are putting a new product onto the market with their joint range, which will increase competition in this weight class. The parties have so far secured a market share in the Community of only 4.5%. In view of the strong market position of the leading commercial vehicle manufacturers, the cooperation between VW and MAN is unlikely to enable them to eliminate competition to any large extent in the market for these goods.

Regulations governing motor shows in the United Kingdom

2.1.45. The Commission has again confirmed its basic approval of measures to improve the organization of fairs and exhibitions, provided that excessive restrictions on freedom to exhibit are not involved. On 5 December it adopted a Decision under Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty exempting the standard exhibition agreement concluded by members of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd (SMMT), to which most, including the largest, of the UK motor vehicle manufacturers and importers belong, concerning the display of motor vehicles, containers and other products of the motor industry at exhibitions in the United Kingdom.¹

The exhibition agreement notified originally included a clause prohibiting signa-

tory members from participating or helping others to participate at any time in exhibitions in the United Kingdom which were not organized or approved by SMMT. A complaint against this agreement had also been lodged with the Commission by an exhibition organizer in the United Kingdom. At the Commission's instigation, the agreement was amended to the effect that signatory members will in future be free to participate or to help others participate in any exhibition held in the United Kingdom in years when SMMT does not organize international motor vehicle exhibitions.

Under these circumstances, and the complaint having been withdrawn, the Commission granted an exemption in this case.

Selective distribution systems for Murat jewellery

2.1.46. On 5 December the Commission took a favourable decision granting negative clearance in respect of a standard selective distribution agreement to be concluded between the French company Murat, which manufactures gold, silver and gold-plated jewellery, and its retailers, who sell its products in several EEC Member States.²

The admission of dealers to the Murat retail network depends only on objective criteria relating to the retailer's activities and professional qualifications and the suitability of his premises for distribution of the goods. The criteria are the same for all potential retailers. Following observations made by the Commission, retailers meeting the criteria may obtain Murat goods without having to obtain prior approval. As a result, Murat's system cannot be applied in a discriminatory fashion.

¹ OJ L 376, 31.12.1983.

² OJ L 348, 10.12.1983.

Distribution

SABA's consumer electronics distribution system

2.1.47. On 21 December the Commission extended until 1988 the authorization granted in respect of SABA GmbH's agreements governing the distribution of its products (audio and video equipment) in the Community.¹ It considered that the agreements are not caught by the ban on restrictive practices laid down in Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty, and in its decision spelt out the limits within which selective distribution systems are admissible in this industry.

After reviewing its own previous practice and the case law of the Court of Justice the Commission saw no reason to change its basic policy as reflected in its first SABA decision, of December 1975.² The Commission remained satisfied that, particularly in the case of technically sophisticated products, selective distribution systems can ensure that goods are sold through dealers who possess the specialized knowledge necessary to provide customers with qualified advice and the necessary after-sales service. Restricting distribution to the specialized trade, which provides this kind of service on a regular basis, is in the interest of consumers. This is particularly so when competition on the relevant market is intense, which is the case with consumer electronics, especially on the price front. There are a large number of European and Japanese suppliers in the Community, with different distribution systems and a broad spectrum of trading techniques. This market structure ensures that there is competition both between different producers and, at retail level, between products of one and the same brand.

However, the Commission's inquiries have shown that there is a danger that particular clauses in the agreements could be abused by the manufacturer to prevent unwanted dealers from selling their goods. This danger is to be countered by amendments to the agreements which SABA has made at the Commission's request. The changes

relate primarily to the procedure for admitting dealers to the distribution network, and the grounds on which an appointed dealer may be excluded. Under the revised agreements SABA must admit all interested dealers meeting the conditions for approval which SABA has laid down, and must decide on a dealer's application within four weeks. SABA wholesalers will be entitled to investigate on their own responsibility whether a retailer satisfies the criteria for appointment, and to approve him on behalf of SABA if he does. A dealer may now be excluded from the network only if he no longer satisfies the criteria for appointment or commits a breach of his contractual obligations which endangers the continued existence of the distribution system. This arrangement ensures that all qualified dealers can become and remain SABA dealers, and need not fear discriminatory treatment because of their pricing policy or because they engage in parallel importing; at the same time it means that the selective distribution system continues to be workable and enforceable as far as SABA is concerned.

Joint ventures

Establishment of Seamless Tubes Ltd by British Steel Corporation and TI Group Plc

2.1.48. On 20 December the Commission, under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty, authorized British Steel Corporation, London, (BSC) and TI Group Plc, Birmingham, (TI) to regroup part of their seamless steel tube activities in a joint company to be called Seamless Tubes Ltd. The objective of the joint venture is to rationalize facilities for making smaller-diameter hot-finished seamless tubes in order to remain internationally competitive and viable in the face of reduced market demand.

The examination of the merger under Article 66(2) of the ECSC Treaty centred on

¹ OJ L 376, 31.12.1983.

² OJ L 28, 3.2.1976; Fifth Report on Competition Policy, point 54.

the question whether either of the parent groups would be able thereby to establish an artificially privileged position as a supplier of tube rounds (an ECSC product) for the manufacture of seamless steel tubes (an EEC product). This will not be the case, since BSC cannot expect to acquire any significant additional outlets for tube rounds as a result of the joint venture, while TI does not make tube rounds.

As steel tubes fall under the EEC Treaty, the Commission examined the possible applicability of Article 86 of that Treaty, taking into account that a merger may constitute an abuse of a dominant position if it strengthens a pre-existing dominant position for the relevant products in a substantial part of the common market, and concluded that the merger will not have this effect.

State aids

General aids

United Kingdom

2.1.49. On 21 December the Commission decided to terminate the Article 93(2) procedure it had initiated in July¹ in respect of a United Kingdom aid scheme designed to promote the commercial exploitation of products and processes resulting from new and advanced technologies. The Commission took the view that the lack of any specific definition of the kind of technology eligible or of the activities carried on by applicant firms meant that the aid might constitute general investment aid.

In its observations during the procedure the United Kingdom Government specified the types of technology covered. Assistance will be granted only to firms producing new processes—and not for the purchase thereof for commercial exploitation—and employing up to 500 people. Grants will normally be directed at firms with up to 200 employees. Where the aid exceeds UKL 100 000 and is directed at firms employing more

than 200 workers, such cases will be subject to prior notification to the Commission.

In view of these undertakings, the Commission authorized implementation of the scheme.

Regional aids

Denmark

2.1.50. In its Decision 82/691/EEC of 22 July 1982 on the designation of areas eligible for regional aid in Denmark,² the Commission agreed to the grant of regional aid to the municipalities of the island of Lolland (in the Country of Storstrøm) only until 31 December 1983. It nevertheless undertook to reconsider, if necessary, this position in the light of changes in the socio-economic situation in Lolland, particularly in employment at the Nakskov shipyard. For this purpose it asked Denmark to submit to it an annual report.

This report and additional information furnished subsequently by the Danish authorities indicate that the socio-economic situation in Lolland has remained fairly stable since the Commission took its decision in July 1982. At the beginning of 1983, however, fears about prospects at the Nakskov yard—the biggest industrial employer in Lolland—proved founded, and there was a sharp rise in unemployment during the first few months of the year in the western part of the island. Nevertheless, this is a problem which affects only a fairly small area and may prove to be short-lived. The Commission has therefore agreed to an extension of the regional aids to Lolland until 31 December 1986, but this decision is subject to review if matters improve before then. Denmark will report annually to the Commission on the situation.

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.40.

² OJ L 290, 14.10.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.39.

Industry aids

Textiles

Netherlands

2.1.51. In September the Commission initiated the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of a proposal by the Dutch Government to grant aid to certain parts of the textile and clothing industry.¹

Following the observations the Commission made in the course of these proceedings, the Dutch Government amended the planned scheme of assistance in the following respects: the aid under the two outline schemes will only be granted if there is a private contribution of at least 50% of the total investment cost instead of 25% as initially proposed; the programme will lead to capacity reductions in the sector as a whole and in the various sensitive subsectors; there will be no other aids for the textile and clothing industry, either alternative or cumulative; the cotton yarn, worsted yarn and tights subsectors and the production of synthetic fibres and yarns are excluded from the programme; proposed aid to companies with 150 or more employees in the cotton fabric, ready-to-wear for men, woven nightwear for women, brassières, velvet and corduroy subsectors will be notified in advance to the Commission; and all cases of proposed support of whatever form for the manufacture of carpets will be notified in advance if the firm concerned employs 150 or more workers.

In respect of the outline scheme for investment in automation and the fund for joint projects in R&D the Dutch authorities confirmed that these schemes would in no way whatsoever prejudice Community action in the fields concerned, that they would not lead to a duplication of effort, and that individual projects would not benefit from both national and Community aid.

The Commission took the view that these changes conformed to the Community principles on aid to the textile and clothing industry which it had laid down. It accordingly concluded that the amended proposal

satisfied the test of Article 92(3) (c) and could be considered compatible with the common market.

It therefore decided on 21 December to withdraw its reservations and to terminate the procedure.

France

2.1.52. In the Article 93(2) procedure initiated by the Commission in respect of the French Government's aid schema for the textile industry in 1983,² the French Government revised its original plans—to comply with the Commission's wishes—so that the aid scheme will now contribute to the reorganization and adaptation of viable undertakings, the total amount of aid planned will be substantially cut (from FF 2 000 million to FF 1 200 million on the basis of contracts concluded under the 1983 arrangements) and the aid programme will be applied selectively, certain subsectors receiving no State aid whatever while proposed support for other sectors will be notified beforehand to the Commission.

To enable it to terminate the procedure, the Commission asked the French Government to ensure that its plan also satisfied the following conditions: firms which choose not to meet the conditions of this amended aid scheme will no longer qualify for other kinds of State aid; State aid, in whatever form, for investments in the textile industry may not amount to more than 25% of the total cost of an investment, the firm's own contribution being not less than 50%; for a firm to qualify for assistance, its capital/debt ratio must be 2:1; the aid programme must enable production capacity in sensitive subsectors to be reduced, thus leading to a reduction in overall capacity in the industry as a whole.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.34.

² OJ L 268, 30.9.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, points 2.1.44 and 2.1.44a; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.35.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Insurance

2.1.53. On 30 December the Council adopted¹ a second Directive relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles.²

The Directive requires each Member State to set up or authorize a body to provide compensation, at least up to the limits of the insurance obligation, for damage to property or personal injuries caused by an unidentified or uninsured vehicle, without préjudice to the Member States' right to regard the compensation as subsidiary or non-subsidiary. The Directive also sets minimum amounts of guarantee. Effect is to be given to the Directive by 31 December 1988, with certain exceptions for Greece, Ireland and Italy.

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Turnover tax

2.1.54. On 19 December the Council adopted a proposal for a fifteenth Directive³ authorizing Greece to extend until 31 December 1985 the time limit set at 1 January 1984 by the Act of Accession for applying the common system of value-added tax (VAT).⁴ The extension is necessary because of the technical difficulties experienced by Greece in carrying through a tax reform involving the introduction of VAT.

2.1.55. Parliament gave its opinion on the proposal⁴ on 16 December.⁵ It was in favour of a limited, one-year extension and called on the Commission to monitor very carefully Greece's efforts to introduce the VAT system, and to keep Parliament informed.

The Economic and Social Committee, on the other hand, in an opinion given on 15

December, approved the proposed two-year extension but hoped that no extension beyond 31 December 1985 would be asked for.

2.1.56. On 19 December the Commission sent to the Council, Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee its first report on the application of the special scheme for small undertakings,⁶ drawn up pursuant to the Sixth Council Directive of 17 May 1977.⁷ The report describes and analyses the different national schemes (exemption, graduated relief and flat-rate schemes) and puts forward proposals for harmonizing and simplifying the present arrangements.

2.1.57. On 21 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Decision⁸ authorizing Italy to extend once again,⁹ until 31 December 1983, the measures applied by way of derogation from the Sixth Directive of 17 May 1977⁷ to assist the victims of the earthquakes in the southern part of the country. The measures covered by the new derogation consist in an exemption from VAT, with refund of the tax paid at the preceding stage, for transactions carried out during 1983; the extension became necessary because the victims still find themselves in a difficult situation and because the transactions still in progress have to be settled.

Tax-free allowances

Tax reliefs for small consignments

2.1.58. On 13 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a

¹ OJ L 8, 11.1.1984.

² Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.56.

³ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

⁴ OJ C 317, 23.11.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.53.

⁵ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁶ COM(83)748 final.

⁷ OJ L 145, 13.6.1977.

⁸ COM(83)756 final.

⁹ OJ L 322, 11.11.1981; Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.45; OJ L 184, 29.6.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.58.

fourth Directive¹ amending for the third time² the Directive of 19 December 1974.³ The proposal introduces a multiannual programme of increases in the relief allowed on the importation of goods in small consignments of a non-commercial character within the Community. The relief, fixed at 70 ECU since 1 January 1982,² would be increased to 95 ECU in 1984, 105 ECU in 1985, 115 ECU in 1986 and 130 ECU in 1987. Consignments of newspapers, periodicals, brochures and books sent by taxable persons in one Member State to private persons in another would also qualify for relief, up to a value of 22 ECU, the purpose being to promote trade in cultural goods within the Community.

Tax-free allowances for travellers

2.1.59. On 22 December the Council adopted a Directive⁴ extending for six months the derogation accorded in December 1978 whereby Ireland was authorized to exclude from the allowance for persons travelling within the Community any item exceeding 77 ECU in value.⁵

2.1.60. On 21 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive extending the above derogation once again, this time for a period of five years; however, its scope is to be restricted and the unit-value limit raised progressively so as to minimize the impact of the derogation and to start alignment on the full Community rules.⁶

2.1.61. On 14 December Parliament gave an opinion⁷ on two proposals for Directives—one introducing a multiannual programme of increases in the relief allowed to travellers, the order concerning goods acquired by persons travelling by air or sea within the Community.⁸ Parliament regrets the delay in taking account of increases in the real value of goods since 1972, welcomes the Commission's intention to facilitate trade and movement across frontiers, but hopes that the measures envisaged will not mean extra checks on tax-free shops and their customers.

Excise duties

Cigarettes

2.1.62. Since the Council has not yet been able to agree on the criteria for the third stage of harmonization of the structure of excise duties on cigarettes,⁹ the Commission, in order to safeguard what has been achieved so far, transmitted to the Council on 7 December a proposal for a Directive¹⁰ extending for the fifth time the second stage of harmonization—introduced on 1 July 1978 by the Directive of 19 December 1977.¹¹

Employment, education and social policy

Council

2.1.63. On 8 December the Council meeting on employment and social affairs¹² approved a resolution on the promotion of young people¹³ and a proposal for a Regulation on special measures providing Community support for Greece.¹⁴

The Council made considerable progress in reviewing the proposal for a recommendation on the reduction and reorganization of working time.¹⁵ Finally, views were exchanged on an amended proposal for a Directive on procedures for informing and consulting employees (Vredeling Directive) following a statement by Mr Richard.¹⁶

¹ OJ C 3, 6.1.1984; COM(83)730 final.

² OJ L 366, 28.12.1978; Bull. EC 12-1978, point 2.1.54; OJ L 338, 25.11.1981; Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.46.

³ OJ L 354, 30.12.1974.

⁴ OJ L 370, 31.12.1983; COM(83)779 final.

⁵ OJ L 366, 28.12.1978.

⁶ COM(83)779 final; COM(83)786 final.

⁷ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁸ OJ C 114, 28.4.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.60.

⁹ OJ C 264, 11.10.1980.

¹⁰ OJ C 348, 23.12.1983; COM(83)734 final.

¹¹ OJ L 338, 20.12.1977.

¹² Point 2.4.13.

¹³ Point 2.1.64.

¹⁴ Point 2.1.76.

¹⁵ OJ C 290, 26.10.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.39.

¹⁶ Point 2.1.80.

Employment

Promotion of employment for young people

2.1.64. At its meeting on 8 December the Council approved a resolution on the promotion of employment for young people.¹

This resolution is a follow-up to the conclusions of the European Councils in December 1982² and March 1983,³ the joint Council meeting on economic and financial affairs and employment and social affairs in November 1982⁴ and the meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment in May 1983.⁵

The resolution—following the resolution of 11 July 1983 concerning vocational training policies in the European Community in the 1980s⁶ and supplementing the efforts made in this area—embodies the Community's commitment to deploy increased efforts over the next five years to create additional job opportunities in order to achieve a steady and significant reduction in the unemployment rate. This commitment has been substantially eroded compared with that advocated by the Commission in its initial proposal. Nevertheless, the Council resolution establishes certain general guidelines and a spectrum of measures to be taken in this context in the Member States, and underlines the contribution which could be made by the European Social Fund, in particular by supporting demonstration projects.

Employment and the labour market

Voluntary work

2.1.65. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution on voluntary work.⁷

Financial instruments

European Social Fund

Guidelines for the management of the Fund

2.1.66. On 21 December the Commission adopted⁸ the guidelines for the management

of the European Social Fund for 1984-86; this document was transmitted to the Council on 6 January.⁹ The delay in adopting the guidelines was the subject of a Parliament resolution on 15 December.¹⁰

Following the Council Decision of 17 October on the Fund's new tasks,¹¹ the guidelines establish the measures which may be classified as Community priorities, in particular those specified in the action programmes on employment and vocational training.

For a transitional period and to ensure continuity with the regional priorities established in 1983, available appropriations will be concentrated in areas of high and persistent unemployment on the basis of the former rules, and in areas undergoing industrial and sectoral restructuring. However, this concentration of funds on certain regions will not apply to operations meeting certain Community objectives, particularly those relating to the introduction of new technologies, which are to be supported throughout the Community.

2.1.67. On 22 December the Commission also adopted a number of new administrative provisions relating to the Fund (forms, time limits, financing).

Fund assistance

2.1.68. On 21 December the Commission approved the fifth batch of applications for assistance from the ESF for 1983. These applications, which were examined earlier by the Fund Committee, involve the following amounts:

- 564.98 million ECU for operations for workers in agriculture and the textile indus-

¹ OJ C 149, 8.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.54.

² Bull. EC 12-1982, point 1.2.3.

³ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.5.3.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, points 1.2.1 *et seq.* and 2.1.42.

⁵ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.53.

⁶ OJ C 193, 20.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.4.1 *et seq.* and 2.1.80.

⁷ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁸ OJ L 377, 31.12.1983.

⁹ OJ C 5, 10.1.1984; COM(83)711 final.

¹⁰ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

¹¹ OJ L 289, 22.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, points 1.3.1 *et seq.*

try, migrant workers, women and young workers affected by employment difficulties (Article 4):

<i>million ECU</i>	
Operations	Amounts
Textiles	8.42
Young people—training aids —employment	390.14
aids	105.02
Women	11.40

• 159.58 million ECU for operations to retrain unemployed or underemployed workers in less-developed regions of the Community, the training of workers to meet the changing needs of technology and industrial progress and operations involving the rehabilitation of handicapped persons (Article 5):

<i>million ECU</i>	
Operations	Amounts
Regions	60.32
Technical progress	26.00
Handicapped persons	73.26

Measures for ECSC workers

Redeployment aids

2.1.69. In December, acting under Article 56(2)(b) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided to contribute 97 573 250 ECU towards redeployment expenses for 24 506 workers affected by closures or cutbacks in steel plants, coal mines and iron ore mines in the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom.

Social measures in the steel industry

2.1.70. Additionally, the Commission decided to distribute a fourth tranche of 50 million ECU towards the financing of early retirement and part-time working measures to help steelworkers affected by restructuring programmes.¹ This was made possible by a transfer from the 1983 general budget to the ECSC budget which had been authorized by the Council in September 1982.² A total of 212 million ECU has been committed since 1981, distributed by Member State as follows:

	<i>million ECU</i>
Belgium	22.786
Denmark	1.638
Federal Republic of Germany	29.997
France	68.517
Italy	17.916
Luxembourg	1.358
Netherlands	2.418
United Kingdom	67.370

Special measures of Community interest in the field of employment

2.1.71. On 2 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation establishing special measures of Community interest in the field of employment.³ This proposal, which follows on from the conclusions of the June 1983 European Council regarding compensation to the United Kingdom,⁴ makes provision for financial assistance for the implementation in the United Kingdom of schemes which will create additional job opportunities for the currently unemployed. The schemes are to include such as will encourage early retirement for older workers and may concern both part-time and full-time employment. The Community's contribution is not to exceed 70% of the annual public expenditure provided for the execution of each programme.

Education and vocational training

Cooperation in the field of education

2.1.72. On 13 and 14 December the Education Committee met in Athens and was informed about the education and vocational training system in Greece. Members also visited several vocational and technical training establishments.

¹ Fifteenth General Report, point 272; Sixteenth General Report, point 297.

² OJ L 277, 29.9.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.29.

³ OJ C 348, 23.12.1983; COM(83)696 final.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1983, point 1.5.9.

The Committee reviewed the implementation of the second series of pilot projects (1983-86) concerning the transition from school to working life.¹ The 30 pilot projects receiving Commission financial support were launched at the beginning of the 1983/84 academic year. While these schemes support the development of national policies, they are closely interlinked with other measures, thus fulfilling the aims set forth in the resolution adopted by the Council and Ministers of Education on 12 July 1982.¹

The Commission briefed the Committee regarding the implementation of the resolution concerning vocational training policies in the European Community in the 1980s² and the resolution on matters relating to training and the new information technologies.³

Transition from school to working life

2.1.73. In connection with the meeting of the Education Committee in Athens and at the request of the Greek Minister of Education, the Commission assisted the Greek authorities in the organization, on 14-16 December, of a conference designed to disseminate in Greece the results of the first Community programme of pilot projects on the transition of young people from education to adult and working life, launched in 1977—before Greece joined the Community.⁴

New technologies

2.1.74. Following the Council resolution on measures relating to the introduction of new information technology in education,⁵ a seminar on computers in education was held in Marseille on 7-9 December. It was organized by the French authorities in close cooperation with the Commission and covered four main topics—teacher training in the new technologies; the incorporation of new techniques in teaching methods; their social and cultural impact; and hardware and software.

Education and training of migrants

2.1.75. The Commission has awarded 40 grants for study visits to enable teachers, administrators, counsellors or research workers to examine problems connected with the organization of the teaching of minority languages and cultures in another Member State.

Vocational training

2.1.76. On 8 December the Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs approved the substance of the measures provided for in the proposal for a Regulation⁶—presented by the Commission further to the Greek memorandum—on special financial measures by the Community (1984-88) for programmes to be drawn up by Greece for the construction, adaptation and equipment of vocational training centres in areas not covered by the ERDF (Athens and Thessaloniki) and centres for the rehabilitation (particularly vocational) of the mentally ill and mentally handicapped.

2.1.77. On 14 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision on the comparability of vocational training qualifications between Member States.⁷

Youth exchanges

2.1.78. Following a Parliament resolution relating to a programme of exchanges of young people,⁸ the Commission attended a joint meeting of the Governing Boards of the Council of Europe's European Youth Centre and European Youth Foundation on 14 December.

¹ OJ C 193, 28.7.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.1.35.

² OJ C 193, 20.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.4.1 et seq. and 2.1.80.

³ OJ C 166, 25.6.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.4.1 and 2.1.81.

⁴ OJ C 308, 13.12.1976; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.83.

⁵ OJ C 256, 25.9.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.82.

⁶ OJ C 232, 30.8.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.62.

⁷ OJ C 264, 4.10.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.48.

⁸ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

2.1.79. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution on a European Voluntary Service Scheme for Young People.¹

Living and working conditions and social protection

Labour law and industrial relations

2.1.80. On 8 December Mr Richard presented to the Council an amended proposal for a Directive on procedures for informing and consulting employees² and urged the rapid adoption of this moderate and flexible instrument—a vital factor in improving the social dialogue.

During the exchange of views all delegations supported the aims set out in the proposal. Although a minority criticized the binding form of the instrument, the Council nevertheless agreed to approach the amended version in a constructive spirit.

2.1.81. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution on the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.³

Equality between men and women

2.1.82. The Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men held its sixth meeting on 1 and 2 December.⁴ It examined and discussed the interim report on the implementation of the new action programme to promote equal opportunities for women.⁵ Noting how little progress had been achieved in recent years with respect to equal opportunity, largely on account of the recession, the Committee expressed a strong interest in contributing to the development of positive actions for women and in receiving support from the Commission as recommended in the action programme on the promotion of equal opportunities for women, which provides for the preparation of Community instruments on the type of measures to be adopted and the resources to be deployed.

The Committee also examined two draft reports by experts, one on differences in

treatment of men and women as regards social security in areas not covered by Directive 79/7/EEC (statutory social security schemes) and one on problems in the application of the equal treatment Directives in the Member States.

2.1.83. In December the Commission held two meetings on equal opportunities for men and women in banking, attended by research workers who had participated in the Commission's work in this field since 1978 and representatives of employers and trade unions in the banking industry.

2.1.84. On 14 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered a favourable opinion⁶ on the proposal for a Directive on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes.⁷

Social integration of handicapped persons

2.1.85. On 8 December the Commission held a meeting of experts to organize the participation at European level of centres providing information regarding the problems of handicapped persons (Handynet).

2.1.86. On 14 and 15 December the Commission organized a meeting of the Liaison Group on Disability with the participation of local representatives and national experts responsible for project evaluation, in order to discuss the launching of projects at district level to promote the social integration of handicapped persons.

¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² OJ C 217, 12.8.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7 and 2.1.87; Supplement 2/83 — Bull. EC.

³ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.65.

⁵ OJ C 22, 29.1.1982; Supplement 1/82 — Bull. EC.

⁶ Point 2.4.28.

⁷ OJ C 134, 21.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, points 2.1.70 and 2.1.71.

2.1.87. On 21 December Mr Richard received a delegation from the European Area Committee of the International Federation of the Blind and the Standing European Commission for Tactual Town Maps for the Visually Handicapped. They discussed the results of the symposium held in the autumn with Commission support designed to promote, in addition to the traditional resources made available to the blind, the preparation of tactual town plans to enable blind persons to understand the topography of a given area and thus move around in the area independently. Following the symposium, 33 standardized symbols to be used in the preparation of tactual town maps were adopted at European level.

Health and safety

Public health

2.1.88. The growth of individual and group travel and the development of international tourism may present a number of health problems for people suffering from serious or chronic illnesses with clinical features which might necessitate emergency treatment.

With a view to making it easier for such people to travel, on 21 December the Commission proposed to the Council that it recommend the introduction of a European emergency health card to the Member States.¹ A multilingual card, introduced on a voluntary basis, would contain the basic medical information essential to the emergency provision of appropriate medical treatment, while ensuring that all the rules of medical ethics and confidentiality are observed. This Community initiative is likely to concern 8 to 10% of the population.

2.1.89. On 14 December the Economic and Social Committee endorsed the proposal for a Council Directive relating to the protection of dialysis patients by minimizing exposure to aluminium.²

2.1.90. A seminar on the place of epidemiologic evaluation in occupational health was held in Luxembourg on 5, 6 and 7

December. The discussions pointed up the need to establish a better data base, and this applies to mortality as well as to morbidity data. Next, the importance of epidemiologic method as a tool for policy and decision evaluation was stressed. Process evaluation often has to take precedence over outcome evaluation. One of the main conclusions was the need to include some machinery for assessment within any future occupational health programme.

2.1.91. The control of cancer, in other words the different levels of cancer prevention, was the subject of an international seminar which took place in Luxembourg from 14 to 16 December. The discussions covered early diagnosis, health education, the effectiveness of the various prevention programmes and the associated methodological problems. The seminar concluded that emphasis should be given to a small number of objectives, the foremost of these being the anti-smoking campaign.

2.1.92. From 28 November to 2 December an international symposium on toxicology took place in Luxembourg, with more than 150 specialists from 30 countries attending.

The symposium was organized jointly by the Commission, the International Programme on Chemical Safety and the WHO Regional Office for Europe to determine requirements for toxicologists and specialists in the different areas of toxicology, to discuss the content of training programmes and to look into the need for official recognition of qualifications.

Health and safety (ECSC)

2.1.93. The Commission granted 429 345 ECU and 1 473 000 ECU to two sets of research projects under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty.³

¹ OJ C 21, 28.1.1984; COM(83)750 final.

² OJ C 202, 29.7.1983.

³ Points 2.1.234 and 2.1.235.

Health and safety (Euratom)

2.1.94. As part of the annual exchange of information and experience on the practical organization of radiation protection in nuclear power stations, on 24 and 25 November the Commission held the sixth meeting¹ of experts with responsibility for radiation protection in nuclear power stations in the Member States and in Sweden. The meeting was primarily concerned with analysis of a survey on the recording of occupational doses, and also covered doses, dose rates and their correlation and systems for recording doses. In addition there was an exchange of experience on the different techniques for reducing doses.

2.1.95. On 1 and 2 December there was a meeting of experts responsible for the study contracts on the measurement of radon concentrations in mines other than uranium mines. The reports of the French, Italian, UK and German contractors were examined. These studies have made it possible to develop simple, practical and economical methods for detecting the presence of radon which might give rise to a radiological risk for miners.

Culture

2.1.96. A European poetry seminar—organized by the cultural institutes and attachés of the Member States in conjunction with the Commission—took place in Brussels on 8 and 9 December. The aim was to consider developments in the poetry of each Community country since the Second World War and to identify common European features.

The seminar was held in the context of the Commission communication on stronger Community action in the cultural sector with particular reference to the need to foster cooperation between Member States' cultural counsellors and cultural institutes.²

2.1.97. Again with Commission support, the first international symposium on music and reciprocal cultural influences between-

Europe and Latin America from the sixteenth to the twentieth century was held in Brussels in November.

2.1.98. On 16 December Parliament passed a resolution on the European Poetry Festival.³

Regional policy

2.1.99. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution on a European regional planning scheme.³

Integrated Mediterranean programmes

2.1.100. On 21 December the Commission adopted a number of decisions concerning pilot projects and preparatory studies for the integrated Mediterranean programmes, at a total cost of 5.8 million ECU to be funded from the relevant budget appropriation.

Coordination and programmes

Regional development studies

2.1.101. Five studies financed or cofinanced by the Commission on regional problems in the Community were completed. They cover the following subjects: a system of assessing and selecting programmes and projects as well as monitoring their impact on regional development; the comparative advantage of Greek regions for the location of foreign investments; a long-term development strategy for the North East region of Ireland; strategies for the development of the Galway/Mayo region for the period 1983-2001; industrial aids and their regional incidence in Greece.

2.1.102. As regards the studies to be cofinanced by the ERDF, the Commission de-

¹Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.57.

² Supplement 6/82 — Bull. EC.

³ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

cided on 12 and 20 December to grant under Article 12 of the Fund Regulation 1.070 million ECU towards six studies concerning the United Kingdom and Greece.

Regional Policy Committee

2.1.103. The Regional Policy Committee, meeting on 2 December with Mr Bernard Attali in the chair, continued its preparation of the second periodic report on the social and economic situation of the regions of the Community,¹ which is to be drawn up pursuant to the Council's resolution of 6 February 1979.²

Financial instruments

European Regional Development Fund

Seventh annual report

2.1.104. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution³ on the seventh annual report on the European Regional Development Fund (1981).⁴

ERDF aid: fourth allocation for 1982

2.1.105. On 20 December the Commission approved the fourth allocation of grants for 1983 from the ERDF, totalling 1 536 million ECU. These grants will go to 2 732 projects, in nine Member States, costing a total of 9 127 million ECU.

