

Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES

Commission

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No 6 1983

Volume 16

The Bulletin of the European Communities reports on the activities of the Commission and the other Community institutions. It is edited by the Secretariat-General of the Commission (rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels) and published eleven times a year (one issue covers July and August) in the official Community languages Spanish and Portuguese.

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The following reference system is used: the first digit indicates the part number, the second digit the chapter number and the subsequent digit or digits the point number. Citations should therefore read as follows: Bull. EC 1-1979, point 1.1.3 or 2.2.36.

Supplements to the Bulletin are published in a separate series at irregular intervals. They contain official Commission material (e.g. communications to the Council, programmes, reports and proposals). The Supplements do not appear in Spanish and Portuguese.



Bulletin

OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

ECSC — EEC — EAEC
Commission of the European Communities
Secretariat-General
Brussels

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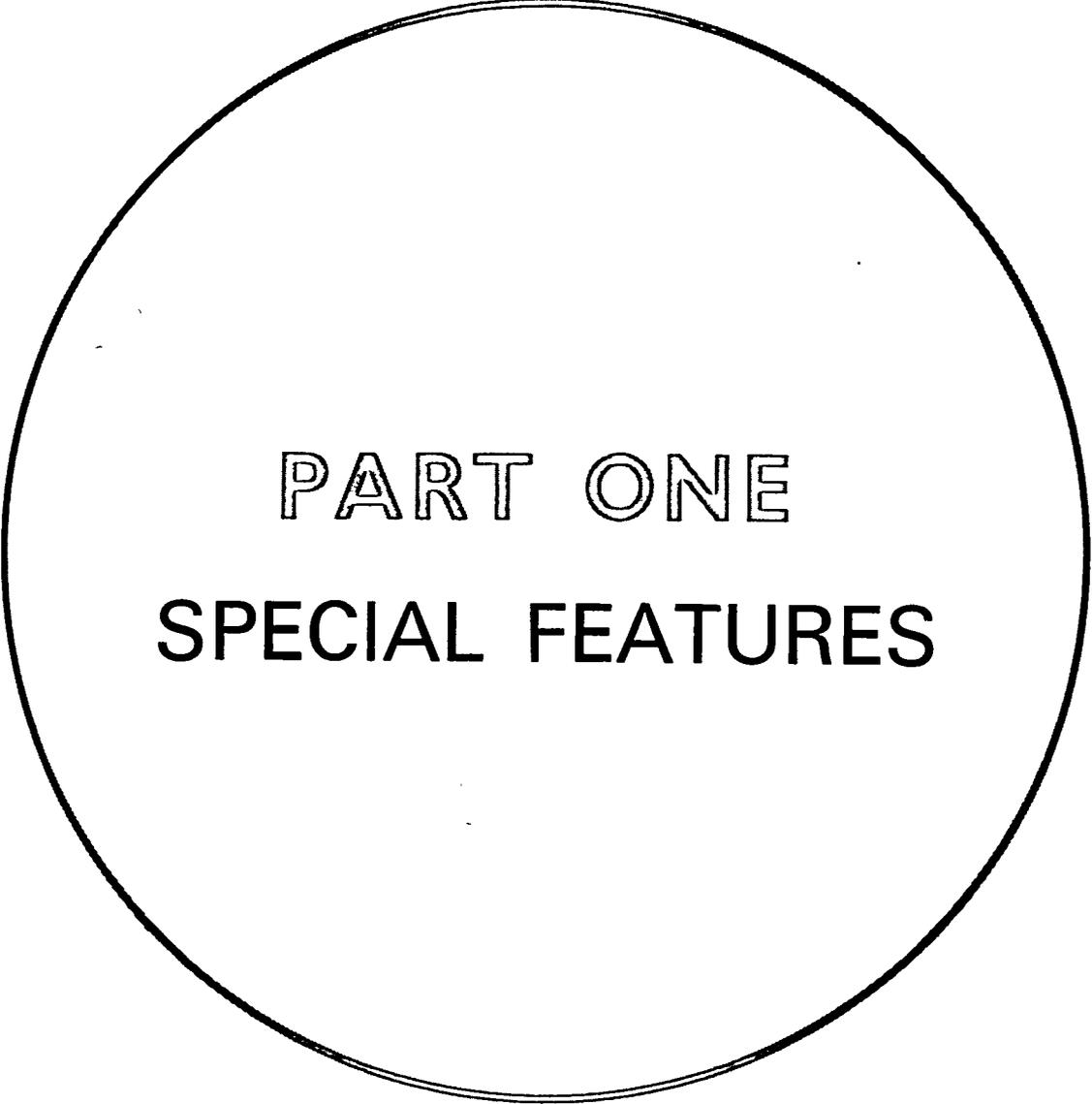
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PART ONE

SPECIAL FEATURES

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

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

1. Commission decisions on the Member States' programmes for restructuring the steel industry

1.1.1. As required by the aids code, on 29 June the Commission adopted its decisions on the Member States' plans for aids to the steel industry and on the accompanying restructuring programmes. These decisions derive from the powers conferred on the Commission and form an integral part of the Community's overall steel policy. They are significant for a number of reasons:

(i) First, they are the fruit of exhaustive consideration and analysis of a sector which has been the foundation of manufacturing industry and industrial society in Europe for almost a century.

(ii) Second, the decisions come at a time when the crisis sparked off in the steel industry by the far-reaching changes in the industrial map of the world and by the shifts in both the production structure and consumption pattern for steel products coincides with a far wider crisis.

(iii) Finally, the decisions fit into a policy which extends beyond the steel industry alone. The Commission proposals for aid from both the regional Fund and the Social Fund for areas afflicted by the steel crisis and the review of the criteria for applying Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty all follow the same line of action, based on the idea that the only means of finding a lasting solution to the steel crisis is to look beyond the steel industry, encourage alternative investment and, hence, create new jobs.

Commission statement

1.1.2. Once it had adopted the decisions called for by the aids code, the Commission issued a statement reading as follows:

'The Commission had until 30 June 1983 to authorize aids to the steel industry which satisfy the various conditions laid down in the aids code.

In keeping with the action pursued at Community level since 1977 with a view to guaranteeing the continued existence of a viable steel industry in the European Community based on competitive firms, the Commission reaffirms that this objective can

be attained by 31 December 1985 to the extent that:

(i) restructuring will make it possible to ensure that supply is more in line with demand, entailing a reduction (agreed upon in Elsinore in November 1982) of some 30 million tonnes of production capacity (hot-rolled products);

(ii) market control measures will make it possible to maintain the present balance as a result of an extension of the Article 58 arrangements until the end of December 1985.

This is the framework within which the Commission has taken its decisions on aid today.

After receiving information and proposals from the various Governments and examining them meticulously, the Commission has decided upon the reduction in capacity needed in each Member State. For the EEC as a whole, a total of at least 26.7 million tonnes is involved.

In the knowledge that there are still problems of viability, where certain firms are concerned, and that the consequences of 'synergy' cannot be taken into account at this stage, the Commission considers that a reduction of the order of 30 million tonnes is necessary.

Unfortunately, certain sacrifices will have to be made in order to bring about a return to viability. The Commission strongly urges the Council to approve, at the earliest possible opportunity, the requisite measures which it has proposed in the social field and in order to encourage new activities in the steel areas.

The Commission has based its decisions on a number of considerations applying to each restructuring programme:

(i) the relationship between the scale of the aid and the closing-down of production capacity;

(ii) the advantage derived by firms from the existence of the Community policy of market control under Article 58;

(ii) the need for an all-round, balanced effort to bring supply into line with demand.'

Objectives and content of the Commission decisions

1.1.3. Despite the endeavours of the Member States and of the Community over the last six years, production capacity for crude steel (198 million tonnes in 1981) is still over 30

million tonnes higher than required, while the capacity utilization rate slipped from 80% in 1974 to below 60% in 1981. The main reason for this increasing imbalance between supply and demand in recent years is the impact of the recession, compounded by increased output from plant introduced in the late 1960s. At the same time appreciable productivity improvements have more than cancelled out the gains attained by the closures. However, although there is little hope of any growth in demand for steel in the next few years—and certainly not at the rates observed until the beginning of the 1970s—further productivity improvements must be made if the Community's objectives with regard to the competitiveness of the industry are to be achieved.

This twofold objective, of restoring the financial balance and improving the competitive position of the industry—both of which will entail bringing production capacity more closely into line with demand—will be a decisive factor when the Commission comes to carry out its systematic examination of the investment plans submitted to it and, where appropriate, to decide whether to grant loans under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty.

1.1.4. These were also the objectives sought by the Commission when on 7 August 1981,¹ with the assent of the Council,² it adopted the Decision establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry (more commonly known as the 'aids code'), which has since become the basic legal instrument for ensuring genuine restructuring of the steel industry. In essence, aid may be granted only if the recipient undertaking or group of undertakings 'is engaged in the implementation of a systematic and specific restructuring programme ... capable of restoring its competitiveness and of making it financially viable ... under normal market conditions'. What is more, the programme must result in an overall reduction in the production capacity of the recipient(s) and lead to no increase in production capacity for products for which there is no growth market. Finally, as for the amount and scale of the aids, the aids must be phased out by 1985 and must not give rise to distortion of competition nor effect trading

conditions in a manner contrary to the common interest. The national aid plans and the restructuring programmes which went with them were to be notified to the Commission by 30 September 1982, in time for the Commission to take its final decisions before 1 July 1983.

1.1.5. The Commission took its decisions by the prescribed deadline, specifying the conditions of compatibility between the various types of aid—i.e. investment aids, aids for closures, aids for continued operation, aids for research and development, and emergency aids—and laying down a timetable for phasing them all out.

Table 1 indicates the effort which each Member State has been called on to make. Now the Member State must adopt measures to restructure their steel industry in line with these decisions and inform the Commission thereof by January 1984 at the latest. It is for the Member States to decide which firms must close down capacities; in the light of the proposals put to it the Commission will then decide whether to release the aids for the restructuring.

General context for the restructuring policy

Measures taken within the Community

1.1.6. The anti-crisis plan devised by the Commission began to take shape in 1977.³ Initially, it took the form of short-term measures to redress steel price levels on the European market (e.g. the introduction of voluntary quarterly supply and production targets on the part of European producers, and of minimum prices and guidance prices on the Community market), though these subsequently made way for longer-term action where the aim was to restore the position of Europe's steel industry by restructuring its production capacity.

¹ OJ L 228, 13.8.1981.

² Bull. EC 6-1981, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3.

³ Eleventh General Report, points 148 to 151.

Table 1 — *Steel industry — Commission decisions of 29 June 1983*
Restructuring called for by Member State

1	Maximum possible production in 1980		Closures made and capacity reductions volunteered by Member States since 1980	Contribution called for by Commission		Total (4 + 5)
	'000 t	%		'000 t	'000 t	
	2	3	4	5	6	
Germany (FR)	53 117	31.6	4 810	1 200	6 010 ¹ (11.3)	
Belgium	16 028	9.5	1 705	1 400	3 105 (19.4)	
Denmark	941	0.6	66	—	66 (7.0)	
France	26 869	15.9	4 681	630	5 311 (19.7)	
United Kingdom	22 840	13.5	4 000	500	4 500 (19.7)	
Italy	36 294	21.5	2 374	3 460	5 834 (16.1)	
Ireland	(57) ²		—	—	—	
Luxembourg	5 215	3.1	550	410	960 (18.4)	
Netherlands	7 297	4.3	250	700	950 (13.0)	
Greece ³	—	—	—	—	—	
Community	168 601	100.0	18 436	8 300	26 736	

¹ Excluding one particular company.

² No detailed figures can be given from the information on which the Commission based its decision.

³ No figures available since Greece was not in the Community in 1980.

1.1.7. With a few minor changes the system was extended or renewed in December 1978¹ and the again in December 1979.² However, it proved so difficult to obtain voluntary commitments to limit production of certain steel products from the major steelmakers that in October 1980 the Commission—acting after consultations with the ECSC Consultative Committee and with the assent of the Council—imposed mandatory quarterly production quotas for crude steel and certain rolled products, on the basis of Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty.³

1.1.8. In support of these measures the Commission also took vigorous action on product prices and made steel distributors subject to the same pricing rules as steel-makers.⁴ Also, it laid down guidelines concerning the price increases required for specific steel products. These have been widely observed, particularly in recent months.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1978, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

³ Bull. EC 10-1980, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.9.

⁴ Fifteenth General Report, points 161 and 162.

1.1.9. In 1983 the Commission found that the measures introduced in 1980 (and sustained ever since) had brought greater stability to the market and made prices firmer. However, since the crucial problems facing the steel industry remain basically the same—substantial overcapacity, demand on the Community market even lower than in 1982 and imbalance between supply and demand on the world market as well—in May the Commission asked the Council for its assent to a further extension of the system from 1 July to the end of 1985, the date by which the Member States are to have accomplished their restructuring programmes.¹ The Council replied that two preconditions remained to be satisfied before it could give its assent—talks must be held with members of the industry from the Member States and the Commission must take its decisions on the restructuring programmes.²

1.1.10. All these measures incorporate a social element, as agreed by the Council in June 1981.³ This takes the form of a contribution from the Community towards payments made by the Member States to finance the early retirement and short-time working envisaged in their national restructuring programmes.⁴

These measures take their place alongside the conventional forms of aid—namely, conversion loans to help find new jobs for ex-ECSC workers and non-repayable social aids. In March⁵ this year the Commission sent to the Council, for endorsement of the financial aspects, a programme to expand the social side of the steel plan. Its main aims—apart from continuing the social plan—are to redeploy former steelworkers in other industries and to reduce working time.