The Fund Committee had endorsed these projects on 23 and 24 November. The Regional Policy Committee had been consulted beforehand, on 10 November, on infrastructure projects costing more than 10 million ECU.⁴

The aid granted under this allocation was distributed among the Member States as shown in Table 4.

¹ Fourteenth General Report, point 276.

² OJ C 36, 9.2.1979.

³ Point 2.4.11, OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.40.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.95.

Table 4 — *Grants from the ERDF (fourth 1983 allocation)*

	Number of grant decisions	Number of investment projects	Investment assisted (million ECU)	Assistance granted (million ECU)
Belgium	7	37	27	7
Denmark	2	28	7	2
Germany (FR)	37	108	332	21
Greece	32	80	549	192
France	153	961	3 084	301
Ireland	15	74	725	53
Italy	114	817	3 160	697
Luxembourg	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	5	7	42	13
United Kingdom	99	620	1 201	250
Total	464	2 732	9 127	1 536

(converted at January 1983 rates)

The total of 1 536 million ECU breaks down as follows:

- 1 358 million ECU to help finance 2 130 infrastructure projects, comprising 732 million ECU to finance 70 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, 625 million ECU to finance 2 048 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each, and 1 million ECU to finance 12 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each in regions covered by the Directive on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas. The total investment cost of these projects amounts to 7 329 million ECU.
- 178 million ECU to help finance 602 projects in industrial (including small business) or service activities, comprising 60 million ECU to finance 25 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, and 118 million ECU to finance 577 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each. The total investment cost of these projects amounts to 1 797 million ECU.

Including this fourth allocation, the Fund granted 2 205 million ECU in 1983 to help finance 3 655 investment projects. This brings the number of projects financed since the Fund was set up to 21 426 and the total aid granted to about 9 296 million ECU.

ERDF aid: non-quota measures

2.1.106. On 19 and 22 December the Council examined in detail the Commission's proposals for a second series of non-quota Community measures,¹ as amended by the Commission² after consulting Parliament.³ Most of the problems were settled, so that the Council should be able to adopt the six Regulations formally at the beginning of 1984; there is still some divergence of opinion concerning the Regulation on the development of new economic activities in certain zones adversely affected by the restructuring of the steel industry.

Exceptional measure for Northern Ireland

2.1.107. Under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1739/83 of 21 June introducing an ex-

ceptional Community measure to promote urban renewal in Northern Ireland,⁴ the Commission decided on 23 December to grant a first tranche of aid amounting to 32 million ECU, to be drawn from the appropriations allocated for Community measures under integrated operations.

Supplementary measures for the United Kingdom

2.1.108. Under the supplementary measures for the United Kingdom for 1982, the Commission approved a further grant from the Community totalling 195.561 million ECU for seven infrastructure programmes. This brings the total since the supplementary measures were instituted in December 1980 to 4 129.357 million ECU.

At the same time seven decisions taken in March⁵ were amended by changing the distribution of the grants among the regions and the special multiannual programmes for infrastructure investments in the United Kingdom in line with actual public expenditure on these programmes in the 1982/83 financial year.⁶

Disaster relief

2.1.109. On 2 December the Commission decided to grant emergency relief of 250 000 ECU to help the victims of the November earthquake in the Emilia-Romagna region. On 27 December the Commission decided—by way of exception, this being the first case of relief after a forest fire—to grant emergency relief of 100 000 ECU to the families of victims and to those seriously injured in the terrible fires which swept through several parts of Sardinia last July.

¹ OJ C 15, 19.1.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, points 2.1.12 to 2.1.16.

² OJ C 291, 27.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.80.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.104.

⁴ OJ L 171, 19.6.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.105.

⁵ OJ L 98, 16.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.73.

⁶ OJ L 375, 31.12.1983.

2.1.110. Parliament adopted two resolutions on 15 December:¹ on the granting of special economic aid to Greece in view of the damage caused by recent snowstorms; and on special Community measures to revive agriculture and forestry in the mountain areas of Veneto damaged by landslides.

Environment and consumers

Environment

Council

2.1.111. On 16 December the Council² resumed the meeting adjourned in November.³ The Ministers agreed on a second Directive on mercury discharges⁴ but failed to finish with the other items on the agenda (transfrontier shipment of hazardous wastes, ACE, air pollution from industrial plants).

Action by the Community relating to the environment

2.1.112. The Council further examined the proposal for a Regulation on action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)⁵ on 16 December. Two main problems were left outstanding—the exact scope of the Regulation and the detailed arrangements for managing the projects.

2.1.113. On 22 December the Commission decided to grant financial support totalling 498 170 ECU—the amount available for 1983 under Item 6612 (Implementation of Community rules and regulations governing certain forms of pollution).

Each project selected must help the Commission to monitor the application of the Community legislation on environmental protection, help it apply this legislation in respect of the aquatic environment, air pollution and the management of toxic wastes and assist it to judge whether the Community should take more far-reaching action in these fields.

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Freshwater and marine pollution

2.1.114. On 16 December the Council approved the proposal for a Directive⁶ on discharges of mercury (into the aquatic environment) by sectors other than the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry (already covered by the Council Directive of 22 March 1982⁷). The new Directive, which Parliament endorsed on the same day,⁸ implements the framework Directive of 4 May 1976 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community.⁹ It lays down limit values and emission standards for mercury discharges from industrial plants together with quality objectives for the aquatic environment in the Community. Specific time limits are also set by which existing sources must satisfy the conditions specified in the authorizations issued by the competent authorities in the Member States. Finally, the proposal establishes a monitoring procedure and reference methods for measuring the mercury content in discharges and in the aquatic environment.

2.1.115. On 14 December, to supplement the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed by the Community in March,¹⁰ the Commission recommended that the Council should sign the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean Region.¹¹

¹ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² Point 2.4.13.

³ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.103.

⁴ Point 2.1.114.

⁵ OJ C 30, 4.2.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.96; OJ C 158, 16.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.83.

⁶ OJ C 20, 25.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.99.

⁷ OJ L 81, 27.3.1982; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.79.

⁸ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁹ OJ L 129, 18.5.1976; Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2232.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.78.

¹¹ OJ C 5, 10.1.1984; COM(83) 733 final.

It also called on the Council to complete the procedures for concluding not only the Protocol but also the Convention itself.

Air pollution

2.1.116. The Council made substantial progress at its 16 December meeting on the proposal for a Directive on the combating of air pollution from industrial plants, and in particular on the conditions for issuing prior authorizations and on the scope of the Directive.¹ Differences of opinion remained, however, on the question of fixing Community-wide limit values.

2.1.117. The Commission also sent the Council a work programme in respect of measures against air pollution,² in which it described the measures adopted under the First (1973) and Second (1977) Action Programmes on the Environment³ and outlined the political and scientific context in which the policy proposed in the work programme must be set. The policy will be built primarily around measures to limit emissions of pollutants caused by the burning of spent oils, to reduce emissions from motor vehicles and the lead content of petrol, to lay down values for the sulphur content of gas-oil and to encourage Member States to lay down air quality standards that are stricter than the general standards in areas which are exceptionally sensitive.

2.1.118. As a first step in the work programme, on 14 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants.⁴ This proposal constitutes the Commission's first reaction to the call by the Stuttgart European Council in June for urgent measures to speed up and strengthen action at national, Community and international level to combat environmental pollution.⁵ A substantial reduction in emissions of sulphur dioxides, oxides of nitrogen and dust is needed to counteract the widespread damage which air pollution is causing to monuments, buildings and flora (especially forests). But it should be possible to achieve this by 1995 without excessive cost to the

industries concerned, especially since the annual cost of the damage observed is roughly as high as, if not even higher than, the cost of the abatement measures proposed.

These measures includes a reduction in total annual emissions from large combustion plants, the introduction of Community emission standards for the pollutants concerned—to be met from 1985 by all new combustion plants with a thermal rating in excess of 50 MW—and the measurement and monitoring of total annual emissions and of emissions from individual plants of the type concerned.

Protection and rational use of land, the environment and natural resources

Flora and fauna

2.1.119. On 12 December the Commission amended⁶ the Council Regulation of 3 December 1982 on the implementation in the Community of the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,⁷ replacing some of the annexes, as the parties to the Convention had agreed at their conference in April 1983.⁸

Natural resources

2.1.120. On 16 December the Council further examined the proposal for a Regulation on the supervision and control of transfrontier shipments of hazardous wastes, but did not adopt it.⁹

¹ OJ C 139, 27.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.85.

² COM(83) 721 final.

³ OJ C 112, 20.12.1973; OJ C 139, 13.6.1977.

⁴ COM(83) 704 final.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.5.15 and 2.1.109.

⁶ OJ L 367, 28.12.1983.

⁷ OJ L 384, 31.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.105.

⁸ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.92.

⁹ OJ C 53, 25.2.1983; OJ C 186, 12.7.1983.

International cooperation

2.1.121. The cooperation with Sweden on environmental issues—which started in 1977¹—continued with a further exchange of information in Stockholm on 2 December. This time several major issues, including marine pollution and air pollution, were on the agenda.

2.1.122. Finally, the Commission took part in the latest meeting of the OECD Environment Committee in Paris on 6-8 December. The Committee approved the work programme for 1985, when a package of measures are planned, including action on energy, air pollution, chemicals and pollution of the aquatic environment. The Committee also announced the dates for the International Conference on Environment and Economy (18-21 June 1984).

Consumers

Council

2.1.123. The Council held its first meeting devoted exclusively to the Community's consumer protection and information policy on 12 December in Brussels. Further meetings are scheduled for the first half of 1984. The Ministers approved the introduction of a system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products and made progress on the other items on the agenda—product liability, misleading and unfair advertising, doorstep sales.

In a statement to this meeting, Mr Narjes, Member of the Commission with special responsibility for consumer protection, stressed the benefits to consumers of a common market, emphasized the need to protect consumer interests and outlined the proposals currently being prepared in this field—consumer credit, price indication for non-food products, consumer protection in respect of package tours.

2.1.124. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution on consumer policy in the Community.²

Physical protection

Exchange of information

2.1.125. On 12 December the Council approved the proposal for a Decision introducing a Community system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products.³ This system, to be operated between the Member States and the Commission, will enable Member States to take the appropriate urgent measures where it is found that a particular consumer product presents a danger to the health or safety of the consumer.

Toy safety

2.1.126. On 14 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion⁴ on three proposals for Directives concerning toys (approximation of laws concerning the safety of toys, common technical safety standards concerning the physical and mechanical properties of toys, and common technical safety standards concerning the flammability of toys).⁵

Protection of consumers' economic and legal interests

Product liability

2.1.127. On 12 December the Council continued its discussions on the amended proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning liability for defective products.⁶ The main question still under discussion concerned the limits on the manufacturer's financial liability.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1977, point 2.1.99.

² Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

³ OJ C 321, 22.12.1979; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.93; OJ C 22, 27.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.107.

⁴ Point 2.4.27.

⁵ OJ C 203, 20.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.134.

⁶ OJ C 241, 14.10.1976; OJ C 271, 26.10.1979.

Misleading and unfair advertising

2.1.128. On 12 December the Council also held an initial exchange of views on the amended proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning misleading and unfair advertising.¹ Discussions focused on the scope of the proposal and a number of problems concerning the administrative and judicial protection of consumers.

2.1.129. In a resolution adopted on 15 December Parliament called on the Council to adopt this Directive without delay.²

Doorstep sales

2.1.130. At the same meeting the Council examined the proposal for a Directive to protect the consumer in respect of contracts negotiated away from business premises,³ the main purpose of which was to grant consumers the right to cancel, within seven days, contracts concluded away from the business premises of the trader. While the Council reached a broad consensus on the proposal, it was unable to take a final decision at this stage.

Consumer information, education and representation

Price indication

2.1.131. On 23 December the Commission responded to the request made by the Council in its June 1979 resolution⁴ by laying before it a new proposal for a Directive on consumer protection in respect of the indication of prices for non-food products.⁵

The aim of the new proposal is to make it compulsory to indicate the selling price—and where appropriate the unit price—at the place of sale. It also calls for the indication of unit prices in advertising and/or catalogues listing prices.

Consumers Consultative Committee

2.1.132. A meeting of the Consumers Consultative Committee (CCC) took place in

Brussels on 13 December. Mrs Catherine Lalumière, State Secretary (Consumer Affairs) attached to the French Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs, participated at the invitation of the Commission. The Committee adopted three opinions—on problems encountered by consumers as tourists, access to the courts and the draft Commission Regulation concerning the application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to categories of agreements concerning the distribution of and before and after sales service of motor vehicles (improving the effectiveness of competition legislation).

International cooperation

2.1.123. On 1 December a meeting took place in Stockholm between the Commission and Sweden on cooperation with regard to consumer protection and information following an exchange of letters in December 1980.⁶ This meeting dealt, in particular, with the questions of product liability, safety and the standardization of products, and sales contracts.

Agriculture

Council

2.1.134. The Council was unable to approve the proposals for the revision of the agricultural structures policy⁷ at its meeting on 12 and 13 December.⁸

It fixed the activating prices for table wines (December 1983 - August 1984)⁹ and agreed on a transitional measure for imports of New Zealand butter into the United Kingdom for the first two months of 1984.

¹ OJ C 70, 21.3.1978; Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.1.36; OJ C 194, 1.8.1979.

² OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

³ OJ C 22, 29.1.1977; Bull. EC 1-1977, point 2.1.36; OJ C 127, 1.6.1978; Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.1.35.

⁴ OJ C 163, 30.6.1979.

⁵ COM(83) 754 final.

⁶ Bull. EC 12-1980, point 2.1.77.

⁷ Bull. EC 9-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

⁸ Point 2.4.13.

⁹ Point 2.1.143.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.135. On 19 December the Council, having consulted Parliament,¹ extended until 31 December 1984² the validity of the Regulation introducing the ECU into the CAP.³

2.1.136. Pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1372/81 of 19 May 1981,⁴ the Commission undertook the periodic review of monetary compensatory amounts on products not listed in Annex II to the Treaty and concluded that there was no need to change the list of such products currently subject to MCAs.

Cereal substitutes

2.1.137. On 22 December the Council set at 370 000 tonnes (unchanged from 1983⁵) the quantity of manioc originating in non-GATT countries (China) which may be imported into the Community in 1984 at a rate of duty not exceeding 6% *ad valorem*.⁶

2.1.138. On 23 December the Commission, acting under the Council Decisions of July 1982⁷ and March 1983,⁸ approved rules (unchanged from 1983) concerning the implementation in 1984 of the import arrangements for manioc originating in Thailand and elsewhere.⁹

Market organizations

Prices and specific measures

Cereals

2.1.139. In order to reduce the level of intervention stocks of common wheat, the Commission on 2 December authorized the intervention agencies to sell 2 million tonnes of common wheat for use in animal feed.¹⁰ On account of the high level of intervention stocks at the beginning of the marketing year (5.6 million tonnes), stocks currently stand at 8.6 million tonnes, less 1.3 million tonnes committed for sale. By the end of

the marketing year, stocks should have been cut to around 3 million tonnes if the normal operation of the intervention system is not to be jeopardized.

The 2 million tonnes put up for sale will ensure that the animal feed market, which was affected by the poor maize harvest in the United States and the poor barley harvest in the Community, is supplied. The additional quantity of wheat required for animal feed in the Community during the 1983/84 marketing year is estimated at 4 million tonnes.

The cost of this operation amounts to 16.9 million ECU, compared with storage costs of the order of 5.4 million ECU a month. There would appear to be no possibility of disposing of such a quantity on the world market over the next 12 months.

In 1982/83 the Community exported 12.4 million tonnes of common wheat, compared with production of about 55 million tonnes. During the current marketing year, 18 million tonnes of common wheat will go for animal feed (14 million in 1982/83).

Pigmeat

2.1.140. In response to the worrying situation on the market in pigmeat and in view of imports from non-Community countries at real prices below the sluicgate price, additional amounts of 10 ECU/100 kg were fixed for live swine originating in Hungary and the German Democratic Republic and boneless and other meat from Sweden, Hungary and Romania.¹¹

¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² OJ L 358, 22.12.1983.

³ OJ L 84, 4.4.1979.

⁴ OJ L 138, 25.5.1981.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.110; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.96.

⁶ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983.

⁷ OJ L 219, 28.7.1982.

⁸ OJ L 72, 18.3.1983.

⁹ OJ L 361, 24.12.1983; OJ L 366, 28.12.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 338, 3.12.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 336, 1.12.1983; OJ L 345, 8.12.1983.

2.1.141. As a means of increasing protection of the Community market against disruption by low-priced imports, the export refund on carcasses and half-carcasses was raised from 32 to 36 ECU/100 kg with the aim of relieving the market in basic products, given the export opportunities which had arisen.¹

Wine

2.1.142. In the course of the month the Council and the Commission adopted a series of measures to apply from the start of the wine year on 16 December.

2.1.143. On 12 December the Council set the activating prices for table wines.² On account of the links between these prices and the guide prices the increase decided on was similar to the increase in guide prices, i.e. 6% for table wines of type A I and 5.5% for all other types.

2.1.144. The same day the Council, in the absence of a common organization of the market in alcohol and pending provisions harmonizing the definitions of aromatized wines, extended by a further year the provisions concerning the addition of alcohol to products in the wine sector,³ application of which presents no difficulty at present.

2.1.145. The Commission fixed the new reference prices in the wine sector on 1 December,⁴ the average increase being 4.5% and the free-at-frontier reference prices on 13 December.³

On 14 December it adopted the new compensatory amounts applicable in the wine sector,³ and on 15 December it set new special rates for converting the free-at-frontier reference prices of imported liqueur wines into national currencies.⁴

On 23 December it authorized the conclusion of long-term storage contracts for table wines and grape musts.⁵

2.1.146. Lastly, on 8 December the Commission terminated the possibility of concluding short-term storage contracts for table wines of type A III but enabled such contracts to be concluded for table wines

of type R III,⁶ in both cases because of the trend in representative prices for the wines concerned.

On 12 December it postponed for two months the deadline specified for the end of the preventive distillation operations initiated for the 1983/84 wine year,⁷ to enable a large number of distilleries in certain parts of the Community to deal with the big quantity of wine to be distilled.

Milk and milk products

2.1.147. The Council determined, for the 1984/85 milk year, the guideline figure for the fat content which standardized whole milk imported into Ireland and the United Kingdom from other Member States must have in order to be marketed in those two countries.³ The figure specified is the weighted average fat content of the whole milk produced and marketed in the importing country during the previous year. It is 3.54% for Ireland and 3.89% for the United Kingdom.

2.1.148. On 19 December the Council fixed the quantity of New Zealand butter which the United Kingdom is authorized to import during the first two months of 1984 and the rate of the special levy applicable to such imports.⁵ It failed to reach agreement at the meeting on agriculture on 12 and 13 December on the annual figure for 1984⁸ and therefore followed a procedure similar to that adopted at the beginning of the year.⁹

¹ OJ L 337, 2.12.1983.

² OJ L 351, 14.12.1983.

³ OJ L 352, 15.12.1983.

⁴ OJ L 354, 16.12.1983.

⁵ OJ L 366, 28.12.1983.

⁶ OJ L 347, 9.12.1983.

⁷ OJ L 350, 13.12.1983.

⁸ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.121.

⁹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.109.

Following this Regulation, the Commission laid down detailed import arrangements on 22 December.¹

Beef/veal

2.1.149. The Council adopted a Decision on 19 December opening a tariff quota of 50 000 tonnes of frozen beef for 1984.² The quota will be divided up in the same way as in 1982 and 1983.

2.1.150. By reason of the situation on the market in beef and veal in Greece, the Commission authorized that country to suspend the customs duties on imports of beef and veal products until 31 March 1984.³

2.1.151. The Commission renewed the import quotas for high-quality beef and veal and for buffalo meat for 1984 and determined the quantities which may be imported from the United States and Canada.⁴

Processed fruit and vegetables

2.1.152. On 1 December the Commission allocated among the supplier countries and among the Member States the 34 750 tonnes of preserved mushrooms which may be imported in 1984 free of additional charges.⁵

2.1.153. On 22 December the Commission adopted a Regulation reducing the prices at which storage agencies are to sell dried figs from the 1983 harvest.⁶

Tobacco

2.1.154. On 22 December the Commission adopted a Regulation postponing for six months, i.e. until 30 June 1984, the final date for granting refunds on tobacco from the 1981 and 1982 crops.¹ The reason for this extension is the relatively large quantities, mainly from the 1982 crop, which are to be exported.

2.1.155. It also, the same day, adopted a Regulation opening an invitation to tender for the sale for export of 8 313 406 kilograms of tobacco from the 1981 crop held by the Greek intervention agency.¹

Structures

Socio-structural Directives

2.1.156. In its proposal concerning reform of the policy on agricultural structures,⁷ the Commission had suggested amendments to the 1982 socio-structural Directives on the modernization of farms, on measures to encourage the cessation of farming and on the training of farmers,⁸ which expire on 31 December.

As the Council had not yet adopted this proposal, the Commission presented a further proposal to extend the validity of the three Directives—and a number of Decisions connected with them—for six months.⁹

The Commission also put to the Council a proposal for a Regulation prohibiting Member States from granting investment aid for milk production.⁹ This restriction is in force for an initial period of six months, pending the Council decision on the reform of the Community policy on agricultural structures.

New measures and adjustment of Directives

2.1.157. On 15 December Parliament endorsed¹⁰ a proposal for a Regulation extending the common measure on the acceleration of agricultural development in certain regions of Greece.¹¹

2.1.158. The same day it adopted a resolution on the establishment of young farmers within the Community.¹⁰

¹ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983.

² OJ L 358, 22.12.1983.

³ OJ L 361, 24.12.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.93.

⁴ OJ L 361, 24.12.1983.

⁵ OJ L 337, 2.12.1983.

⁶ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

⁷ OJ C 347, 22.12.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

⁸ OJ L 96, 23.4.1972.

⁹ OJ C 18, 25.1.1984; COM(83)746 final.

¹⁰ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

¹¹ OJ C 210, 6.8.1983; Bull. 7/8-1983, point 2.1.144.

Coordination of agricultural research

2.1.159. The Council formally adopted, on 12 December, a new Decision on joint research programmes and programmes for coordinating agricultural research.¹ It will review the programmes, including their financial aspects, before 30 April 1986.

Legislation

Veterinary legislation

2.1.160. On 13 December the Council extended² for six months application of the 1964 and 1972 Directives³ as regards certain measures relating to foot-and-mouth disease and swine vesicular disease. The Commission had made a proposal to that effect in September 1982.⁴

2.1.161. On 19 December the Council adopted the Decision granting a financial contribution to the Foot-and-Mouth Institute in Ankara⁵ which the Commission had proposed in October.⁶

2.1.162. In view of the progress of the outbreak of classical swine fever in the Federal Republic of Germany, the Commission continued the suspension of the disease-free status of the Weser-Ems Regierungsbezirk,⁷ and reduced the area to which protective measures are to be applied in trade⁷ following the improvement in the situation observed in the Münster Regierungsbezirk.

2.1.163. The absence of new cases of foot-and-mouth disease in Spain led the Commission to lift the health protection measures applied to imports of certain meat from that country.⁸

Competition

2.1.164. Under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided to make no comment on the introduction of the following draft measures, notified by:

Federal Republic of Germany

Schleswig-Holstein: aid for afforestation of farmland;

Rhineland-Palatinate: investment aid in the wine sector;

North Rhine Westphalia: village renewal measures (aids for the protection of the environment);

Baden-Württemberg: special aid to rationalize the marketing of fresh milk products by a cooperative dairy.

Denmark

Aid to compensate farmers for the effects of natural disasters and amendment of the provisions concerning the conditions for qualifying for aid and the crops to be taken into consideration;

Two amendments to the financial provisions concerning rescheduling of farmers' debts, not involving any increase in the relevant aids.

Netherlands

Investment aid for the installation of refrigerators in poultry slaughterhouses without increasing their capacity.

Italy

Trento: measures to assist agriculture: some of these measures come within the scope of the structural Directives and are being considered in that context; the others relate to reduced-interest loans for the operation of cooperatives, compensation for natural disasters and the installation of hail-protection equipment.

France

Measures to improve market transparency in the pig sector with a view to implementation of the provisions on the Community scale for the classification of carcasses and the rescheduling of loans for investment in the light of farmers' ability to repay them.

¹ OJ L 358, 22.12.1983.

² OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

³ OJ 121, 29.7.1964; OJ L 302, 31.12.1972.

⁴ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.67.

⁵ OJ L 370, 31.12.1983.

⁶ OJ C 275, 14.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.140.

⁷ OJ L 355, 17.12.1983.

2.1.165. The Commission initiated the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the following aids:

Italy

Molise: bill to amend Regional Act No 27 of 4 September 1979 concerning measures to improve and develop animal husbandry; one of the purposes of the instrument is to provide aids for the purchase of male breeding animals not listed in herdbooks and pure-bred male breeding animals that are listed in herdbooks, on condition that they were born and reared in the region, and aids towards the cost of keeping female breeding animals on holdings and for ewe lambs born and reared in the region, subject to certain conditions.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guarantee Section

2.1.166. On 21 December the Commission amended¹ the Regulation of 7 March 1977² as regards the flat-rate financing by the EAGGF Guarantee Section of the interest charges in respect of national funds tied up in intervention buying-in of agricultural products. The Regulation introduces a reduction in the standard financing where the intervention agencies, by reason of certain terms of sale, bear lower interest charges.

Guidance Section

2.1.167. On 10 December the Commission adopted the second instalment of EAGGF Guidance aid for 1983, totalling 135.6 million ECU for 334 projects.

Sixty-eight projects were financed under Council Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed,³ 46 projects in the Mediterranean regions of the Community, under Regulation (EEC) No 1361/78, of 19 June 1978,⁴ 18 projects in the west of Ireland under Regulation (EEC) No 1820/80 of 24 June 1980⁵ and 2 projects in Northern Ireland under Regulation (EEC) No 1943/81 of 30 June 1981.⁶

For the projects in the Mediterranean areas, the west of Ireland and Northern Ireland and throughout Greece, apart from Greater Athens, the financial contribution of the EAGGF Guidance Section towards the projects is up to 50% of the total cost of the investment planned.

The breakdown by Member State of the second instalment for 1983 is as follows:

- ¹ OJ L 358, 22.12.1983.
- ² OJ L 62, 8.3.1977.
- ³ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.
- ⁴ OJ L 176, 23.6.1978.
- ⁵ OJ L 180, 14.7.1980.
- ⁶ OJ L 197, 20.7.1981.

Processing and marketing of agricultural products — Regulation (EEC) No 355/77

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
Belgium	17	BFR 128 550 321	2 797 503
Denmark	19	DKR 14 543 486	1 783 361
Germany (FR)	42	DM 32 927 901	14 558 595
France	41	FF 72 012 144	10 463 673
Greece	25	DR 3 277 252 891	40 560 161
Ireland	16	IRL 5 415 748	5 016 567
Italy	45	LIT 19 843 501 411	14 460 241
Luxembourg	3	LFR 43 229 970	940 767
Netherlands	24	HFL 13 094 226	5 163 053
United Kingdom	36	UKL 4 908 228	8 589 949
Total	268	—	104 333 870

¹ Approximate figures.

Mediterranean areas—Regulation (EEC) No 1361/78

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
France	31	FF 53 888 003	7 830 156
Italy	15	LIT 20 929 622 462	15 251 714
Total	46	—	23 081 870

West of Ireland—Regulation (EEC) No 1820/80

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
	18	IRL 3 734 483	7 548 409 ¹

Animal feedingstuffs in Northern Ireland—Regulation (EEC) No 1943/81

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
	2	UKL 338 853	593 038 ¹

¹ Approximate figures.

2.1.168. Under Council Regulation (EEC) No 458/80 of 18 February 1980 on collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards,¹ the Commission adopted a second series

of decisions granting aid for 1983 on 20 December. Twenty-two projects received a total of 10.4 million ECU. The breakdown by Member State is as follows:

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
Germany (FR)	4	DM 709 475	313 684
France	14	FF 64 358 874	9 351 619
Italy	4	LIT 1 043 650 084	760 523
Total	22	—	10 425 826

¹ Approximate figures.

2.1.169. Pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1368/78 of 19 June 1978 on special programmes for collective irrigation works in the Mezzogiorno,² the Commission adopted a decision on 20 December concerning an Italian programme for aid amounting to LIT 85 800 million, i.e. about 62.5 million ECU. The programme relates to various irrigation schemes in eight regions of the Mezzogiorno—Abruzzi, Lazio, Campania, Basilicata, Molise, Apulia, Sicily and Sardinia.

2.1.170. During the fourth quarter the Fund reimbursed a total of 116.8 million ECU to several Member States for expenditure incurred in 1982 or, in some cases, in previous years. Advances were granted to France, Ireland and Greece, enabling them

to finance operations to be carried out in 1983 under the Directives adopted on 19 June 1978 (78/627/EEC, 78/628/EEC)³ and 30 June 1981 (81/527/EEC)⁴ and the Regulations of 22 July 1980⁵ and 19 July 1982.⁶

The reimbursements related, among other things, to measures under the 1972 socio-structural Directives (modernization of farms, socio-economic guidance and vocational training), measures to assist less-favoured areas and measures under regulations connected with the common organization of markets.

¹ OJ L 57, 29.2.1980.

² OJ L 166, 23.6.1978.

³ OJ L 206, 29.7.1978.

⁴ OJ L 197, 20.7.1981.

⁵ OJ L 189, 23.7.1980.

⁶ OJ L 214, 22.7.1982.

Fisheries

Council

2.1.171. On 14 December the Council reached a comprehensive agreement on final completion of the common fisheries policy agreed to on 25 January 1983¹ by fixing, on a proposal from the Commission, the 1983 TACs and quotas and the future allocation of herring quotas in the North Sea.²

With regard to fishing in 1984, the Council approved a 'roll-over' Regulation,³ valid until its next meeting (31 January), under which the Member States will exercise their fishing activities in keeping with the normal seasonal cycles and in accordance with the Regulation fixing the 1983 TACs and quotas.² Special arrangements were, however, made for the North Sea herring fishery in the opening weeks of 1984.⁴

The Council discussed tentatively the Commission proposals for 1984 TACs and quotas.⁵ All delegations congratulated the Commission on having made its proposals before the end of the year, thus facilitating a decision early in the new year. A number of Member States considered the Commission's proposals a satisfactory basis for discussion, but others expressed concern with regard to the reductions proposed as against the 1983 TACs and quotas.

The Council also approved an exchange of letters under the fisheries agreement with Canada⁶ and approved two Regulations concerning Norway.⁷

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.172. Pursuant to the 'roll-over' Regulation (EEC) No 198/83⁸—the Commission again decided in December to halt fishing for haddock and herring by vessels flying the flag of Denmark,⁹ fishing for herring by vessels flying the flag of Denmark,¹⁰ fishing for haddock¹¹ and mackerel¹² by vessels flying the flag of the Netherlands and

fishing for sole by vessels flying the flag of the United Kingdom.¹³

2.1.173. The Commission also decided to halt fishing for herring in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat¹⁴ and for plaice in the Skagerak¹⁵ by Community vessels since, under the Agreement with Norway and Sweden regulating fishing in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat¹⁶ the share of the total allowable catches available for the Community in 1983 had been exhausted.