External measures

1.1.11. To be effective, these measures within the Community must be matched by parallel external measures to prevent a surge in imports from jeopardizing the success of the endeavours to control the quantities on the market. Far from practising protectionism, this is simply a move to ensure that the rewards for the discipline shown by European

producers are not put at risk by uncontrolled imports. Accordingly, a system for monitoring imports of certain ECSC products, based on an automatic import licensing system, has been in operation within the Community since 1977.⁶

Since 1 January 1978 the Commission has also regularly been publishing base import prices for the majority of iron and steel products;⁷ these prices are set under the anti-dumping code and based on the lowest normal costs in the steel-supplying countries where normal conditions of competition prevail. They then serve as the reference prices for activating the Community's defensive measures against dumping.

1.1.12. In addition, in November 1977 the leading industrialized countries arrived at a consensus under OECD auspices in Paris. This laid the foundation for the Commission to negotiate, with the assent of the Council, arrangements guaranteeing countries among the Community's leading steel suppliers their traditional share of the Community market. These arrangements first came into operation at the start of 1978⁷ and have been renewed every year since.⁸ They take account of demand trends on the Community market and require the supplying countries to observe price discipline and to work towards preserving traditional patterns of trade. Finally, in 1982 the Community concluded an arrangement with the USA, thereby putting an end to the steel war between American and European producers.⁹

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.31.

² Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

³ Bull. EC 6-1981, point 1.4.1.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.57.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.53; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.36.

⁶ Eleventh General report, point 498.

⁷ Twelfth General Report, point 453.

⁸ Thirteenth General Report, point 501; Fourteenth General Report, point 565; Fifteenth General Report, point 645; Sixteenth General Report, point 634.

⁹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3.

2. Energy strategy: a five-year programme

1.2.1. The main points of a five-year programme¹ transmitted by the Commission to the Council on 7 June—following a request made on 21 April²—are that we should learn the lessons of the past³ where our policies on the more efficient use of energy and security of supplies are concerned. The programme is part of a strategy⁴ which confirms the energy guidelines and objectives adopted on earlier occasions.⁵

A strategy built into the programme

1.2.2. The new strategy shows that the Commission is prepared to adapt Community action to changes in the energy sector. The Commission has two premises, namely that the European Community is still vulnerable as regards energy supplies and that the Community dimension is still not being properly capitalized upon. The Commission therefore proposes that Community action be stepped up in all areas affecting energy by means of a five-year programme that will also extend and intensify any action already begun.

1.2.3. The communication on strategy includes an evaluation of progress made so far in realizing the Community's energy objectives for 1990 and an analysis of the changes needed in Community action to achieve these objectives.

The conclusions of the analysis confirm the need to:

- (i) provide incentives for investments in the efficient use of energy;
- (ii) establish coherent pricing systems;
- (iii) increase efforts in research, development and demonstration projects;
- (iv) promote the use of solid fuels;
- (v) extend nuclear programmes;
- (vi) increase the security of supplies of natural gas;
- (vii) ensure a satisfactory level of compulsory stocks of crude oil and oil products.

1.2.4. Some of the details of implementation in this Commission approach are original, notably the fact that:

(i) the programme is limited to a specified period;

(ii) there is a clear division between action to be undertaken by the Community and that left to the Member States on the basis of the value added of the first compared with the second;

(iii) the intention is to finance the system without affecting more than marginally either the relative costs of the different sources of energy or energy prices themselves.

Energy and energy research in the Community: a five-year programme of action

1.2.5. On 21 April this year the Council (Energy) stressed the importance attaching to the attainment of the Community's 1990 energy objectives and asked the Commission to analyse the progress being made and to report back to it. The Commission's conclusion is that present policies will not be sufficient to attain these objectives in a new context where lower oil prices have taken some of the initial steam out of the energy strategy. The Commission accordingly sent two communications to the Council in June, one on Community energy strategy⁴ and the other setting out a five-year action programme for energy,¹ accompanied by proposals for a balanced policy for solid fuels and a communication on the refining industry.

Contents of the programme

1.2.6. This new programme will not be simply a set of new actions. It will be a mixture of measures already approved at Community level, with any necessary amplifi-

¹ COM(83)315 final.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, points 2.1.140 and 2.1.142.

³ OJ C 175, 14.7.1980; Bull. EC 6-1980, point 2.1.140. OJ C 149, 18.6.1980; Bull. RV 5-1980, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5; Bull. EC 4-1980, point 1.1.8.

⁴ COM(83)305 final.

⁵ Bull. EC 9-1981, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

cations, measures already proposed but not adopted, and entirely new measures.

The more efficient use of energy

1.2.7. To begin with the question of financing, the Commission, after a detailed examination in February 1982 of the obstacles encountered by this type of investment,¹ sent the Council a proposal for a Regulation on the payment of financial incentives in the form of interest rate rebates in support of certain categories of investment.² The work of the Council's committees³ demonstrated that there was every justification for the proposal and that it could be extended to other energy sectors and be made to provide for a system of direct aids.

1.2.8. Where technology itself is concerned, proposals on multiannual financial support for demonstration projects in the field of energy-saving and alternative sources of energy are now before the Council.⁴ In addition, research and development in this sector will play an important part in the non-nuclear energy programme submitted to the Council in June.⁵

1.2.9. Thirdly, the five-year programme is intended as a framework for drawing up and adopting measures to facilitate the penetration of the market by electricity, an energy carrier which may be generated on a nuclear or solid fuel basis and is becoming a much more economic and reliable form of energy. Market penetration by electricity will necessarily require the closer interconnection of the Community's electricity distribution networks.

Prospecting

1.2.10. The Commission is proposing that further oil and gas prospecting activity should be included in the five-year programme. This should include seismic exploration and drilling to obtain geological data for new areas and determine whether there are any oil-bearing strata. The uranium prospecting programme has been losing momentum in the last few years and the Commission considers that it should be given new impetus. The programme of studies on proven reserves and

estimated resources in the Member States will be continued, but action will be extended to cover more specific objectives.

A more balanced development of supplies

1.2.11. The main thrust of the action must be on solid fuels and nuclear energy as the main oil substitutes, on natural gas—for which specific question of flexibility and security arise—and on alternative energy sources as a major contribution to the long-term supply of the Community.

1.2.12. The situation as regards the consumption of solid fuels is unsatisfactory. Any action by the Community aimed at diversifying energy supplies⁶ should develop along the following lines:

- (i) all technology enabling solid fuels to be used in new, cleaner and more effective ways, and means of converting solid fuels—by gasification and liquefaction—should be investigated and improved;
- (ii) matters affecting the environment, whether nationally or across frontiers, should be investigated;
- (iii) the Community's internal coal trade should be expanded to facilitate the marketing of the stocks held;
- (iv) it should be our constant objective to reduce costs in the coal industry.

1.2.13. In the field of nuclear energy, pilot projects on the storage of radioactive waste should be undertaken at Community level. Community action would also seem to be essential for improving nuclear safety⁷ and dealing with the many problems raised by the decommissioning of nuclear power plant.⁸

¹ Bull. EC 2-1982, points 1.2.2 to 1.2.6.

² Point 2.1.233; OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91.

³ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.129; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.143.

⁴ Point 2.1.238.

⁵ Point 2.1.262.

⁶ OJ C 105, 26.4.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, points 1.2.8 to 1.2.11.

⁷ Point 2.1.263; COM(83)299 final.

⁸ Point 2.1.265; COM(83)298 final.

1.2.14. The large amount of imported natural gas consumed in the Community requires the development of a more flexible supply system.¹ This could be achieved by encouraging greater integration of the delivery systems and by creating strategic stocks to be held jointly by several countries.

1.2.15. Where alternative energy sources are concerned, the communication reminds us that the Community plays an essential role in R & D.²

Proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy

1.2.16. On 14 June the Commission sent the Council a communication with a group of proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy.³ In the Commission's view, the central idea of the communication on the five-year programme (namely to optimize the use of physical and financial resources at Community level) applies particularly to the solid fuels sector. This communication is the result of the Council's request to the Commission at the 21 April Council meeting⁴ (which took up the line of discussion followed at the informal meeting of Energy Ministers in Copenhagen on 16 December 1982⁵ and used as its basis the programme of work sent by the Commission to the Council on 14 February⁶) to concentrate on four factors which would determine the future of solid fuels,⁴ i.e.:

- (i) identifying the obstacles to greater use of solid fuels;
- (ii) determining in what way R & D can help to increase consumption of solid fuels;
- (iii) analysing what influence (under satisfactory economic conditions) Community production will have on the security of energy supplies;
- (iv) assessing what the Community can do to help overcome the social problems.

The Commission examines each of these four questions in turn and discusses the measures it has already proposed⁷ and those it will be proposing. These concern support for investment in the solid fuels sector and aid for running down coal stocks.

1.2.17. Under Article 235 of the EEC Treaty the Commission is also proposing that non-repayable subsidies be granted for investment aimed at increasing productivity in the most promising coal mines and increasing lignite and peat production capacity. These subsidies could represent up to 25% of the total investment cost. Provision is made for setting aside 300 million ECU per year for this action in the Community budget over a period of five years beginning in 1984. Furthermore, where the modernization of mines also leads to a rapid reduction of coal stocks, the Commission proposes that extra subsidies be granted. Here the general aim is to reduce the level of stocks—at present excessively high—to a more normal level. Provision is made for setting aside 100 million ECU a year in the Community budget for a period of three years beginning in 1984.

Oil refining in the Community

1.2.18. In another communication,⁸ the Commission describes the present situation in the Community's oil refining industry and recommends a further reduction in existing primary capacities. The communication also addresses itself to new moves such as the trend for producing countries to buy back refining and distribution installations in the Community. The Commission calls on the Council to approve the continuation of the Community's present policy in the industry and to take note of the fact that the Commission will continue to monitor developments closely.

Cost of the programme

1.2.19. The Commission considers that the action programme it is submitting to the Member States for analysis should involve

¹ Bull. EC 2-1982, points 1.2.12 to 1.2.14.

² Point 2.1.262.

³ COM(83)309 final.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.147.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.169.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.133.

⁷ OJ C 105, 26.4.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.148; OJ C 343, 31.12.1982; OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91.

⁸ COM(83)304 final.

expenditure of some 1 500 to 2 000 million ECU per year, once the system has reached top speed (i.e. between 1986 and 1987). This should be compared with the foreseeable annual outlay of the 10 Member States taken as a whole in covering their energy consumption—some 230 000 million ECU.

In the preliminary draft budget for 1984 the Commission has proposed that 769 million ECU be set aside for energy and 177 million for energy research and development (excluding fusion).

Financing the programme

1.2.20. The programme could be financed by the Community's own resources subject to the Council accepting the Commission's proposals on the future financing of the Community. As an alternative, the Commission will shortly be expanding its reflections on the possibility of levying a tax on energy consumption. In the light of this work, and depending on the reaction of the Council and Parliament, the Commission will go into the possibility of making formal proposals for such a tax.

3. Procedures for informing and consulting the employees of undertakings with complex structures, in particular transnational undertakings — The Commission amends its 1980 proposal

1.3.1. In June the Commission approved an amended proposal for a Directive on workers' information and consultation rights.¹ This measure, more commonly known as the 'Vredeling Directive', is the revised version of a proposal first presented by the Commission in October 1980.² The new version is the outcome of extensive consultations with industry and takes account of Parliament's opinion on the initial proposal.³

Starting point of the 1980 proposal, and its major rationale, is that the information and consultation rights of workers are limited to the local level, and thus no longer correspond to the reality of corporate decision-making, which now often takes place at a higher, or group, level and in the case of transnational operations often in a country other than the one where workers are seeking information or consultation.

Main changes vis-à-vis the initial proposal

1.3.2. The structure of the Directive has been simplified by merging the old Sections II and III, which dealt separately with multinationals and 'complex undertakings' operating within one Member State. As redrafted, the Articles of the proposed Directive apply equally to both situations without the need for duplication. The presentation of the text has also been improved by the addition of a more detailed preamble which takes account of recent developments in Community labour and

¹ COM(83)292 final; Supplement 2/83—Bull. EC (in preparation).

² OJ C 297, 15.11.1980; Supplement 3/80—Bull. EC.

³ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

company legislation. In particular, the revised text profits from the recent adoption of the seventh company law Directive (on consolidated accounts)¹ for the definition of 'parent undertaking' (no longer referred to as the 'dominant' undertaking) and defines the concept of an establishment 'not legally independent of the undertaking'.

1.3.3. The amended proposal lays the emphasis on information and consultation rights for the employees of any 'subsidiary in the Community when a total of at least 1 000 workers is employed in the Community by the parent undertaking and its subsidiaries taken as a whole'. The Directive's field of application has therefore been narrowed as compared with the initial proposal; this is in line with Parliament's wishes.

1.3.4. On information, the amended proposal provides that the management of the parent company should transmit to the management of each of its subsidiaries in the Community information of both a general and a sectorally specific nature on: the company's structure; its economic and financial situation; the probable development of the business, production and sales; the employment situation and probable trends; and investment prospects (the 1980 proposal referred to 'production and investment programmes').

The revised version differs from the 1980 proposal in using a simplified list of information to be supplied; in requiring information to be passed annually rather than six-monthly; in adding a requirement for specific information on a particular sector of production or geographical area; in specifying that the right to approach the parent undertaking for information not received from the subsidiary is limited to an 'approach in writing'; and in limiting the information to be passed to take account of the need for secrecy.² As in the original proposal, the Member States are required to provide appropriate penalties for failure to comply with the Directive.

1.3.5. On consultation, the new proposal establishes the procedures to be followed where consultation is made necessary by a

proposed decision of a parent undertaking 'which is liable to have serious consequences for the interests of the employees of its subsidiaries in the Community'. The new text extends the list of circumstances requiring consultation, provides for the exclusion of secret information in the same terms as apply to the procedure for informing workers and establishes a specific consultation procedure to come into play where information has been withheld on grounds of secrecy.