National conservation and management measures

2.1.174. On 20 December the Commission took note of a Danish measure of 18 November temporarily prohibiting the fishing, transshipment and landing of haddock, which prohibited, though with certain exceptions, fishing for this species in the North Sea, the Skagerrak, the Kattegat and the Baltic Convention Area from 17 November until the end of the year. The Commission found that the Danish measure was in conflict with its Regulation of 2 December halting fishing for haddock by vessels flying the flag of Denmark⁹ and requested the Danish authorities to repeal the instrument and ensure that no fishing for haddock was carried out by Danish vessels after 3 December.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1983, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

² OJ L 365, 27.12.1983.

³ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983.

⁴ OJ L 369, 30.12.1983) OJ L 371, 31.12.1983.

⁵ COM(83) 740 final; Com(83) 765 final.

⁶ Point 2.1.175.

⁷ Point 2.1.176.

⁸ OJ L 25, 27.1.1983.

⁹ OJ L 338, 3.12.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 357, 21.12.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 340, 6.12.1983.

¹² OJ L 350, 13.12.1983.

¹³ OJ L 342, 7.12.1983.

¹⁴ OJ L 354, 16.12.1983.

¹⁵ OJ L 356, 20.12.1983.

¹⁶ OJ L 73, 19.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.136.

*External aspects***Bilateral relations**

2.1.175. On 20 December the Council approved¹ an exchange of letters between Canada and the Community adjusting the agreement of 30 December 1981,² the implementation of which has been hampered by certain difficulties. The exchange of letters sets out rules valid until 1987 for the licensing of Community vessels to fish in Canadian waters and the exportation of certain Canadian fishery products to the Community.

2.1.176. The Council agreed on 20 December to conclude the agreement with Norway negotiated by the Commission.¹ The two regulations proposed by the Commission on reciprocal fishing rights in 1984 were approved.

2.1.177. On 22 December the Council approved two Regulations proposed by the Commission concerning reciprocal fishing rights between the Community and the Faroe Islands for 1984.³

Market organization

2.1.178. Following the Commission's proposals made last October⁴ the Council adopted, on 12 December, the guide prices for fishery products for 1984.⁵ On 14 December it adopted an amendment⁵ to its Regulation of 19 January 1976⁶ laying down common marketing standards for a certain kind of shrimp.⁷

2.1.179 As part of the gradual implementation of the new common organization of the market in fishery products,⁸ the Commission adopted two Regulations in December—one on the communication of information concerning the withdrawal prices applied by producers' organizations,⁹ and one on the notification of prices and the list of representative wholesale markets and ports.⁹

2.1.180. As part of the price-fixing operation for 1984, the Commission adopted the following Regulations on 19 December:

- a Regulation laying down rules for calculating withdrawal prices and fixing the withdrawal prices for the 1984 fishing year, for the fishery products listed in Annex I(a) and (d) to the Regulation of 29 December 1981⁸ and for certain products landed in areas very distant from the main areas of consumption in the Community;¹⁰
- a Regulation the standard values to be used in calculating the financial compensation and the advance pertaining thereto in respect of fishery products withdrawn from the market during the period 1 January to 31 December 1984;¹⁰
- a Regulation fixing the reference prices for fishery products for the 1984 fishing year;¹⁰
- a Regulation fixing the amount of the carryover premium for certain fishery products for the 1984 fishing year.¹⁰

Structures

2.1.181. Under the Regulation of 15 February 1977 on a 'common measure' to improve the conditions under which agricultural and fishery products are processed and marketed¹¹ the Commission decided on 20 December to grant aid of approximately 5 575 000 ECU for 32 investment projects in the fisheries sector (second 1983 instalment), distributed among the Member States as follows:

¹ OJ L 371, 31.12.1983.

² OJ L 379, 31.12.1981; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.138.

³ OJ L 374, 31.12.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.158.

⁵ OJ L 356, 20.12.1983.

⁶ OJ L 20, 28.1.1976.

⁷ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.160.

⁸ OJ L 379, 31.12.1981.

⁹ OJ L 357, 21.12.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 366, 28.12.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

Table 5 — EAGGF Guidance Section aid, second 1983 instalment

Appropriations	Number of projects	Aid (ECU)
<i>1. General appropriations</i>		
Denmark	10	369 659
FR Germany	1	50 397
France	3	474 866
Ireland	1	164 433
Italy	4	1 263 330
United Kingdom	7	750 946
Total	26	3 073 631
<i>2. Appropriations for Mediterranean regions</i>		
Italy	1	570 966
<i>3. Appropriations for Western Ireland</i>		
Ireland	5	1 930 176
Total	32	5 574 773

2.1.182. On 22 December the Commission approved¹ proposed United Kingdom measures, drawn up pursuant to the Council Directive of 4 October 1983 on certain immediate measures to adjust capacity in the fishing sector,² to encourage the temporary or permanent withdrawal from activity of certain categories of fishing vessel.

2.1.183 Pursuant to the Council Decision of 25 July 1978 concerning surveillance of the maritime waters of Denmark and Ireland,³ and further to its own decision of 12 September last,⁴ the Commission decided on 1 December to pay Ireland an amount of IRL 8 026 000 representing the balance of the Community contribution to the expenditure incurred by Ireland in 1982.

2.1.184. As part of the preparatory work, which began on 21 December, for the implementation of the integrated Mediterranean programmes⁵ the Commission decided to carry out surveys in 1984 in France, Greece and Italy into the scope for the creation of protected marine areas, for the construction and improvement of coastal shelters for fishing vessels, for the development of lagoon aquaculture and for action to encourage the processing and marketing of fishery products. The Commission also decided to mount a technical assistance pilot scheme

for fishermen and aquaculturists. The Community's financial contribution to these measures will total 950 000 ECU.'

2.1.185. The Commission also decided to undertake a study on the elaboration and application of fishing capacity indicators in the national programmes for the adjustment of fleets in line with available fish stocks.

2.1.186. The Commission raised no objection to the introduction in the United Kingdom of an aid scheme for the temporary or permanent decommissioning of fishing vessels. The aids in question are an extension to other types of vessels of the financial aid provided for by the Directive of 4 October 1983 concerning certain measures to adjust capacity in the fisheries sector⁶ The budget for these measures for the years 1984 to 1986 is UKL 2 900 000 (UKL 2 500 000 for temporary decommissioning and UKL 400 000 for permanent decommissioning).

¹ OJ L 18, 21.1.1984.

² OJ L 290, 22.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.162.

³ OJ L 211, 1.8.1978.

⁴ OJ L 261, 22.9.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.125.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.12 and 3.4.1 to 3.4.3;

OJ C 251, 19.9.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.163.

⁶ OJ L 290, 22.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.162.

Transport

Council

2.1.187. The Council met on 1 and 30 December but failed to reach agreement on most of the items on the agenda on both occasions.

Some progress was made, however, on the fixing of road tariffs for the carriage of goods¹ and negotiations with Austria.²

The Council did not get beyond the discussion stage on the proposal to implement, in stages, a package of measures concerning inland transport.³

Advisory Committee on Transport

2.1.188. At its meeting in Brussels on 8 December the Advisory Committee on Transport elected a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for the unexpired term of their predecessors. The Committee also discussed two questions put to it by the Commission, one concerning the partial liberalization of certain types of road transport and the other whether the railways' public service obligations can and should be replaced by contractual agreements. These two questions will be discussed in more depth and the Committee will give its opinion orally at a coming plenary meeting.

Inland transport

2.1.189. On 16 December Parliament gave its opinion⁴ on the Commission communication to the Council on progress towards a common transport policy (inland transport).³ Parliament reaffirmed the need for the Council to adopt a mandatory framework for transport policy. In its view, measures were required to end the discrimination which still existed as regards the carriage of goods and passengers between Member States, to harmonize the basic conditions for competition between the modes of transport, to remove obstacles to cross-frontier transport operations and to make transport infrastructure more efficient to provide a transport network corresponding to European needs.

Frontier formalities and inspections

2.1.190. On 1 December the Council formally adopted the Directive on the facilitation of physical inspections and administrative formalities in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States,⁵ approved at its internal market meeting in October.⁶

Infrastructure

Infrastructure investment

2.1.191. The Council examined the proposal for a Regulation on the granting of financial support for a multiannual transport infrastructure programme (1983-87)⁷ at both its December meetings. It looked in particular at special measures which might be financed from available funds in the 1983 and 1984 budgets and the criteria which might be used to select infrastructure projects of Community interest.

2.1.192. Parliament gave its opinion on this proposal on 15 December.⁴ It calls on the Council to adopt the Regulation proposed by the Commission as soon as possible, pointing out that if there is to be a harmonious and continuous growth of Community support for infrastructure projects this Regulation must provide for a multiannual programme and a definitive Regulation must be adopted before the end of the programme.

Infrastructure costs

2.1.193. In the light of the Commission communication to the Council of 11 February on progress towards a common transport policy (inland transport),³ the Com-

¹ Point 2.1.200.

² Point 2.1.204.

³ OJ C 154, 13.6.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.128.

⁴ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁵ OJ L 359, 22.12.1983.

⁶ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.168.

⁷ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.175.

mittee on Infrastructure Charging met on 12 and 13 December to continue their discussions regarding a new method of charging for the use of transport infrastructure.¹

This is intended to ensure that users bear a proportional share of the infrastructure costs to which they give rise.

Social measures of Community interest

2.1.194. On 2 December the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation establishing special measures of Community interest relating to transport infrastructure.² The proposal follows on from the conclusions of the June 1983 European Council regarding compensation to the United Kingdom³ and provides for financial assistance for projects which help to eliminate notorious bottlenecks; to improve rail transport, traffic links between outlying areas and the rest of the Community, and facilities for interlinking modes of transport; and to modernize the inland waterway system. The Community contribution is not to exceed 70% of the annual public expenditure for each project.

Approximation of structures

Technical aspects

Community driving licence

2.1.195. The Commission convened a meeting of the Committee on the Community Driving Licence on 6 and 7 December to discuss the implementation in the Member States of the Directive of 4 December 1980 on the introduction of a Community driving licence,⁴ notably the problems involved in the exchange by one Member State of licences issued by other Member States. The Committee also looked at a second phase in the harmonization of vehicle categories and the rules governing tests, the issuing of driving licences and the training of drivers and instructors.

Operation of the market

Access to the market

Access to the occupation of inland waterway carrier

2.1.196. On 1 December the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Directive on access to the occupation of carrier of goods by waterway in national and international transport and on the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications for this occupation.⁵

This proposal provides for the introduction in the inland waterway sector of standard conditions along the lines of those established in 1974⁶ and 1977⁷ in the road transport sector.

Non-resident carriers

2.1.197. The Commission acted upon Parliament's request⁸ by sending to the Council on 5 December an amendment⁹ to its proposal for a Directive on the conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate certain national transport services within a Member State.¹⁰ The Commission has added a new provision to its proposal, providing that three years after the Directive enters into force the Commission will report to the Council and Parliament on its application by the Member States and, if necessary, propose appropriate changes in the light of the prevailing circumstances.

Community quota

2.1.198. On 15 December Parliament gave its opinion¹¹ on the proposal¹² to amend

¹ OJ C 154, 13.6.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.128.

² Point 2.3.8; OJ C 340, 17.12.1983; COM(83)697 final.

³ Bull. EC 6-1983, point 1.5.9.

⁴ OJ L 375, 31.12.1980.

⁵ OJ C 351, 24.12.1983; COM(83)720 final.

⁶ OJ L 308, 19.11.1974.

⁷ OJ L 334, 24.12.1977.

⁸ OJ C 307, 24.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.175.

⁹ OJ C 340, 17.12.1983.

¹⁰ OJ C 18, 22.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.160.

¹¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

¹² OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.221.

the Council Regulation of 16 December 1976 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods between Member States.¹ It welcomed the proposal but regretted that the Commission had not taken into account the problem of bilateral quotas.

Vehicle hire

2.1.199. On 15 December Parliament endorsed² the proposal for a Directive on the use of hired vehicles for the carriage of goods by road.³

The Economic and Social Committee also delivered its opinion on the proposal.⁴

Rate formation

Road haulage

2.1.200. On 1 December the Council adopted⁵ a Regulation on the formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁶

Under the terms of this Regulation, which enters into force on 1 January 1984 and expires on 31 December 1988, rates will be formed under a system of non-compulsory reference tariffs. By agreement, however, two or more Member States may introduce compulsory bracket tariffs instead of reference tariffs in the light of the economic and technical conditions prevailing on the markets in question.

ECSC rail tariffs

2.1.201. In response to a further application by the German Government, the Commission decided on 21 December that the support tariffs authorized in 1978⁷ could remain unchanged until their expiry on 31 December 1984 in view of the economic situation of industry in the Saar and the restructuring measures being undertaken. The authorized reductions in the tariffs were to be eliminated in two stages—on 1 January and 31 December 1984.⁸

International railway cooperation

2.1.202. On 15 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered an opinion on the proposal for a Council recommenda-

tion to the railway companies of the Member States on strengthening their cooperation in the commercial management of international passenger and goods transport by rail.⁹

Cooperation with non-Community countries

Entry into force of the ASOR Agreement

2.1.203. The Agreement on the International Carriage of Passengers by Road by means of Occasional Coach and Bus Services (ASOR) entered into force on 1 December.¹⁰ This Agreement, which was negotiated by the Community, was signed in Dublin on 26 May 1982 by the Community, Austria, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.¹¹ It entered into force after being ratified by five Contracting Parties—the Community, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Turkey. The ASOR Agreement is of particular political importance to the Community, being the first occasion the Community has exercised sole jurisdiction on transport matters *vis-à-vis* non-Community countries.

Negotiations with Austria

2.1.204. On 20 December the Council expressed its resolve to continue the negotiations which had been started with Austria under the negotiating directives adopted on 15 December 1981.¹²

The Council reaffirmed these directives, giving them a wider interpretation by agreeing that discussion should extend to all

¹ OJ L 357, 29.12.1976.

² OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

³ OJ C 155, 14.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.145.

⁴ Point 2.4.29.

⁵ OJ L 359, 22.12.1983.

⁶ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.88.

⁷ OJ L 330, 25.11.1978; Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.1.102.

⁸ OJ L 206, 14.7.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.135.

⁹ OJ C 191, 16.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.217.

¹⁰ OJ L 309, 10.11.1983.

¹¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.136.

¹² Fifteenth General Report, point 494.

economic and financial aspects. This will mean that the Commission delegation will also be able to negotiate on Austria's request for a financial contribution towards the cost of an infrastructure project in Austria.

The Council did, however, make it clear that this did not constitute any commitment on the Community's part in respect of this request. No decision could be taken until the outcome of the negotiations was known.

The Commission was asked to draw up, in conjunction with Austria, a comparative balance sheet of traffic and road transport charges between the Community and Austria.

Relations with Yugoslavia

2.1.205. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution on relations between the Community and Yugoslavia in the transport sector.¹

COST projects

2.1.206. On 14 December the Commission approved the memorandum of understanding on a European research project for a data system for the study of inter-regional passenger transport demand (COST 305).²

Energy

2.1.207. The annual high-level meeting between the Commission and the organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) took place in Brussels on 1 and 2 December.³ The two sides agreed to organize a joint seminar in the near future on the applications of energy statistics.

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

Energy strategy

2.1.208. On 12 December the Commission adopted two Decisions⁴ granting financial assistance to the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany for special measures of Community interest under the energy strategy.⁵ The additional funds, en-

tered in supplementary and amending budget No 2/1983, make up the outstanding compensation due to the UK and Germany for 1982.⁶

2.1.209. On 2 December the Commission presented a proposal to the Council for a Regulation establishing special measures of Community interest relating to energy strategy in the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany⁷ in response to the conclusions reached by the European Council of 21 June⁸ on financial compensation for those two countries for 1983.⁵

For each project—which has to be submitted for examination by the Commission—the Community's overall financial contribution may not exceed 70% of the annual public expenditure to be provided for its execution. Projects are required to contribute towards the Community's energy policy objectives: maintenance of the level of coal production under satisfactory economic conditions, better exploitation of traditional forms of energy and development of new sources of energy, reduction of oil consumption, and an increased share for solid fuels and nuclear energy in electricity production.

Specific problems

Solid fuels

Community policy

2.1.210. On 15 December the Economic and Social Committee delivered a favourable opinion on the Commission's communication to the Council on proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy⁹ and on a propo-

¹ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² Point 2.1.224.

³ Point 2.2.43.

⁴ OJ L 9, 12.1.1984.

⁵ OJ L 82, 29.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.153.

⁶ Point 2.3.7.

⁷ Point 2.3.8; OJ C 344, 20.12.1983; COM(83)698 final.

⁸ Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.5.2, 1.5.6, 1.5.9 and 1.5.17.

⁹ Bull. EC 6-1983, point 1.2.16.

sal for a Regulation concerning financial support for industries in the Community producing solid fuels.¹

New system for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry

2.1.211. In December the Commission presented a proposal to the Council,² at the latter's request,³ amending the proposal it had made in March on a new system for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry.⁴ The new arrangements involve a slight increase in the average rate of sales aid for intra-Community trade (to 3.6 ECU per tonne), a reduction in the ceiling on the tonnage eligible for Community aid from 14 to 10 million tonnes per annum for 1984 and 1985, and an agreement to further reduce this tonnage for 1986.

The Council examined this new proposal on 19 December, but the reservations expressed by a number of delegations were not lifted. The Council took note of Mr Davignon's statement to the effect that the Commission would propose that this new system be introduced retroactively from 1 January 1984.

Energy saving and new energy sources

2.1.212. At its meeting on 19 December the Council failed to reach agreement on the programme of demonstration projects on energy saving and new sources of energy (multiannual regulations). The need for a multiannual programme had been recognized in March⁵ and reaffirmed in July⁶ when the 1983 Regulations were adopted. The Council took note of the reservations expressed by Mr Davignon on the nature and objectives of the arrangements. Mr Davignon was concerned that the Council would be renegeing on the undertaking it gave at the conciliation meeting with Parliament in June if it did not adopt the programme.⁷

2.1.213. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution⁸ on the outcome of the conciliation procedure on the two Regulations for 1983⁷ on which the Council had reached a common position in March⁵ and which it adopted formally in July.⁹ Parlia-

ment deplored the Council's prevarication (the Council had adopted Regulations for the current year only) and insisted that the multiannual nature of the programme should not be jeopardized by delays of this kind.

2.1.214. On 19 December the Commission granted 26 million ECU to 48 energy-saving projects under the Council Regulation of 11 July on financial support in 1983 for demonstration projects on energy saving, alternative sources of energy and substitutes for hydrocarbons.¹⁰ These projects were selected from among proposals submitted in response to an invitation by the Commission published in March.¹¹

2.1.215. Under the same Regulation,¹⁰ and in response to the same invitation to submit proposals,¹¹ the Commission also granted 7.99 million ECU to 37 solar energy demonstration projects, 6.1 million ECU to 24 wind power projects and 10.5 million ECU to 31 biomass projects. The Council was notified of both decisions to grant financial support.

Nuclear safety

Decommissioning

Research

2.1.216. At a meeting devoted to research issues on 13 December,¹² the Council approved the Commission's proposal for a Decision adopting a programme of research on the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-88).¹³

¹ OJ C 232, 30.8.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.188.

² COM(83)731 final.

³ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.173.

⁴ OJ C 132, 19.5.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.159.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.163.

⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.193.

⁷ Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.238.

⁸ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁹ OJ L 195, 19.7.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, points 2.1.191 to 2.1.193.

¹⁰ OJ L 195, 19.7.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.192.

¹¹ OJ C 86, 28.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.164.

¹² Point 2.1.227.

¹³ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.242.

Research and development

Framework programme for scientific and technical activities 1984-87

2.1.217. On 16 December Parliament gave its opinion¹ on the Commission's proposal for a Council Decision on a first framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984-87.²

Parliament recalled the opinion it had delivered in June on the implementation of the Community's R,R&D strategy containing an initial framework programme for 1984-87³ and called on the Commission to give priority, as regards the Community's industrial competitiveness, to measures which would have a positive effect on employment and vocational training.

Council

2.1.218. On 13 December the Council approved⁴ the new 1984-87 JRC research programme.⁴ It also agreed that Management and Coordination Consultative Committees should be set up on a sectoral basis.⁴

Total agreement was reached on all aspects of the Esprit programme, except for the question of financing.⁵ Lastly, the Council approved the research programme on the decommissioning of nuclear installations.⁴

Structures and procedures

2.1.219. On 13 December the Council discussed the Commission's proposal for rationalizing the structures and procedures of Community R&D committees.⁶ It approved the proposal to set up Management and Coordination Consultative Committees (CGCs) reporting to the Commission. The CGCs will replace the CREST subcommittees, the ACPMs (Advisory Committees on Programme Management), the COMACs (Concerted Action Committees) and most of the existing working parties in the science and technology field. They will carry out in their respective sectors the combined tasks of:

- providing the Commission with scientific and technical advice on current or future R&D activities within the guidelines set by the framework programme;
- coordinating national and Community activities;
- assisting the Commission in the management of approved programmes.

Discussions on the proposal to set up a Higher Policy Committee for Science and Technology are continuing.

2.1.220. As regard the JRC's Board of Governors,⁷ the Council agreed on a structure that would separate the scientific advisory functions (to be assigned to a Scientific Council) from the powers regarding the implementation and revision of programmes (to be assigned to the Board of Governors) while still satisfying the need for close co-operation between the two bodies. The Council also reached agreement in principle on the procedures for appointing the members of these bodies. Some questions still remain outstanding, in particular the precise definition of the powers of the Board of Governors.

Coordination of national policies

2.1.221. On 9 December the Scientific and Technical Research Committee discussed a report dealing with national estimates for expenditure on R&D activities and with the possibility of assessing a Community system for the provision of information on the subject.

¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² OJ C 169, 29.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.151.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.249.

⁴ Point 2.4.13.

⁵ Point 2.1.22.

⁶ OJ C 113, 27.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, 2.1.167; OJ C 351, 24.12.1983.

⁷ COM(83)377 final; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.134.

Cooperation with non-member countries

2.1.222. On 16 December the Council extended,¹ from 1 November 1983 to 31 December 1985, the agreement between the Community and Sweden on an R&D programme relating to urban and industrial waste recycling. The agreement provides for a financial contribution of 2.5 million ECU from the Community and of 0.1 million ECU from Sweden.²

2.1.223. On 2 December the Director-General for Science, Research and Development signed, on behalf of the Community, the memorandum of understanding on materials for steam turbines (COST Project 505). The Commission had agreed to this being done on 1 March.³

2.1.224. On 14 December the Commission decided to sign, on behalf of the Community, a memorandum of understanding on the implementation of a European research project on a data-generating system for estimating inter-regional passenger transport demand (COST Project 305).

Multiannual programmes

New JRC research programme

2.1.225. On 20 December, having succeeded in solving the last remaining problems, the Council adopted⁴ the 1984-87 JRC research programme.⁵ This programme, which has been allocated an estimated budget of 700 million ECU and a staff complement of 2260, will comprise joint research activities relating to industrial technologies, fusion, fission, non-nuclear energy sources and the environment, as well as an additional programme financed by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands concerning the operation of the high-flux reactor at the Petten Establishment.

Energy

Thermonuclear fusion

2.1.226. On 16 December a plasma current of 3 mega-amperes was generated; this

current was confined for a third of a second at an estimated maximum temperature of 17 million degrees Celsius. These figures constitute a world record for electrically heated plasmas and mean that the basic results expected of JET have been achieved. The next stage in the operational programme will focus on increasing the size and density of the plasma, increasing the discharge current still further and reducing the impurities content.

Nuclear fission energy

2.1.227. On 13 December the Council approved the Commission's proposal for a research programme on the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-88).⁶ This five-year shared-cost programme, which has an initial budget of 12.1 million ECU, is the follow-up to the first (1979-83) programme, which had a budget of 4.7 million ECU, and has been extended to cover all types of installation.

Fifty specific research projects were carried out under shared-cost contracts as part of the first programme. A conference will be held in Luxembourg in May 1984 to present the results obtained.

Raw materials

2.1.228. On 12 December the Council adopted,⁷ on a proposal from the Commission,⁸ a Decision including a project on the recycling of urban and industrial waste in the raw materials programme adopted by the Council in May 1982.⁹

¹ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

² Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.191.

³ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.171.

⁴ OJ L 3, 5.1.1984.

⁵ OJ C 250, 19.9.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, points 2.1.282 to 2.1.285; OJ C 311, 6.11.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.189.

⁶ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.265.

⁷ OJ L 357, 21.12.1983.

⁸ OJ C 272, 11.10.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.153.

⁹ OJ L 174, 21.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.151.

Support for industrial development

Basic technological research and application of new technologies

2.1.229. The Council discussed the question of the funds needed to launch two R&D programmes, one relating to basic technological research and the other concerning the applications of new technologies.¹ While noting that there was broad agreement among delegations on the scientific content of these programmes, the Council was unable to determine the amount of the appropriation.

Technical steel research

2.1.230. On 6 December the Commission sent the Council a memorandum on the implementation and execution of a steel pilot/demonstration project programme with a view to obtaining financial aid under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty.² The projects were selected following an invitation to submit proposals published in March.³

2.1.231. The Commission intends to carry out a number of pilot/demonstration projects in the production of steel and steel products. Under Article 48 of the ECSC Treaty the Commission published a communication in the Official Journal asking companies to let it have any observations they might wish to make on the projects in question by 10 January 1984.⁴

Biomolecular engineering

2.1.232. On 7 December the ACPM responsible for biomolecular engineering continued to assess research proposals submitted to the Commission in response to the call published in the *Official Journal*⁵ as part of the second stage (January 1984 to March 1986) of the research and training programme in the field of biomolecular

engineering, which the Council adopted on 26 October.⁶

Only 52 proposals are expected to be selected for the conclusion of shared-cost research contracts.

Science and technology for development

2.1.233. The Economic and Social Committee adopted an opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision concerning a programme of assistance for the development of indigenous scientific and technical research capacities in the developing countries (1984-87).⁷

Living and working conditions

ECSC social research

2.1.234. Following its Decision of October 1981,⁸ the Commission decided on 23 December, in pursuance of Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty, to grant financial assistance amounting to 429 345 ECU to three research projects in the programme on 'Effects on the health of workers of physical and other occupational factors at the workplace'.

2.1.235. The Commission also decided on the same day to grant financial assistance totalling 1 473 000 ECU to six research projects under the fifth research programme on industrial hygiene in mines.⁹

¹ OJ C 230, 27.8.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.271; COM(83)753 final.

² COM(83)705 final.

³ OJ C 86, 28.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.164.

⁴ OJ C 328, 2.12.1983.

⁵ OJ C 50, 25.2.1982.

⁶ OJ L 305, 8.11.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.197.

⁷ OJ C 180, 7.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.277.

⁸ Bull. EC 10-1981, point 2.1.67.

⁹ OJ C 332, 8.12.1983; Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.199.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Portugal

Pre-accession aid

2.2.1. On 21 December, under the Agreement providing pre-accession aid for Portugal¹ which came into force on 1 January 1981, the Commission and the Portuguese Government signed three financing agreements concerning the following projects:

- an afforestation project and a project for the construction of rural roads in the Azores (Community contributions of 100 000 ECU and 684 000 ECU respectively);
- a programme for the marketing of horticultural products in the Algarve region (Community contribution 1 605 000 ECU);
- a project for rebuilding national road IP 4, linking Oporto and Bragança (Community contribution 3 000 000 ECU).

2.2.2. Grants made since the Agreement came into force now total a little over 60 million ECU. (The Agreement makes provision for 100 million ECU for this type of aid.)

2.2.3. The European Investment Bank signed three new loans in the course of December—for transport, small business and energy infrastructure. The first loan (35 million ECU) exhausts the amounts provided under the Agreement itself; the other two (totalling 45 million ECU) are the first to be granted under the decision to extend financial cooperation between Portugal and the EIB until 30 June 1984.²

Spain

2.2.4. On 15 December Parliament adopted two resolutions, one on Spanish fishing in Community waters in the Atlantic, as regards both the present situation and the prospects of enlargement, the other on the

problems raised by Spain's accession in the fisheries sector in the Eastern Central and South East Atlantic and in the Mediterranean.³

Accession negotiations

2.2.5. The 18th ministerial meeting of the negotiations for Spain's accession to the Community was held in Brussels on 19 December under the chairmanship of Mr Varfis, Greek State Secretary for Foreign Affairs; the Spanish delegation was headed by Mr Morán the Foreign Minister.

2.2.6. The Community made statements on: (i) external relations (liberalization of trade with Japan, textiles, arrangements concerning preferential agreements and autonomous commercial policy), (ii) external relations with regard to the ECSC and (iii) Euratom.

The Conference managed to reach agreement on each of these issues, notably on the main points concerning Euratom (an important matter).

The Spanish delegation made a statement on customs union and free movement of goods (industrial sector—temporary imports).

Financial cooperation with Spain

2.2.7. Under the Community's decision to extend financial cooperation between the EIB and Spain until 30 June 1984,⁴ the EIB signed two loans (totalling 35 million ECU) for transport infrastructure and small business, following a 15 million ECU loan (also for small business) already concluded.⁵

¹ Fifteenth General Report, point 624.

² Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.1.

³ Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.1.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.3.

Commercial policy

Contribution to the reversal of protectionist trends

2.2.8. The Council adopted a declaration on 19 December approving the Commission proposal¹ for a recommendation to accelerate implementation of the results of the Tokyo Round:²

'Having regard to the forecasts of economic growth of the Community in 1985, which are at present of the order of 2%, and subject to the forecasts of these economic trends being confirmed in the course of 1984, the EEC will on 1 January 1985 accelerate the Tokyo Round tariff reduction by one step, provided that its principal trading partners in the OECD do likewise.

The Council will decide on the implementation of this declaration on the basis of a Commission proposal at the beginning of autumn 1984.

In parallel, the Council will eliminate to the maximum possible extent quantitative restrictions on imports from the least-developed countries.'

Strengthening Community administration of the common commercial policy

2.2.9. On 23 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal aimed at eliminating the scope for Member States to take unilateral protective measures against imports from non-member countries,³ thus removing the last significant exception (the system of 'national arrangements') to Community administration of the common rules for imports under the common commercial policy.

Implementing the common commercial policy

Commercial policy instruments

Import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries

2.2.10. On 19 December the Council adopted, as it does each year, a Decision

establishing the import quotas to be opened by the Member States in respect of State-trading countries in the coming year.⁴

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.11. Under Council Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83 of 14 November on import arrangements for products originating in State-trading countries, not liberalized at Community level,⁵ the Commission decided to open the following quotas:

Italy—Hungary: natural honey⁶

Italy—People's Republic of China: ladies' hand-embroidered woven silk nightdresses; ladies' hand-embroidered woven flax nightdresses⁶

Italy—Poland: unwrought aluminium alloy, recast into ingots, containing not more than 97.5% aluminium⁷

Italy—Hungary/Poland/Czechoslovakia/German Democratic Republic: aluminium alloy waste, recast into ingots, containing not more than 97.5% aluminium.⁷

2.1.12. Under the same Regulation⁵ the Commission decided to make the following changes to quotas for State-trading countries:

Greece—Bulgaria/Poland: mineral or chemical fertilizers.⁸

Trade protection

2.2.13. The trade protection measures taken in December are shown in Table 6.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.5.

² Thirteenth General Report, points 494 *et seq.*

³ COM(83)757 final.

⁴ OJ L 381, 31.12.1983.

⁵ OJ L 346, 8.12.1983.

⁶ OJ C 336, 13.12.1983.

⁷ OJ C 1, 4.1.1984.

⁸ OJ C 333, 9.12.1983.

Table 6

Council	Commission
<p><i>Definitive anti-dumping duties</i> on imports of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • certain glass textile fibres (rovings) originating in the German Democratic Republic or Czechoslovakia OJ L 354, 16.12.1983 (provisional duty: OJ L 160, 18.6.1983) • hardboard originating in Czechoslovakia or Poland OJ L 361, 24.12.1983 (provisional duty: OJ L 241, 31.8.1983) 	<p><i>Provisional anti-dumping duty</i> on imports of:</p> <p>choline chloride originating in the German Democratic Republic OJ L 356, 20.12.1983 (initiation of proceeding: OJ C 109, 23.4.1983)</p> <p><i>Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding</i> concerning imports of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • certain shovels originating in Brazil OJ C 348, 23.12.1983 <p><i>Acceptance of undertakings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • given in connection with the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain glass textile fibres (rovings) originating in Japan, and termination of the proceeding OJ L 352, 15.12.1983 (provisional duty: OJ L 160, 18.6.1983) • given in connection with the anti-dumping proceeding in respect of certain imports of hardboard originating in Sweden, and <i>termination</i> of the proceeding OJ L 361, 24.12.1983 (initiation of proceeding: OJ L 241, 31.8.1983) <p><i>Termination</i> of the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of saccharin and its salts originating in China, the Republic of Korea or the United States of America OJ L 352, 15.12.1983 (initiation of proceeding: OJ C 119, 4.5.1983)</p>

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Textiles

Agreements and arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.14. On 6 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation¹ amending the Regulation of 23 December 1982 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in third countries.² The purpose of the proposal is to correct the imperfection found in the existing Regulation.

2.2.15. The formal negotiations begun last month with China on the bilateral textiles agreement³ continued and were suspended

on 13 December until the new year. Some progress was made as regards both the legal provisions of the agreement and the quantitative and economic aspects. As regards the latter, however, the respective positions of the two sides are still some way apart.

2.2.16. On 22 December the Community transmitted to the Council a proposal⁴ to amend the Regulation of 20 December 1979 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in China.⁵ The aim is to ensure, as a matter of priority,

¹ COM(83)716 final.

² OJ L 374, 31.12.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.2.24.

³ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.14.

⁴ COM(83)782 final.

⁵ OJ L 345, 13.12.1979.

that trade in textile products continues without disturbance and that there is no legal void between the present arrangements and those currently under negotiation.¹ It is therefore proposed to extend, for 1984 only, the quantitative limits already established pursuant to the existing agreement, as increased by the relevant growth rates.

The GATT Textiles Committee met in Geneva on 15 December to consider the Chinese request for participation in the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA). The Community and the other parties welcomed China's wish to accede to the MFA.

MFA countries

2.2.17. Consultations with Hong Kong which took place on 8 and 9 December resulted in a number of management issues being settled.

Mediterranean preferential countries

2.2.18. During three days of negotiations which began on 5 December, agreement was reached with Egypt on the renewal of the arrangement on cotton yarns for a further two-year period. The last details relating to the content of the arrangement with Spain for 1984 and 1985 were also settled.

2.2.19. On 23 December the Commission transmitted to the Council a communication concerning negotiations on imports into the Community of textiles and clothing from Portugal.² It recommends that the results of the negotiations with Portugal on the 1984-85 levels for direct imports and outward processing traffic³ should be approved.

Non-ferrous metals

2.2.20. On 22 December the Council established the export arrangements for certain types of non-ferrous metal waste and scrap for 1984.⁴ As in 1983, exports of copper ash and residues and waste and scrap will be kept within a Community quantitative quota, although the quota for waste and scrap was increased to 35 300 tonnes; the allocation of quotas among the Member

States was laid down in a Regulation adopted by the Commission on 22 December.⁵

Exports of the products in question resulting from inward processing traffic will not be restricted and will therefore not be charged against the quotas; temporary exports under outward processing arrangements will continue to be charged against the quotas, although exceptions can be accepted.

2.2.21. Aluminium and lead waste and scrap can be exported freely within the framework of a Community surveillance system. At the beginning of October the Commission had suspended until the end of the year the issue of export licences for aluminium waste and scrap;⁶ this precautionary measure, which was ratified by the Council on 22 November,⁷ lapsed at the end of December. Surveillance will enable a close watch to be kept on trends in exports of aluminium and lead waste and scrap, so that the situation can be examined should market conditions make this necessary.

Electronics

2.2.22. On 12 December the Council adopted a Decision⁸ amending the tariff concession under the GATT for sound reproducers with laser optical reading system (digital disc).⁹

Relations with industrialized countries

EFTA countries

2.2.23. In a statement announcing the removal by both sides from 1 January 1984 of all tariff barriers and quantitative restrictions (with a few small and temporary ex

¹ Point 2.2.15.

² COM(83)652 final.

³ Bull. EC 9-1982, points 2.2.1 and 2.2.11.

⁴ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983; COM(83)707 final.

⁵ OJ L 369, 30.12.1983.

⁶ OJ L 278, 11.10.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.17.

⁷ OJ L 327, 24.11.1983; Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.17.

⁸ Point 2.1.27; OJ L 351, 14.12.1983.

⁹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.18.

ceptions) in trade in industrial products, Mr Haferkamp pointed out that with their 312 million consumers the Community and the EFTA countries already formed the world's biggest market. Reviewing the history of steadily growing cooperation between the Community and EFTA, he mentioned that cooperation now extended beyond free trade into areas such as telecommunications, consumer protection and environment, and also covered relations in international organizations like GATT and OECD.

Joint Committees

2.2.24. The Joint Committees set up under the free-trade Agreements between the Community and Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland met in Brussels in December. For the most part, these meetings marked the official end of the 11-year period (12 years in the case of Switzerland of transition to free trade in industrial products between the Community and the EFTA countries. In the case of Community products imported into Finland, this point will be reached in January 1985.

The Community and Iceland effectively abolished customs duties on most industrial products on 1 July 1977 and 1 January 1980 respectively.

2.2.25. The Joint Committees set up under the EEC-Austria and ECSC-Austria Agreements met in Brussels on 14 December. At the meeting of the EEC-Austria Committee, the Community expressed its dissatisfaction at Austria's raising the road traffic charge with effect from 1 January 1984. Other issues discussed included the question of Austria's trade deficit with the Community and the possibility that this would be aggravated by the reform of the common agricultural policy.

2.2.26. The Joint Committees set up under the EEC-Finland and ECSC-Finland Agreements met in Brussels on 13 December. Matters discussed included France's restrictions on imports of Finnish timber and Finland's exports of certain iron or steel products to the Federal Republic of Germany.

2.2.27. The EEC-Iceland Joint Committee met in Brussels on 16 December. Issues dealt with included the possible conclusion of a framework agreement on fisheries and imports of Icelandic sheepmeat into the Community.

2.2.28. The EEC-Norway and ECSC-Norway Joint Committees met in Brussels on 12 December. The delegations discussed the current economic situation.

2.2.29. The EEC-Sweden and ECSC-Sweden Joint Committees met in Brussels on 16 December. Trade questions and the current economic situation were among the topics dealt with.

2.2.30. The EEC-Switzerland and ECSC-Switzerland Joint Committees met in Brussels on 6 December. The delegations noted that the EEC-Switzerland free-trade Agreement was working smoothly. The Chairman of the Customs Committee reported to the meeting. The ECSC-Switzerland Joint Committee examined trends on the iron and steel market in the Community and Switzerland.

Sweden

2.2.31. The Swedish Trade Minister, Mr Hellström, visited the Commission on 5 December. He had talks with Mr Haferkamp on the proposal put forward by Sweden, which will be chairing the EFTA Council from 1 January, for reviving the idea of a meeting between the relevant Ministers of the EFTA countries and the Foreign Ministers of the Community countries to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the free-trade Agreements.

Switzerland

2.2.32. Mr Ortoli visited Switzerland on 16 December at the invitation of Mr Kurt Furgler, member of the Swiss Federal Council and Head of the Federal Department of Public Economy. This provided the opportunity for detailed discussions on a number of topics concerning the economic and monetary situation and outlook in Europe and the world.

United States

2.2.33. On 9 December a Commission delegation led by Mr Thorn received a five-member ministerial delegation from the United States led by the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, and including Mr Donald Regan (Secretary of the Treasury), Mr John R. Block (Secretary of Agriculture), Mr Malcolm Baldrige (Secretary of Commerce) and Mr William Brock (United States Representative for Trade Negotiations).

The discussions ranged over agriculture, steel (special steels and the steel Arrangement), new technologies and research, the Export Administration Act, unitary taxation, world trade and the international economic situation.

The American delegation expressed satisfaction on a number of issues, notably the possibility of reaching agreement on export aids for agricultural products and the prospects for bringing Community cereal prices closer to world prices, and also on steel exports.

Relations with other countries and regions

Mediterranean countries

Mediterranean policy

2.2.34. Following on Mr Natali's visit in May,¹ and in line with the Council's decision on 25 January, exploratory talks took place between a Commission and a Yugoslav delegation on 8 and 9 December. The Yugoslavs gave an analysis of how relations with the Community had developed since the cooperation agreement was concluded² and voiced their concern about the problems which might be raised by the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal. They also made suggestions on the future development of Yugoslavia's relations with the enlarged Community, given the *sui generis* character of the agreement.

2.2.35. On 14 December the Commission approved a draft agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Community and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, with the purpose of establishing ongoing, progressive collaboration with ICAMAS in the context of formulating a comprehensive development policy for the whole of the Mediterranean area. ICAMAS, set up in 1965 under the auspices of the OECD and the Council of Europe, had as founder members France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey and Yugoslavia. Lebanon and Tunisia, followed by Egypt, joined at the beginning of the 1980s, and negotiations are under way with Algeria and Morocco.

The aim of ICAMAS is 'to provide additional training in the economic and technical spheres and develop the spirit of international cooperation among agricultural cadres in the Mediterranean countries'. It has four 'Mediterranean Agronomic Institutes'—at Bari in Italy, Montpellier in France, Zaragoza in Spain and Khania in Greece. Apart from basic and advanced vocational training, these institutes pursue research and technical assistance activities.

Under the terms of the exchange of letters, the Community and ICAMAS will inform each other of their respective activities, consult on matters of common interest, and participate in technical working meetings of each organization on such matters. ICAMAS will provide a back-up for the Commission in study and research work, training operations, and the organization of meetings and seminars.

Cyprus

2.2.36. On 2 and 3 December Mr Haferkamp had talks in Nicosia with President Kyprianou and the Foreign Minister, Mr George Iacovou, on the future development of relations with Cyprus in the framework

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.23.

² OJ L 41, 14.2.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.27.

of the Association Agreement, in the light of the Turkish Cypriot community's proclamation of a 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus'.¹ The talks between Mr Haferkamp and Mr Iacovou were continued in Brussels on 7 December. On 19 December the results of these discussions were reported to the Council.

2.2.37. Pending the opening of negotiations to define the terms and procedures for the implementation of a customs union between the Community and Cyprus, the Council adopted a Regulation on 22 December extending the existing trade arrangements on an autonomous basis until 30 June 1984.²

2.2.38. The second EEC-Cyprus Financial Protocol (initialled in July)³ was signed on 20 December. It provides for 44 million ECU of aid over a five-year period (28 million ECU in EIB loans, 20 million ECU in grants, 6 million ECU in special loans) and is designed to benefit the entire population of the island.

Malta

2.2.39. Pending the opening of negotiations to establish contractual trade arrangements with Malta, the Council extended existing trade relations with Malta on an autonomous basis until 30 June 1984.⁴

Yugoslavia

2.2.40. A Community delegation visited Belgrade from 14 to 16 December. Both parties stressed the satisfactory trend of trade, which had allowed Yugoslavia's trade deficit with the Community to be reduced. For the first nine months of the year, Community imports from Yugoslavia were 23% up on the corresponding period in 1982, and Community exports were 2% down.

2.2.41. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution on relations between the Community and Yugoslavia concerning transport.⁵

Euro-Arab Dialogue

2.2.42. The general Committee of the Euro-Arab Dialogue, after a five-year interval (Damascus, 9-11 December 1978⁶), held its fifth meeting in Athens on 14 December. The proceedings ended differently from the previous four meetings, since this time Europeans and Arabs were unable to reach agreement on the text of the usual final communiqué with a political and a technical and economic section. They did, however, draft a joint press communiqué which, for the European side, was published by the Presidency in Athens on 15 December. This reads as follows:

'The two sides expressed their deep gratitude for the generous welcome given by the Greek Government to the meeting of the General Committee and for its effective contribution and the fruitful efforts made in preparing for and organizing that meeting.

The two sides have had a prolonged and detailed exchange of views on the different aspects of the Euro-Arab Dialogue, political, economic, cultural and social. This exchange of views, which provided the opportunity to set forth a wide spectrum of common positions, has proved very useful. The two parties congratulate themselves upon the attitude which prevailed during the aforesaid exchange of views. They intend to pursue them within the framework of the next meeting of the General Committee of the EAD and, in a general way, to intensify diplomatic contacts they hold as regards subjects of mutual interest.'

Countries of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula

High-level Commission-OAPEC meeting

2.2.43. A meeting between a Commission delegation led by Mr Davignon and a delegation from the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries led by its Secretary-General, Mr Ali Attiga, was held in

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, points 2.2.33 to 2.2.35.

² OJ L 369, 30.12.1983; COM(83)760 final.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.2.52; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.2.22.

⁴ OJ L 366, 28.12.1983; Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.36.

⁵ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁶ Bull. EC 12-1978, point 1.4.1, 1.4.2 and 2.2.57.

Brussels on 1 and 2 December. It provided an occasion to study changes which had taken place on the energy market and the long-term trends of supply and demand in both regions—OAPEC and EEC. The OAPEC countries stressed how dependent they were on revenue from petroleum exports in the face of falling demand and prices, and affirmed their readiness to maintain quantities for export in spite of a drop in their own consumption.

Views were also exchanged on refining and petrochemicals, research and development, and energy cooperation with developing countries.

In order to extend cooperation on information, training and joint studies on methodology, it was decided to arrange a seminar of experts on the management of energy data in the second half of 1984. The next high-level meeting is expected to take place in Kuwait in late 1984.

Asia

Association of South-East Asian Nations

2.2.44. The ASEAN-EEC Business Council was inaugurated in Jakarta on 2 and 3 December by Mr Richard, Member of the Commission, and Mr Rachmat Saleh, Indonesian Trade Minister, in the presence of 150 businessmen from both regions and delegations of senior civil servants from seven Member States of the Community and five ASEAN member countries.

Grouped together in this organization are the chambers of commerce and industry of ASEAN and of the Community. Its aim is to stimulate and increase contacts between representatives of the private sector in both groups of countries and to propose measures leading to closer economic and trade relations.

The Business Council adopted a working programme, which includes the organization in Europe of three seminars on investment opportunities in ASEAN countries.

Latin America

Andean Pact

2.2.45. A Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Andean Pact, and a Protocol relating to the European Coal and Steel Community, were signed in Cartagena, Colombia, on 17 December, in the presence of the Heads of State of the member countries of the Andean Pact (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela). This framework agreement, initialled in October,¹ was signed for the Community by Mr Haferkamp, Commission Vice-President, and Mr Kharalabopoulos, Greek Foreign Minister and President of the Council. It lasts for five years and can be automatically renewed for periods of two years.

The signing ceremony was preceded by an informal meeting between the Commission delegation and that of the Andean Group, during which prospects for implementing the agreement were examined. Meetings at technical level were planned, notably on industrial cooperation.

Argentina

2.2.46. Mr Burke attended the inauguration of the new President of the Argentine Republic, Mr Raúl Ricardo Alfonsín, in Buenos Aires on 10 December. He had talks with the Argentine Foreign Minister, Mr Dante Caputo, and with the State Secretary for Economic Affairs, Mr Bernardo Grinspun. The talks covered future relations between the Community and Argentina and ways of strengthening them.

State-trading countries

Poland

2.2.47. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution on the plan of the Polish bishops to develop a church aid programme for Polish farmers and craftsmen in the private sector.²

¹ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.38.

² OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

Romania

2.2.48. The third meeting¹ of the Joint Committee set up by the EEC-Romania Agreement of July 1980² was held in Brussels on 1 and 2 December. The two delegations, led respectively by Mr Haferkamp, Commission Vice-President, and Mr Vasile Pungan, Romanian Foreign Trade Minister, examined the trend—rather unfavourable for the Community—of trade with Romania, the working of various general and specific agreements (textiles, etc.) and trade concessions made by the Community (liberalization measures, quota increases).

Both parties also agreed to pursue at expert level discussion of the Romanian suggestion to negotiate a cooperation agreement.

The Community deficit in bilateral trading stood at 710 million ECU in 1982 and 419 million ECU in the first half of 1983.

Development³

Campaign against hunger

Special programme

2.2.49. On the basis of the Regulation adopted by the Council on 11 July,⁴ the Commission approved, on 22 December, the financing under Article 958 of the 1983 budget of 19 operations as part of the special programme to combat hunger in the world.⁵ This decision involves a commitment of 49 320 000 ECU, in addition to the 130 000 ECU already committed for certain measures in preparation for implementation of the programme, thus making a total of 49 450 000 ECU out of the 50 million ECU entered under Article 958.

There will be two types of operation:

(i) Support for increasing the degree of food self-sufficiency, 61% of the funds being earmarked for these initial projects, which will involve Bangladesh, Burundi, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Tanzania, Upper Volta and Zambia.

The projects will consist in particular of supplying agricultural inputs, finance and

technical assistance, which, in addition to boosting production in the short term, should enable the bodies involved at the various stages of the food production chain (agricultural credit, marketing, storage, price-fixing) to operate effectively.

(ii) Protection of natural resources (39% of the appropriation). These projects, which are designed to combat desertification and erosion and to improve the conditions under which water is used in areas where it is scarce, will involve studies, afforestation programmes, inventories of desertification phenomena and fuelwood-saving campaigns aimed at national authorities and the population at large.

These operations will be carried out mainly on the edge of the Sahara: inventory by remote sensing of desert creep, study on the replenishment of water resources in the crystalline base, afforestation operations in Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Upper Volta, and use of existing boreholes in Senegal.

Other projects will also be undertaken in Burundi, Djibouti, Haiti, Nepal, Somalia and Tanzania (afforestation and anti-erosion programmes). A project has also been adopted to help Ethiopia add to its network of agricultural research stations.

Food aid and emergency aid

Food aid

Annual programmes

2.2.50. The Commission took a number of decisions under the 1983 food aid programme:

(i) On 2 December it decided, after receiving a favourable opinion from the Food Aid Committee meeting of 10 November, to make a second⁶ allocation of products to the following countries:

¹ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.2.76.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1980, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.9.

³ See also 'Relations with other countries and regions'.

⁴ OJ L 196, 20.7.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.2.65.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.31.

⁶ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.2.67.

	Cereals (tonnes)	Milk powder (tonnes)	Butteroil (tonnes)	Dried beans (tonnes)
Chad	5 000 ¹	—	—	—
Comoros	1 000	400 cif	—	—
Ghana	20 000	35 cif	50 cif	—
Jamaica	—	1 200 fob	200 fob	—
Madagascar	20 000 fob	500 fob	—	—
Senegal	11 000 cif	1 500 cif	—	—
Sri Lanka	45 000 cif	—	—	—
Tunisia	—	4 500 fob	1 500 fob	—
Zimbabwe	—	4 000 fob	750 fob	6 000 ¹
Total	102 000	13 900	2 850	6 000

¹ Free at destination.

(ii) On 20 December, after receiving a favourable opinion from the Food Aid Committee meeting of 15 December, the

Commission decided to make a third food aid allocation:

	Cereals (tonnes)	Milk powder (tonnes)	Butteroil (tonnes)
Cape Verde	7 000 cif	400 cif	300 cif
Niger	—	250 ¹	—
Upper Volta	6 000 ¹	—	—
Benin	4 000 fob	—	—
Guinea	7 000 cif	—	—
Guinea-Bissau	7 000 cif	—	—
Sierra Leone	6 000 cif	500 cif	—
Zaire	15 000 cif	—	—
Seychelles	—	50 cif	—
Somalia	23 000 cif	—	600 cif
Djibouti	4 000 cif	—	—
Dominica	1 500 fob	—	—
Peru	5 000 fob	1 000 fob	200 fob
Ecuador	—	300 fob	—
Indonesia	15 000 fob	—	—
Pakistan	—	800 cif	—

¹ Free at destination.

Operations in place of food aid

2.2.51. As part of its campaign against hunger in the world the Community has formulated a new food aid policy that is designed to integrate this type of support more fully with recipient countries' development policies.¹ It has also given these

countries the opportunity under certain circumstances (exceptionally good harvests or plentiful stocks) of opting for cash in place of food aid in order to finance agricultural and food development projects (Article 929 of the budget).

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.1.9 to 1.1.23.

In November the Commission sent a proposal for a Regulation to the Council laying down the procedures for implementing this aid instrument.¹

However, 500 000 ECU was available immediately; it could be allocated to specific, isolated operations and did not therefore need to be based on a Regulation.

The Commission decided to give this sum to the Office des produits vivriers du Niger (OPVN) to supplement its own resources and enable it to increase its ability to make purchases on the local market. The aid in question was a substitute for some 3 000 tonnes of cereals which Niger, as a regular recipient of Community food aid, could have expected to receive.

Emergency operations

2.2.52. On 1 December the Commission decided to allocate 520 tonnes of wheat flour (712 tonnes of cereal equivalent, valued at 100 360 ECU) to Syria and 600 tonnes of rice (1 740 tonnes of cereal equivalent, valued at 269 700 ECU) to Gambia, to be drawn from the World Food Programme's emergency food reserve for 1982.

This aid will be delivered to the port of shipment, and the cost of transportation to destination will be reimbursed on the basis of supporting documents.

2.2.53. On 13 December the Commission decided to allocate 20 000 tonnes of white maize, valued at 3 100 000 ECU, to the World Food Programme (international emergency food reserve for 1983), for Mozambique. This aid will be delivered to its destination.

2.2.54. On 16 December the Commission decided to allocate 29 000 tonnes of cereals (valued at 4 495 000 ECU), 800 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder (valued at 864 000 ECU) and 550 tonnes of butteroil (valued at 150 950 ECU), plus one million ECU for other products, to be delivered to their destination in a number of African countries. The breakdown by country is given on page 77.

2.2.55. On 16 December the Commission decided to allocate 250 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder, valued at 270 000 ECU, to Licross for distribution to victims of the drought in north-eastern Brazil. This aid will be delivered to its destination.

Emergency aid

2.2.56. In December the Commission authorized the following allocations of emergency aid under Article 950 of the budget:

Portugal. 100 000 ECU for the victims of the torrential rains that caused havoc in the suburbs of Lisbon. This sum was earmarked for the League of Red Cross Societies for the purchase and distribution of various items of equipment. On 15 December Parliament adopted a resolution approving this aid.²

Brazil. 750 000 ECU emergency aid in response to the serious disasters affecting a very large number of people (drought in the North-East and various epidemics in the North). This sum will help finance the relief programmes of the League of Red Cross Societies (500 000 ECU), Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (150 000 ECU) and Médecins sans frontière (100 000 ECU).

Mozambique. Given the drought and the serious effects it is having on hundreds of thousands of people, a relief team will be sent by air with logistic equipment, medicines and food of high nutritional value.

Generalized preferences

1984 scheme

2.2.57. On 16 December the Council adopted the various Regulations and Decisions on the generalized tariff preferences to be applied by the Community in 1984 to certain industrial, agricultural and textile products originating in developing coun-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.48.

² Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

	Cereals (tonnes)	Milk powder (tonnes)	Butteroil (tonnes)	Channelled
Chad	4 000	—	—	direct
Mali	—	100	—	via NGO
Mauritania	5 000	—	—	direct
Mauritania	—	300	—	via Licross
Mauritania	—	—	500	via WFP/IEFR
Senegal	5 000	—	—	direct
Upper Volta	400	—	—	via NGO
Ghana	3 000	400	—	direct
Ghana	—	—	50	via NGO
Guinea	2 000	—	—	direct
Guinea-Bissau	1 000	—	—	direct
Central African Republic	1 000	—	—	direct
Tanzania	4 000	—	—	direct
Angola	1 600	—	—	via UNHCR
Botswana	1 000	—	—	direct
Lesotho	1 000	—	—	direct
Mozambique	—	—	1 million ECU (other products)	via WFP/IEFR
	29 999	800	550 million ECU (butteroil) 1 million ECU (other products)	

tries.¹ The Commission had presented its proposals in July,² and Parliament³ and the Economic and Social Committee⁴ had delivered their opinions in November and October respectively.

The Representatives of the Governments of the ECSC Member States also adopted, on 16 December, a Decision applying generalized preferences for 1984 to certain iron and

steel products originating in developing countries.¹

¹ OJ L 362, 24.12.1983; OJ L 372, 31.12.1983.

² OJ C 263, 3.10.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, points 2.2.73 to 2.2.78.

³ OJ C 242, 19.12.1983.

⁴ OJ C 358, 31.12.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.46.

Information seminars on the GSP

2.2.58. In India three one-day seminars were organized in December under the auspices of the Export Inspection Council in Ludhiana (Punjab), Pune (Maharashtra) and Bangalore (Karnataka), three rising industrial and economic centres in which there is now increasing interest in the possibilities of exporting to the European market. On each occasion the participants—between 50 and 70 in number—were mainly businessmen, i.e. manufacturers and exporters, and representatives of the associated service sectors, although officials from the regional offices of central government departments concerned with trade promotion and the issue of certificates of origin also attended. The emphasis in these seminars was on the joint examination of specific aspects of the utilization of the Community's GSP scheme, in particular rules of origin and administration of the Community's system of preferential limits. The team from the Commission also met representatives of export promotion councils operating in Bombay and of the recently established EEC-India Chamber of Commerce.

In Sri Lanka a two-day seminar was organized in Colombo by the Ministry of Trade and Shipping, which attracted some 70 participants drawn in similar proportions from the private and public sectors. In this seminar the Commission team gave more detailed accounts of both the basic principles and the specific rules and regulations of the Community's GSP scheme. This was followed by question-and-answer sessions which allowed for individual case studies.

Commodities and world agreements

Cocoa

2.2.59. The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee set up to work on a fourth International Cocoa Agreement was held in London from 12 to 15 December, and the exploratory discussions begun in November were continued.¹ The meeting was marked by the announcement of a consensus between

producers on a agreement covering both a buffer stock and export quotas. The majority of the consumers group, in which the Community accounts for two thirds of the votes, felt the same although unanimous agreement was not reached, some States still not being convinced of the need for a system of export quotas. The latter States' reservations are likely to be backed up by the latest statistical forecasts for production and consumption published by the Organization, which show, as estimates for 1982/83 and forecasts for 1983/84, two consecutive years of production falling short of consumption. According to the Executive Director of the Organization, this deficit is attributable to freak weather conditions, the longer-term trend being towards the production of structural surpluses.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.60. On 19 December, following a favourable opinion from Parliament,² the Council adopted the general guidelines for 1984 on financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries. The Commission had transmitted its proposals on the matter the previous September.³

2.2.61. Following a favourable opinion from the Committee on Aid to Non-associated Developing Countries, the Commission took the following financing decisions on 19 December, the cost of which is charged to the 1983 appropriation under Article 930 of the budget:

Peru: rural capital projects programme in Cuzco department (parallel cofinancing with the Netherlands). Total cost of project: 8.7 million ECU; EEC contribution: 6.0 million ECU.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.2.52.

² OJ C 342, 19.12.1983.

³ OJ C 261, 30.9.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.2.35.

Yemen: Dhamar rehabilitation project (joint cofinancing). Total cost of project: 4.9 to 6.45 million ECU; EEC contribution: 2.55 million ECU.

Yemen: integrated rural development in Al Bayda (parallel cofinancing with the Netherlands). Total cost of project: 11 million ECU; EEC contribution: 2.74 million ECU.

Thailand: agricultural credit project (parallel cofinancing with the ADB). Total cost of project: 125 million ECU; EEC contribution: 20 million ECU.

Burma: rural water supply and sanitation outside the dry zone (cofinancing with UNICEF). Total cost of project: 11.5 million ECU; EEC contribution: 2.5 million ECU.

Nepal: supply of fertilizer (autonomous project). Total cost of project: 5.3 million ECU; EEC contribution: 5.3 million ECU.

India: modernization of tank irrigation systems in Tamil Nadu (autonomous project). Total cost of project: 41.3 million ECU; EEC contribution: 25.0 million ECU.

India: state rural development training centres (autonomous project). Total cost of project: 7.7 million ECU; EEC contribution: 6.5 million ECU.

Pakistan: phase II of water supply programme in Baluchistan (parallel cofinancing with UNICEF). Total cost of project: 13.2 million ECU; EEC contribution: 7.8 million ECU.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.62. Between 1 January and 31 December 387 admissible projects totalling 43 million ECU were submitted to the Commission by 132 NGOs.

At 31 December the total grant aid committed was 26.1 million ECU for 232 projects.

In addition, 51 campaigns to inform the European public about development issues have been cofinanced at a cost of 2.4 million ECU.

ACP States and OCT

ACP-EEC Conventions

Institutions

ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors

2.2.63. The 16th meeting of the ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors, which was held on 16 December, dealt solely with subjects relating to Lomé II. Most of these had already been raised before and had been the subject of procedural decisions for continuing the work: GSP, special treatment for ACP exports of bran and strawberries, delivery of available agricultural products, examination of trends in ACP-EEC trade, progress report on the enlargement negotiations, review of the Sugar Protocol, origin of fish products, ACP requests concerning management of the Stabex system and extending coverage, supplementary financing of industrial cooperation, inclusion of Belize and Antigua among the least-developed ACP countries, and accession to the Convention of St Christopher and Nevis.

The ACP countries also aired their concern with regard to the fate of ACP students and migrant workers in Community countries and the situation in southern Africa. The Community confirmed its earlier position on these two issues and underlined the limits to the Community's powers and to the Lomé Convention.

The following points in particular were worth noting:

(i) 1983/84 prices for ACP sugar: the ACP countries repeated that they were unhappy at having to accept the price put forward by the Community and suggested that this should be linked with review of the Protocol; the Community drew attention to the considerable advantages enjoyed by ACP countries and the practical impossibility of offering a price higher than the EEC price;

(ii) accession of Ivory Coast to the Sugar Protocol: the Community allocated an immediate quota of 2 000 tonnes; depending on the provisions of the Protocol and other

ACP requests, a higher quota may be allocated progressively;

(iii) request from Zimbabwe for a higher sugar quota: the request was still being examined;

(iv) ACP strawberries: consultations would be opened on this subject;

(v) fishing lines for Mauritius: the Community agreed to grant a derogation from the rules of origin;

(vi) Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation: the parties agreed on its budget, the arrangements regarding its staff and practical matters connected with setting it up.