Finally, the new proposal revises the procedure to be followed during the period set for the delivery of an opinion (now a minimum of 30 days rather than 40 days from the communication of the required information) so as to make it clear that the proposed decision may not be implemented within this 'given period' unless and until the opinion of the employees' representatives has been received. This provision replaces the 'by-pass' provision in the 1980 proposal allowing workers to open consultations direct with the management of the parent undertaking. The tribunal procedures—seen by Parliament as an alternative system of redress—are intended chiefly to ensure that the management of the subsidiary fulfils its obligations *vis-à-vis* employees: there is no provision for extending the 'given period' from the date on which the required information is communicated.

As in the case of the procedure for informing employees, the Member States are required to provide appropriate penalties for failure to comply with the obligations laid down in the Directive.

1.3.6. It is important to note that in the case of both information and consultation procedures the amended proposal provides for a lower limit on the size of the subsidiary or establishment which is both flexible and optional (in place of the fixed threshold of 100 workers) and also for the possibility of informing and consulting workers directly.

¹ OJ L 193, 18.7.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, points 2.1.26 to 2.1.30.

² Point 1.3.7.

1.3.7. To take account of the views expressed by Parliament, the provisions on secrecy and confidentiality have been expanded. Management may, in the context of both information and consultation procedures, withhold certain secret information and require employees to treat information which has been given to them as confidential. The amended proposal defines secret information as material which, if disclosed, could 'substan-

tially damage the undertaking's interests' and retains the original proposal's provision that disputes concerning the secret character of any information withheld are to be settled by a tribunal or other competent national authority. But even when facts are secret, workers' representatives must still be informed and consulted before any decision is carried out which directly affects employment or working conditions.

4. A new Community strategy in the field of vocational training

First Joint Council of Ministers of Employment and Education

1.4.1. The first ever Joint Council meeting of Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs and Ministers for Education, which was held in Luxembourg on 3 June, adopted a new Community strategy for the development of vocational training in the 1980s and guidelines regarding the preparation of young people for adult and working life.

1.4.2. In nearly all Member States responsibility for vocational training, at the interface between education and employment policy, has for years been shared between a range of different authorities, whose objectives and methods of operation did not always coincide. Since the beginning of the economic recession and the continuing rise in unemployment, especially among young people, the division of responsibilities in the area of vocational training has appeared increasingly arbitrary or artificial. Closer cooperation between manpower and education authorities in particular has developed, especially in connec-

tion with initiatives to improve the transition of young people from school to working life.

In 1981, as a reflection of the changes slowly taking place in the Community, the Commission decided to confer responsibility for employment, social affairs and education on a single member of the Commission and a single administrative unit.

The general framework outlined by the Joint Council

1.4.3. Weaving together the various strands of Community activity in the field of vocational training, the Commission produced—in a communication accompanied by a draft Council resolution¹—a broad framework for the further development of vocational training policy and specific guidelines for action which would take account of the economic, social and demographic changes likely to affect the Member States during the 1980s.

In adopting a joint resolution, the Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs and

¹ OJ C 306, 23.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.31

Ministers for education meeting within the Council emphasized the role of training both as an essential aspect of strategy for job creation and economic adjustment and as an instrument for promoting equal opportunities in society.

1.4.4. Perhaps the most significant aspect of this resolution is the commitment to provide within the next five years, for all young people who so wish, a minimum period of basic training after they have completed their compulsory schooling. This commitment is based broadly on the concept of a 'social guarantee' put forward by the Commission. It is set in the wider context of continuing education endeavours aimed mainly at improving basic skills among the long-term unemployed, supporting positive measures for women and promoting local job-creation initiatives.

Specific measures

1.4.5. To complement the broad Community strategy for action on vocational training, three more specific programmes were adopted by the Ministers.¹

1.4.6. The first programme, which deals with education and the new technologies, puts the emphasis on sharing between Member States the experience gained in familiarizing young people—while they are still at school—with the new information technologies and their effects.

1.4.7. The priority themes of the second programme, which deals with the relations between these new technologies and vocational training, are the assessment of the potential of these technologies and their impact on small and medium-sized businesses, as well as on the training and retraining of young people, women and skilled workers affected by industrial restructuring.

1.4.8. The third programme is concerned with the actual transition from school to working life. On the basis of the extremely positive outcome of the first programme of pilot projects, launched by the Ministers of Education in 1976,² a series of specific

guidelines for future policy were adopted, this time by the Ministers of Employment and Education acting together. These guidelines place particular emphasis on coordination at national, regional and local level and on liaison between schools and the local community as the preconditions for providing effective vocational guidance for young people during compulsory schooling. The second programme,³ involving 30 new projects to be launched during 1983, will further develop these themes particularly in the light of the now dramatic youth unemployment situation.

Financial aspects

1.4.9. While the Ministers of Education and Employment were adopting this new stance, the Council also had the task of redefining the tasks and operation of the European Social Funds.⁴

At their meeting on 2 June, the Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs agreed on a joint position with regard to the review of the Fund, which is the Community's main financial instrument for supporting vocational training and employment measures in the Member States. The Council's position, still to be finalized in a conciliation procedure with Parliament, is of particular significance in that it expresses a determination on the part of the Member States to ensure that Social Fund intervention reflects both the scale and nature of their new commitments in respect of vocational training.

The Ministers agreed that not less than 75% of Fund resources should be allocated to young people under the age of 25, thereby confirming an existing trend in the Fund's activities. Up to now, however, the Fund has been precluded from financing the initial training of young people immediately after completion of their compulsory schooling. This restriction should now be lifted.

¹ Points 2.1.80 to 2.1.82.

² OJ C 308, 30.12.1976; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.42; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.35.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.62; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.66.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

Fund intervention in general should be able in future to reflect much more closely the priorities set out in the Community action programmes and, in particular, assist in the implementation of innovatory projects, the assessment of measures and the dissemination of information.

1.4.10. The real impact of these endeavours affecting both policy development and financial intervention, will begin to be felt in the Member States from next year onwards. For the present, however, they serve to demonstrate that progress in areas of social policy can still be made at Community level despite the economic recession.

5. The Stuttgart European Council

1.5.1. The European Council met in Stuttgart from 17 to 19 June to consider problems that have been blocking the Community for several years—enlargement, financing, adapting the common agricultural policy, new policies.

The Stuttgart meeting was chaired by Mr Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Commission was represented by Mr Thorn and Mr Ortoli.

The 10 Heads of State or Government devoted their efforts to producing a coherent working programme designed to secure general agreement at the next meeting of the European Council in Athens. All the main issues are still on the agenda. The Ten adopted a Declaration to the effect that they are ready to initiate comprehensive negotiations on the future of the Community, the focal point of which will be the question of how its financial resources are to be augmented. At the same time, the Member States will have to determine whether the present common policies—the common agricultural policy first and foremost—can be modernized to make them both more effective and less costly. In undertaking this 'broad action to ensure the relaunch of the European Community', the Ten chose to bring in a 'special emergency procedure': special Council meetings of Foreign Ministers and Finance Ministers will be held, with Ministers of Agriculture and others attending when appropriate.

The Heads of State or Government also agreed—in adopting the declaration on the future financing of the Community—to give the United Kingdom compensation of 750 million ECU for 1983.

Besides the 'conclusions of the Presidency' concerning problems such as economic recovery, employment of young people, internal market, steel policy, transport policy, environment, UNCTAD VI and the Greek memorandum, there were separate conclusions on international issues dealt with in political cooperation (Poland, the CSCE, the Middle East and Central America).

Finally, the Heads of State or Government and the Foreign Ministers of the Ten signed the Solemn Declaration on European Union.²

The Commission had devoted much time and thought to preparations for the European Council. Besides the regular communication on the economic and social situation, it had put up papers on the prospects for developing new policies, new guidelines for the development of the common agricultural policy,³ acid rain,⁴ biotechnology and telecommunications.⁵

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.5.1 to 1.5.10.

² Point 1.6.1 *et seq.*

³ Point 2.1.135.

⁴ Point 2.1.122.

⁵ Points 2.1.41 and 2.1.42.

Declaration of the European Council

1.5.2. At a time when the European Community is faced with enormous social and economic challenges and is in the process of negotiating a third enlargement ten years after the first accession, the European Council has decided to take broad action to ensure the relaunch of the European Community.

In the course of the coming six months a major negotiation will take place to tackle the most pressing problems facing the Community so as to provide a solid basis for the further dynamic development of the Community over the remainder of the present decade.

With regard to the importance, complexity and linkage of the problems, negotiations will be started under a special emergency procedure. For this purpose special Council sessions will take place at the level of Foreign Ministers and Finance Ministers; where necessary other Ministers will also participate, especially Ministers of Agriculture. State Secretaries may assist the Ministers.

The result of the negotiation will be submitted to the European Council meeting in Athens on 6 December 1983.

The negotiation will cover the subjects mentioned in the conclusions of the European Council of 21 and 22 March 1983: the future financing of the Community, the development of Community policies, the issues relating to enlargement, particular problems of certain Member States in the budget field and in other fields and the need for greater budgetary discipline.

Decisions will be taken in common on all these questions at the end.

The negotiation will aim at examining all the existing policies with particular attention to the common agricultural policy.

The examination of policies will take place with the purpose on the one hand of modernizing and making more effective the existing policies and to determine the priority areas for new Community action, and on the other hand to ensure that policies are cost effective and that economies are made wherever possible.

The negotiation will in addition aim at a more balanced and equitable situation, also in financial terms from the point of view of the interests of the different Member States and of the Community as a whole.

The negotiation will be based on the following guidelines:

The common agricultural policy

1.5.3. The basic principles of the common agricultural policy will be observed in keeping

with the objectives set forth in Article 39 of the Treaty establishing the EEC. The common agricultural policy must be adapted to the situation facing the Community in the foreseeable future, in order that it can fulfil its aim in a more coherent manner.

The following questions will in particular be examined:

- price policy;
- thresholds for guarantees, in relation to objectives for production;
- coresponsibility of producers;
- intervention arrangements;
- arrangements on export refunds;;
- substitutes and Community preferences;
- compensatory amounts;
- aids and premium arrangements;
- internal barriers to trade;
- type and size of farms, and particular situations of the various categories of farmers;
- the need for strict financial guidelines;
- external agricultural policy;
- special problems arising in certain regions, such as in the Mediterranean regions, in mountain areas or other regions at a disadvantage because of natural or economic features.

The examination will result *inter alia* in concrete steps compatible with market conditions being taken to ensure effective control of agricultural expenditure by making full use of available possibilities and examining all market organizations.

All Member States must contribute to achieving the savings.

Proposals will be submitted by the Commission by 1 August 1983.

The European Council has taken note of the communications of the Commission on integrated Mediterranean programmes, which aim in particular at modernizing Mediterranean agriculture and its better integration into the general economy. It asks the Council to examine them as soon as the Commission's proposals are submitted.

Other policies

Development of policies and new Community action

1.5.4. The European Council is determined to develop and make more effective Community action in research, innovation and the new

technologies with a view to facilitating cooperation between enterprises. On the basis of proposals by the Commission, decisions will be taken on new Community actions making use of the Community dimension to improve the international competitiveness of enterprises.

Negotiations on certain projects of an exemplary nature, e.g. the Esprit programme, should be concluded as soon as possible. Likewise, concrete progress should be made towards uniform standards and norms.

The protection of the environment, employment policy, in particular concerning young people, and social policy will be given equally high priority.

Budgetary discipline

1.5.5. Expenditure must also be controlled, in cooperation with the European Parliament, outside the agricultural sector. Policies are to be developed within the bounds of financial feasibility and supplemented through new actions, which must be incorporated in an economically suitable way into Community policies.

By 1 August 1983 the Commission will present a report with proposals for increasing the effectiveness of the Community's structural funds (the Regional Fund, the Social Fund and the Guidance Section of the EAGGF). It will concentrate on a more consistent coordination of policies to avoid duplication of effort and expenditure and to achieve greater budgetary discipline.

On the basis of this report, the policies in question will be reviewed and priorities determined on the basis of urgency and importance.

Own resources and particular problems of certain Member States

1.5.6. The objective is:

(i) to secure the financing of Community policies and actions and their further development over a longer period of time taking into account the additional financial requirements which would flow from the accession of Spain and Portugal, while exhausting all possibilities for savings;

(ii) to agree measures which, taken as a whole, will avoid the constantly recurrent problems between the Member States over the financial consequences of the Community's budget and its financing; all appropriate ways and means will be examined to this end, in particular the proposal made by the Commission and the suggestions of certain Member States with a view to ensuring equitable financial situations for all Member States.

On the basis of the conclusions reached on development of policies, improving budgetary discipline and the examination of the financial system, the extent and timing of the Community's requirements in terms of own resources will be determined.

Sound financial management

1.5.7. The Court of Auditors of the European Communities will be asked to review the sound financial management of Community activities and to submit a report by the end of 1983. This report will be followed up in the Court's Annual Reports.

Enlargement

1.5.8. The accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal will be pursued with the objective of concluding them, so that the accession Treaties can be submitted for ratification when the result of the negotiation concerning the future financing of the Community is submitted.

Conclusions of the European Council

Compensation to the United Kingdom for 1983

1.5.9. The European Council, following the decision taken at its meeting on 21 and 22 March 1983 regarding compensation to the United Kingdom for 1983, agreed on the amount of 750 million ECU net for this purpose. Consequential figures will be incorporated in the draft Community budget for 1984.

This decision was taken in the context of the adoption of the declaration on the future financing of the Community.

Conclusions of the Presidency on the work of the European Council

Economic recovery

1.5.10. The European Council considers that the prospects for sustained and non-inflationary economic recovery should be reinforced by developing and defining more precisely the action initiated Community-wide, and thus providing the Community's contribution to the implementation of guidelines adopted by the OECD Council of Ministers.

In this context the need to sustain the effort to promote the level of employment and productive investment was emphasized.

The European Council therefore requests the Commission, within the coming months:

- (i) to prepare a detailed analysis of the nature and extent of the recovery and what the authorities are already doing to support, consolidate and accelerate it;
- (ii) to make full use of Community financial instruments in a coordinated manner to sustain and consolidate the economic recovery;
- (iii) on this basis, to indicate what new factors the Member States and the Community can bring forward to underpin the recovery, as and when necessary.