New points were also raised by the ACP States:

(i) they were concerned about Commission proposals designed to tax vegetable oils, the tendency in certain Member States towards tightening up the regulations on aflatoxin content and the Community's reactions to this; information was supplied on this point;

(ii) they felt that the Community was not doing enough in terms of emergency aid, given the extent of the problems, and requested a consultation procedure; there would first be technical contacts between the Commission and the ACP States.

Accessions

2.2.64. On 22 December the Council adopted the draft decision of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers approving the request for the accession of St Christopher and Nevis to the second ACP-EEC Convention (64th ACP State) and adopted the Regulation concerning the accession of St Christopher and Nevis to Protocol No 7 to the Convention, dealing with sugar.

On 19 December, in view of the time needed to set up the requisite procedures for accession, the Commission proposed that the arrangements laid down for the OCT be applied provisionally to St Christopher and Nevis.¹

Trade cooperation

2.2.65. The Commission organized a trade mission for ASEAN countries to North Africa.

2.2.66. On 19 December the Commission approved the proposed financing—totalling 1 650 000 ECU—of ACP participation in trade fairs in 1984 (under regional cooperation—fifth EDF).

The financial aid from the Community will cover part of the costs of ACP participation in 20 trade fairs in Europe, Africa and Australia throughout 1984. The financing will go mainly towards the construction of some 160 exhibition stands.

At the same time the Commission approved the proposed financing (130 000 ECU) of OCT participation in two tourist industry fairs in Berlin and London.

Regional cooperation

2.2.67. On 5 December representatives of the Directorate-General for Development met representatives of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) from the Caricom Secretariat, the Caribbean Development Bank and the Caribbean Food Corporation. One of the main purposes of this meeting was to review regional cooperation in the area. It emerged that 97% of the Community resources granted to regional projects in the Caribbean under the first Lomé Convention had been committed and 90% of the resources granted under the second Lomé Convention would be committed by the end of February 1984, thus showing a very marked increase in the use of this type of resource compared with other recipient regions under the Conventions.

European Development Fund

2.2.68. In December the Commission decided on the allocation of third, fourth and fifth EDF resources totalling 73 392 364 ECU to finance projects, programmes and

¹ COM(83) 743 final.

emergency aid operations administered by it in the following sectors:

	<i>ECU</i>
Industrialization	6 039 908
Energy	12 900 000
Rural production	28 956 000
Social infrastructure	2 000 000
Road infrastructure	12 200 000
Fisheries and stockfarming	1 147 556
Trade promotion	1 780 000
Training	1 415 000
Tourism and environment	3 525 000
Information and statistics	1 638 900
Miscellaneous	1 790 000
	<u>73 392 364</u>

2.2.69. I December the Commission decided to finance from fifth EDF resources three emergency aid operations totalling 630 000 ECU.

2.2.70. At the end of November the Commission had also decided to finance operations from fifth EDF resources in the following sectors:

	<i>ECU</i>
Emergency aid	250 000
Fisheries	4 570 000
Social infrastructure	1 300 000
Training	950 000
	<u>7 070 000</u>

Export earnings

2.2.71. On 19 December the Commission transmitted to the Council, following the request contained in an UNCTAD VI resolution (157), a communication¹ on the follow-up to UNCTAD VI²—compensation for losses of export earnings from commodities.

Visits

2.2.72. A Commission delegation visited Uganda from 21 November to 3 December in order to review overall cooperation with the Ugandan authorities and find out about how Community aid was progressing and what measures might be taken in order to ensure that this aid was distributed more effectively.

The Commission team was able to see how the international operations in favour of displaced persons were progressing and assess the situation regarding emergency aid from the Community. The outlook for regional cooperation was examined in the light of the Arusha agreements of 16 November between Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

2.2.73. On 9 December Sir Gaétan Duval, Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius, visited the Commission, where he was received by Mr Thorn and Mr Pisani. Discussions centred on renewal of the Lomé Convention, the drought in Mauritius and sugar, which, together with textiles, accounts for the bulk of Mauritian exports to the Community (85 % of the country's total exports go to the Community).

2.2.74. The seventh meeting of the Consultative Group for the Sudan was held in Paris from 14 to 16 December. The meeting, at which the Commission was represented, was chaired by the World Bank, and the Sudanese delegation was led by the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Mr Ibrahim Moneim Mansour.

The Group reviewed implementation of the Sudanese Government's economic recovery programme and took note of the request for a high level of international financial aid. The meeting was pleased with the effort made by the Community in 1983 to speed up the granting of aid to Sudan.

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

General Assembly

2.2.75. The 38th session of the UN General Assembly, chaired by Mr Jorge Illueca (Panama), ended in New York on 20 De-

¹ COM(83) 736 final.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1983, points 2.2.61 to 2.2.64.

ember. The session coincided with a flare-up of tension and conflict in various parts of the world, including Central America and the Middle East, and with a certain heightening of East-West polemics, but there was no real deterioration in relations among the different political groups in the UN. North-South relations maintained an even keel, despite the absence of any notable achievement in this field.

Attempts to make some firm progress towards the opening of global negotiations on international economic cooperation, a project which the Community continues to support, failed to get beyond the stage of exploratory talks, which will continue in the early part of 1984. Similarly, although the non-aligned countries in particular had in the course of the year put forward numerous proposals and ideas on the international financial and monetary system, no specific plans for an international monetary conference were in the end laid before the Assembly. The Assembly did, however, adopt by consensus a resolution calling for immediate measures to help the developing countries in matters of crucial importance, which to a considerable extent would have been those on the agenda for the global negotiations. The resolution, which the Community helped draft, reflects the developing countries' eagerness for further tangible progress in North-South cooperation in the wake of UNCTAD VI, which received a critical appraisal from the Assembly.

The severity of the problems facing a considerable number of African countries, and the international community's awareness of them, prompted the Assembly to pass a number of resolutions dealing with Africa's food and agricultural problems. The Assembly also laid the foundations for the major North-South events scheduled for 1984: the mid-term review of the International Development Strategy, and the Fourth Conference of UNIDO. It failed to make any real progress on the financing of science and technology for development, and was unable, even after lengthy negotiations in which the Community took an active part, to reach unanimous agreement on

a resolution calling for a new climate of confidence in international economic relations.

The Assembly continued its discussions on the sale of dangerous substances to developing countries, and on consumer protection guidelines; the Community has already passed legislation on these two health-related issues, which are now firmly on the UN agenda.

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

2.2.76. The Committee on the Development of Trade held its 32nd session in Geneva from 5 to 9 December. The Commission representative pointed out that despite the recent improvement in the Community's trade balance with the USSR, its deficit with the other East European countries for the first half of 1983 was more than double the comparable figure for 1982. He drew attention to the increasing number of obstacles to trade experienced by Western firms in trade with several East European countries, in particular payment problems and increased dumping activities by State-trading countries. The lack of economic information available in these countries was also stressed. The meeting ended without agreement being reached on any of the *ad hoc* meetings on priority trade issues which normally take place over and above the Committee's basic work programme.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

2.2.77. The Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board held its 20th session in Vienna on 28 December.

The main points on the agenda were the review of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in the industrial sector, the preparatory arrangements for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO and an evaluation of UNIDO technical assistance activities.

The Community made a statement on the Strategy review, commenting on general developments in world industrialization since the beginning of the Decade and noting that progress in industrialization in developing countries had been disappointing, although performance had varied considerably from one part of the world to another. In the Community's view, one of the lessons of recent experience was the need for long-run financial stability. The slight fall in world trade which had occurred in 1981 and 1982 was mainly due to a fall in demand rather than a growth in protectionism.

The Fourth General Conference of UNIDO will take place on 2-18 August and will be one of the main events in the North-South Dialogue in 1984. The Permanent Committee decided that informal consultations should be held in Vienna on procedural and substantive issues relevant to the Conference with a view to identifying areas of potential agreement or convergence around the items of the provisional agenda. These consultations would take place between the end of 1983 and the beginning of the Conference.

Following a report on evaluation of UNIDO technical assistance activities the Permanent Committee invited the Executive Director of UNIDO to take what further action he deemed feasible to improve the effectiveness of these activities.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Group on Quantitative Restrictions and Other Non-tariff Measures

2.2.78. The Group on Quantitative Restrictions and Other Non-tariff Measures held its third¹ meeting in Geneva from 5 to 8 December to discuss review procedures (stage II of the work programme).

The review dealt with the grounds on which quantitative restrictions were maintained and their compatibility with the General Agreement. The Group also undertook a

review of all five parts of the GATT catalogue of non-tariff measures. The manner in which the Group will deal with the conclusions to be drawn from the review will be considered at further meetings scheduled for 27 February and 9 April 1984.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.79. The President of the Council and the President of the Commission received HE Mr Bomboko Lokumba is'Elenge, who presented his letters of credence as Representative of the Republic of Zaire to the EEC with effect from 7 December.¹

They received Their Excellencies Mr Joseph Hadass (State of Israel), Mr Linnaeus Stephen Kauta Msiska (Republic of Malawi) and Mr Roberto Junguito Bonnet (Republic of Colombia) for the presentation of their letters of credence as Heads of Mission of their respective countries to the European Communities with effect from 8 December.²

The two Presidents also received Their Excellencies Mr Giovanni Delgado Campos (Republic of Nicaragua), Mr Hernán Guarderas Iturralde (Republic of Ecuador) and Mr Osman Abdullahi Al Sammahouni (Democratic Republic of the Sudan) for the presentation of their letters of credence as Heads of Mission of their respective countries to the European Communities with effect from 15 December.³

The new ambassadors succeed Mr Kengo wa Dondo (Zaire), Mr Itzhak Minerbi (Israel), Mr David Paul Wilson Kachikuwo (Malawi), Mr Alberto Vásquez Restrepo (Colombia), Mr Gonzalo Murillo Romero (Nicaragua), Mr José Julio Ayala Lasso (Ecuador) and Mr Sayed Nuri Khalil Siddig (Sudan).

¹ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.2.69.

² OJ C 348, 23.12.1983.

³ OJ C 2, 5.1.1984.

3. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Draft 1984 budget: second reading by Parliament

2.3.1. At its December part-session Parliament gave its second reading to the draft general budget for 1984.¹

It restored amendments increasing the commitment appropriations for non-compulsory expenditure entered by the Council on its second reading² by 313.93 million ECU and the payment appropriations by 132.09 million ECU. The approved increases mainly related to the following sectors: the European Regional Development Fund (an extra 40 million ECU for commitment), the European Social fund (an extra 36 million ECU for commitment), energy policy (an extra 44.6 million ECU for commitment and 37 million ECU for payment), research and investment (an extra 65.4 million ECU for commitment and 8.3 million ECU for payment), transport (an extra 10 million ECU for commitment), food aid (an extra 12 million ECU for commitment and 25.4 million ECU for payment), world hunger (an extra 22 million ECU for commitment and 6 million ECU for payment) and specific measures for developing countries (an extra 7 million ECU for commitment and 10 million ECU for payment).

Parliament approved estimated expenditure of 16 500 million ECU for the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF, of which 350 million ECU was placed in reserve (Chapter 100).

In addition, 600 million ECU in commitment appropriations are earmarked in the budget for implementation of the 'European industrial area'. On 15 December the Chairman of Parliament's Committee on Budgets stated in the House that these appropriations would not be made available until decisions had been taken on increasing own resources.

Lastly, Parliament put back into the Chapter 100 reserve all the appropriations in

tended as compensation for the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany (1 202 million ECU). These funds are earmarked for a number of headings, including social measures, energy policy (with particular emphasis on coal), urban renewal and transport.

2.3.2. On this basis, the President of Parliament declared on 20 December that the 1984 budget had been finally adopted.³ It totals 27 377.28 million ECU in appropriations for commitments and 25 361.46 million ECU in appropriations for payments. The VAT own resource rate is 0.99%. According to the Commission's figures this amounts to an increase of 17% in commitment appropriations for non-compulsory expenditure and 11.56% in payment appropriations.

2.3.3. In a letter to the President of Parliament on 20 December, the Council reserved its position, pointing out in particular that it had not signified its agreement to the new rates of increase for expenditure as required by Article 203(9) of the EEC Treaty.

2.3.4. For its part, the Commission decided on 20 December to implement the budget.

Discharge for 1980

2.3.5. On 16 December Parliament adopted a resolution⁴ on follow-up to its decision to grant a discharge for 1980.⁵

Financial Regulations

2.3.6. On 19 December the Council approved⁶ the amendments to Regulation No 2892/77 of 19 December 1977,⁷ on which it had adopted a common position in October.⁸

¹ Point 2.4.7; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

² Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.3.1.

³ OJ L 12, 16.1.1984.

⁴ OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

⁵ OJ C 42, 14.2.1983; OJ L 46, 18.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.3.3.

⁶ OJ L 360, 23.12.1983.

⁷ OJ L 336, 27.12.1977.

⁸ Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.3.7.

Financial compensation

Measures for 1982

2.3.7. Under the arrangements for financial compensation for the United Kingdom for 1982, the United Kingdom was granted a net refund of 850 million ECU. This was based on an assumed net contribution of 1 530 million ECU.¹ An adjustment mechanism was provided in case the figure was exceeded. In addition, the Federal Republic of Germany's share in financing this measure was reduced by half.

Since the virtually definitive figures for 1982 showed the United Kingdom's actual net contribution to be 2 036 million ECU, the adjustment mechanism was brought into play.

The necessary funds (307.52 million ECU for the United Kingdom and 62.48 million ECU for the Federal Republic of Germany) were entered in supplementary and amending budget No 2/1983, adopted on 24 October.² These funds were divided up as follows: 195.561 million ECU for supplementary measures for the United Kingdom in the regional sector and 111.96 and 62.48 million ECU for the United Kingdom and Germany respectively for special measures of Community interest under the energy strategy.

On 12 December, to enable the appropriations to be allocated, the Commission adopted two Decisions on the financing of energy projects.³ It also decided⁴ to grant additional finance for regional projects selected in March⁵ on the basis of the Council Regulation of 15 March.⁶

Measures for 1983

2.3.8. In June 1983, in conjunction with its declaration on the future financing of the Community, the European Council agreed on a net refund to the United Kingdom for 1983 of 750 million ECU. The Federal Republic of Germany's share in the additional cost was cut by half.⁷ The gross expenditure involved was estimated at 991

million ECU for the United Kingdom and 211 million ECU for Germany.

These funds, for special measures in favour of the two Member States, were entered in the draft 1984 budget and allocated to three sectors: 275 million ECU for measures to boost employment in the United Kingdom; 456 million ECU for measures under the energy strategy (255 million ECU to the United Kingdom and 201 million ECU to Germany); and 471 million ECU for transport infrastructure projects (461 million to the United Kingdom and 10 million to Germany).

Parliament placed these appropriations in reserve (Chapter 100) as it wishes to link release of the 1 202 million ECU with the adoption of a definitive decision on unfair budgetary situations, which have made this mechanism necessary.

2.3.9. On 2 December, so that the appropriations entered in the budget could be allocated, the Commission sent the Council three proposals for Regulations scheduling measures to be implemented in the social,⁸ transport⁹ and energy strategy¹⁰ sectors.

ECSC operating budget

2.3.10. After consulting Parliament¹¹ and informing the ECSC Consultative Committee,¹² the Commission decided on 21 De-

¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.1.1, 2.3.10 and 2.3.11; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.4; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.3.1; Bull. EC 2-1983, Point 2.3.1; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.3.5; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.3.2.

² OJ L 331, 28.10.1983.

³ OJ L 9, 12.1.1984.

⁴ Point 2.1.108.

⁵ OJ L 98, 16.4.1983.

⁶ OJ L 73, 19.3.1983.

⁷ Bull. EC 6-1983, points 1.5.9 and 2.3.5.

⁸ Point 2.1.71; OJ C 348, 23.12.1983; COM(83)696 final.

⁹ Point 2.1.194; OJ C 340, 17.12.1983; COM(83)697 final.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.208; OJ C 344, 20.12.1983; COM(83)698 final.

¹¹ OJ C 10, 16.1.1983.

¹² Point 2.4.34.

Table 7 — Use of appropriations for 1983

million ECU

	Total appropriations ^{1 3}		% used		Approps for payments carried over from 1982 to 1983	% used	Appropriations lapsing or available ^{2 3}			
	For commitments	For payments	Commitments	Payments			Approps for commitments		Approps for payments	
							Lapsing	Available	Lapsing	Available
COMMISSION										
<i>Operating appropriations</i>										
Agriculture	16 970.6	16 536.5	98.8	98.8	430.4	58.9	82.8	113.6	167.2	213.1
EAGGF Guarantee Section	(15 811.0)	(15 811.0)	(99.9)	(99.9)	(2.6)	(95.4)	(17.0)	(—)	(17.1)	(—)
EAGGF Guidance Section	(985.5)	(612.3)	(88.1)	(81.4)	(391.2)	(57.1)	(21.2)	(96.6)	(96.6)	(185.6)
Fisheries	(116.8)	(56.9)	(67.7)	(27.9)	(30.4)	(75.2)	(21.2)	(16.5)	(28.7)	(19.9)
Social	2 081.2	1 417.1	95.9	57.6	218.4	97.3	11.6	72.8	14.4	591.8
Regional	2 513.4	1 495.4	94.2	92.1	174.4	79.7	2.3	143.2	37.6	115.2
Energy	954.1	885.1	98.1	91.3	31.4	71.2	5.1	12.8	14.1	72.3
Research and investment	534.6	430.2	91.7	86.5	58.0	81.7	0.4	43.8	3.0	65.6
Industrial policy	111.3	62.0	87.5	47.1	31.0	59.9	2.0	12.0	14.3	30.9
Transport	26.5	14.4	42.3	18.2	1.1	99.3	0.3	15.0	0.2	11.6
Environment and consumer protection	13.2	13.6	81.3	29.8	8.3	89.1	0.5	2.0	1.4	9.1
Development cooperation	1 291.6	984.6	82.3	54.0	345.3	87.3	33.1	195.1	47.2	449.6
Food aid	(541.9)	(541.9)	(99.9)	(62.5)	(72.3)	(100.0)	(0.8)	(—)	(0.8)	(202.7)
Non-associated developing countries	(369.4)	(122.7)	(65.5)	(29.6)	117.1)	(86.9)	(—)	(127.5)	(15.4)	(86.3)
Specific and exceptional measures	(145.6)	(140.0)	(93.8)	(28.5)	(50.6)	(97.8)	(2.4)	(6.7)	(3.5)	(97.8)
Cooperation with Mediterranean countries	(183.2)	(128.5)	(50.4)	(52.1)	(103.8)	(73.6)	(29.9)	(60.9)	(27.4)	(61.5)
Miscellaneous	(51.5)	(51.5)	(100.0)	(97.4)	(1.5)	(87.3)	(—)	(—)	(0.1)	(1.3)
Subtotal	24 496.5	21 838.9	96.9	92.8	1 298.3	77.3	138.1	610.3	299.4	1 559.2
<i>Administrative appropriations</i>										
Staff and administration	755.7	755.7	98.6	89.3	58.9	84.1	10.7	—	20.1	70.0
Repayment of own resources collection costs	966.9	966.9	96.1	88.1	71.5	97.7	37.8	—	39.5	77.0
Financial compensation to UK and Greece	122.1	122.1	99.6	80.8	44.5	99.4	0.5	—	0.7	23.0
Supplementary measures in favour of UK	887.6	887.6	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Provisional appropriations</i>	43.7	89.4	—	—	—	—	43.7	—	89.4	—
Contingency reserve	(1.1)	(1.1)	—	—	—	—	(1.1)	—	(1.1)	—
Commission total	27 272.5	24 660.5	96.9	92.4	1 473.2	79.2	230.8	610.3	449.1	1 729.2
Non-diff. appropriations	20 529.6	20 529.6	99.3	96.8	511.0	82.0	144.1	—	161.7	592.8
Differentiated appropriations	6 742.9	4 130.9	89.7	70.7	962.2	77.7	86.7	—	287.4	1 136.4
OTHER INSTITUTIONS	404.8	404.8	94.0	82.0	47.8	87.5	24.1	—	30.1	48.7
Grand total	27 677.3	25 065.3	96.9	92.2	1 521.0	79.5	254.9	610.3	479.2	1 777.9

¹ Initial budget as amended by transfers of appropriations, plus commitment appropriations remaining from previous financial years and adjustments of commitments from previous years still to be settled.

² Unused non-differentiated appropriations lapse unless the budgetary authority approves a carryover.

³ These are provisional figures as at 31.12.1983: the EAGGF guarantee and food aid accounts will not be finally closed until 31.3.1984.

Financing Community activities

Table 8 — Stages in the 1984 budget procedure — Total appropriations for commitments

	1983 budget		1984 preliminary draft budget		Council draft 21-22 July		Change (3/2)		Parliament draft		Change (5/3)		Council draft 22 November		Change (7/5)		Parliament draft 15 December		Change (9/7)					
	1	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%	6	%	7	%	8	%	9	%	10	%				
I. SECTION III B — COMMISSION (operating appropriations)																								
A. Support for agricultural markets EAGGF Guarantee (Ch. 10 to 29)	15 811 000 000	59.58	16 500 000 000	57.65	16 500 000 000	62.04	—	—	16 495 000 000	56.74	-	5 000 000	-	0.03	16 500 000 000	60.96	+	5 000 000	+	0.03	16 500 000 000	60.27	—	—
B. Agricultural structures EAGGF Guidance (Ch. 30 to 38) Specific measures (Ch. 38)	782 150 000 57 301 750	2.95 0.22	733 500 000 56 258 000	2.56 0.20	723 500 000 80 475 000	2.72 0.30	-	10 000 000 - 1.36 + 24 217 000 + 43.05	730 500 000 86 560 000	2.51 0.30	+	7 000 000 + 0.97 6 085 000 + 7.56	723 500 000 82 560 000	2.67 0.31	-	7 000 000 - 0.96 4 000 000 - 4.62	723 500 000 86 560 000	2.64 0.32	+	—	—	4 000 000 + 4.84	—	—
Total B	839 451 750	3.16	789 758 000	2.76	803 975 000	3.02	+	14 217 000 + 1.80	817 060 000	2.81	+	13 085 000 + 1.63	806 060 000	2.98	-	11 000 000 - 1.35	810 060 000	2.96	+	4 000 000 + 0.50	—	—	—	—
C. Fisheries (Ch. 40 to 46)	107 242 000	0.40	171 494 000	0.60	136 357 000	0.51	-	35 137 000 - 20.49	174 108 000	0.60	+	37 751 000 + 27.69	153 858 000	0.57	-	20 250 000 - 11.63	159 108 000	0.58	+	5 250 000 + 3.41	—	—	—	—
D. Regional Regional Fund (Ch. 50 and 51) EMS measures (Ch. 52) Supplementary measures for the UK (Ch. 53) Miscellaneous (Ch. 54 and 55)	2 010 000 000 200 000 000 887 560 760 42 800 000	7.58 0.75 3.35 0.16	2 500 000 000 200 000 000 — 45 850 000	8.74 0.70 — 0.16	2 000 000 000 token entry — 38 200 000	7.52 — — 0.14	-	500 000 000 - 20.00 200 000 000 - 100.00 — 7 650 000 - 16.68	2 350 000 000 token entry — 45 700 000	8.08 — — 0.16	+	350 000 000 + 17.50 — — 7 500 000 + 19.63	2 100 000 000 token entry — 40 200 000	7.76 — — 0.15	-	250 000 000 - 10.64 — — 5 500 000 - 12.04	2 140 000 000 token entry — 45 700 000	7.82 — — 0.17	+	40 000 000 + 1.90 — — 5 500 000 + 13.68	—	—	—	—
Total D	3 140 360 760	11.84	2 745 850 000	9.59	2 038 200 000	7.66	-	707 650 000 - 25.77	2 395 700 000	8.24	+	357 500 000 + 17.54	2 140 200 000	7.91	-	255 500 000 - 10.66	2 185 700 000	7.98	+	45 500 000 + 2.13	—	—	—	—
E. Social Social Fund (Ch. 60, 61 and 62) Miscellaneous (Ch. 64, 65, 68 and 69) Education and culture (Ch. 63 and 67) Environment and consumers (Ch. 66)	1 696 500 000 115 455 000 16 341 000 12 690 000	6.39 0.44 0.06 0.05	2 400 000 000 171 772 000 19 022 000 21 064 000	8.39 0.60 0.07 0.07	1 700 000 000 372 505 000 16 080 000 10 055 000	6.39 1.40 0.06 0.04	-	700 000 000 - 29.17 + 200 733 000 + 116.86 2 942 000 - 15.47 11 009 000 - 52.26	1 920 000 000 390 022 000 18 956 000 21 364 000	6.60 1.34 0.07 0.07	+	220 000 000 + 12.94 17 517 000 + 4.70 2 876 000 + 17.89 11 309 000 + 112.47	1 810 000 000 386 505 000 16 680 000 10 255 000	6.69 1.43 0.06 0.04	-	110 000 000 - 5.73 3 517 000 - 0.90 2 276 000 - 12.01 11 109 000 - 52.00	1 846 000 000 390 022 000 18 956 000 19 964 000	6.74 1.42 0.07 0.07	+	36 000 000 + 1.99 3 517 000 + 0.91 2 276 000 + 13.67 9 709 000 + 94.68	—	—	—	—
Total E	1 840 986 000	6.94	2 611 858 000	9.13	2 098 640 000	7.89	-	513 218 000 - 19.65	2 350 342 000	8.08	+	251 702 000 + 11.99	2 223 440 000	8.22	-	126 902 000 - 5.40	2 274 942 000	8.31	+	51 502 000 + 2.32	—	—	—	—
F. Research, energy, industry and transport Energy (Ch. 70 and 71) Research and investment (Ch. 72 and 73) Information and innovation (Ch. 75) Industry and internal market (Ch. 77) Transport (Ch. 78)	898 234 240 446 093 000 12 510 000 40 906 000 16 450 000	3.39 1.68 0.05 0.15 0.06	772 585 000 1 056 582 000 38 760 000 69 223 000 106 950 000	2.70 3.69 0.14 0.24 0.37	599 435 000 ¹ 604 107 000 25 935 000 57 906 000 532 100 000	2.25 2.27 0.10 0.22 2.00	-	173 150 000 - 22.41 452 475 000 - 42.82 12 825 000 - 33.09 11 317 000 - 16.35 425 150 000 + 398.00	712 035 000 813 047 000 27 435 000 1 274 021 000 577 750 000	2.45 2.80 0.09 4.38 1.99	+	112 600 000 + 18.78 208 940 000 + 34.59 1 500 000 + 5.78 + 1 216 115 000 + 2 100.00 45 650 000 + 8.58	654 435 000 678 407 000 27 435 000 58 206 000 542 300 000	2.42 2.51 0.10 0.22 2.00	-	57 600 000 - 8.09 134 640 000 - 16.56 — 1 215 815 000 - 95.43 35 450 000 - 6.14	699 035 000 743 837 000 27 435 000 64 021 000 552 750 000	2.55 2.72 0.10 0.23 2.02	+	44 600 000 + 6.82 65 430 000 + 9.64 — 5 815 000 + 9.99 10 450 000 + 1.93	—	—	—	—
Total F	1 414 193 240	5.33	2 044 100 000	7.14	1 819 483 000	6.84	-	224 617 000 - 10.99	3 404 288 000	11.71	+	1 584 805 000 + 87.10	1 960 783 000	7.24	-	1 443 505 000 - 42.40	2 087 078 000	7.62	+	126 295 000 + 6.44	—	—	—	—
G. Refunds and reserves Refunds to the Member States (Ch. 80) Other refunds (Ch. 82 and 86) Financial mechanism (Ch. 81) Miscellaneous (Ch. 79, 83, 84 and 85) Reserves (Ch. 101)	966 854 900 122 120 146 — — 5 000 000	3.64 0.46 — — 0.02	1 074 468 000 69 106 602 — — 5 000 000	3.75 0.24 — — 0.02	1 057 343 000 44 538 863 — — 5 000 000	3.98 0.17 — — 0.02	-	17 125 000 - 1.59 24 567 739 - 35.55 — — —	1 057 343 000 46 274 318 — — 5 000 000	3.64 0.16 — — 0.02	+	— 1 735 455 + 3.90 — — —	1 057 343 000 45 744 253 — — 5 000 000	3.91 0.17 — — 0.02	-	— 530 065 - 1.15 — — —	1 057 343 000 46 165 033 — — 5 000 000	3.86 0.17 — — 0.02	+	— 420 780 + 0.92 — — —	—	—	—	—
Total G	1 093 975 046	4.12	1 148 574 602	4.01	1 106 881 863	4.16	-	41 692 739 - 3.63	1 108 617 318	3.81	+	1 735 455 + 0.16	1 108 087 253	4.09	-	530 065 - 0.05	1 108 508 033	4.05	+	420 780 + 0.04	—	—	—	—
H. Development cooperation and non-member countries EDF (Ch. 90 and 91) Food aid (Ch. 92) Cooperation with non-ass. dev. countries (Ch. 93) Specific and exceptional measures (Ch. 94 and 95) Cooperation with Med. countries (Ch. 96) Miscellaneous (Ch. 97, 98 and 99)	557 950 000 246 685 000 108 295 000 160 512 000 50 781 000	2.10 0.93 0.39 0.61 0.19	569 000 000 323 532 000 167 470 000 192 000 000 59 060 000	1.99 1.13 0.59 0.67 0.21	453 700 000 214 750 000 40 150 000 108 000 000 52 500 000	1.71 0.81 0.15 0.41 0.20	-	115 300 000 - 108 782 000 - 33.62 127 320 000 - 76.03 84 000 000 - 43.75 6 560 000 - 11.11	506 000 000 256 050 000 164 920 000 108 000 000 58 500 000	1.74 0.88 0.57 0.37 0.20	+	52 900 000 + 11.66 41 300 000 + 19.23 + 124 770 000 + 310.76 — 6 000 000 + 11.43	480 700 000 224 750 000 84 200 000 108 000 000 52 500 000	1.78 0.83 0.31 0.40 0.19	-	25 900 000 - 5.11 31 300 000 - 12.22 80 720 000 - 48.94 — 6 000 000 - 10.26	506 100 000 237 050 000 113 170 000 108 000 000 58 500 000	1.85 0.87 0.41 0.39 0.21	+	25 400 000 + 5.28 12 300 000 + 5.47 28 970 000 + 34.41 — 6 000 000 + 11.43	—	—	—	—
Total H	1 124 223 900	4.22	1 311 062 000	4.58	869 100 000	3.27	-	441 962 000 - 33.71	1 094 070 000	3.76	+	224 970 000 + 25.89	950 150 000	3.51	-	143 920 000 - 13.15	1 022 820 000	3.74	+	72 670 000 + 7.65	—	—	—	—
Total Section III B	25 371 432 696 756 827 000	95.62 2.85	27 322 696 602 860 097 570	95.46 3.01	25 372 636 863 796 638 355	95.40 3.00	-	1 950 059 739 - 7.14 63 459 215 - 7.38	27 839 185 318 808 284 753	95.76 2.78	+	2 466 548 455 + 9.72 11 646 398 + 1.46	25 842 578 253 796 792 355	95.49 2.94	-	1 996 607 065 - 7.17 11 492 398 - 1.42	26 148 216 033 803 510 055	95.52 2.93	+	305 037 700 + 1.18 6 717 700 + 0.84	—	—	—	—
Total Commission	26 128 259 696	98.47	28 182 794 172	98.47	26 169 275 218	98.40	-	2 013 518 954 - 7.14	28 647 470 071	98.54	+	2 478 194 853 + 9.47	26 639 370 608	98.43	-	2 008 099 463 - 7.01	26 951 726 088	98.45	+	312 355 480 + 1.17	—	—	—	—
III. SECTIONS I, II, IV AND V — OTHER INSTITUTIONS	404 814 778	1.53	437 220 324	1.53	425 585 075	1.60	-	11 635 249 - 2.66	425 562 275	1.46	-	22 800 - 0.01	425 562 275	1.57	-	—	425 562 275	1.55	-	—	—	—	—	—
Grand total	26 533 074 474	100.00	28 620 014 496	100.00	26 594 860 293	100.00	-	2 025 154 203 - 7.08	29 073 032 346	100.00	+	2 478 172 053 + 9.32	27 064 932 883	100.00	-	2 008 099 463 - 6.91	27 377 288 363	100	+	312 355 480 + 1.15	—	—	—	—

¹Including the general reserve of 30 million ECU for Chapters 70, 73, 75, 77 and 78.

ember to maintain the levy rate for 1984 at 0.31%.¹ With the addition of other ordinary resources (income from investment interest and from loans granted against non-borrowed funds, commitments cancelled, etc.) and extraordinary resources of 122.5 million ECU (to be transferred from the general budget to the ECSC budget to finance social and other measures in connection with the restructuring of the steel and coal industries), this should provide full cover for the ECSC's requirements of 331.5 million ECU for its operating budget. The breakdown of requirements is as follows:

	<i>million ECU</i>
Administrative expenditure	5
Redeployment aid	140
Social measures in connection with the restructuring of the steel industry	62.5
Research subsidies	62
Interest subsidies for investment and conversion loans	56
Coking coal	6

Pending authorization from the Council for the 122.5 million ECU transfer of extraordinary resources, the utilization of appropriations will be suspended once the above total is reached.

2.3.11. In addition, on 16 December the Commission amended² the 1952 ECSC Decision determining the mode of assessment and collection of ECSC levies³ to exempt from payment undertakings for which the levy would have represented less than 250 ECU per month.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans paid out

2.3.12. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made the following loans in December, totalling 51.27 million ECU.

Industrial loans

2.3.13. Industrial loans (Article 54) paid out during the month amounted to 2.69 million ECU. They were allocated to the following projects:

Italy

Officine Laminatori Sebino, Pisogne: Investment programme for energy saving, modernization of production plant and anti-pollution installations; closure of a round bar mill with an 82 000 tonne/year capacity.

United Kingdom

Investors in Industry Group, London: Investment programme to boost consumption of Community coal.

Subsidized housing

2.3.14. Loans for the building of subsidized housing totalled 6.02 million ECU, of which 5.11 million was for steelworkers and 0.91 million ECU for mineworkers.

Conversion loans

2.3.15. Conversion loans (Article 56) totalling 42.56 million ECU were granted to the following undertakings:

Italy

Supraregional loans for small business: Filombardia, Milan; Mediocredito Piemontese, Turin.

Ireland

Waterford: Waterford Glass (Group Services) Ltd, Kilbarry, Waterford.

¹ OJ L 368, 29.12.1983.

² OJ L 355, 17.12.1983.

³ OJ ECSC, 3.12.1952, amended by OJ ECSC 46, 22.3.1965.

United Kingdom

Northamptonshire: Cenbake Ltd (Hanters Foods), Corby.

Strathclyde: Roche Products Ltd, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. (Dalry plant, Ayrshire).

Supraregional loans for small business: Investors in Industry Group, London; National Westminster Bank, London; Royal Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh; Welsh Development Agency, Pontypridd.

EEC-NCI

Loans raised

2.3.16. In December the Commission made a public issue for USD 100 million (equivalent to 120.86 million ECU) in two tranches, both issued at par:

- one tranche of USD 50 million, with an interest rate of 12% for 10 years; and
- a second tranche of USD 50 million, with an interest rate of 12 1/8% for 15 years.

4. Institutional and political matters

European political cooperation

2.4.1. The Ten issued the following statement on Afghanistan on 27 December:

'Today marks the fourth anniversary of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. The Ten remain profoundly concerned by the continued occupation and by the violation of the independence of this traditionally neutral and non-aligned country. They condemn the continued violations of human rights and the attacks on Afghan civilians by Soviet forces in their efforts to suppress the Afghan people's determination to recover their independence and resist foreign domination of their country. They sincerely sympathize with those who have had to flee their country—about a fifth of the population.

The Ten stress the urgent necessity for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. This is the key to any lasting settlement. The United Nations General Assembly has for the fifth time, by an overwhelming majority, urgently called for a solution which secures the restoration of independence and non-aligned status to Afghanistan, permits the Afghan people to exercise fully their right to self-determination and makes it possible for Afghan refugees to return to their country in safety and in honour.

While recalling their proposal of June 1981, the Ten are ready to support any constructive initiative towards a lasting solution of principle. They welcome the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in this respect, but regret that these

efforts have not so far succeeded in bringing about a solution conforming to the principles of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.'

2.4.2. In December Parliament adopted resolutions concerning the situation in Lebanon, the intensification of political repression and the impending condemnation of priests in Poland; permission for Andrei Sakharov to leave the Soviet Union; the simultaneous release of Mr Sakharov and Mr Mandela; the arrest of nine Chilean activists of the Revolutionary Left Movement; and the killing of Korean citizens in Burma.¹

European policy and relations between the institutions

European policy

Greenland

2.4.3. On 19 December the Council resumed its discussions on all aspects of

¹ Point 2.4.12; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

future relations between Greenland and the Community.¹ Its aim is to take a decision on Greenland's new status at its February meeting for ratification by the Member States in time for entry into force on 1 January 1985.

Preparations for the 1984 direct elections

2.4.4. On 15 December Parliament passed a resolution on the exercise of voting rights in the elections of June 1984 by citizens of the Community who are not nationals of the Member State in which they have their permanent residence.²

Relations between the institutions

New conciliation procedure

2.4.5. On 14 December Parliament passed a resolution on the draft joint declaration concerning a new conciliation procedure between the three institutions,² laid before Parliament and the Council by the Commission in December 1981.³

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament⁴

Strasbourg: 12 to 16 December

2.4.6. The political highlight and principal talking point at Parliament's December part-session was the final reading of the Community budget. The results of the Athens Summit⁵ and the report of the Greek Presidency were also debated.

Another central topic was the situation in the Middle East, largely as a result of the succession of distinguished visitors from that region who came to remind Europe—represented by its Parliament—that it has a role to play independent of that of the superpowers. They were a delegation from the Knesset, Ibrahim Souss, the PLO representative in France, and especially

King Hussein of Jordan, whose speech attracted a great deal of notice.

General budget for 1984

2.4.7. The first sentence uttered by the general rapporteur for the 1984 budget, Mrs Christiane Scrivener (*Lib/F*) also sounded the keynote of her speech, to be echoed by a number of speakers that followed her: the European Parliament must endeavour to find constructive solutions. It was therefore not a case of 'punishing' the Council but, rather, of helping the Community to pull out of the crisis and of not succumbing to depression after Athens.

Mrs Scrivener went on to review Parliament's positions on the matters of the volume of appropriations, industrial policy, the rebate demanded by the British and the compensation claimed by Germany, the creation of an agricultural reserve and Parliament's powers in respect of revenue—apparently questioned by the Council. Having stressed that the draft budget for 1984 presented by the Committee on Budgets was only 1.34% bigger than the 1983 budget, Mrs Scrivener said she hoped that the results of conciliation would enable the House to pass the budget and thus obviate a fresh crisis that would hit all the institutions.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.4.5.

² Point 2.4.11; OJ C 10, 16.1.1984.

³ Supplement 3/82 — Bull. EC 12-1981, point 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

⁴ This report was prepared from *Le point de la session* published by Parliament's Secretariat. The complete texts of the resolutions adopted by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 10, 16.1.1984 and the reports of the proceedings are contained in OJ Annex 306. The political groups of members are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: *Soc* = Socialists; *EPP* = European People's Party—Christian Democratic Group, *ED* = European Democratic Group; *Com* = Communists and Allies; *Lib* = Liberals and Democrats; *EPD* = European Progressive Democrats; *Ind* = Group for the Technical Coordination and Defence of Independent Groups and Members; *NA* = Non-affiliated. The Countries of origin are indicated as follows: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, GR = Greece, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

⁵ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.4.

The Council President, Mr Antonios Georgiadis, begged Parliament not to assess the budget, as it did at the first reading,¹ in terms of the outcome at Athens, since this could spark off a second Community crisis. He felt that Parliament had no right to enter more agricultural appropriations in the Chapter 100 reserve than the Council had accepted and thought it would be a mistake to put the compensation for Britain and Germany into that same Chapter. He also rejected any increase in payment appropriations—as the Committee on Budgets wanted—since a margin must be left for contingencies in 1984. In conclusion, Mr Georgiadis told the House that the Council endorsed the idea of providing appropriations to finance the industrial area, since it was inserting a token entry, but had absolutely no intention of going further than that.

The Commission Vice-President, Mr Tugendhat, announced that the Commission would act rapidly to enable the Community to discharge its obligations under the 1984 budget.

Though it was too early to speculate on the House rejecting the budget, said Mr Ove Fich (*Soc/DK*), this did not mean that it had to bow to the Council's conditions concerning payment appropriations and reduction of farm surpluses, nor that it had to agree to underwrite the principle of fair returns, by allowing the compensation for Britain and Germany. This view was shared by Mr Horst Langes (*EPP/D*), who maintained that Parliament had no reason to give in on the essentials, since with a growth rate of only 1.3% for the 1984 budget, no one could call it extravagant. Mr William Newton Dunn (*ED/UK*), too, believed that Parliament should take a firmer line with the Council.

In contrast, Mrs Jacqueline Nebout (*EPD/F*) and Mr André Rossi (*Lib/F*) saw dangers in any thought of a sanction vote on the budget against the Council. Mr Neil Balfour (*ED/UK*) expressed the same opinion but added that whatever Parliament's decision it should not adversely affect the British rebate. Mrs Carla Barbarella (*Com/I*) was in favour of adopting the budget provided that the Council made an adequate alloca-

tion for industrial policy. Mr Louis Baillet (*Com/F*) also supported this budget if, in view of the overpayments to Britain in 1980 and 1981, the House decided not to enter any compensation for 1984. Welcoming the outcome at Athens, as he held that disagreement was preferable to a dangerous compromise, Mr Pierre Benjamin Pranchère (*Com/F*) was also pleased to find that the Commission proposal to put 5% of the EAGGF into a reserve had been turned down by the Council. Mr Peter Price (*ED/UK*) then asked the House to give a lead by achieving unity within its own ranks and by seeking international agreement. Mr Robert Jackson (*ED/UK*) gave added point to this when he urged that the rebate to the United Kingdom not be put into a reserve. Taking the debate up to another level, Mrs Simone Veil (*Lib/F*) took issue with the Council for spurning all amendments made by Parliament and questioning its budgetary powers. Recalling that the bone of contention between the Council and the House involved 100 million ECU (1/10 000th of the aggregate national budgets), she announced that her group would do all it could to ensure that the Community commanded a realistic budget reflecting the priorities defined at the first reading.²

Speaking as the Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr Erwin Lange (*Soc/D*) said that the results of the Athens European Council and the 1984 budget were linked and told the Council it was time to take part in the conciliation with Parliament in a Community spirit—not a national and selfish one—and to go some way towards accommodating the budgetary positions adopted by Parliament at the first reading.

In his reply the Council President assured the House of his personal good will but reminded members that even in conciliation the Council was not prepared to give in on certain matters such as the British compensation.

¹ Bull. EC 9-1983, point EC 10-1983, point 2.4.15.

² Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.4.15.

2.4.8. After the meeting of the Committee on Budgets which followed the conciliation with the Council, the current of feeling in the House seemed to be against rejecting the budget in favour of keeping as far as possible to the guidelines laid down by Parliament at the first reading. The Committee had decided to ignore the Council's opposition during the conciliation and to propose that Parliament increase the payment appropriations in the draft budget by 145 million ECU, put the British and German compensation into the Chapter 100 reserve and enter 600 million ECU—half of the sum at the first reading—in commitments for a European industrial area. The Committee called on the Council to take a decision by 31 March 1984 on the reorganization of the common agricultural policy in order to halt expenditure on products in structural surplus and asked the Commission to submit a draft amending budget by 15 January.

2.4.9. Following the lead given by its Committee on Budgets and, in particular, the guidelines proposed by its general rapporteur, Mrs Christiane Scrivener (*Lib/F*), the House ignored the Council's options and reiterated, by a large majority, the three demands made at the first reading: a lasting settlement for financing the Community (hence the freezing of the British and German compensation); initiation of new policies (with the creation of a European industrial area endowed with 600 million ECU in commitments); reorganization of the common agricultural policy and an end to structural production surpluses. The House had earlier rejected by 249 votes to 62 with 54 abstentions a motion from Mrs Barbara Castle (*Soc/UK*) rejecting the draft and by 241 votes to 111 with 1 abstention another proposal for total rejection tabled by Mr Neil Balfour (*ED/UK*) after the House had decided to freeze the British compensation in Chapter 100. When their proposal was rejected the British members of the European Democrat Group resorted to obstructing tactics and systematically voted against all the tabled amendments.

Among the explanation of vote and reactions, those of Mr Henri Saby (*SocF*), Mr Martin Bangemann (*Lib/D*), Mr Paolo

Barbi (*EPP/I*) Mr Poul Møller (*ED/DK*), Mr Mario Dido (*Soc/I*) and Mr Christian de la Malène (*EPD/F*) were against rejecting the budget and maintaining any link between it and the failure in Athens. At the other extreme, Sir Fred Catherwood (*ED/UK*) and Mr Neil Balfour (*ED/UK*) condemned Parliament's options, arguing that the United Kingdom was a victim and the common agricultural policy the source of the Community's budgetary evils. They announced that the United Kingdom might be tempted to withhold its contributions to the budget as a riposte to putting the British rebate into Chapter 100.

Taking a Community view, Mrs Christiane Scrivener (*Lib/F*) received prolonged applause when she declared that Parliament intended to maintain consistency with its first reading and show that there was still an institution that went on believing in Europe; she told the British European Democrats that theirs was not the only problem under the sun—there were others that concerned other categories of Europeans. Mr Rudi Arndt (*Soc/D*) regretted that Mrs Scrivener's motion did not propose that the budget be rejected, but he was disappointed most of all by the negative attitude of the European Democrats during the votes; he told them that they were neither European nor democrats.

The Council President, Mr Antonios Georgiadiis, took note of the votes and told the House that the Council reserved the right to state its views later. For the Commission, Mr Tugendhat also took note of the votes and announced that the Commission would in consequence take appropriate measures.

2.4.10. Parliament gave opinions on a number of Commission proposals, including:

(i) A Regulation on interest subsidies for certain loans granted under the European Monetary System;¹

¹ Point 2.1.3.

(ii) the Commission's communication to the Council on initial guidelines for a Community policy on tourism;¹

(iii) a Decision empowering the Commission to help finance innovation in the Community;²

(iv) a fifteenth turnover tax Directive authorizing Greece to postpone until 31 December 1985 the deadline fixed by the Act of Accession for the application of the common system of VAT on 1 January 1984;³

(v) a sixth and seventh Directive relating to exemption from turnover tax and excise duty on imports in international travel;⁴

(vi) a Directive on limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges for sectors other than the chloralkali electrolysis industry;⁵

(vii) a Regulation on the impact of the European Monetary System on the common agricultural policy;⁶

(viii) a Regulation extending the common measure on the acceleration of agricultural development in certain regions of Greece;⁷

(ix) a Regulation on financial support for a multiannual transport infrastructure programme;⁸

(x) a Regulation on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States;⁹

(xi) a Directive on the use of hired vehicles for the carriage of goods by road;¹⁰

(xii) a resolution on the implementation, in stages, of a series of measures in the field of the common policy for inland transport;¹¹

(xiii) a Regulation on the granting of financial support for demonstration projects relating to the exploitation of alternative energy sources, energy-saving and the substitution of hydrocarbons (result of conciliation procedure);¹²

(xiv) a Regulation on the granting of financial support for pilot industrial projects and demonstration projects relating to the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels (result of conciliation procedure);¹²

(xv) a Decision on the adoption of a programme of assistance for the development of indigenous scientific and technical research capacities in the developing countries (1984-87);

(xvi) a Decision on the framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities (1984-87).¹³

2.4.11. Parliament also passed resolutions concerning:

(i) urgent measures to be adopted to ward off the serious threats to the iron and steel industry: the House gave its backing to strict surveillance of trade and production quotas; it supported the Commission in its negotiations with the United States to persuade the Americans to eliminate the effects of their unilateral and unwarranted measures against imports of European special steels;

(ii) a European Voluntary Service Scheme for Young People: the House thought such a scheme should not be considered an alternative to unemployment but a permanent feature designed to give young people a greater sense of responsibility; it considered that it should be funded jointly from the Community budget and from budgets within the Member States;

(iii) voluntary work: considering that voluntary work was to be found in all areas of society, Parliament hoped that it would be more clearly defined so as to avoid any risk of it being used to bypass regulations and trade union contracts; on that basis it believed that voluntary work should be encouraged by various legal and social means;

¹ Point 2.1.7.

² Point 2.1.23.

³ Point 2.1.55.

⁴ Point 2.1.61.

⁵ Point 2.1.114.

⁶ Point 2.1.135.

⁷ Point 2.1.157.

⁸ Point 2.1.192.

⁹ Point 2.1.198.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.199.

¹¹ Point 2.1.189.

¹² Point 2.1.213.

¹³ Point 2.1.217.

(iv) the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: the House wished to see the Foundation pay more attention to problems of the environment and considered that Parliament should be more closely involved in the management of the Foundation;

(v) the major delay in adopting guidelines for the Social Fund for 1984;¹

(vi) consumer policy in the European Community: the House was angry that the Council had failed to adopt directives to implement the guidelines of the second consumer information and protection programme adopted two and a half years earlier; the Commission was urged to report on its own action and on what the Council and the consumer organizations were doing;

(vii) special Council meeting devoted to consumer protection: the House condemned the Council's failure to act on the proposed Directive on misleading advertising and pressed for its adoption forthwith;

(viii) the European Poetry Festival: Parliament called on the Council and the Commission to support this Festival and secure the continuity of its activities;

(ix) the Commission's seventh annual report (1981) on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): regretting that only slender resources had been allocated to the ERDF and stressing the relative economic ineffectiveness of its operations compared with its objectives, the House nevertheless welcomed the expansion of the non-quota section and had high hopes of the Commission's new proposals for amending the Fund Regulation;

(x) a European regional planning scheme: the House proposed that the scheme should be based on an inventory of the various problems as regards facilities and development, should determine the siting of projects and zones of European interest and should function as a genuine instrument of consultation and arbitration; the Commission was asked to take practical measures to implement these recommendations;

(xi) the granting of special economic aid to Greece in view of the damage caused by

recent snowstorms: the House called on the Commission to grant economic aid to Greece to deal with these special requirements;

(xii) special Community measures to revive agriculture and forestry in the mountain area of the Veneto affected by landslides: the House called attention to the urgent need for a review of the Regional Fund, particularly as regards hill farming, and urged the Commission to launch a special measure with the regional authorities;

(xiii) establishment of young farmers: considering that the prospect of heavy debts was deterring a number of young people from going into agriculture, Parliament invited the Commission to consider a directive specifically dealing with the establishment of young farmers with a view to introducing various complementary measures to assist young people who submit a plan;

(xiv) relations between the Community and Yugoslavia in the transport sector: the House stressed the need to encourage combined transport with Yugoslavia, a key transit country in Community trade—without prejudice to the interests of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region—and believed that Yugoslavia should be asked to apply the Community transit system;

(xv) action taken on the discharge decision in respect of the financial year 1980: stressing the importance of safeguarding the Community's own resources, Parliament urged that the recent improvement in the overall rate of utilization of research appropriations and in the management of funds be maintained;

(xvi) fixing the ECSC levy rate and drawing up the ECSC operating budget for 1984: the House considered that the draft operating budget should be amended to take account of its opinions on the legislative proposals of the Commission as regards solid fuels and steel policy; and asked that customs duties from ECSC products be included in the Community's own resources;

¹ Point 2.1.66.

(xvii) the budgetary control aspects of decentralized agencies, autonomous organs and satellite bodies of the Communities and other recipients of subsidies: having restated the need for autonomous services, Parliament considered that the Financial Regulations should apply, financial transparency must be sought, management be improved and the Court of Auditors should play a more active role;

(xviii) emergency aid for Portuguese flood victims: the House called on the Commission to grant emergency aid to the victims of this disaster;

(xix) Spanish fishing activity in the Community's Atlantic waters: Parliament asked the Commission and the Council to ensure that Spain applied the existing agreements and to ask Spain to comply with all Community provisions, particularly the social ones, after accession;

(xx) the problems raised by the accession of Spain to the Community in the fisheries sector: the House proposed that its proposals for maritime surveillance be extended to the Eastern Central and South East Atlantic¹ and that Spain (and Portugal) be associated, during the accession negotiations, with the agreements concluded with the African States on the Atlantic littoral in order to protect their fish stocks;

(xxi) draft second Joint Declaration by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the conciliation procedure: wishing to obtain a greater say in the Community decision-making process, Parliament urged that the procedure's field of application be extended, that either the Council or itself (but not the Commission) be allowed to request initiation of the procedure, and that the first conciliation meeting be held before Parliament and the Council have adopted their respective positions on the proposal under discussion;

(xxii) the exercise of voting rights in the European Parliament elections by citizens of the Community who are not nationals of the Member State in which they have their permanent residence: the House regretted that the Council's declaration of 25 May²

had not been heeded and expected the Council, the Commission and the Member States to do everything in their power to ensure that Community citizens were not obliged to travel to their country of origin to vote in European elections.

2.4.12. In the field of political cooperation and human rights, Parliament passed the following resolutions:

(i) permission for Andrei Sakharov to leave the Soviet Union: having regard to the Helsinki Final Act and the Madrid concluding document, signed by the Soviet Union, Parliament called on the Government of the USSR to give Andrei Sakharov and his wife permission to leave the Soviet Union and urged the Foreign Ministers of the Ten meeting in political cooperation to appeal to the Soviet authorities to this effect;

(ii) the right of Mr Sakharov and Mr Mandela to travel to Brussels to receive their honorary doctorates: the House called on the Soviet and South African authorities to arrange for the simultaneous release of these two well-known figures; the House noted that the Soviet union had further obligations in this respect by reason of its commitments at Helsinki;

(iii) the programme of aid for Polish farmers and craftsmen in the private sector: having regard to the Polish bishops' plan to develop a church aid programme, Parliament declared its support for Community aid but stressed that such a programme should be mounted by independent organizations on both sides;

(iv) the intensification of political repression in respect of the clergy in Poland: concerned at the intensified political reprisals by the Polish Government against Catholic priests, Parliament urged the Government to respect the independence of the Polish churches and the political and religious freedom of the Polish people;

(v) the killing of Korean citizens in Burma: the House condemned the North Korean

¹ OJ C 149, 14.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.4.16.

² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.4.7.

regime for its terrorist activities and urged the Member States to deny it diplomatic recognition;

(vi) the situation in Lebanon: Parliament decided to send a delegation to Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Jordan and Egypt to examine all the current problems concerning Lebanon;

(vii) the arrest of Chilean activists of the Revolutionary Left Movement: Parliament asked the Chilean authorities that the proceedings be carried out by a civilian authority with maximum respect for international agreements on human rights;

(viii) assistance to refugees in developing countries: Parliament called for a pro-

gramme to be financed from the 1984 budget to secure the self-sufficiency of refugees and prepare their resettlement.

Council

2.4.13. The Council held 13 meetings in December. The table below lists the number, place and date of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items of business. A more detailed account of specific items can be found in the sections of the Bulletin referred to in the footnotes.

Table 10 — Council meetings in December 1983

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
889th Brussels 1 December	Transport	Mr Akritidis	Mr Kontogeorgis	<i>Resolution on the common policy¹</i> <i>Transport infrastructures¹</i> <i>Weights and dimensions</i> <i>Quotas for the carriage of goods by road between Member States¹</i> <i>Fixing of rates¹</i> <i>Carriage of goods by road — adaptation of the First Directive to Greece</i> <i>Negotiations with Austria¹</i> <i>Air tariffs</i> <i>Facilitation of formalities and inspections in respect of the carriage of goods between Member States¹</i>
890th Brussels 8 December	Employment and social affairs	Mr Giannopoulos	Mr Richard	<i>Resolution on the promotion of employment for young people²</i> <i>Special measures in favour of Greece in the social field²</i> <i>Recommendation on the reduction and reorganization of working time²</i> <i>Informing and consulting employees²</i>

Table 10 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
891st Brussels 12 December	Economic and financial affairs	Mr Arsenis	Mr Ortoli	<i>Eleventh report from the Commission to the Council on the activities of the European Social Fund (1982)</i> <i>Annual report on the economic situation in the Community</i> ³ <i>Community loan mechanism for balance-of-payments support</i> ³
892nd Brussels 12 December	Consumer protection	Mr Pangalos	Mr Narjes	<i>Statement on consumer protection and information policy</i> ⁴ <i>Community system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products</i> ⁴ <i>Liability for defective products</i> ⁴ <i>Misleading and unfair advertising</i> ⁴ <i>Doorstep selling</i> ⁴
893rd Brussels 12 and 13 December	Agriculture	Mr Simitis	Mr Dalsager	<i>Revision of the agricultural structures policy</i> ⁵ <i>Amendment of the Community list of less-favoured farming areas</i> <i>Continuation of New Zealand butter imports into the United Kingdom under special conditions</i> ⁵ <i>Common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat</i> <i>Implementation of the Community scale for grading the carcasses of adult bovine animals</i> <i>Agri-monetary matters</i> <i>Fixing of the activating prices for table wines (16 December 1983-31 August 1984)</i> ⁵ <i>Preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs</i> ⁶ <i>Marketing standards for eggs</i> <i>Veterinary matters</i>
894th Brussels 13 December	Research	Mr Lianis	Mr Davignon	<i>Information technology — Esprit programme</i> ⁶ <i>JRC research programme 1984-87</i> <i>JRC Board of Governors</i> <i>Structures and procedures for Community research</i> ⁷

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
895th Brussels 14 December	Iron and steel	Mr Vaitos	Mr Davignon	<i>Extension of the 1979-83 data-processing programme</i> <i>Non-nuclear energy</i> <i>Basic technologies</i> <i>Decommissioning of nuclear installations⁷</i> <i>Steel: short-term measures⁶</i>
896th Brussels 14 December	Fisheries	Mr Simitis	Mr Kontogeorgis	<i>Agreement on fisheries⁸</i> <i>Herring fishing⁸</i> <i>1983 and 1984 TACs and quotas⁸</i> <i>External aspects⁸</i>
897th Strasbourg 13 December	Budget	Mr Georgiadis	Mr Tugendhat, Mr Andriessen	<i>Draft general budget for 1984⁹</i>
887th Brussels 16 December (continued from 28 November)	Environment	Mr Tritsis	Mr Narjes	<i>Mercury discharges⁴</i> <i>Transfrontier shipment of hazardous wastes⁴</i> <i>Community action on the environment⁴</i> <i>Combating of air pollution from industrial plants⁴</i>
898th Brussels 19 December	Foreign affairs	Mr Varfis	Mr Natali, Mr Davignon, Mr Tugendhat, Mr Giolitti, Mr Kontogeorgis, Mr Narjes, Mr Burke	<i>Greenland¹⁰</i> <i>Spanish session</i> <i>Cyprus¹¹</i> <i>Trade policy action following the OECD ministerial conclusions and the Williamsburg declaration — Council declaration¹²</i> <i>ERDF — second series of measures — non-quota section¹³</i> <i>1984 budgetary procedure⁹</i>
900th Brussels 20 December	Transport	Mr Akritidis, Mr Katsifaras	Mr Kontogeorgis	<i>Transport infrastructures¹</i> <i>Weights and dimensions</i> <i>Quotas for the carriage of goods by road between Member States</i> <i>Carriage of goods by road — adaptation of the First Directive to Greece</i>

Table 10 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
901st Brussels 22 December	Iron and steel	Mr Vaitos	Mr Davignon, Mr Giolitti, Mr Andriessen	<i>Negotiations with Austria</i> ¹ <i>Railway policy</i> <i>Resolution on the common policy</i> <i>Steel: short-term measures</i> ⁶ <i>Ferrous scrap market</i> <i>ERDF - non-quota section</i> ¹³

¹ Transport.² Employment, education and social policy.³ Economic and monetary policy.⁴ Environment and consumers.⁵ Agriculture.⁶ Internal market and industrial affairs.⁷ Research and development.⁸ Fisheries.⁹ Financing Community activities.¹⁰ European policy and relations between the institutions.¹¹ Mediterranean countries.¹² Commercial policy.¹³ Regional policy.

Commission

Activities

2.4.14. Following the Athens European Council the Commission issued a statement expressing its disappointment and declaring its intention to 'shoulder its responsibilities to ensure that the Community does not slide backwards and undo what it has already achieved, that essential progress is made without delay and that the stage is set for the revitalization of the Community.'¹

2.4.15. The Commission kept a watchful eye on Parliament's budgetary activities and its conciliation meetings with the Council. After the President of Parliament adopted the 1984 budget, the Commission announced that it would implement it, despite certain reservations on the part of the Council. At the same time it pointed out that the projections for the agricultural markets were such that expenditure would probably far outstrip budget appropriations unless the Council took a decision on the rationalization of the common agricultural policy.²

2.4.16. On 9 December the Commission had a wide-ranging exchange of views with an American ministerial delegation headed by Secretary of State George Shultz.

2.4.17. The Commission also received Mr Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister and incoming President of the Council, for the customary meeting before a change of Presidency; it was particularly important this time in view of the failure of the Athens European Council.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.18. In accordance with the rules of the Social Fund, the Commission adopted the guidelines for the management of the Fund in the coming year.

The Commission approved a proposal for a Directive on consumer protection in the indication of prices for non-food household products.

¹ Point 1.1.3.² Supplement 4/83 — Bull. EC.

Lastly, the Commission finally adopted the ECSC operating budget and levy rate for 1984, following endorsement by Parliament.

*Discussions, policy debates
and work in hand*

2.4.19. At the of the month the Commission began its review of agricultural prices for 1984/85. It intends to adopt its proposals in the first half of January—before Parliament's part-session opens on 16 January. It also had its first discussion on the green paper on Europe-wide television. This will continue in January.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.4.20. Mr Thorn, accompanied by Mr Davignon and Mr Ortoli, received a delegation from the European Trade Union Confederation headed by its President, Mr Debunne. The aim of the meeting was to brief the Confederation on preparations for the Athens European Council. The ETUC rep-

resentatives underlined the importance they attached to an overall strategy for economic recovery in the fight against unemployment.