Youth employment

1.5.11. The European Council expresses its profound anxiety in the face of a situation where more than 4.5 million young people in the Community are without jobs, including more than one and a half million who have been unemployed for more than a year.

It takes note of the importance of the Member States embarking upon sustained action in this area forthwith.

It welcomes with satisfaction the decisions of the Council on the reform of the European Social Fund, which will allow a high degree of priority to be given to the fight against youth unemployment.

The resources of the Fund will be directed to those countries and regions where unemployment, and in particular youth unemployment, is at its highest.

It further welcomes the resolutions on vocational training in the 1980s and on vocational training measures in relation to the introduction of new information technologies.

The European Council expects of these Community measures as speedy and lasting an effect as possible and stresses how important it is that the Member States should, as a concomitant measure, persevere in the efforts that they themselves have undertaken.

It calls upon the competent Community bodies actively to pursue consideration of the Commission's communication on the promotion of youth employment together with the memorandum on the reduction and readjustment of working time.

Internal market

1.5.12. The European Council notes that progress has been made in the strengthening of the internal market since the mandate given at Copenhagen, particularly on information procedures for standards, which has been identified as a key question, and on company law (with the adoption of the seventh Directive on consolidated accounts).

It regrets, however, that further progress on the other key questions (certification for third country products and frontier formalities) has not yet been forthcoming.

It in particular calls on the Council at its session of 21 June to make every effort to settle as many of the outstanding internal market matters as possible, as well as the equally relevant question of the reinforcement of the trade policy instruments. Appropriately constructive national positions will be worked out so that this aim is achieved.

Completion of the internal market must remain a priority aim; the measures decided at Copenhagen constitute only a first step in this direction; work must therefore continue *inter alia* on the removal of the various forms of distortion of competition that still exist, including trade barriers in the form of differences between national standards, as well as in the services sector.

Steel policy

1.5.13. Given the urgency of reaching agreement on the Community's steel policy for the time after 30 June 1983 the European Council expressed the hope that the Council will arrive at an agreement on this question.

Transport policy

1.5.14. The European Council emphasizes the importance of transport policy in completing the internal market. It notes with interest the ideas expounded in the memorandum submitted by the Netherlands Government. It asks the Council of Transport Ministers to continue the effort recently manifested in the concrete results achieved by the Council, thus testifying to the importance which this policy assumes for the Community.

Environment

1.5.15. The European Council underlines the urgent necessity of accelerating and reinforcing action at national, Community and international level aimed at combating the pollution of the environment. It underlines in particular the acute danger threatening the European forest areas, which calls for immediate action.

The European Council welcomes in this connection the memorandum from the Federal German Government and the Commission communication which illustrates the urgency of the question and the necessity to take coordinated and effective initiatives both within the Community and internationally, particularly within the ECE, if an irreversible situation is to be avoided. It calls on the Environment Council to pursue its work on the different specific dossiers relevant to this

problem and examine relevant initiatives proposed by the Commission, with a view to rapid significant progress.

The European Council also welcomed the conclusions of the Environment Council on the special case of lead in petrol. It emphasized the importance of reducing the amount of lead in the environment and called for progress which may lead to the use of leadless petrol.

UNCTAD VI

1.5.16. The European Council regards the Sixth United Nations Trade and Development Conference (UNCTAD VI) in Belgrade as a very important event in the North-South Dialogue in 1983. The Conference is being held against the background of a difficult economic situation, particularly in many developing countries. The Community is participating in the Belgrade negotiations in a spirit of cooperation and readiness to discuss. The European Council agrees that it has special responsibility for maintaining and improving the marketing opportunities of the developing countries. This will be given concrete shape by means of a policy directed at growth and at maintaining and reinforcing the open nature of the Community. The European Council expects the Conference to contribute to strengthening confidence in the world economic recovery and to the promotion of development in the Third World. The Community will make a constructive contribution to that end.

Compensation for the United Kingdom

1.5.17. The European Council agreed on compensation for the United Kingdom for 1983.

Greek memorandum

1.5.18. The European Council is conscious of the special economic and social problems faced by Greece and the difficulties which these create in the process of integrating Greece into the European Communities.

The European Council agrees that the Community should play its part in helping to overcome these difficulties.

It welcomes in this connection the detailed and constructive examination of these problems undertaken by the Commission and the two communications which have resulted from this work. The communications clearly indicate that solutions can be found in the Community framework in order to permit the integration of

Greece into the Community system in a harmonious and mutually beneficial manner.

It welcomes the fact that the Commission intends shortly to submit specific proposals (including their financial aspects) in various sectors complementing its earlier proposals. It invites the Council to examine these proposals with a view to concrete decisions before the next European Council.

Conclusions of the European Council

Questions relating to European political cooperation

Poland

1.5.19. At the moment when the important visit of Pope John Paul II is taking place in Poland, the Heads of State and Government reviewed the situation in that country, to which their peoples are linked by strong ties of solidarity.

At a time when the depth of the aspirations of the Polish people is more than ever apparent, they expressed their conviction that only a national reconciliation which takes full account of these aspirations can lead Poland out of its grave crisis.

CSCE

1.5.20. The Heads of State and Government reviewed the progress of the CSCE follow-up meeting in Madrid, noting with interest the timely and important initiative taken on 17 June by Señor Felipe Gonzalez as the Prime Minister of the host country. Their governments will examine this proposal with due care and in a positive spirit. They appeal to the governments of other participating States to do likewise. They reiterated their view that the adoption of a substantial and balanced concluding document at Madrid would register progress in the human dimension, open the way to a Conference on disarmament in Europe, give fresh impetus to the CSCE process and make a useful contribution to the improvement of East-West relations as a whole.

Middle East

1.5.21. The Heads of State and Government consider that the return of full sovereignty and final peace in Lebanon requires the complete and prompt withdrawal of foreign forces from its

territory, except for those whose presence may be requested by the Lebanese Government.

They confirmed their full support for President Gemayel and his Government in their determined action to re-establish their authority over the entire territory of Lebanon. In this respect, they consider that the signing of the Israel-Lebanon agreement constitutes a step which must be followed by others. They consider, however, that peace will not be able to become a reality unless the security and legitimate interests of the other States and peoples of the region are taken into account.

They stated their readiness to use all the means at their disposal to support the efforts undertaken by the parties in question so as to find a broader area of agreement.

They remain convinced that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East can only be secured on the basis of the principles which they have stated many times in the past.

They again voiced their very serious concern at the distress of the Palestinian civilian population. They hope that the relevant international organizations will be allowed to assist this population without hindrance.

Central America

1.5.22. The Heads of State and Government confirmed their close interest in developments in Central America. They are deeply concerned at the economic and social conditions in many parts of the region, at the tensions which these create and at the widespread misery and bloodshed.

They are convinced that the problems of Central America cannot be solved by military means, but only by a political solution springing from the region itself and respecting the principles of non-interference and inviolability of frontiers. They, therefore, fully support the current initiative of the Contadora Group. They underlined the need for the establishment of democratic conditions and for the strict observance of human rights throughout the region.

They are ready to continue contributing to the further development in the area, in order to promote progress towards stability.

Solemn Declaration on European Union

1.5.23. The Heads of State and Government received the report of the Foreign Ministers concerning the conclusions of their work on the German-Italian initiative on European Union following the mandate given by the European

Council in November 1981. The Heads of State and Government and the Foreign Ministers of the Ten signed the Solemn Declaration on European Union.¹ They expressed their deep satisfaction at this important step towards European Union.

Statements and comment

1.5.24. At his closing press conference, Chancellor Kohl, President of the European Council, said that the Stuttgart European Council had succeeded in setting out the guidelines that were needed for dynamic development of the Community up to the end of the decade. He recognized 'realistically' that the new policies were going to cost 'more money', and without going so far as to call for a 'new Messina' he sought to put the deliberations on the future financing of the Community into a more general Community perspective. The text concerning the solution of the British problem had been 'most carefully' worded, and this solution remained 'indissolubly linked' with that of financing the Community as a whole. On the subject of enlargement he said again that 'we want it, and we promised it to those two countries at a difficult time in their national lives'. Referring to the Solemn Declaration on European Union, Mr Kohl said that it was only a first step; it was not, of course, to everyone's satisfaction, but it was at least a step 'in the right direction at the right time'.

1.5.25. 'We have avoided a grave crisis and we must now make a new beginning', declared President Thorn immediately after the European Council. 'The issues are not finally settled and hard work remains to be done. But it is encouraging that in the face of enormous difficulties, which could have led to disintegration, the Heads of State and Government have called for more integration and a relaunch of the European Community. Nobody expected miracles from the Stuttgart Summit, and I for one would have wished for something more than a working programme. But we do have a number of commitments'

¹ The full text of this Declaration is reproduced at point 1.6.1 *et seq.*

he added, 'which point in the right direction. The 10 Governments have recognized the need to secure long-term Community financing on a fair basis, to develop new forward-looking policies, and to improve existing policies, including the common agricultural policy, and to provide for enlargement'.

*

As has now become a tradition, Mr Kohl reported on the European Council to Parliament at a special part-session held for the purpose.¹

¹ Points 2.4.18 to 2.4.23.

6. Solemn Declaration on European Union

1.6.1. On 19 June in Stuttgart the 10 Heads of State and Government signed the Solemn Declaration on European Union.¹ In November 1981 the German and Italian Governments submitted to the Member States a draft European Act designed to further European integration.² In accordance with the mandate given by the European Council of 26 and 27 November 1981,³ the Foreign Ministers reported to the Stuttgart European Council on their work on this draft Act.⁴

Preamble

'The Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Communities, meeting within the European Council,

resolved to continue the work begun on the basis of the Treaties of Paris and Rome and to create a united Europe, which is more than ever necessary in order to meet the dangers of the world situation, capable of assuming the responsibilities incumbent on it by virtue of its political role, its economic potential and its manifold links with other peoples,

considering that the European idea, the results achieved in the fields of economic integration and political cooperation, and the need for new developments correspond to the wishes of the democratic peoples of Europe, for whom the European Parliament, elected by universal suffrage, is an indispensable means of expression,

determined to work together to promote democracy on the basis of the fundamental rights

recognized in the constitutions and laws of the Member States, in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and the European Social Charter, notably freedom, equality and social justice,

convinced that, in order to resolve the serious economic problems facing the Member States, the Community must strengthen its cohesion, regain its dynamism and intensify its action in areas hitherto insufficiently explored,

resolved to accord a high priority to the Community's social progress and in particular to the problem of employment by the development of a European social policy,

convinced that, by speaking with a single voice in foreign policy, including political aspects of security, Europe can contribute to the preservation of peace,

recalling their decisions taken in Paris on 21 October 1972 and 10 December 1974, the Document on the European Identity of 14 December 1973 and the statement made by the European Council in The Hague on 30 November 1976 concerning the progressive construction of European Union,

determined to achieve a comprehensive and coherent common political approach and reaffir-

¹ Point 1.5.23.

² Bull. EC 11-1981, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.6 and point 3.4.1.

³ Bull. EC 11-1981, point 1.1.6.

⁴ Sixteenth General Report, point 17; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.4.3; Bull. EC 4-1983, points 2.4.6 and 2.4.7.

ming their will to transform the whole complex of relations between their States into a European Union,

have adopted the following:

1 Objectives

1.1 The Heads of State or Government, on the basis of an awareness of a common destiny and the wish to affirm the European identity, confirm their commitment to progress towards an ever closer union among the peoples and Member States of the European Community.

1.2 The Heads of State or Government reaffirm the Declaration on Democracy adopted by the European Council on 8 April 1978 which stated that respect for and maintenance of representative democracy and human rights in each Member State are essential elements of membership of the European Communities.

1.3 In order to achieve ever increasing solidarity and joint action, the construction of Europe must be more clearly oriented towards its general political objectives, more efficient decision-making procedures, greater coherence and close coordination between the different branches of activity, and the search for common policies in all areas of common interest, both within the Community and in relation to third countries.

1.4 Desiring to consolidate the progress already made towards European Union in both the economic and political fields, the Heads of State or Government reaffirm the following objectives:

1.4.1 to strengthen and continue the development of the Communities, which are the nucleus of European Union, by reinforcing existing policies and elaborating new policies within the framework of the Treaties of Paris and Rome;

1.4.2(*) to strengthen and develop European Political Cooperation through the elaboration and adoption of joint positions and joint action, on the basis of intensified consultations, in the area of foreign policy, including the coordination of the positions of Member States on the political and economic aspects of security, so as to promote and facilitate the progressive development of such positions and actions in a growing number of foreign policy fields.

1.4.3 to promote, to the extent that these activities cannot be carried out within the framework of the Treaties:

- closer cooperation on cultural matters, in order to affirm the awareness of a common cultural heritage as an element in the European identity;

- approximation of certain areas of the legislation of the Member States in order to facilitate relationships between their nationals;

- a common analysis and concerted action to deal with international problems of law and order, serious acts of violence, organized international crime and international lawlessness generally.

2 Institutions

The Heads of State or Government emphasize the importance of greater coherence and close coordination between the existing structures of the European Communities and European Political Cooperation at all levels so that comprehensive and consistent action can be taken to achieve European Union.

Matters within the scope of the European Communities are governed by provisions and procedures laid down in or pursuant to the Treaties of Paris and Rome and in agreements supplementing them. In matters of Political Cooperation, procedures which were agreed on in the Luxembourg (1970), Copenhagen (1973) and London (1981) reports will apply, together with other procedures to be agreed on if necessary.

2.1 The European Council

2.1.1 The European Council brings together the Heads of State or Government and the President of the Commission assisted by the Foreign Ministers of the Member States and a member of the Commission.

2.1.2 In the perspective of European Union, the European Council

- provides a general political impetus to the construction of Europe;

- defines approaches to further the construction of Europe and issues general political guidelines for the European Communities and European Political Cooperation;

- deliberates upon matters concerning European Union in its different aspects with due regard to consistency among them;

- initiates cooperation in new areas of activity;

- solemnly expresses the common position in questions of external relations.