Information meetings were held at which experts from the Employers' Liaison Committee and the European Centre of Public Enterprises heard talks on the latest developments in application of the Treaty's rules on competition.

Preliminary consultations took place with ETUC representatives on consumer protection, the job market and collective bargaining in the Member States.

Court of Justice¹

¹ For more detailed information, see the material published by the Court of Justice in the *Official Journal* and the *European Court Reports*, and the publications of its Information Office (e.g. the annual synopsis of the work of the Court or the information quarterly).

2.4.21. **New cases**

Case	Subject	Basis
ECSC — Steel 282/83 — Alphasteel Ltd v Commission ¹	Decision notifying the applicant of additional steel production quotas	Article 33 ECSC
Taxation 253/83 — Sektkellerei C.A. Kupferberg & Cie KGaA v HZA Mainz	Is the calculation of monopoly equalization duty for imported spirits on a selling price higher than that applied to domestic spirits compatible with Articles 37 and 95 EEC and the Agreements of 29 June 1970 between the EEC and Spain and of 22 July 1972 between the EEC and Portugal?	Article 177 EEC
Social policy 249/83 — Hoeckx v Openbaar Centrum voor Maatschappelijk Welzijn (OCMW), Kalmthout	Is entitlement to a minimum level of subsistence within the scope of Regulations 1408/71 or 1612/68, and if so is the relevant Belgian legislation compatible with Community law?	Article 177 EEC
261/83 — Castelli v Office national des pensions pour travailleurs salariés (ONPTS)	Interpretation of Regulations 1408/71 and 1612/68 as to the application of the principle of equality of treatment in social security	Article 177 EEC

Case	Subject	Basis
<p>Agriculture</p> <p>289/83 — Groupement des associations agricoles pour l'organisation de la production et de la commercialisation des pommes de terre et légumes de la région Malouine (GAARM), Saint-Mélior-des-Ondes, and Others v Commission²</p>	<p>Application for compensation for the loss to the applicants caused by the Commission's failure to take measures to stop exports of new potatoes from Greece to the Community</p>	<p>Article 215 EEC</p>
<p>Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters</p> <p>258/83 — Schuhfabrik Brenneros v Wendel GmbH Schuhproduktion International</p>	<p>Interpretation of Articles 37 and 38 of the Convention as to when an order for the provision of security may be issued, and the means of redress against such an order</p>	
<p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>251/83 — Haug-Adrion v Frankfurter Versicherungs-AG</p>	<p>Is it compatible with Community law that officially approved conditions of insurance for compulsory third-party insurance for motor vehicles should systematically exclude insured persons resident in another Member State from reductions in premium given on an individual basis to residents?</p>	<p>Article 177 EEC</p>
<p>Administrative questions</p> <p>271/83 — A. Ainsworth and Others v Commission and Council³</p>	<p>The JET staff employed by the UKAEA claims entitlement to the status of temporary staff, like the JET staff who are nationals of the other Member States</p>	<p>Articles 146 and 188 Euratom</p>
<p>Infringements</p> <p>269/83 — Commission v France⁴</p> <p>270/83 — Commission v France⁵</p> <p>272/83 — Commission v Italy⁶</p> <p>274/83 — Commission v Italy⁶</p> <p>275/83 — Commission v Belgium¹</p> <p>276/83 — Commission v Greece</p>	<p>Application of a preferential postal tariff to French newspapers and periodicals only</p> <p>System of granting the benefit of shareholders tax credits to insurance companies—incompatibility with Article 52 EEC</p> <p>Incompatibility with Regulation 1360/78 of the national and regional rules on agricultural producer groups</p> <p>Directive 71/305/EEC (preferential system for public works contracts)</p> <p>Article 33 of Regulation 1408/71 (social security of migrant workers)</p> <p>National rules allowing sale on credit only for motor vehicles manufactured or assembled in Greece</p>	<p>Article 169 EEC</p> <p>Article 169 EEC</p> <p>Article 169 EEC</p> <p>Article 169 EEC</p> <p>Article 169 EEC</p> <p>Article 169 EEC</p>

Case	Subject	Basis
277/83 — Commission v Italy ⁶	Article 95 EEC—differential taxation of liqueur wines	Article 169 EEC
278/83 — Commission v Italy ²	Article 95 EEC—differential taxation of sparkling wines through the application of legislation on designations of origin for tax purposes	Article 169 EEC
279/83 — Commission v Italy ²	Directive 79/1071/EEC—tax harmonization and mutual assistance	Article 169 EEC
280/83 — Commission v Italy ²	Directive 79/32/EEC—tax harmonization/manufactured tobacco	Article 169 EEC
281/83 — Commission v Italy ²	Failure to implement the Court's judgment in Case 193/80 in the field of free movement of goods and the production and marketing of vinegar	Article 169 EEC
287/83 — Commission v France ³	6th VAT Directive—exemption of receipts from gaming machines	Article 169 EEC
288/83 — Commission v Ireland	Article 30 EEC—restrictions on the import of potatoes	Article 169 EEC
209/83 — Commission v France	Articles 5 and 92 <i>et seq.</i> EEC—aid in the form of an allowance to the least fortunate farmers	Article 169 EEC
291/83 — Commission v France ⁷	Articles 5 and 30 EEC—export price guarantees	Article 169 EEC

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 264/83, 265/83, 266/83, 273/83, 285/83,³ 286/83

- ¹ OJ C 11, 17.1.84.
² OJ C 17, 24.1.1984.
³ OJ C 16, 21.1.1984.
⁴ OJ C 2, 5.1.1984.
⁵ OJ C 3, 6.1.1984.
⁶ OJ C 13, 19.1.1984.
⁷ OJ C 19, 26.1.1984.

2.4.22. Judgments

Date and case	Held
ECSC — Steel	
14.12.1983, 263/82 — Klöckner-Werke v Commission	Application dismissed (annulment of a Commission decision imposing a fine)
15.12.1983, 31, 138 and 204/82 — Metallurgiki Halyps SA v Commission	Application dismissed (annulment of Commission decisions fixing steel production quotas)
Free movement of goods	
13.12.1983, 222/82 — Apple and Pear Development Council v K.J. Lewis Ltd ¹	A development council for fruit production, composed of members appointed by the minister

Date and case	Held
	<p>responsible from among growers, may organize campaigns to promote the sale of varieties typical of national production, and finance these campaigns through a charge levied on growers, provided the publicity involved is not intended to discourage the purchase of products from other Member States, or to disparage those products, or to advise consumers to purchase domestic products solely by reason of their national origin</p>
<p>Customs union 15.12.1983, 283/82 — Papierfabrik Schoellershammer v Commission</p>	<p>The Commission Decision of 9 July 1982 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany, finding that the repayment of import duties in the applicant's case is unjustified, is void</p>
<p>Freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services 15.12.1983, 5/83 — Criminal proceedings against H.G. Rienks</p>	<p>A Member State may not impose a penalty under criminal law for the unlawful exercise of the profession of veterinary surgeon on a national of another Member State who is qualified to exercise the profession in his own country on the ground that he is not enrolled on the register of veterinary surgeons in the first-mentioned Member State, where such enrolment is withheld in breach of Community law</p>
<p>Competition 14.12.1983, 319/82 — Société de vente de ciments et bétons de l'Est SA v Kerpen & Kerpen GmbH & Co KG²</p>	<p>Interpretation of the concepts of restriction of competition and the effect on trade between Member States in Article 85(1). Consequences of the automatic nullity declared in Article 85(2)</p>
<p>Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters 9.11.1983, 80/83 — Habourdin International SA and Banque nationale de Paris v Italocremona SpA³</p>	<p>The request for a preliminary ruling made by the President of the Tribunale di Varese is inadmissible (interpretation of Articles 5(1), 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 27(2) of the Convention)</p>
<p>Commercial policy 13.12.1983, 218/82 — Commission v Council¹</p>	<p>The application is dismissed (annulment of Council Regulation 1699/82 of 24 June 1982 — ACP rum quota 1982/83)</p>
<p>Disputes between the Community and its staff</p>	
<p>v Commission:</p>	
<p>1.12.1983, 190/82 — Application dismissed⁴</p>	
<p>1.12.1983, 217/82 — Application dismissed⁴</p>	
<p>1.12.1983, 343/82 — Application dismissed⁴</p>	

Infringements

96/83 — Commission v Germany

Order for removal from the Court register (Directives 64/221/EEC and 72/194/EEC, and Regulation (EEC) 1251/70 — right to remain)

Orders for removal from the Court register

21.9.1983, 110/83 — Gerd Weissgerber v Finanzamt Neustadt an der Weinstrasse

29.9.1983, 141/83 — Jan Klees v European Parliament

7.12.1983, 213/83 — Stahlwerke Peine Salzgitter AG v Commission

8.12.1983, 106/80 — B. Fournier v Commission

¹ OJ C 3, 6.1.1984.² OJ C 11, 17.1.1983.³ OJ C 2, 5.1.1984.⁴ OJ C 354, 29.12.1983.**Court of Auditors**

2.4.23. On 7 December the Court adopted a report (published as an annex to the ECSC financial report for 1982¹) on accounting and financial management.

2.4.24. On 15 December the Court adopted a report containing observations under Article 206a of the EEC Treaty on the computerization of the European Social Fund.

Economic and Social Committee*213th plenary session*

2.4.25. The Economic and Social Committee held its 213th plenary session in Brussels on 14 and 15 December with Mr Ceyrac in the chair.

It adopted a number of opinions, most notably on toy safety, equal treatment for men and women in social security matters and the use of hired vehicles for goods carriage by road.

2.4.26. In his opening speech Mr Ceyrac reflected on the consequences of the failure of the Athens Summit and outlined the Committee's tasks as the representative of social and occupational groups during the coming months.

The Committee would be asking the organizations represented on it to use their influ-

ence with their governments in favour of Community solutions to Europe's current problems. In January the Committee would be issuing a formal declaration as part of the campaign to promote awareness of the forthcoming European elections through its links with social and occupational groups.

In April a conference would be held on the theme 'the Community on the threshold of the third millennium', designed to stimulate a detailed assessment of the new technologies, their economic and social consequences and the conditions for their development.

Opinions*Toy safety*

2.4.27. On 14 December the Committee approved the new proposed Directives on toy safety² by 76 votes in favour, with one abstention. It welcomed the fact that the new proposals incorporated the essential points of the opinion it had delivered in April 1981³ and were in line with the standards adopted by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). It proposed a number of amendments relating to new technological developments, the information to be displayed on toys, their packaging

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.3.8.² OJ C 203, 29.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.134.³ OJ C 185, 27.7.1981; Bull. EC 4-1981, point 2.3.50.

and enclosed leaflets, the need to prohibit advertising making use of the fact that a toy complies with the Directive and the need to provide manufacturers with certainty as to the law.

The Committee emphasized that the new safety requirements should not be allowed to overshadow the educational and psychological aspects. In particular, it wished to prevent parents and teachers being given the impression that the new safety rules relieved them of their responsibility as regards children's use of toys.

Equal treatment for men and women in social security schemes

2.4.28. The Committee approved by a large majority (15 votes against, with 4 abstentions) the proposal for a Directive on equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes.¹ In its view equal treatment must apply to benefits and contributions as opposed to a system that took into account average total lifetime benefits based on unequal contributions.

It drew attention to a number of specific points, such as the need for additional funding in order to equalize contributions in view of differences in risk calculation, the need to avoid imposing new burdens on the lower paid and to prevent disintegration into small individual schemes, and the need to examine the status of the self-employed and the implications regarding flexible retirement and early retirement arrangements.

Hired vehicles for the carriage of goods

2.4.29. The Committee approved the general objectives of the Directive on the use of hired vehicles for the carriage of goods by road,² but proposed a number of amendments. These include introducing, as a temporary measure, a minimum rental period of six months, defining the types of undertakings entitled to conclude hire contracts, introducing rules covering the mutual recognition of conditions governing the authorization of hired vehicles. The Committee stressed that the right to conclude hire contracts for remuneration should be restricted

solely to own-account and professional carriers. The Workers' Group on the Committee expressed the fear that the new provisions might tempt operators to evade social security and trade union legislation.

The opinion was adopted by 63 votes to 50 with 11 abstentions.

2.4.30. The Committee also adopted opinions on:

- the conclusion of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods;³
- the 15th VAT Directive, deferring the introduction of VAT in Greece;⁴
- the comparability of vocational training qualifications;⁵
- the protection of dialysis patients by minimizing exposure to aluminium;⁶
- commercial cooperation between railway undertakings;⁷
- financial support for industries producing solid fuels;⁸
- programme for the development of indigenous research capacities in the developing countries.⁹

2.4.31. The Committee also decided to send a report on the problems of the border regions in Ireland to the Commission and the Council for information.

ECSC Consultative Committee

238th and 239th meetings

2.4.32. The ECSC Consultative Committee held its 238th ordinary meeting on 8 and 9 December in Luxembourg with Mr Rudolf Nickels in the chair. The main items

¹ OJ C 134, 21.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.71.
² OJ C 155, 14.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.145.
³ Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.28.
⁴ Point 2.1.55; OJ C 317, 23.11.1983; Bull. EC 10-1983, point 2.1.53.
⁵ OJ C 264, 4.10.1983; Bull. EC 9-1983, point 2.1.48.
⁶ OJ C 202, 29.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.93.
⁷ OJ C 191, 16.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.217.
⁸ OJ C 232, 30.8.1983; Bull. EC 7/8-1983, point 2.1.188.
⁹ OJ C 180, 7.7.1983; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.277.

on its agenda were the ECSC budget and the forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1984.¹ It also discussed the Commission proposal for the modernization of the coal industry.²

2.4.33. At its 239th meeting on 9 December,³ which was its inaugural meeting for 1983/84, the Committee elected its Bureau and appointed the members and chairmen of its standing subcommittees, as required by its Internal Regulations. The new Committee chairman is Mr Alain Audiart (France) and the Vice-Chairmen are Mr Rudolf Nickels (Germany) and Mr André Robert (Luxembourg).

ECSC budget

2.4.34. The Commission representative explained that the current economic situation made it impossible to increase the ECSC levy rate in 1984 from its present level of 0.31 % and announced that the Commission intended to fix the 1984 ECSC operating budget at 379 million ECU.

The criticisms from worker's representatives were directed mainly at the reduction in appropriations for social measures in the steel industry, which had been cut from 110 million ECU to 62.5 million ECU. One speaker declared that the failure to honour earlier commitments was unacceptable and that the cutback would fall most heavily on those least able to protect themselves. Some two thirds of the Community's total budget was spent on agriculture, and it was there that savings should be made to release funds for the promotion of industrial policy and research and development. The Commission was requested to consider a supplementary budget as a way of avoiding injustice. It was also suggested that the proceeds from fines could be used to overcome bottlenecks. Dealers felt that it was high time for an investigation into ways of improving the distribution system.

Forward programme for steel for the first quarter of 1984

2.4.35. The rapporteur, Mr Leadley (workers—United Kingdom), reported on a

meeting of the Subcommittee for Markets and Prices, which had asked for increased monitoring of imports. There was no opposition to the programme as such, and its adoption was recommended to the Consultative Committee.

The Commission representative expressed the hope that the upturn in public and private consumption would be followed by increased investment. He stressed that the Commission had not revised its estimates for the first quarter of 1984, despite signs of an upward trend. An agreement on imports negotiated with 14 countries would produce a 12.5 % cut in imports compared with 1980. Steps had been taken to ensure that the 'triple clause' was respected.

Modernization of the coal industry

2.4.36. The rapporteur, Mr Ippolito, gave an account of the meeting of the Subcommittee for Labour Problems, which had accurately reflected the situation in the Community coal industry with the various categories all adopting different positions. Falling production suggested that as many as 50 000 to 60 000 jobs might be lost. Members were unanimous on the need for social measures, but lack of resources meant that there was no agreement on the finer details: the producers were opposed to reductions in research; the workers wanted priority to be given to social measures to help those who had been made redundant; and representatives of the independent coking plants wanted to know why they were receiving no help. However, the proposal put forward by the Commission in October was approved.

European Investment Bank

Operations in December

2.4.37. Loans announced by the European Investment Bank in December for investment within the Community totalled

¹ OJ C 20, 27.1.1984; Bull. EC 11-1983, point 2.1.20.

² Bull. EC 10-1983, points 2.1.185 and 2.3.4.

³ OJ C 12, 18.1.1984.

540.7 million ECU,¹ broken down as follows: 201.8 million ECU in Italy, 116.5 million ECU in France, 94.6 million ECU in Greece, 47.7 million ECU in Denmark, 42.4 million ECU in Ireland and 37.7 million ECU in the United Kingdom. Of the total amount, 69.8 million ECU was provided from the resources of the New Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI).² Outside the Community the Bank lent 164 million ECU to Mediterranean countries and 47.1 million ECU to ACP States.

Community

Italy

2.4.38. LIT 276 600 million was lent, including LIT 57 000 million from the NCI, mostly for investments in the Mezzogiorno (LIT 238 600 million).

Industry. LIT 138 600 million was lent in global loans, including LIT 120 000 million for small and medium-sized industrial ventures. LIT 80 000 million will be on lent by the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, including LIT 50 000 million to its Industrial Credit Section (Mediocredito) for ventures in the Mezzogiorno and 30 000 million from NCI resources to its Mediocredito and Coopercredito sections for investment projects in central and northern Italy. LIT 40 000 million was made available to the Banco di Napoli for investment in the Mezzogiorno (including the hotel trade and services). LIT 15 600 million was provided for the foodstuffs industry: LIT 9 000 million for modernizing and improving the productivity of a frozen foods factory at Cisterna di Latina (southern Latium) and LIT 6 600 million for rationalizing a brewery at Macomer (Sardinia) and for increasing its production capacity. In the field of advanced technologies, the EIB made a loan of LIT 3 000 million for investment at Piacenza (Emilia-Romagna) in a factory to manufacture integrated production systems as a first step towards the creation of small and medium-size automated factories, thereby helping to finance a sector in which technology can serve both to modernize a large range of industries and to enhance their competitiveness.

Infrastructure. LIT 133 000 million was lent, of which LIT 56 000 million to eliminate a number of bottlenecks and upgrade certain sections, covering a total of around 110 km, of seven of the most important highways in Apulia. This loan carries a 3% interest subsidy, in accordance with the provisions laid down when Italy joined the European Monetary System.³ LIT 50 000 million was intended for improving drinking water supplies in the Naples metropolitan area and in communes and industrial estates in the provinces of Naples and Caserta. LIT 27 000 million from NCI resources was provided under Community aid for reconstruction in areas affected by the 1980 earthquakes. The loan, which carries a 3% interest subsidy financed by the budget under this aid scheme, will be used for restoring university buildings at Naples and Salerno.

Special mention must finally be made of a loan of LIT 5 000 million to the Municipality of Venice to help restore and preserve the Doge's Palace and the works of art housed in or forming part of it. The project involves removing harmful micro-organisms (lichen, algae, etc.), and incrustations from the building and the application of a protective resin; inside the Palace, paintings, ceilings, woodwork and gilding will be restored. Part of the funds are earmarked for restoring the Giants' Staircase and the Balcone sul Molo. This carries a special interest subsidy from the Community's budget because of the monument's outstanding value as part of the Community's architectural heritage.

France

2.4.39. A total of FF 1 110 million was lent, of which FF 650 million for small and medium-scale schemes in industry and 460 million in the energy sector.

¹ The conversion rates at 30 September used by the EIB in statistics for the fourth quarter were 1 ECU = BFR 45.89, DKR 8.17, DM 2.26, DR 79.46, FF 6.87, HFL 2.53, IRL 0.73, LIT 1 370, LFR 45.89, UKL 0.57, USD 0.86.

² OJ L 298, 20.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

³ OJ L 200, 3.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.1.

Industry. Global loans (lines of credit) were made available as follows: FF 350 million from the NCI to the Crédit National, which is France's chief long- and medium-term industrial credit institution, for productive investment regardless of location. FF 300 million from the EIB's own resources to Crédit d'Équipement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (CEPME) to back investment schemes by small and medium-size enterprises in parts of France confronted with development or conversion problems. CEPME is the leading institution in France specializing in finance for investment by smaller businesses. The utilization of NIC resources alongside EIB resources means that funds can be tapped for financing small firms regardless of their location.

Energy. FF 310 million was lent to part-finance construction of the first two 1280 MW units of Flamanville nuclear power station, near Cherbourg. The power station will eventually be equipped with four pressurized water reactors together with a turbo-generator. The first two units, already under construction, should be commissioned in 1986 and at the beginning of 1987 respectively, their combined output representing an estimated saving of 3.5 million toe per annum. FF 150 million was made available to Crédit National in the form of a global loan for funding small and medium-scale schemes in the industrial and service sectors aimed at making more efficient use of energy. Schemes eligible for financing under this facility range from those designed to achieve primary energy savings and/or make use of oil or gas substitutes with the emphasis on tapping sources of energy more readily available, to projects exploiting renewable energy sources (such as small-scale hydroelectric power stations) or recovering energy from waste. The loans will further the Community's efforts to cut back its dependence on imported oil.

Greece

2.4.40. A total of DR 7 500 million was lent. *Telecommunications.* A loan of DR 3 000 million was made, of which 1 500

million from the NCI, towards financing the extension and modernization of telecommunications, in particular the construction of 141 new automatic telephone exchanges and enlargement of a further 148 existing ones, additions to the distribution network and extension of the trunk, junction and telex networks together with installation of sundry ancillary equipment. The works are being undertaken throughout the country except in the Athens and Thessaloniki areas and some eastern Aegean Islands, which are already relatively well equipped. At an estimated cost of DR 17 000 million, the project will help to upgrade the telecommunications service, particularly in isolated and poorly served regions, thereby fostering economic development. The European Regional Development fund is also helping to finance the project.

Agriculture and agro-industry. The EIB lent DR 2 500 million in the form of a global loan to the Agricultural Bank of Greece (ABG) for smaller-scale ventures. ABG, Greece's only credit institution specializing in the agricultural sector, will onlend DR 1 200 million to the agro-industrial sector, DR 1 000 million for on-farm investment (purchase of livestock and machinery, construction of farm buildings, small-scale irrigation of agricultural development schemes and tree-crop cultivation throughout the country) and DR 300 million for irrigation projects. All the schemes will be aimed at modernizing and restructuring the agricultural sector to enable it to adapt to the Community's markets.

Irrigation and sewerage. DR 2 000 million was lent by the EIB, including DR 1 000 million for works on sewerage systems in the towns of Ioannina (Epirus), Larissa (Thessaly), Kastoria and Ptolemais (western Macedonia), waste-water treatment and purification plants at Larissa and Kastoria, and rainwater drainage networks at Ioannina, Larissa and Ptolemais. The schemes will be implemented in areas eligible for regional development aid and will thus help to decentralize economic activity by creating conditions conducive to the setting-up of new activities. They will also serve to

improve the environment by reducing pollution of lakes and rivers flowing into the Mediterranean, in keeping with the aims of the Barcelona Convention, to which the Community is a party. DR 800 million was lent towards financing a scheme to equip more than 2 200 hectares of farmland with sprinkler irrigation facilities in areas given over to the cultivation of early fruit and vegetables and greenhouse crops in the Iera Petra region on the south-east coast of Crete. Costed at some DR 4 000 million and scheduled for completion in 1986, the works entail construction of a reservoir (with a 600 m earth dam, 40 m high) offering a capacity of 15 million m³, supply conduits, a pressurized distribution system and four pumping stations. The scheme will make for increased production of highly sought-after early fruit and vegetables and will contribute substantially towards reducing underemployment in a far from prosperous region. It will also put over 3 000 smallholdings in a position to triple or quadruple their income while turning a proportion of the land given over to olive groves to better account. DR 200 million was lent for work in Epirus, also in areas eligible for regional development aid: DR 100 million is to help to finance surface or sprinkler irrigation of 2 600 hectares in the Boida-Mavri plain, near Preveza, using water from a natural lake and local springs. The works also include provision of equipment for maintaining drainage and road networks covering 15 000 hectares in the Arta plain. DR 100 million is to contribute towards the modernization and extension (by 640 hectares) of a surface irrigation system in the Konitsa plain, north of Ionnina, drawing water from the river Aaos.

Denmark

2.4.41. *Energy.* A total of DKR 390 million was lent, of which DKR 340 million for construction of a distribution system to supply natural gas to the island of Funen, as part of a programme to supply the whole of Denmark with natural gas from the North Sea. The project includes installation of more than 2 000 km of piping, a number of regulator and metering stations, and

some remote control equipment. The whole project will be fully operational in 1990, when the installations will supply about 300 million m³ of gas per annum to some 40 000 consumers.

DKR 50 million was lent in the form of a global loan to the Copenhagen Handelsbank, to be onlent for financing small and medium-scale energy-saving schemes to reduce dependence on imported oil. Smaller-scale infrastructure schemes located throughout Denmark are eligible for allocations from the global loan, with particular emphasis on district heating projects currently being implemented by many local authorities and cooperatives.

Ireland

2.4.42. The EIB lent IRL 30.6 million to help finance electrification of the Dublin suburban railway line. The 36-km line, extending from the city centre to Howth and Bray, is being upgraded by improved track and the provision of automatic signalling and complete replacement of the former diesel-hauled rolling stock by 40 two-car electric units. Apart from giving its users a service that is quicker, more comfortable and more frequent, the improved line will help serve the growth in passenger traffic in the future and should assist development in the Dublin area by reducing the city's severe road congestion and easing conditions on the access roads to the port of Dublin.

United Kingdom

2.4.43. A total of UKL 21.7 million was lent, of which UKL 10 million to Short Bros Ltd in Belfast to help finance the construction of a new commuter aircraft, the SD-360. The plane, which has capacity for 36 passengers is an extended version of the established SD-330 and has been developed for short hauls of up to about 450 km. Short Bros is the largest industrial employer in Northern Ireland, and the new investment should help the company to expand an activity which has provided over 400 new jobs, while safeguarding many others.

UKL 9.5 million was lent for the expansion of facilities at Birmingham airport, which is currently too congested to cope with growth in traffic, which is expected to reach 2.7 million passengers a year by 1990 (as against 1.6 million in 1982). The work will involve the construction of a new terminal building, aprons, taxiways, car parks and other associated works. The airport makes a significant contribution to communications within the Community and with Spain and Portugal. The improved continental links will also be a spur to further development of West Midlands industry and commerce. About 1700 new jobs are expected to be generated on the airport by 1990 and a further 1000 in various activities directly linked to its increased operations.

UKL 2.2 million was lent for infrastructure works to improve conditions for industrial development in the Tyneside area. The various works involved include the provision of small industrial or office units and improvement of roads and drainage to existing and newly developed industrial sites and extension of the district heating station at Newcastle (permitting increased utilization of refuse-derived fuel and so reducing waste disposal problems in the city).

The schemes form part of the local authorities' efforts to attract new industry and to improve the environmental quality of the areas in which they are located. The project benefits from grants from the European Regional Development Fund and from the EEC energy pilot projects fund.

Outside the Community

Mediterranean countries

2.4.44. *Portugal.* The EIB made a loan of 35 million ECU, thus exhausting the pre-accession aid totalling 150 million ECU made available after the Financial Protocol expired in 1981. The loan, which carries an interest subsidy financed from the Community budget, is for developing two out of mainland Portugal's three international airports, at Porto and Faro. The project focuses mainly on new passenger terminals at both Porto and Faro designed for possible

subsequent expansion, aircraft hardstandings, roads and parking facilities. At Porto, the scheme also involves construction of a new control tower to improve air traffic safety and a new freight terminal. Enlargement of Porto Airport will help to boost economic activity in Portugal's northern industrial belt, where about 40% of the country's population is concentrated. Improvements at Faro, centrally located in the Algarve and handling largely traffic from Europe, will give fresh impetus to tourism.

The EIB's Board of Governors authorized additional pre-accession aid providing for deployment, by 30 June 1984, of 75 million ECU. 25 million ECU will go towards constructing a new 300 MW unit at Sines thermal power station in the south of the country. The plant currently comprises two 300MW units under construction. It is located near a port where a coal terminal is to be installed and will be equipped with coal transport and handling facilities plus a sea water cooling circuit.

The project will provide optimum conditions for coping with the upturn in electricity consumption in Portugal, while diversifying primary energy supply sources.

20 million ECU was made available, in the form of a global loan with an interest subsidy funded from the EEC budget, to Caixa Geral de Depósitos, Portugal's leading deposit bank specializing in long- and medium-term financing.

The funds will be onlent for smaller-scale tourism and manufacturing ventures, including energy-saving schemes, designed to modernize and expand smaller businesses with an eye to Portugal's accession to the Community.

2.4.45. *Spain.* Under the decision taken by the EIB's Governors on 5 August 1983 for continued pre-accession financial cooperation between the Community and Spain, providing for 100 million ECU from the EIB's own resources up to 30 June 1984, 20 Million ECU was lent to improve a 90-km section of the railway which links the port of Gijón with León and, via the latter, with the country's main railway network.

The section concerned passes through the mountainous regions of Oviédo and León, which produce some 70% of the coal mined in Spain. Traffic on this is heavier than on any other in the network, and the line must be modernized and adapted to ensure that traffic flows smoothly in all seasons despite the rugged terrain. The project for which EIB financing will be used includes the construction of bridges and underpasses, galleries to protect the track from snow, construction of stations, doubling of part of the track and renewal of part of the superstructure over certain sections of the line so as to increase the line's capacity and reduce running costs.

Improving traffic conditions on this rail link will especially help to increase the amount of coal carried, thus promoting greater use of this fuel and reducing the country's dependence on imports of oil to supply its energy needs.

A global loan of 15 million ECU was made available to the Instituto de Crédito Oficial, which will onlend the proceeds to Banco Hipotecario de España, one of the four institutions responsible for lending in the different sectors of the economy, largely using public funds supplied by the State; its main function is to provide financing for housing, buildings and tourist facilities, and the EIB's loan will be used exclusively to finance the last of these sectors, including the construction or enlargement of hotels, holiday villages, camping sites and leisure amenities in the less-favoured regions, especially in the interior of the country.

2.4.46. Egypt. A global loan of 25 million ECU was granted to the Development Industrial Bank (DIB), which is the main source of long- and medium-term finance for small firms. The loan, which carries an interest subsidy from the Community budget, will help to finance smaller-scale industrial and tourist ventures. This is the first loan to be made under the second EEC-Egypt Financial Protocol, which entered into force on 1 January 1983.

Morocco. Under the second EEC-Morocco Financial Protocol, the EIB lent 18 million ECU, with an interest subsidy from the

Community budget, to help build a dam at Ait Chouarit on the north-eastern flank of the High Atlas, as part of the plan to develop the central region of the plain of Haouz. The dam will be of rockfill/earthfill construction with a rolled clay core. Built with a crest length of 380 m and a maximum height of 144 m, it will offer a capacity of 270 million m³. It is expected to be completed by 1988 and should save approximately 35 000 tonnes of oil each year.

2.4.47. Jordan. Under the second Financial Protocol, the EIB lent 6 million ECU, of which 3 million was from Community budget resources and 3 million from its own resources, with an interest subsidy financed by the Community budget, in the form of global loans towards promoting smaller-scale agricultural investment. The loans are being made to the Jordan Cooperative Organization (JCO), a semi-public body which is the standard-bearer of the country's co-operative movement, and to the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), a wholly government-owned statutory corporation set up for the purpose of providing credit to farmers for productive investment. The global loans will be onlent by the ACC and the JCO, which complement each other's activities, for financing on-farm investment. The agricultural sector is very much a vital component of the Jordanian economy, with some 20% of the working population employed on the land. Jordan is nevertheless obliged to turn to the outside world for two thirds of its total foodstuffs requirements.

ACP States

2.4.48. Under the second Lomé Convention the Bank lent ACP States 27 million ECU from its own resources and 18.6 million from the risk capital which it manages on behalf of the Community.

2.4.49. The EIB lent 25 million ECU to help finance the installation of two additional turbo-generators at the Song-Loulou power station in the United Republic of Cameroon to increase its generating capacity from 192 MW to 288 MW. The project includes the extension of the power station's existing building, the water inlet

channels, a transformer station, transmission lines and auxiliary equipment. The Song-Loulou scheme is located on the river Sanaga, some 110 km east of Douala, and the extension will enable the station to cope more easily with the increased demand for electricity. In the longer term it is planned to extend the station further and to construct a new retention dam upstream.

2.4.50. 10 million ECU was lent to the Fund for Cooperation, Compensation and Development of the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas Fund), towards financing microwave links featuring as part of an interregional telecommunications scheme mounted by Ecowas Member States. The Fund, which is the financial arm of Ecowas, is responsible for coordinating implementation of the Intelcom project to uprate national and cross-frontier telecommunications links between the Fund's Member States. The proceeds of the loan will be channelled via the Fund to Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal to assist in covering their share in financing the project. 5 million ECU was lent to Zimbabwe for establishing the Zimbabwe Development Bank: 500 000 ECU to finance an equity participation in ZDB on behalf of the European Community and 4.5 million ECU to the State to assist it in acquiring a stake in ZDB's initial share capital. The main role of this new bank, supplementing the network of existing finance institutions, will be to arrange long-term credit, technical assistance, feasibility and market studies and training programmes for implementing smaller-scale capital investment chiefly in the industrial, agro-industrial, mining and tourism sectors.

2.4.51. The EIB lent 3 million ECU to Malawi towards uprating a hydroelectric power station on the Shire river, a tributary of the Zambezi. The project concerns the installation of a fourth 20 MW generating set at the Nkula Falls station, which currently has an installed capacity of 60 MW, together with associated civil works. This boost to generating capacity will enable the country to keep pace with the estimated growth in electricity consumption over the coming years, without increasing its dependence on oil.

2.4.52. The EIB lent 2.6 million ECU to Belize for financing smaller-scale industrial, agro-industrial and tourism ventures, thereby mounting its first operations in this former British territory which gained independence in September 1981 and acceded to the Lomé Convention in March 1982. 2 million ECU was advanced to Belize Development Finance Corporation (BDFC) for financing projects, and 600 000 ECU to the State, BDFC's sole shareholder, to help finance the increase in the capital of BDFC, the only institution in the country to provide long-term credit for industrial and tourism development. The loan will bolster BDFC's equity base and enable it both to support feasibility studies and to acquire shareholdings.

Pursuant to the Council Decision of 16 December 1980 which provides for specific aid to be extended to overseas countries and territories, a global loan of 1.5 million ECU from risk capital resources was granted to the Société de Crédit et de Développement de l'Océanie, which will use the funds to finance feasibility studies, provide conditional loans for investment or finance equity participations in businesses.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. ECU

Values in national currencies of one ECU

29 December 1983 ¹	
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (convertible)	46.0992
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (financial)	46.8549
German mark	2.25664
Dutch guilder	2.5388
Pound sterling	0.570561
Danish krone	8.17742
French franc	6.90331
Italian lira	1 373.43
Irish pound	0.729361
Greek drachma	81.7494
United States dollar	0.826002
Swiss franc	1.80523
Spanish peseta	130.178
Swedish krona	6.62123
Norwegian krone	6.37343
Canadian dollar	1.02796
Portuguese escudo	110.106
Austrian schilling	15.9501
Finnish mark	4.82633
Japanese yen	191.756
Australian dollar	0.921877
New Zealand dollar	1.26532

¹ OJ C 355, 30.12.1983.

NB. Explanatory notes on the ECU and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU used in connection with the common agricultural policy

National currency	December 1983	
	Value in national currency of one ECU	
	From 1 to 15 December	From 16 December
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	44.9008	44.9008
Danish krone	8.23400	8.23400
German mark	2.65660 ¹ 2.52875 ² 2.54273 ³ 2.51457 ⁹ 2.57524 ⁷	2.65660 ¹ 2.52875 ² 2.54273 ³ 2.51457 ⁹ 2.57524 ⁶
Greek drachma	77.2479 ⁹ 74.8027 ⁵ 71.5619 ⁸	77.2479 ⁹ 71.5619 ⁸
French franc	6.55400 ³ 6.49211 ⁹ 6.62985 ⁵ 6.37174 ⁶ 6.19564 ¹ 6.77297 ⁴	6.55400 ³ 6.49211 ⁹ 6.37174 ⁶ 6.19564 ¹ 6.77297 ¹⁰
Irish pound	0.725690	0.725690
Italian lira	1 341.00	1 341.00
Dutch guilder	2.81318 ¹ 2.72149 ² 2.73327 ³ 2.70981 ⁹ 2.75563 ⁷	2.81318 ¹ 2.72149 ² 2.73327 ³ 2.70981 ⁹ 2.75563 ⁶
Pound sterling	0.618655	0.618655

¹ For seeds.

² For cereals.

³ For milk and milk products.

⁴ For pigmeat.

⁵ For wine.

⁶ For fish.

⁷ For wine and fish.

⁸ For seeds and fish.

⁹ For other products.

¹⁰ For pigmeat and wine.

2. Additional references in the Official Journal

3.2.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments and notices of Community institutions or organs which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relating to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers is followed by the title shown of the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 9-1983

Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10

Proposal for a Council Regulation

1. on improving the efficiency of agricultural structures

II. amending Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed and Regulation (EEC) No 1820/80 on the stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of the west of Ireland

OJ C 347, 22.12.1983

Point 2.1.113

Reimbursement by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guidance Section,

of expenditure incurred by Member States in respect of indirect actions (third quarter of 1983)

OJ C 338, 15.12.1983

Points 2.4.21 to 2.4.26

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee during its session on 28 and 29 September 1983

OJ C 341, 19.12.1983

Bull. EC 11-1983

Point 2.1.105

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the noise emission of rail-mounted vehicles

OJ C 354, 29.12.1983

Point 2.1.122

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 337/70 on the common organization of the market in wine

OJ C 338, 15.12.1983

3. Infringement procedures

Initiation of proceedings for failure to implement directives

3.3.1. In December the Commission sent letters of formal notice to eight Member State concerning their failure to incorporate directives into national law, since they had failed to inform the Commission of national implementing measures, in the following 53 cases:

Internal market and industrial affairs

(i) Commission Directive of 1 July 1982¹ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 4 November 1976 on the approximation of the

laws of the Member States relating to electrical energy meters² (Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Luxembourg, United Kingdom);

(ii) Commission Directive of 1 July 1982¹ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 5 April 1977 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measuring systems for liquids other than water³ (Belgium, Denmark);

¹ OJ L 252, 27.8.1982.

² OJ L 336, 4.12.1976.

³ OJ L 105, 28.4.1977.

- (iii) Council Directive of 15 January 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the ranges of nominal quantities and nominal capacities permitted for certain prepackaged products¹ (France);
- (iv) Commission Directive of 1 July 1982² adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers³ (France, Ireland);
- (v) Council Directive of 17 May 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the component type-approval of lighting and of light-signalling devices on wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors⁴ (Italy);
- (vi) Council Directive of 17 May 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the coupling device and the reverse of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors⁴ (Italy);
- (vii) Council Directive of 25 July 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the roll-over protection structures of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors (static testing)⁵ (Italy);
- (viii) Council Directive of 24 July 1979⁶ amending the Directive of 4 March 1974 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors⁷ (Italy);
- (ix) Council Directive of 24 June 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the operating space, access to the driving position and the doors and windows of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors⁸ (Italy);
- (x) Council Directive of 20 July 1981⁹ amending the Directive of 18 December 1975 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to anchorages for motor-vehicle safety belts¹⁰ (United Kingdom);
- (xi) Council Directive of 20 July 1981⁹ amending the Directive of 28 June 1977 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to safety belts and restraint systems of motor vehicles¹¹ (United Kingdom);
- (xii) Council Directive of 20 July 1981⁹ amending the Directive of 22 July 1974 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (strength of seats and of their anchorages)¹² (France, United Kingdom);
- (xiii) Commission Directive of 29 July 1981¹³ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 27 September 1977 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the field of vision of motor vehicle drivers¹⁴ (France, United Kingdom);
- (xiv) Commission Directive of 2 April 1982¹⁵ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 18 December 1975 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to anchorages for motor-vehicle safety belts¹⁰ (United Kingdom);
- (xv) Commission Directive of 17 March 1982¹⁶ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles and their trailers³ (France, United Kingdom);
- (xvi) Commission Directive of 2 April 1982¹⁵ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 28 June 1977 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to safety belts and restraint systems of motor vehicles¹¹ (United Kingdom);
- (xvii) Council Directive of 16 December 1980¹⁷ amending the Directive of 6 February 1970 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of motor vehicles and their trailers¹⁸ (Belgium);
- (xviii) Council Directive of 16 December 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the fuel consumption of motor vehicles¹⁷ (Belgium, France);
- (xix) Council Directive of 16 December 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the engine power of motor vehicles¹⁷ (Belgium, France);
- (xx) Commission Directive of 13 April 1981¹⁹ adapting to technical progress the Council Directive of 6 February 1970 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the permissible sound level and the exhaust system of motor vehicles¹⁸ (Netherlands);

¹ OJ L 51, 25.2.1980.

² OJ L 252, 27.8.1982.

³ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

⁴ OJ L 145, 13.6.1979.

⁵ OJ L 179, 17.7.1979.

⁶ OJ L 205, 13.8.1979.

⁷ OJ L 84, 28.3.1974.

⁸ OJ L 194, 28.7.1980.

⁹ OJ L 209, 29.7.1981.

¹⁰ OJ L 24, 30.1.1976.

¹¹ OJ L 220, 29.8.1977.

¹² OJ L 221, 12.8.1974.

¹³ OJ L 231, 15.8.1981.

¹⁴ OJ L 67, 19.10.1977.

¹⁵ OJ L 139, 19.5.1982.

¹⁶ OJ L 109, 22.4.1982.

¹⁷ OJ L 375, 31.12.1980.

¹⁸ OJ L 42, 23.2.1970.

¹⁹ OJ L 131, 18.5.1981.

(xxi) First Commission Directive of 28 July 1981 laying down Community methods of analysis for verifying that certain additives used in foodstuffs satisfy criteria of purity¹ (Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands);

(xxii) Council Directive of 15 July 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the exploitation and marketing of natural mineral waters² (Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands);

(xxiii) Commission Directive of 29 April 1981 laying down the Community method of analysis for the official control of vinyl chloride released by materials and articles into foodstuffs³ (Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands);

Agriculture

(xxiv) Commission Directive of 13 April 1982⁴ amending the Annexes to the Council Directives of 14 June 1966 and 30 June 1969 on the marketing of fodder plant seed and seed of oil and fibre plants respectively,⁵ and the Directives of 18 April 1978⁶ (Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands);

(xxv) Commission Directive of 6 May 1982⁷ amending the Council Directive of 9 April 1968 on the marketing of material for the vegetative propagation of the vine⁸ (Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg);

(xxvi) Council Directive of 12 May 1981⁹ establishing measures necessary for the implementation of the Directive of 18 July 1977 on the protection of animals during international transport¹⁰ (Belgium);

(xxvii) Council Directive of 9 December 1974 on the marketing of material for the vegetative propagation of the vine produced in third countries¹¹ (Belgium);

(xxviii) Council Directive of 22 January 1980¹² amending the Directive of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products¹³ (Belgium, Italy);

(xxix) Fourth Commission Directive of 23 June 1982¹⁴ amending the Annexes to the Council Directive of 23 November 1970 concerning additives in feedingstuffs¹⁵ (Denmark, Luxembourg);

(xxx) Council Directive of 12 November 1979¹⁶ amending the Directives of 14 June 1966 and 29 September 1970 on the marketing of seed potatoes, the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species and the marketing of vegetable seed¹⁷ (Denmark, Italy);

(xxxi) Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs¹⁸ (Italy);

(xxxii) Council Directive of 2 April 1979¹⁹ amending the Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs¹⁸ (Italy);

(xxxiii) Council Directive of 26 June 1975²⁰ amending the Directives of 14 June 1966 and 30 June 1969 on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, and seed of oil and fibre plants⁵ (Italy);

(xxxiv) Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs¹⁹ (Italy);

(xxxv) First Commission Directive of 10 August 1979²¹ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs¹⁸ (Italy);

(xxxvi) Commission Directive of 25 February 1980²² amending Annex II to the Council Directive of 30 June 1969 on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants²³ (Italy, Netherlands);

(xxxvii) Council Directive of 6 May 1980²⁴ amending the Directive of 17 December 1973 on the fixing of maximum permitted levels for undesirable substances and products in feedingstuffs²⁵ (Italy);

(xxxviii) First Commission Directive of 2 May 1980²⁶ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs²⁷ (Italy);

¹ OJ L 257, 10.9.1981.

² OJ L 229, 30.8.1980.

³ OJ L 167, 24.6.1981.

⁴ OJ L 131, 13.5.1982.

⁵ OJ L 125, 11.7.1966; OJ L 169, 10.7.1969.

⁶ OJ L 113, 25.4.1978.

⁷ OJ L 148, 27.5.1982.

⁸ OJ L 93, 17.4.1968.

⁹ OJ L 150, 6.6.1981.

¹⁰ OJ L 200, 8.8.1977.

¹¹ OJ L 352, 28.12.1974.

¹² OJ L 47, 21.2.1980.

¹³ OJ L 26, 31.1.1977; OJ L 68, 15.3.1977; OJ L 76, 24.3.1977.

¹⁴ OJ L 213, 21.7.1982.

¹⁵ OJ L 270, 14.12.1970.

¹⁶ OJ L 293, 20.11.1979.

¹⁷ OJ L 125, 11.7.1966; OJ L 225, 12.10.1970.

¹⁸ OJ L 32, 3.2.1977.

¹⁹ OJ L 86, 6.4.1979.

²⁰ OJ L 196, 26.7.1975.

²¹ OJ L 239, 22.9.1979.

²² OJ L 68, 14.3.1980.

²³ OJ L 169, 10.7.1969.

²⁴ OJ L 124, 20.5.1980.

²⁵ OJ L 38, 11.2.1974.

²⁶ OJ L 126, 21.5.1980.

²⁷ OJ L 89, 6.4.1979.

(xxxix) Second Commission Directive of 2 May 1980¹ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs² (Italy);

(xl) Commission Directive of 2 May 1980 authorizing, in certain cases, the marketing of compound feedingstuffs in unsealed packages or containers¹ (Italy);

(xli) Council Directive of 24 June 1980 on the control of potato ring rot³ (Italy);

(xlii) Second Commission Directive of 27 June 1980⁴ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs⁵ (Italy);

(xliii) Commission Directive of 17 July 1980⁶ amending Annex II to the Council Directive of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of fodder plant seed⁷ (Italy, Luxembourg);

(xliv) Council Directive of 22 January 1980 on tuberculosis and brucellosis⁸ (Italy);

(xlv) Commission Directive of 3 September 1980 on health marking of large packagings of fresh poultrymeat⁹ (Italy);

(xlvi) Council Directive of 11 November 1980 amending the Directive on swine vesicular disease and classical swine fever¹⁰ (Italy);

(xlvii) Council Directive of 11 November 1980¹⁰ amending the Directive of 12 December 1972 with regard to swine vesicular disease and classical swine fever¹¹ (Italy);

(xlviii) Council Directive of 11 November 1980¹⁰ amending the Directive of 22 January 1980 with regard to swine vesicular disease and classical swine fever⁸ (Italy, Luxembourg);

(xlix) Council Directive of 11 November 1980 on enzootic bovine leucosis¹⁰ (Italy);

(l) Commission Directive of 30 July 1981 establishing Community methods of analysis for the official control of feedingstuffs¹² (Luxembourg);

(li) Ninth Commission Directive of 31 July 1981 establishing Community methods of analysis for the official control of feedingstuffs¹³ (Luxembourg);

(lii) Council Directive of 22 January 1980 introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever⁸ (Luxembourg);

(liii) Commission Directive of 24 July 1979 establishing Community methods of sampling for the official control of pesticide residues in and on fruit and vegetables¹⁴ (Netherlands).

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. The Commission delivered seven reasoned opinions concerning six Member States in the following cases:

Internal market and industrial affairs

(i) Obligation to purchase petroleum products from the Irish National Petroleum Corporation (Ireland);

(ii) Failure of the German authorities to affix an exequatur to the decision imposing a fine on Klöckner-Werke AG (Federal Republic Germany);

(iii) Incorrect application of the Council Directive of 25 June 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the roll-over protection structures of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors¹⁵ (France);

(iv) Incorrect application of the Council Directive of 26 July 1971 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to textile names¹⁶ (Greece);

(v) Infringement of the provisions of the EEC Treaty concerning the right of establishment and freedom to provide services in respect of medical analyses (Belgium).

Employment and social affairs

(vi) Incorrect incorporation into national law of the Council Directive of 14 February 1977 of the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, businesses or parts of businesses¹⁷ (Belgium, Italy).

Proceedings terminated

(3.3.3. *The Commission decided not to continue the following infringement proceedings:*

Cases in respect of which a reasoned opinion had been sent

(i) Infringement of the Council Regulation of 23 November 1976¹⁸ and the Commission Regulation

¹ OJ L 126, 21.5.1980.

² OJ L 32, 3.2.1977.

³ OJ L 180, 14.7.1980.

⁴ OJ L 188, 22.7.1980.

⁵ OJ L 89, 6.4.1979.

⁶ OJ L 207, 9.8.1980.

⁷ OJ L 125, 11.7.1966.

⁸ OJ L 47, 21.2.1980.

⁹ OJ L 251, 24.9.1980.

¹⁰ OJ L 325, 1.12.1980.

¹¹ OJ L 302, 31.12.1972.

¹² OJ L 246, 29.8.1981.

¹³ OJ L 257, 10.9.1981.

¹⁴ OJ L 207, 15.8.1979.

¹⁵ OJ L 179, 17.7.1979.

¹⁶ OJ L 185, 16.8.1971.

¹⁷ OJ L 61, 5.3.1977.

¹⁸ OJ L 339, 8.12.1976.

of 30 October 1980¹ on the water content of frozen poultry (Belgium);

(ii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 27 June 1977 concerning the coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of the activities of nurses responsible for general care² (Luxembourg);

(iii) Failures to incorporate into national law the Directives of 18 December 1978 concerning exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services by veterinary surgeons³ (Luxembourg).

Cases which had been referred to the Court

(i) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Directives of 26 January 1965 and 20 May 1975 on proprietary medicinal products⁴ (Case 280/82; Belgium);

(ii) Failure to incorporate fully into national law a Directive on mutual recognition of dentists' diplomas (Case 22/83; Germany);

(iii) Failure to incorporate into national law a Directive on exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services by veterinary surgeons (Case 217/83; Netherlands);

(iv) Failure to incorporate correctly into national law the Council Directive of 9 February 1976 on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions⁵ (Case 164/82; Belgium — Case 163/82; Italy);

(v) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Directive of 27 June 1977 on the EAGGF Guarantee Section⁶ (Case 251/81; Italy).

Cases in respect of which formal notice had been given

(i) Failure to implement the Council Directive of 12 May 1981⁷ establishing measures necessary for the implementation of the Directive of 18 July 1977 on the protection of animals during international transport⁸ (Italy);

(ii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs⁹ (Luxembourg);

(iii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 2 April 1979¹⁰ amending the Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs⁹ (Luxembourg);

(iv) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs¹⁰ (Luxembourg);

(v) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the First Commission Directive of 10 August 1979¹¹ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs⁹ (Luxembourg);

(vi) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the First Commission Directive of 2 May 1980¹² amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs¹⁰ (Luxembourg);

(vii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Second Commission Directive of 2 May 1980¹² amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 23 November 1976 on the marketing of straight feedingstuffs⁹ (Luxembourg);

(viii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Second Commission Directive of 27 June 1980¹³ amending the Annex to the Council Directive of 2 April 1979 on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs¹⁰ (Luxembourg).

(ix) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Commission Directive of 24 July 1979 establishing Community methods of sampling for the official control of pesticide residues in and on fruit and vegetables¹⁴ (France);

(x) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 30 May 1978 on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to Community coinsurance¹⁵ (United Kingdom);

¹ OJ L 288, 31.10.1980.

² OJ L 176, 15.7.1977.

³ OJ L 362, 31.12.1978.

⁴ OJ L 22, 9.2.1965; OJ L 147, 9.6.1975.

⁵ OJ L 39, 14.2.1976.

⁶ OJ L 172, 12.7.1977.

⁷ OJ L 150, 6.6.1981.

⁸ OJ L 200, 8.8.1977.

⁹ OJ L 32, 3.2.1977.

¹⁰ OJ L 86, 6.4.1979.

¹¹ OJ L 239, 22.9.1979.

¹² OJ L 126, 21.5.1980.

¹³ OJ L 188, 22.7.1980.

¹⁴ OJ L 207, 15.8.1979.

¹⁵ OJ L 151, 7.6.1978.

(xi) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Council Directive of 18 September 1979¹ amending for the sixth time the Directive of 1967 on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances² (Greece);

(xii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the First Commission Directive of 22 December 1980 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to methods of analysis necessary for checking the composition of cosmetic products³ (United Kingdom);

(xiii) Failure to inform the Commission of national measures implementing the Commission Directive of 11 February 1982⁴ adapting to technical progress Annex II to the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products⁵ (United Kingdom).

¹ OJ L 259, 15.10.1979.

² OJ L 196, 16.8.1967.

³ OJ L 383, 31.12.1980.

⁴ OJ L 63, 6.3.1982.

⁵ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

4. Eurobarometer

3.4.1. The latest Eurobarometer survey, carried out between 27 September and 4 November 1983, has just been published by the Commission¹.

With only eight months to go before the second direct elections to the European Parliament in June 1984, it was in good time to provide information on the 'state of the union' for the present elected representatives of the peoples of Europe, future candidates, organized political movements and the electorate in general.

The survey covered five major topics: the mood of Europeans (expectations for 1984; changes in the

national economic situation and in the financial situation of individual households; fears of a world war in the next ten years; satisfaction with life and the feeling of happiness; satisfaction with democracy and basic attitudes to social change); major socio-political issues and the importance attached to them; attitudes to Europe and the European Community; the European Parliament and the June 1984 elections; reactions in Spain and Portugal to the prospect of joining the Community.

¹ *Eurobarometer — Public Opinion in the European Community: Autumn 1983*, No 20 (Brussels, December 1983).

The Bulletin in 1983: special features, supplements and documentation

Economic and monetary policy

The currency realignment of 21 March: Bull. EC 3, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

Financial integration—Deadlock: but the need is imperative: Bull. EC 4, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.9.

National tax and financial measures to revive investment: Bull. EC 4, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

Western Economic Summit (Williamsburg)—Statements by the Heads of State or Government and representatives of the European Community: Bull. EC 5, points 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

Annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank: Bull. EC 9, point 3.4.1.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Prospects for the development of new policies—
Research and development, energy and new technologies: Supplement 5/83.

Commission decisions on the Member States' programmes for restructuring the steel industry: Bull. EC 6, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12.

Fifth Directive concerning the structure of public limited companies and employee participation—
The Commission amends its proposal: Supplement 6/83 and Bull. EC 7/8, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

Mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications (list of Council Directives and Commission proposals): Bull. EC 10, Chap. 3.5.

Competition

Commission decisions on the Member States' programmes for restructuring the steel industry: Bull. EC 6, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12.

Employment, education and social policy

The fight against unemployment — Special session of Parliament — Commission proposals on employment for young people: Bull. EC 4, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.21.

Procedures for informing and consulting the employees of undertakings with complex structures, in particular transnational undertakings — The Commission amends its 1980 proposal: Supplement 2/83 and Bull. EC 6, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

A new Community strategy in the field of vocational training: Bull. EC 6, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.10.

A new charter for the European Social Fund: Bull. EC 10, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

Local employment initiatives: Bull. EC 11, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.13.

Unemployment among women: Bull. EC 11, points 1.3.1 and 1.3.2.

Regional policy

Integrated Mediterranean programmes: Bull. EC 3, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.13 and 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

Increasing the effectiveness of the structural Funds: Supplement 3/83 and Bull. EC 7/8, points 1.1.13 to 1.1.20.

New proposal for reform of the Community's regional policy: Bull. EC 11, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.8.

Agriculture

Integrated Mediterranean programmes: Bull. EC 3, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.13 and 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

Rationalization of the common agricultural policy — The Commission's proposals: Supplement 4/83 and Bull. EC 7/8, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12.

Agricultural structures — The Commission's new policy proposals: Bull. EC 9, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

Mediterranean agricultural products — Agreement on fruit and vegetables; guidelines for olive oil: Bull. EC 10, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.20.

Fisheries

A common fisheries policy: Bull. EC 1, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.11.

Implementation of the new fisheries policy — The Commission adopts its first proposals: Bull. EC 4, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

Transport

Memorandum from the Netherlands Government on European transport policy: Bull. EC 6, point 3.4.1.

Energy

Energy strategy — A five-year programme: Bull. EC 6, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.20 and Supplement 5/83.

Research and development

First framework programme on Community scientific and technical activities 1984-87: Bull. EC 5, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

Commercial policy

Strengthening the common commercial policy: Bull. EC 2, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9.

Industrialized countries

Relations between the Community and Japan: Bull. EC 2, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.5.

Development

Development policy — Commission guidelines: Bull. EC 3, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.23. Renewal of the ACP-EEC Convention: Bull. EC 10, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

International organizations and conferences

The Community at the United Nations: Bull. EC 9, point 3.4.1.

Annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank: Bull. EC 9, point 3.5.1.

Financing Community activities

The future financing of the Community: Bull. EC 1, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.15.

The future financing of the Community: Bull. EC 5, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

Preliminary draft budget for 1984 — Political presentation: Bull. EC 5, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.7.

European policy

Commission opinion on the status of Greenland: Supplement 1/83 and Bull. EC 1, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.10.

Commission response to Greek memorandum: Bull. EC 3, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.13.

The Brussels European Council: Bull. EC 3, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.10. The Stuttgart European Council: Bull. EC 6, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.25. Solemn Declaration on European Union: Bull. EC 6, point 1.6.1. Eurobarometer: Bull. EC 6, point 3.5.1.

Prospects for the development of new policies — Research and development, energy and new technologies: Supplement 5/83.

Parliament's resolution on the preliminary draft Treaty establishing the European Union: Bull. EC 9, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3.

Preparations for the Athens European Council:

Bull. EC 9, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

Bull. EC 10, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3.

Bull. EC 11, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.4.

Young Europeans — An exploratory study of 15- to 24-year-olds in Community countries: Bull. EC 10, point 3.4.1.

The Athens European Council: Bull. EC 12, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.4.

Eurobarometer: Bull. EC 12, point 3.4.1.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Council statement on the German Presidency: Bull. EC 1, point 3.4.1.

Commission programme for 1983-84: Bull. EC 2, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3.

Seat and places of work of Parliament — Analysis of judgment of Court of Justice in Case 230/81 *Grand Duchy of Luxembourg v European Parliament*: Bull. EC 2, point 3.4.1.

Council statement on the Greek Presidency: Bull. EC 7/8, point 3.4.1.

Corrigendum

Bull. EC 10-1983, Part Three, Chap. 5, I

The following should be added to the list of Directives adopted by the Council (mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications):

	Date transmitted to Council	Date adopted by Council
<i>Insurance brokers</i> Directive on measures to facilitate the effective exercise of freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services in respect of the activities of insurance agents and brokers (ex ISIC Group 630) and, in particular, transitional measures in respect of those activities	4.12.1970	Directive 77/92/EEC of 13 December 1976 (OJ L 26, 31.1.1977)

List correct at 31 December 1982.

Publications of the European Communities

Publications of the European Communities

12 – 1983

Introductory note

This catalogue includes the newly published monographs and series issued during the period to which it relates by the institutions of the European Communities, and also their current periodicals. Publications of which English versions have been issued are listed only in that language; otherwise another version, but only one, is included, in the following order of choice:

French	Spanish
German	Portuguese
Italian	Greek
Dutch	others
Danish	

Where other language versions also exist, cross-references are provided by means of a code (those codes should not be used for ordering purposes):

IT: 1 - 12

which means that the Italian version is described in the Italian catalogue of January under No 12. This number is specific to each catalogue; it is a sequence number printed in consecutive order, opposite each entry in the classified list.

Arrangement

The catalogue is divided into three parts, as follows:

Part I – The classified list provides a subject classification of the titles included under 20 headings each divided into subheadings (see below).

Under each subheading, monographs and series are listed first in alphabetical order; there then follows a similar list of periodical titles.

Full entries for monographs and series appear only once; otherwise cross-references are given to the full entries identifying them by the sequence numbers already described. Periodical titles appear in the classified list only as cross-reference entries, full entries being found in Part II.

Part II – Periodicals presents full details of each current Community periodical, listed alphabetically.

Part III – The indexes of titles and series are listed alphabetically and cross-refer using the abovementioned

sequence numbers to the entries in Part I of the monthly catalogue. These indexes cumulate throughout the year.

How to obtain publications

Publications may be priced for sale, gratis, or of limited distribution. Those of the last two classes may be obtained from the issuing institutions, or, where they are published by the Information Offices of the Commission, from those offices, whose addresses are given in the lists on pp. 4 and 5. Publications of limited distribution are, however, generally only for the attention of governments of Member States, Community departments and other authorities concerned.

Orders for priced publications should be directed to the Sales Offices listed on the last page.

All orders should quote the full title, as well as the ISBN or ISSN where such a number precedes the prices in the catalogue.

Abbreviations and conventional signs

The text languages of publications are indicated by the following abbreviations:

DA	Danish	GA	Irish
DE	German	IT	Italian
GR	Greek	NL	Dutch
EN	English	ES	Spanish
FR	French	PT	Portuguese

A string of such symbols separated by diagonal strokes denotes a publication in which different language versions of the same text appear under one cover.

The abbreviation 'multi' indicates a publication with a mixed multilingual text.

Prices, which exclude any value-added tax which may be chargeable, are fixed in various currencies, using the following abbreviations:

BFR	Belgian franc	HFL	Dutch guilder
DKR	Danish crown	IRL	Irish pound
DM	German mark	LIT	Italian lira
DR	Greek drachma	PTA	Spanish peseta
ESC	Portuguese escudo	UKL	Pound sterling
FF	French franc	USD	US dollar

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