2.1.3 When the European Council acts in matters within the scope of the European Communities, it does so in its capacity as the Council within the meaning of the Treaties.

2.1.4 The European Council will address a report to the European Parliament after each of its

meetings. This report will be presented at least once during each Presidency by the President of the European Council.

The European Council will also address a written annual report to the European Parliament on progress towards European Union.

In the debates to which these reports give rise, the European Council will normally be represented by its President or one of its members.

2.2 The Council and its members

2.2.1 The consistency and continuity of the work needed for the further construction of European Union as well as the preparation of meetings of the European Council are the responsibility of the Council (General Affairs) and its members.

With a view to bringing the institutional apparatus of the Community and that of Political Cooperation closer together, the Council deals with matters for which it is competent under the Treaties in accordance with the procedures laid down by the latter, and its members will deal also, in accordance with the appropriate procedures, with all other areas of European Union, particularly matters coming within the scope of Political Cooperation.

The Member States will arrange their representation as provided for in their respective constitutions.

2.2.2 The application of the decision-making procedures laid down in the Treaties of Paris and Rome is of vital importance in order to improve the European Communities' capacity to act.

Within the Council every possible means of facilitating the decision-making process will be used, including, in cases where unanimity is required, the possibility of abstaining from voting.

2.2.3 To promote the objective of a Europe speaking with a single voice and acting in common in the field of foreign policy, the Governments of the Member States will make a constant effort to increase the effectiveness of Political Cooperation and will seek, in particular, to facilitate the decision-making process, in order to reach common positions more rapidly.

They recently adopted new arrangements in the London report of 13 October 1981.

In the light of experience they will continue in this direction, in particular by:

- strengthening the Presidency's powers of initiative, of coordination and of representation in relations with third countries;
- appropriately strengthening operational support for successive Presidencies, corresponding to the increasing tasks which they have to perform.

2.3 The Parliament

2.3.1 The Assembly of the European Communities has an essential role to play in the development of European Union.

2.3.2 The European Parliament debates all matters relating to European Union, including European Political Cooperation. In matters relating to the European Communities, it deliberates in accordance with the provisions and procedures laid down in the Treaties establishing the European Communities and in agreements supplementing them.

2.3.3 In addition to the consultation procedures provided for in the Treaties, the Council, its members and the Commission will, in keeping with their respective powers, respond to:

- oral or written question from Parliament;
- resolutions concerning matters of major importance and general concern, on which Parliament seeks their comments.

2.3.4 The Presidency will address the European Parliament at the beginning of its term of office and present its programme. It will report to the European Parliament at the end of its term on the progress achieved.

The Presidency keeps the European Parliament regularly informed through the Political Affairs Committee of the subjects of foreign policy examined in the context of European Political Cooperation.

Once a year the Presidency reports to the European Parliament in plenary session on progress in the field of Political Cooperation.

2.3.5(*) Before the appointment of the President of the Commission, the President of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States seeks the Opinion of the enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament.

After the appointment of the members of the Commission by the Governments of the Member States, the Commission presents its programme to the European Parliament to debate and to vote on that programme.

2.3.6(*) The Council will enter into talks with the European Parliament and the Commission with the aim, within the framework of a new agreement, of improving and extending the scope of the conciliation procedure provided for in the Joint Declaration of 4 March 1975.

2.3.7 In addition to the consultations provided for in the Treaties with respect to certain international agreements, the Opinion of the European Parliament will be sought before:

- the conclusions of other significant international agreements by the Community,
- the accession of a State to the European Community.

The existing procedures for providing the European Parliament with confidential and unofficial information on progress in negotiations will be extended, taking into account the requirements of urgency, to all significant international agreements concluded by the Communities.

2.4 The Commission

The Heads of State or Government underline the particular importance of the Commission as guardian of the Treaties of Paris and Rome and as a driving force in the process of European integration. They confirm the value of making more frequent use of the possibility of delegating powers to the Commission within the framework of the Treaties. In addition to the tasks and powers laid down in those Treaties, the Commission is fully associated with the work of European Political Cooperation and, where appropriate, with other activities within the framework of European Union.

2.5 The Court of Justice

The Court of Justice of the European Communities has an essential role to play in progress towards European Union, by securing compliance with, and development of, Community law. Taking account of the respective constitutional provisions in their States, the Heads of State or Government agree to consider, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion, as appropriate, in international conventions between Member States, of a clause conferring on the Court of Justice appropriate jurisdiction with regard to the interpretation of the texts.

3 Scope

3.1 European Communities

The Heads of State or Government emphasize, in order to give renewed impetus to the development of Community policies on a broad front, the importance of the following policies:

3.1.1 An overall economic strategy in the Community to combat unemployment and inflation and to promote convergence of the state of economic development of the Member States. Priority should be given to encouraging productive investment and raising competitiveness as a basis

for creating durable jobs, bringing about sustained economic growth and reducing unemployment. In this context, effective action in the social field to alleviate unemployment should be taken at both Community and national levels in particular by means of specific action on behalf of young people and by improved(*) harmonization of social security systems.

3.1.2 More effective coordination of the national economic policies, which is required for the achievement of the Community's overall objectives, in order to ensure that the main economic and sectoral objectives of the Member States are consistent with the maintenance and strengthening of the Community and with the object of consolidating the European Monetary System.

3.1.3 Strengthening of the European Monetary System, which is helping to consolidate an area of monetary stability in Europe and to create a more stable international economic environment, as a key element in progress towards Economic and Monetary Union and the creation of a European Monetary Fund.

3.1.4 Definition of Community instruments and mechanisms which will permit action geared to the situation and specific needs of the least prosperous Member States in an effort to tackle their structural problems and thereby to ensure the harmonious development of the Community.

3.1.5 Given the importance of the Community's external relations, strengthening of the common commercial policy and development of its external economic policy on the basis of common positions; the Community will, in this way, give effect to its special responsibility as the principal world trader and to its commitment to a free and open trading system.

In this context, improvement and coordination of national and Community development cooperation policies are needed in order to reflect more fully the needs of the developing countries and the interdependence between them and Europe, and so that Europe plays a stronger and more stimulating role in relations between the industrialized and developing countries.

3.1.6 Completion of the internal market in accordance with the Treaties, in particular the removal of the remaining obstacles to the free movement of goods, capital and services, as well as the further development of a common transport policy.

3.1.7 Continued development of the common agricultural policy in harmony with other policies, respecting its objectives as defined in the Treaty and the principles of unity of the market,

Community preference and financial solidarity, and taking into account the need to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural community and the need to achieve a better market equilibrium in some sectors. The problems of less favoured agricultural regions, including certain Mediterranean areas the development of which is heavily dependent on agriculture, merit special attention.

3.1.8 The development of an industrial strategy at Community level in order to strengthen industry, make it competitive and create productive jobs in Europe, in particular by encouraging investment and innovation. In order to provide the Community with the means for vigorous development in the long term, cooperation between enterprises in advanced technologies will be strengthened by the establishment of projects of common interest.

Efforts made by industry and Governments in the areas of energy and research will be complemented by coordination and appropriate actions at Community level.

3.1.9 Development of the regional and social policies of the Communities, which implies in particular the transfer of resources to less prosperous regions, so that all Community policies and instruments can play their full role and promote convergence and balanced development.

3.2 Foreign policy

In order to cope with the increasing problems of international politics, the necessary reinforcement of European Political Cooperation must be ensured, in particular by the following measures:

- intensified consultations with a view to permitting timely joint action on all major foreign policy questions of interest to the Ten as a whole;
- prior consultation with the other Member States in advance of the adoption of final positions on these questions. The Heads of State or Government underline their undertaking that each Member State will take full account of the positions of its partners and give due weight to the adoption and implementation of common European positions when working out national positions and taking national action;
- development and extension of the practice by which the views of the Ten are defined and consolidated in the form of common positions which then constitute a central point of reference for Member States' policies;
- progressive development and definition of common principles and objectives as well as the identification of common interests in order to strengthen the possibilities of joint action in the field of foreign policy;

- coordination of positions of Member States on the political and economic aspects of security;
- increased contacts with third countries in order to give the Ten greater weight as an interlocutor in the foreign policy field;
- closer cooperation in diplomatic and administrative matters between the missions of the Ten in third countries;
- the search for common positions at major international conferences attended by one or more of the Ten and covering questions dealt with in Political Cooperation;
- increasing recognition of the contribution which the European Parliament makes to the development of a coordinated foreign policy of the Ten.

3.3 Cultural cooperation

With a view to complementing Community action and stressing that, in consideration of the membership of their States of the Council of Europe, they maintain their firm support for an involvement in its cultural activities, the Heads of State or Government agree to promote, encourage or facilitate the following, taking account of respective constitutional provisions:

- development of the activities of the European Foundation and the European University Institute in Florence;
- closer cooperation between establishments of higher education, including exchanges of teachers and students;
- intensified exchanges of experience, particularly among young people, and development of the teaching of the languages of the Member States of the Community;
- improving the level of knowledge about other Member States of the Community and of information on Europe's history and culture so as to promote a European awareness;
- examination of the advisability of undertaking joint action to protect, promote and safeguard the cultural heritage;
- examination of the possibility of promoting joint activities in the dissemination of culture, in particular as regards audio-visual methods;
- more extensive contacts between writers and artists of the Member States and wider dissemination of their works both inside and outside the Community;
- closer coordination of cultural activities in third countries, within the framework of Political Cooperation.

3.4 Approximation of laws

3.4.1 Approximation of laws in areas within the competence of the European Communities will be pursued and intensified through effective use of the measures provided for in the Treaties. In this context special attention should be given to further approximation in the field of the protection of industrial and commercial property, consumer protection and, whenever necessary, in the field of the law relating to companies.

3.4.2 With a view to complementing the approximation of laws within the European Communities, and having full regard, in particular, to the work of the Council of Europe, the Member States will endeavour to approximate their laws in other areas by having recourse to the appropriate instruments, including international conventions. A special effort will be made to implement or supplement without delay international conventions already negotiated between Member States in the Community framework, and notably those provided for by the Treaties.

3.4.3 Among new activities which can be conducive to the attainment of European Union, the following deserve special attention:

- the introduction of legal instruments which can strengthen cooperation among the judicial authorities of the Member States, notably in civil and commercial matters, and which can thereby make the administration of justice more efficient and less cumbersome;

- (*) • cooperation in the area of the suppression of infringements of Community law;

- (*) • identification of areas of criminal and procedural law in which cooperation between Member States might be desirable.

4 Final provisions

4.1 The Heads of State or Government stress the link between membership of the European Communities and participation in the activities described above.

4.2 European Union is being achieved by deepening and broadening the scope of European activities so that they coherently cover, albeit on a variety of legal bases, a growing proportion of Member States' mutual relations and of their external relations.

4.3(*) The Heads of State or Government will subject this Declaration to a general review as soon as the progress achieved towards European unification justifies such action, but not later than five years from signature of the Declaration.

In the light of the results of this review they will decide whether the progress achieved should be incorporated in a Treaty on European Union.

The Opinion of the European Parliament will be sought on this subject.'

(*) Danish reservations on paragraphs 1.4.2, 2.3.5, 2.3.6, 3.1.1, 3.4.3 and 4.3.

See Greek declarations in the minutes with reference to paragraphs 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.



PART TWO

**ACTIVITIES
IN JUNE 1983**

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

2.1.1. At the European Council meeting held in Stuttgart from 17 to 19 June the Heads of State or Government discussed the economic and social situation in the Community and agreed that the prospects for sustained and non-inflationary economic recovery should be reinforced.¹

Council

2.1.2. The Council (economic and financial affairs) adopted on 13 June the Commission's proposal on the release of an initial tranche of the NCI III.² It also asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission's proposal extending the interest subsidies granted under the EMS³ and to report back once Parliament's opinion had been received.

Financing innovation

2.1.3. On 7 June the Commission sent the Council a communication entitled 'Towards Community financing of innovation and small and medium-sized enterprises', which included a proposal for a decision empowering the Commission to help finance innovation within the Community.⁴

Economic situation

Budget policy in the Member States in 1984

2.1.4. On 4 July⁵ the Commission submitted its report to the Council suggesting the budget policy to be pursued by the Member States in 1984. It recommends that public budgets should aim to restore the health of the economy while allowing for some degree of flexibility—at least in the countries which have managed to contain inflation—with a view to providing some support for economic activity.

Commission communication to the European Council

2.1.5. The Commission sent the European Council, for its meeting in Stuttgart,⁶ a communication on the economic and social situation in the Community.⁷ It says that the forecasts for 1983 and 1984 continue to suggest the beginnings of a gradual recovery in the Community. However, any recovery remains precarious and will probably bring only a moderate slowdown in the rise in unemployment. This being so, the five priorities which the Commission suggested to the European Council in March (security of the international financial system, stability of the international monetary system, oil prices, growth and energy policy, monetary policy and public finance)⁸ still represent the Community's best chance of consolidating recovery. However, three points call for particular attention in the present situation. In budget policy, priority must be given to measures that will increase confidence in the capacity of governments to control their budgets and to use them to assist the recovery. In monetary matters, subject to international developments, the policies pursued in the countries which have already obtained favourable results on prices and the balance of payments must continue to be geared first and foremost to achieving a steady and credible reduction in interest rates. Conversely, in those countries which have still to carry out an adjustment of their economies, monetary policy must leave no doubt about the determination of governments to tackle inflation and external imbalances. Lastly, the Commission urges on the European Council the need to take specific, fast-acting measures that will have a direct effect on employment while underpinning the

¹ Point 1.5.10.

² Point 2.1.6.

³ OJ C 163, 22.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.9.

⁴ Point 2.1.44; OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; COM (83) 241 final.

⁵ COM(83)423 final.

⁶ Point 1.5.1 *et seq.*, particularly 1.5.10 and 1.5.22.

⁷ COM(83)370 final.

⁸ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.5.3.

economic recovery—in particular, measures to bring down youth unemployment and to reduce and reorganize working time.

Community borrowings

First NCI III tranche

2.1.6. On 13 June the Council authorized the Commission to borrow on the capital markets, as the first tranche of the NCI III, 1 500 million ECU to finance investment in the Community.¹ The Council's decision was based on the proposal presented by the Commission in February.² The amount authorized represents half of the total endowment of the NCI III, agreed by the Council on 19 April.³

In addition to the usual assistance provided for energy and infrastructure projects, one of the priority areas for this tranche will be investment projects carried out by small firms, particularly projects designed to promote the dissemination of innovation and new techniques.

For the first time, certain projects carried out by large industrial firms will be eligible for finance from NCI resources, provided that such projects involve cooperation between firms in different Member States and make use of advanced technologies.

2.1.7. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion⁴ on the proposal referred to above.

Community loan to France

2.1.8. Using the Community loan mechanism for balance-of-payments support for Member States, under which the Council decided to grant a loan of 4 000 million ECU to France,⁵ the Commission announced in June that it was floating three loans on the international capital market:

- 10 June: two loans, one for 150 million ECU in the form of fixed-interest bonds and one for USD 1 500 million in the form of variable-interest bonds;
- 15 June: the USD 1 500 million loan was increased to USD 1 800 million;

- 22 June: a USD 350 million loan at fixed interest.

Monetary Committee

2.1.9. The Monetary Committee held its 292nd meeting in Brussels on 9 June, with Mr Camdessus in the chair. It discussed the conclusions to be drawn from the recent Williamsburg Summit⁶ and took an initial look at certain aspects of the financing of the IMF.

Internal market and industrial affairs

2.1.10. The European Council, meeting in Stuttgart on 17-19 June, stressed in its 'conclusions' that completion of the internal market should remain a priority objective.⁷

2.1.11. On 9 June Parliament had adopted a resolution on the European Council's mandate on the realization of the internal market.⁸

Council

2.1.12. The Council, meeting on 21 June, continued its deliberations on the internal market, but failed to make any progress. Apart from the proposals relating to proprietary medicinal products, this lack of progress was due to the refusal in certain cases to delegate powers to the Commission.

2.1.13. The Council returned to the subject of Community certification for products originating in non-member countries.⁹ Discussion focused mainly on the major problems

¹ OJ L 164, 23.6.1983.

² OJ C 66, 11.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.3.

³ OJ L 112, 28.4.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.8.

⁴ Point 2.4.39; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁵ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.3.

⁶ Bull. EC 5-1983, points 3.4.2 and 3.4.3.

⁷ Point 1.5.12.

⁸ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.13.

outstanding, namely Commission approval of holding measures, precautionary measures in cases of established urgency and the decision-making procedure.

2.1.14. It again discussed¹ a proposal for a Directive and a proposal for a recommendation relating to proprietary medicinal products² and acknowledged that considerable headway had been made in this area.

Free movement of persons and freedom to provide services

2.1.15. On 9 June Parliament delivered its opinion³ on a draft Council resolution on the easing of the formalities relating to checks on citizens of Member States at the Community's internal frontiers, on the passport union and the abolition of personal checks at the internal frontiers of the Community.⁴ Parliament endorsed the draft, subject to certain amendments.

Special rights of citizens and passport union

2.1.16. On 7 June Parliament adopted a resolution⁵ calling on the Commission to put forward by the end of 1983 a proposal for the recognition of the right of citizens of Member States residing in a Member State other than their own to stand for and vote in local elections.

Free movement of goods

Simplifying formalities in trade within the Community

2.1.17. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee delivered a favourable opinion on two proposals for Council Regulations relating respectively to the introduction of a specimen declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade⁶ and to the standardization and simplification of statistics of trade between Member States.⁶

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Industrial products

2.1.18. On 16 June the Council again⁷ amended,⁸ after Parliament had delivered a favourable opinion,³ its Directive of 20 March 1970⁹ relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from spark-ignition engines of motor vehicles.¹⁰

2.1.19. On 1 June the Commission sent a proposal¹¹ to the Council for technical amendments to its Directive of 20 December 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement.¹²

Pharmaceuticals

2.1.20. The Commission transmitted to the Council on 28 June a report,¹³ in pursuance of the Council Directive of 28 September 1981,¹⁴ with the aim of enabling the Council to deliberate, by October 1983, on the list of pharmacological molecules (or active ingredients) that may be used for preparing pre-mixes, and on the procedure for drawing up such a list.

Business law

Companies

2.1.21. The Council formally adopted the seventh company law Directive (concerning

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.17.

² OJ C 355, 31.12.1980; Bull. EC 11-1980, point 2.1.10; OJ C 44, 18.2.1982.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ OJ C 197, 31.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.10.

⁵ OJ C 71, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.20.

⁶ OJ C 21, 26.1.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.6.

⁷ OJ L 223, 14.8.1978.

⁸ OJ L 197, 20.7.1983.

⁹ OJ L 76, 6.4.1970.

¹⁰ OJ C 181, 19.7.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.5.

¹¹ OJ C 155, 14.6.1983; COM(83)281 final.

¹² OJ L 39, 15.2.1980.

¹³ COM(83)367 final.

¹⁴ OJ L 317, 6.11.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, point 2.1.15.

group accounts) on 13 June,¹ having approved the Commission's proposal on 16 May.²

Small business.

Business Cooperation Centre.

Distributive trades

2.1.22. On 9 June³ Parliament passed a resolution on the situation of commerce and craft industries in the Community.

Industry

Steel

Extension of production quota arrangements

Council

2.1.23. At its meeting on steel of 21 June the Council took note that the Commission was maintaining its proposal that the system of production quotas under Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty should be continued for a period of two and a half years.⁴

The Council felt, however, that the information it needed before it could give its assent was not available—notably the decisions on the restructuring programmes to be taken by the Commission before 30 June⁵ and the outcome of talks with the industry. In the mean time it assented⁶ to an extension of the present quota arrangements, which expire on 30 June, until 31 July.

Measures taken by the Commission

2.1.24. In view of the foregoing, the Commission extended⁷ until 31 July its Decision of 30 June 1982,⁸ which had itself extended the system of monitoring and mandatory production quotas from 1 July 1982 to 30 June 1983.

2.1.25. It also published on 2 July a communication to producers of reversing mill plates and wide flats and heavy sections,⁹ informing them that its proposal¹⁰ for the extension of the system of monitoring and of production quotas for a further two and a

half years also covers products in category II (reversing mill plates and wide flats) and category III (heavy sections), which will be included in the mandatory system from 1 July onwards. The Commission invites the undertaking concerned to adapt their production accordingly, namely by planning it on the basis of the indicative abatement rates it published on 7 June.¹¹

2.1.26. The Commission amended¹² for the fourth time¹³ Decision 1696/82/ECSC of 30 June 1982 on the extension of the system of monitoring and production quotas for certain products of undertakings in the steel industry.⁸ This amendment provides for quotas to be adjusted in the case of certain products in category Id (Other coated flat products).

National steel industry restructuring plans

2.1.27. On 29 June, in accordance with its Decision of 7 August 1981 establishing a Community aids code for the steel industry,¹⁴ the Commission ruled⁵ on the aid measures envisaged by the different Member States and the corresponding restructuring plans.

Forward programme for steel

2.1.28. On 15 June the Commission adopted at the first reading the forward programme for steel for the third quarter of 1983,⁹ which had been approved by the ECSC Consultative Committee.¹⁵

¹ OJ L 193, 18.7.1983.

² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.26.

³ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.31.

⁵ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

⁶ OJ C 182, 8.7.1983.

⁷ OJ L 177, 1.7.1983.

⁸ OJ L 191, 1.7.1982.

⁹ OJ C 175, 2.7.1983.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.31.

¹¹ Point 2.1.32; OJ C 148, 7.6.1983.

¹² OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

¹³ OJ L 13, 15.1.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.13.

¹⁴ OJ L 228, 13.8.1981.

¹⁵ Point 2.4.47.

2.1.29. The Commission notes that crude steel production was 26.7 million tonnes in the first quarter and is likely to exceed by between 0.5 and 1 million tonnes the estimate of 26.5 million tonnes for the second quarter. The increase on the second half of 1982 needs to be treated with caution in the Commission's view, since it may well contain an element of overproduction. The indicators available do seem to point to a slight upturn, but its strength remains in doubt. While there are encouraging signs—more positive in the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom than elsewhere—as regards industrial production, average inflation rates and the balance of payments, interest rates are remaining steady or even increasing

slightly, and there is little likelihood of exports picking up substantially in the near future.

The specific indicators of industrial production in the main steel-using industries are not discouraging.

Recent consultations with producers, consumers and stockholders indicate that order books for steel are relatively full from now until September, except for the month of August (which is traditionally slack). The level of stocks is normal among stockholders and low among consumers.

All factors taken into consideration, the Commission set production for the third quarter of 1983 at 26 million tonnes.

Table 2 — *Steel supply and demand in the Community*

	I/81	I/82	II/82	III/82	IV/82	I/83	III/83
Real consumption	27.72	28.16	28.27	22.04	21.37	22.10 ¹	22.30
Stock change	- 0.82	+ 2.09	± 0	- 1.00	- 1.50	- 1.20 ¹	+ 0.30
Imports	2.47	3.28	3.16	2.41	2.21	2.70 ¹	2.30
Exports	7.42	5.28	6.14	5.59	5.99	5.50 ¹	5.70
Production	31.85	32.25	31.25	24.22	23.65	26.70 ²	26.00

¹ Original estimate.

² Actual.

2.1.30. In view of the arrangements with the main countries exporting steel to the Community and of the need to spread deliveries evenly over the year, a figure of approximately 2.3 million tonnes was set for imports. Exports are estimated at 5.7 million tonnes, with due regard for growing demand in the United States and the continuing slump affecting the steel market in the less-developed countries.

2.1.31. The stringent production quotas for the first quarter enabled prices to rise from the extremely low levels recorded in the

second half of 1982: producers adjusted their prices (especially for flat products) following publication by the Commission of two new sets of guide prices.

Prices of small-gauge long products gave also hardened, mainly as a result of a seasonal upturn in conjunction with limitations imposed on production by the quotas. The increasing firmness of price levels should continue during the third quarter, especially since arrangements for 1983 entered into with the principal non-member countries will help to sustain prices in the Community.

2.1.32. Pending the Council's assent to the extension of the system of production quotas until the end of 1985, on 7 June the Commission, anxious to maintain market stability, published indicative rates of abate-

ment for the third quarter as a token of its concern that production should not outstrip demand.¹ National quotas were calculated on the basis of these rates and are set out in the last column (III/83) of the following table:

Table 3 — Comparative trends in production and quotas

(million tonnes)

	Production			Quota				
	III/82	IV/82	I/83	III/82	IV/82	I/83	II/83	III/83 ¹
Ia Hot-rolled coil	4 200	3 400	4 230	4 420	3 880	3 465	3 675	3 810
Ib Uncoated sheet	3 260	2 400	3 315	3 212	3 028	2 770	3 315	3 365
Ic Galvanized sheet	755	610	805	900	869	780	885	840
Id Other coated sheet	520	430	570	634	629	600	690	655
IV Wire rod	2 100	2 270	2 290	2 244	2 244	2 310	2 330	2 070
V Reinforcing bars	1 570	1 530	1 515	1 534	1 567	1 640	1 710	1 710
VI Merchant bars	1 710	2 000	1 925	2 176	2 192	2 225	2 160	2 195
II Reversing mill plate	1 230	1 130	1 290	1 335	1 270	1 120	1 185	1 120
III Heavy sections	890	880	1 140	1 086	997	1 030	1 120	1 155

¹ Indicative figures.

The Commission will publish the final rates of abatement for the third quarter at a later date, when a decision has been taken on a new system of quotas.

2.1.33. Employment in the steel industry continues to be hard hit by the current recession. The number of workers declined by over 3% between December 1982 and May 1983; lost working hours, which went up by 177% between 1981 and 1982, registered a sharp increase in the last quarter of 1982 which persisted in the early part of 1983. The trend is similar for workers put on short time.

Reinforcement of the crisis measures

2.1.34. On 21 June the Commission also proposed² to the Council that it replace the draft recommendation concerning the provision of statistics on deliveries by stockholders, which it had transmitted following the informal meeting at Helsingør,³ by a

decision that would impose a direct obligation on dealers to declare the statistics to their national government departments and would require the governments to aggregate them at national level and, where appropriate, check the accuracy of the declarations. The Commission is also proposing that an accompanying document be introduced for all deliveries between Member States and exports to non-member countries. The decision would remain in force until the end of 1985.

2.1.35. On 1 July⁴ the Commission amended its Decision of 17 December 1982,⁵

¹ OJ C 148, 7.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.32.

² COM(83)373 final.

³ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.16; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.21.

⁴ OJ L 180, 5.7.1983.

⁵ OJ L 370, 29.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.16a.

concerning the requirement for Community undertakings to declare the quantities of certain steel products delivered, to extend it to high-alloy steel products, in particular wire rod and merchant bars.

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* *

2.1.36. Lastly, on 7 June¹ the Commission sent the Council a communication on means of industrial conversion and social support measures for the restructuring of the European steel industry.

Motor vehicles

2.1.37. On 10 June Parliament adopted a resolution on basic technological research in the automobile industry.²

Textiles

2.1.38. On 2 June the Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion³ on a proposal for a Council Regulation on the indication of the origin of certain textile and clothing products imported from non-member countries.⁴

Electronics and information technologies

2.1.39. In a declaration adopted at Stuttgart, the European Council underlined the need that 'negotiations on certain projects of an exemplary nature, e.g. the Esprit programme, should be concluded as soon as possible'.⁵

2.1.40. The Council discussed the Commission's proposal for a first European Strategic Programme for R&D in Information Technology (Esprit).⁶

Telecommunications

2.1.41. The Commission transmitted to the European Council for its meeting at Stuttgart a report on telecommunications⁷ aimed at drawing its attention to the growing problems of this sector and the extremely rapid technical changes it has to cope with. The Commission stresses the need for a European approach and proposes to give thought, with

those responsible in the Member States, to the specific activities that should be undertaken and to the setting-up of a European telecommunications body.

Biotechnology

2.1.42. The Commission also sent to the European Council a report on biotechnology and the Community's role.⁸ This paper notes the novel opportunities offered by scientific progress for exploiting the properties of living matter and sets out the implications for agriculture, health, the chemical industry, etc. The complexity of the disciplines, the high degree of skill required and the scope of the resources that must be brought to bear call for a Community approach if Europe wishes to make up for the ground it has lost to the United States and Japan in this field.

Other industries

2.1.43. The Commission has decided to publish a report on 'flat glass for buildings' (EUR 8069).⁹ The information compiled in this report makes it a genuine technical manual on flat glass, which should be of great interest to all users of the product.

Industrial innovation and the information market

Industrial innovation

2.1.44. On 7 June the Commission sent the Council a communication entitled 'Towards Community financing of innovation and small and medium-sized enterprises', which

¹ Point 2.1.79; COM(83) 355 final.

² Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

³ Point 2.4.44; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁴ OJ C 93, 14.4.1982; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.16.

⁵ Point 1.5.4.

⁶ Point 2.1.269.

⁷ COM(83)329 final.

⁸ COM(83)328 final.

⁹ On sale at the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, L-2985 Luxembourg, from October.

included a proposal for a Decision empowering the Commission to help finance innovation within the Community.¹

The proposal is in response to the statements made by the European Council, at two meetings in 1982, on the need to stimulate productive investment and promote innovation.²

The financing of innovation — this being defined as the introduction into the economy of new goods or services, new production processes, or new management and marketing methods—is in a class of its own, with an abnormally high risk in terms of banking criteria, delayed returns, and the need for a large market. At the same time, small and medium-sized enterprises, which are both a source of and a vehicle for innovation, encounter specific financing problems which stem from their own particularities: undercapitalization, overindebtedness, and little or nothing in the way of traditional guarantees and collateral.

2.1.45. In its attack on these difficulties, the Commission is asking for powers to provide innovative small businesses with a financial product (to be known as the 'European innovation loan') made up of a combination of loans derived from borrowings (a special 100 million ECU tranche of the NCI) and grants from budget resources (20 million ECU). The proposed European innovation loan would have the following features:

- (i) it could be used to finance not only fixed assets, but also certain other forms of assets (intangible assets) which are essential if innovative small and medium-sized firms are to grow;
- (ii) it would be a subordinated loan in order to give it maximum leverage;
- (iii) it would require no special guarantee from the final borrower; this would be charged to the Community budget;
- (iv) interest during the first few years (two to three) would be charged to the Community budget (to take account of the delayed returns from the investment); the present worth of this grace period would be limited to 20% of the principal;

(v) it should be available only if the institution acting as distributing intermediary undertakes to supply the same amount of finance at the same time and at its own risk, either as a capital stake or on terms similar to those of the European innovation loan; in this way the risk that goes with innovation would be shared between the intermediary and the Community.

In practice European innovation loans of the kind proposed could be supplied by the Community either to an innovating firm through a financial intermediary or to the financial intermediary itself, which would incorporate the funds so received into capital resources which it would pump into the innovating firm at its own risk together with funds from its own resources.

2.1.46. On 23 and 24 June the Commission held a second seminar aimed at assessing the possibilities for developing innovation financing with venture capital.³

The participants in this seminar—some 60 representatives of specialized financial institutions from the Member States—approved a plan for setting up a European association that was submitted to them by a working party convened at the Commission's instigation. The association should be founded officially by the autumn under the title 'European Venture Capital Association (EVCA)'. While acting as a focal point for the exchange of ideas and experience between its members, the association will also develop and publicize the ethics and image of the profession in the Member States.

The action it will take as a matter of priority will be geared to:

- (i) disseminating information on the activities of the profession, both externally, namely among small and medium-sized industries and in their environment and internally, i.e. among the members of the association themselves;

¹ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; COM(83)241 final.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.3.5; Bull. EC 6-1982, points 1.5.3 and 2.1.5.

³ The first seminar was held on 15 June 1982, likewise on the Commission's initiative.

(ii) promoting the profession, with special emphasis on industrial firms and their financial environment;

(iii) fostering internal relations based essentially on personal contacts;

(iv) encouraging investments made in partnership between its members in order to facilitate the rapid transnational expansion of new firms.

With regard to these four points, the association's founding charter refers to specific measures that the Commission could support under the plan for the transnational development of the supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer.¹

2.1.47. This plan, and the associated proposal for a Council decision,¹ is still² pending. It was discussed by the Council on 21 June when broad agreement was reached on the principle of the decision. However, a number of points of detail remain unresolved.

Customs Union

Simplification of customs formalities

2.1.48. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee gave a favourable opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation introducing a specimen declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade.³

Community transit

2.1.49. On 8 June the Commission amended⁴ for the twelfth time⁵ its implementing Regulation of 22 December 1976 on Community transit.⁶ The new Regulation enters into force on 1 July. Its purpose is to extend the simplified procedures applicable in Community transit at the office of departure to cover the issuing of the document used for checking the use and/or destination of certain categories of goods, particularly under the common agricultural policy.

General legislation

Payment of customs debt

2.1.50. At its 1 and 2 June session the Economic and Social Committee endorsed the proposals for Council Regulations (i) determining the persons liable for payment of a customs debt⁷ and (ii) on the security to be given to ensure payment of a customs debt.⁸

Customs procedures with economic impact

Inward processing

2.1.51. On 13 June the Commission amended,⁹ in order to make it clearer, the Annex to the Directive of 4 March 1969 on the harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of inward processing.¹⁰

Outward processing

2.1.52. On 24 June¹¹ the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Regulation on outward processing relief arrangements, which provides that the tariff procedures set out therein are also to be used, via the outward processing control mechanisms, for implementing the common commercial policy; the proposal also provides for wider delegation of powers of implementation and administration to the Commission.

¹ OJ C 187, 22.7.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.30.

² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.37.

³ OJ C 71, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.20.

⁴ OJ L 151, 9.6.1983.

⁵ OJ L 161, 12.6.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.32.

⁶ OJ L 38, 9.2.1977.

⁷ OJ C 340, 28.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.32.

⁸ OJ C 30, 4.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.21.

⁹ OJ L 162, 22.6.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 58, 8.3.1969.

¹¹ COM(83)358 final.

Common Customs Tariff

Nomenclature

2.1.53. On 7 and 13 June the Commission adopted five Regulations for the purpose of ensuring uniform application of the Common Customs Tariff, classifying the following goods in the CCT headings and subheadings indicated:

- starch syrup (38.19);¹
- jojoba oil (15.16);²
- dried plasma (21.07 G I (a) 1);²
- sterile serum (38.16);³
- sets of jewellery for children (97.03 B).³

Economic tariff matters

Suspensions

2.1.54. On 21 June⁴ the Council adopted a Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain products (assemblies for automatic data-processing machines and memories).

Tariff quotas

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

- COM(83)70 38 000 head of heifers and cows, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds (1983/84);⁵
- COM(83)70 5 000 head of bulls, cows and heifers, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain Alpine breeds (1983/84);⁵
- COM(83)137 sherry originating in Spain (1983/84);⁶
- COM(83)137 Malaga wines originating in Spain (1983/84);⁶
- COM(83)137 wines from Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepeñas originating in Spain (1983/84);⁶
- COM(83)138 port wines originating in Portugal (1983/84);³

- COM(83)138 Madeira wines originating in Portugal (1983/84);³
- COM(83)138 Setubal and muscatel wines originating in Portugal (1983/84);⁷
- COM(83)139 Verde wines originating in Portugal (1983/84);⁷
- COM(83)139 Dão wines originating in Portugal (1983/84);⁷
- COM(83)159 rum, arrack and tafia originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (1983/84);⁸
- COM(83)161 rum, arrack and tafia originating in the overseas countries and territories associated with the European Economic Community (1983/84).⁸

2.1.56. On 28 June⁹ the Council adopted a regulation increasing the Community tariff quotas opened for 1983 for certain grades of ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff.

Competition

General rules applying to undertakings

New rules for exemption of exclusive distribution and purchasing agreements

2.1.57. On 22 June the Commission renewed and improved the Community antitrust rules as regards block exemption for exclusive distribution agreements (under Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty).¹⁰ Commission Regulation No 67/67/EEC of 22 March 1967,¹¹ which

1 OJ L 152, 10.6.1983.

2 OJ L 155, 14.6.1983.

3 OJ L 151, 9.6.1983.

4 OJ L 164, 23.6.1983.

5 OJ L 158, 16.6.1983.

6 OJ L 153, 11.6.1983.

7 OJ L 138, 27.5.1983.

8 OJ L 160, 18.6.1983.

9 OJ L 177, 1.7.1983.

10 OJ L 173, 30.6.1983.

11 OJ 57, 25.3.1967.

has been in force for 16 years, will be replaced by two new Regulations, one concerning exclusive distribution and the other exclusive purchasing. The effect will be a further opening-up of the Community-wide market to manufacturers and dealers, and this can only be to the advantage of consumers.

The new Regulation on exclusive distribution agreements should allow more scope for such agreements and should make them an even more effective tool for promoting the interpenetration of markets: firstly, because some restrictions have been eased in order to allow manufacturers to choose the optimum size of the area they allot to their exclusive distributor, which may now be anything from a particular region to the whole of the Community; secondly, because the new rules are more strict in respect of agreements between competing manufacturers (which by their nature involve the danger of horizontal market sharing), with exceptions being provided in the case of small businesses.

The second Regulation governs agreements on exclusive purchasing for resale, which raise a problem of market access. It is intended to widen the choice of products sold, notably in the case of beer and other drinks (beer supply agreements) and petrol (service-station agreements), for which special provisions are laid down because of the very high degree of insulation of the different national markets. Accordingly, the new Regulation restricts the maximum duration of an exclusive purchasing obligation to five years (10 years in the case of beer and in the case of petroleum products). An exception is made to the general rule in the case of beer supply contracts and service-station contracts linked to a tenancy agreement. Contracts of this kind can be of the same duration as the tenancy agreement. The Regulation also limits the scope of the exclusive purchasing obligation.

The two new Regulations enter into force on 1 July, but there is a transitional period for existing agreements and agreements entered into in the remainder of the year so as to facilitate their adaptation to the new rules.

2.1.58. Parliament adopted an own-initiative opinion on these draft Regulations on 10 June.¹ In it, it emphasized the need for Parliament to be consulted on competition policy questions, and in particular on draft Regulations prepared under the delegated powers granted by the Council to the Commission. It felt that the revision of Regulation No 67/67/EEC was just such an issue. It endorsed the Commission's overall approach but regretted that there was a lack of clarity and flexibility on a number of points.

Exemption of motor vehicle distribution agreements: the Commission's intentions

2.1.59. The Commission is preparing a specific Regulation on the distribution of motor vehicles. In theory the recently adopted general Regulation on exclusive distribution applies to this industry too, but in practice exclusive dealing agreements relating to motor vehicles always contain a selectivity clause (selective distribution). Such clauses are not covered by the general Regulation so are not eligible for automatic authorization.

Consequently, the Commission proposes to adopt soon a Regulation exempting certain categories of motor vehicle distribution and servicing agreements from the main provisions on restrictions of competition contained in the general Regulation. It has published a draft Regulation on motor vehicle dealership agreements² and has given interested parties until 24 October to submit their comments. A noteworthy provision that the Commission has included in its draft is that price differences between Member States for the same model of car must not exceed 12% for more than six months. Recommended prices would not be taken into account for comparison purposes if they were subject, in a Member State, to particularly high taxes or

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² OJ C 165, 24.6.1983.

other charges, or if they were influenced by a temporary freeze on prices or profit margins.

Confidentiality of legal documents: application of the competition rules

2.1.60. The judgment given by the Court of Justice on 18 May 1982 in Case 155/79 *AM & S Europe Ltd v Commission*¹ has been criticized, notably by in-house lawyers and US lawyers. Their main claim is that the Commission should extend legal privilege to in-house lawyers, who are subject to the same professional rules as independent lawyers, and to independent lawyers from non-Community countries.

However, any extension of the principle of confidentiality would require an amendment of the law as it now stands and would place the Commission in breach of the Treaty were it spontaneously to renounce exercise of a power of investigation conferred on it in the public interest by the Council and recently upheld by the Court of Justice. Moreover, extension of legal privilege to in-house lawyers in certain Member States, in accordance with the various rules of professional ethics in force, would create differences in the legal systems within the Community and would also be manifestly incompatible with the *ratio* of the Court's decision.

Although it has given careful consideration to this criticism and has discussed the matter in depth, the Commission has accordingly decided not to envisage any amendment to Regulation No 17 in respect of in-house lawyers. As far as independent lawyers from non-Community countries are concerned, the Commission must take account of the fact that in many cases their country's legal order provides for legal privilege: it would therefore appear necessary to negotiate agreements based on reciprocity with certain countries, with a view to extending legal privilege to their independent lawyers. On the grounds of equity in international relations and in the interests of independent lawyers in the Member States, the Commission will submit appropriate proposals to the Council so that such negotiations may be opened.

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Distribution

Commission imposes Community-wide guarantee for Ford vehicles

2.1.61. The Commission has always sought to ensure that consumers can purchase goods anywhere in the Community without being at a disadvantage later as regards guarantees and after-sales service. The Commission has again had to enforce this principle against 25 German Ford dealers and authorized repairers.

At the end of February, these Ford dealers individually and jointly placed advertisements in German daily newspapers, stating: 'We do not carry out guarantee work on new Ford cars reimported after being purchased elsewhere in the European Community'. The advertisement went on to suggest that guarantee work could legally only be required of the Ford dealer who sold the car.

Following complaints by individuals and the European Bureau of Consumers' Unions, the Commission began an inquiry in respect of these Ford dealers, who were suspected of having, through the advertisements, engaged in concerted practices in breach of the rules of competition (Article 85 of the EEC Treaty). During the procedure, the dealers agreed to place further newspaper advertisements stating that consumers who purchase Ford vehicles in other Community countries will no longer be penalized in this way. These advertisements appeared at the end of May.

As the risk of what had possibly been a dealer cartel has been removed, there is no need to pursue the matter further.

The Commission's action has once again ensured that guarantees are fully honoured, irrespective of where within the Community goods are purchased.

¹ [1982] ECR 1575; Sixteenth General Report, points 829 and 853.

State aids

Regional aids

Belgium

2.1.62. In accordance with Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty and the Commission's Decision of 21 December 1982 on employment zones,¹ the Belgian Government notified the Commission of a plan to site employment zones in Flanders—at Ieperleekanaal, Oudenaarde, Diest-Geel Punt, Genk-Zuid and Tessenderloo.

In its Decision of 21 December 1982 the Commission had informed the Belgian Government that it would allow a maximum of three employment zones in Flanders, not exceeding 150 hectares in total. In addition, the zones were to be sited in regions suffering from serious regional problems and fulfilling the priorities laid down by the Commission Decision of 22 July 1982 on Belgian regional aids.²

Even though the total area of the proposed zones does not exceed 150 hectares, the Commission cannot accept the creation of more than three sites. It has therefore decided not to raise any objections to the creation of two employment zones, one at Tessenderloo (Province of Limburg), which is experiencing serious economic problems, and the other at Diest-Geel Punt (Provinces of Brabant and Antwerp), which is suffering from the same problems as Tessenderloo and is in effect in the same economic region. However, the status of employment zone, which will allow firms to benefit immediately from tax concessions, is in both cases not to extend beyond 25 July 1985.

2.1.63. However, the Commission decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the planned creation of employment zones at Ieperleekanaal (Westhoek), since the information which it had gave it no reason to reverse the priorities established in its Decision of 22 July 1982.³ The same applies to Oudenaarde, which is not considered to have sufficiently serious regional problems, and Genk-Zuid, since its close proximity to

the Dutch frontier could prove particularly attractive for international mobile investment and could therefore have serious adverse effects on competition and on regional policy.

United Kingdom

2.1.64. The Commission decided not to raise any objections to a scheme notified by the United Kingdom Government, part of which consists in a limited geographical extension of the areas covered by the aid scheme governing assistance to inner urban areas (Inner Urban Areas Act, 1978 - IUAA). Five districts are to be included, two of which are in the Special Development Areas. The other part of the scheme consists in the promotion of six local authorities, already designated under the IUAA, to Programme Authorities. This promotion does not influence direct assistance to industry, but relates more particularly to infrastructure.

Germany

2.1.65. In November 1981 the Commission initiated the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of regional aid granted under the Joint Federal Government/Länder Programme for Improving Regional Economic Structures (Gemeinschaftsaufgabe).⁴

Following bilateral contacts, the Commission notified the Federal Government that it would close the procedure once certain employment areas had been excluded from the Joint Task aid scheme, subject to a transition period expiring on 31 December 1984. The Commission reserved the right to review the final situation in certain other employment areas before the end of 1984. The criteria used in making investment grants will also have to be altered if they are not to be equivalent to operating aids.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.42.

² OJ L 312, 9.11.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.38.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.38.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.37.

Industry aids

National plans for restructuring the steel industry

2.1.66. In accordance with its Decision of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aid to the steel industry (the steel aids code),¹ the Commission ruled on the aid measures envisaged by the various Member States and on the relevant restructuring plans on 29 June.²

Textiles

Belgium

2.1.67. On 21 December 1982³ the Commission decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of two planned measures under the aid programme for the Belgian textile and clothing industry. The measures concerned two firms, one producing women's tights and stockings and the other producing woven cotton terry fabrics and toilet and kitchen linen.

After hearing all interested parties and carefully scrutinizing both measures, the Commission decided on 22 June to raise no objection to that part of the aid to the tights and stocking manufacturer which is to be used for restructuring investment.

Similarly, the part of the proposed aid to the firm producing woven cotton terry fabrics and toilet and kitchen linen that is to be used for the construction of a new production site and showroom (which has been forced upon the firm for environmental reasons) and for restructuring investment linked to this project has been considered compatible with the common market.

However, those parts of the proposed measures for the two firms which were to be used simply to replace machinery have been considered incompatible with the common market under Article 92, because these aids would be liable to transfer difficulties from one Member State to the others and would affect trading conditions to an extent contrary to the common interest.

France

2.1.68. In a telex dated 5 May the French Government notified the Commission that the scheme of reducing employers' social security contributions in the textile and clothing industry was to continue to apply for another period of 12 months under slightly modified terms as compared to the 1982 scheme, which the Commission had found against on 12 January.⁴

On the grounds that the new plan, besides being based legally on the scheme in respect of which it had already taken a negative decision, did not include appropriate selectivity criteria or require adequate efforts on the part of the beneficiaries, and in view of the type and amount of the proposed aid, the Commission decided on 8 June to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure.

This means that the measures in question may not be put into effect until the Commission has taken a final decision.

Taking the view that the French Government had failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty by publishing and thus giving effect to the decree introducing the scheme, the Commission initiated the procedure provided in Article 169 of the Treaty on 15 June.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Insurance

2.1.69. On 13 June the Council (economic and financial affairs) resumed its examination⁵ of the proposed second Council Directive on freedom to provide services in the area of direct insurance other than life

¹ OJ L 228, 13.8.1981.

² Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12.

³ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.44.

⁴ OJ L 137, 26.5.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.25.

⁵ Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.43; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.55.

assurance.¹ The discussions once again focused on a series of fundamental questions whose solution could clear the way for progress on this Directive. They form an organic whole and are as follows:

(i) the demarcation between setting up in the insurance business and providing insurance services;

(ii) the conditions governing the taking-up of business and the effective exercise of freedom to provide services: limitation of the regulatory powers of the State in which services are provided;

(iii) supervision of the pursuit of the business of insurance: penalties in the event of failure to comply with the law in the State in which the services are provided.

In the light of its discussions, the Council agreed to return to these questions once certain technical points had been clarified.

Banks

2.1.70. On 13 June² the Council approved a Directive on the supervision of credit institutions on a consolidated basis.³ Under the Directive, any credit institution which has either a majority holding in, or otherwise effectively controls, another credit or financial institution will be subject to supervision on the basis of the consolidation of its financial situation with that of the other credit or financial institution concerned.

The Directive provides for the removal of any legal impediments to the cross-frontier flow of information necessary for the consolidation to be effected. Although the Directive applies only to credit institutions situated within the Community, provision is made for bilateral agreements between Member States and other countries to enable worldwide consolidation to be effected. Member States are to bring into force the measures needed to give effect to the Directive by 1 July 1985.

Employment, education and social policy

2.1.71. The Conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council held in Stuttgart⁴ referred to the various social and employment

problems (youth unemployment, Social Fund, vocational training) and called on the Council to actively pursue its consideration of the Commission's communications on the promotion of employment for young people⁵ and the reduction and reorganization of working time.⁶

Employment, education and social policy questions under consideration by the Council

2.1.72. Three Council meetings were held at the beginning of June to examine the main Commission proposals on employment, education and social policy questions. On 2 June, two separate meetings were held; a Council meeting of the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs and a meeting of the Council and Ministers of Education meeting within the Council. The first joint meeting of the Ministers of Labour, Social Affairs and Education was held on 3 June.

Council meeting on employment and social affairs

2.1.73. On 2 June the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs devoted most of their attention to the review of the European Social Fund. They agreed on a common position.⁷

Following its deliberations in December 1982,⁸ the Council also adopted a Resolution on measures relating to vocational training and new information technologies.⁹

In addition, it approved the proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers exposed to asbestos¹⁰ and adopted a common position with regard to the proposal for a resolution on a second Community action programme on safety and health at work.¹¹

¹ OJ C 32, 12.2.1976; Bull. EC 12-1975, point 2.1.36; Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.1.22.

² OJ L 193, 18.7.1983.

³ OJ C 258, 9.10.1981; Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.1.35; OJ C 40, 11.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.29.

⁴ Point 1.5.11.

⁵ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.1.11 *et seq.*; COM(83)211 final.

⁶ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.55.

⁷ Points 1.4.9 and 2.1.78.

⁸ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.65.

⁹ Point 2.1.81.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.95.

¹¹ Point 2.1.94.

The Council also held a preliminary discussion on the Commission communication on the promotion of employment for young people.¹

Finally, it consolidated the 1971 and 1972 regulations on the application of social security schemes to employed and self-employed persons and their families moving within the Community as a single instrument.

Meeting of the Council and Ministers of Education meeting within the Council

2.1.74. Simultaneously with the meeting of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs, the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council met for the first time this year. They adopted a resolution on the introduction of new information technologies in education,³ approved conclusions on greater mobility on higher education⁴ and exchanged information on employment problems concerning teachers.

Finally, on the basis of an oral communication from the Commission, they discussed progress with regard to the implementation of the 1977 Directive on the education of migrant workers' children.⁵

Joint meeting of the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs and the Council and Ministers of Education meeting within the Council

2.1.75. After meeting separately on 2 June, the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council held their first joint meeting on 3 June.

Their main action was to adopt a Council Resolution on vocational training policies in the 1980s⁶ and to approve the conclusions and guidelines set out in the April report of the Education Committee, the aim of which is to ensure that young people are better prepared for adult and working life.⁷

Employment

Employment and the labour market

Youth employment

2.1.76. The Economic and Social Committee delivered a unanimously favourable opinion on 1 June⁸ on the communication and draft Resolution on the promotion of youth employment.⁹

Local job-creating measures

2.1.77. Commission-sponsored consultations on local employment initiatives were continued in May and June in Attica, Brescia, Kemmel, Toulouse and Cardiff.¹⁰ The main conclusion to be drawn from the meetings is that, where certain local support structures for the creation of small businesses and workers' cooperatives exist, local employment initiatives are less isolated and have more chance to develop. They also find it easier to gain access to training programmes financed by national and regional authorities as well as European Social Fund contributions.

Financial instruments

European Social Fund

2.1.78. On 2 June the Council successfully completed its discussions on the reform of the European Social Fund.¹¹ The Ministers

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.1.11 *et seq.*; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.54.

² Point 2.1.88.

³ Point 2.1.82.

⁴ Point 2.1.84.

⁵ OJ L 199, 6.8.1977; Eleventh General Report, point 439; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.33; Bull. EC 6-1983, point 2.1.71.

⁶ Point 2.1.82.

⁷ Point 2.1.83.

⁸ Point 2.4.35; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 1.1.11 *et seq.*; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.54.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.34; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.46; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.65.

¹¹ Also Bull. EC 10-1982, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.4.30.

adopted a 'common position' on the basic Decision and the implementing Regulation, which will determine the allocation of Social Fund resources in future years. Parliament will be consulted on it pursuant to a request contained in its opinion of 17 May.¹

Apart from the prominence given to the promotion of employment for young people, one of the main features of the Council's position is the distinction it makes between regions which have priority under the regional policy, and long-term high unemployment areas which have priority in terms of employment policy.

The compromise reached generally follows the Commission's proposal² and comprises the following main elements:

(i) assistance from the Fund may be granted, firstly, to promote the employment of young people under the age of 25. At least 75% of available resources will be earmarked for this purpose;

(ii) unemployed persons (in particular the long-term unemployed), women wishing to resume work, handicapped persons, migrant workers, persons employed in small and medium-sized firms and instructors and vocational guidance or placement experts will also be eligible for assistance from the Fund;

(iii) 40% of available appropriations for activities carried out under the labour market policy of the Member States—which is basic to intervention from the Fund—will be channelled into schemes to promote employment in Greenland, Greece, the French overseas departments, Ireland, the Mezzogiorno and Northern Ireland. These regions will continue to benefit from the 10% higher intervention rate. The remaining appropriations will be concentrated on measures to develop employment in other areas of high and persistent unemployment or which are undergoing industrial and sectoral restructuring;

(iv) assistance granted from the Fund for specific operations to implement projects of an innovatory nature or to study the effectiveness of projects will not exceed 5% annually of total Fund appropriations.

Measures for the benefit of workers in the ECSC industries

2.1.79. On 7 June the Commission put before the Council a communication on means of industrial conversion and social support measures for the restructuring of the European steel industry.³ The aim of this communication is to provide a comprehensive overall picture and to highlight the links desirable between measures to restore the competitiveness of the steel industry, conversion measures and social policy measures. It lists the measures implemented or proposed by the Commission, which involve several financial instruments (conversion loans, NCI and BEI Community loans, ERDF operations, integrated operations and incentives to innovation, European Social Fund, support measures for restructuring).

Education and vocational training

Vocational training

Vocational training policy in the 1980s

2.1.80. The Resolution adopted on 3 June by the Joint Council⁴ on a proposal from the Commission⁵ sets out a comprehensive framework for Community strategy in respect of vocational training for the rest of the decade.

The Member States have thus accepted the idea, put forward by the Commission, of introducing a guarantee of basic training and/or work experience of at least six months for all young people at the end of their period of statutory schooling ('social guarantee').

The Resolution contains a series of general aims and priority themes in respect of the development of initial and continuing training at Member State level, including measures on behalf of young people. With a view to

¹ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.4.10.

² OJ C 308, 25.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

³ COM(83)355 final.

⁴ Point 1.4.1 *et seq.*; OJ C 193, 20.7.1983.

⁵ OJ C 306, 23.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.31.

supporting these endeavours, the Commission has been called on to continue its activities aimed at promoting innovation and the qualitative improvement of training structures, especially in the fields of training for young people, equal opportunities for women and for adults lacking basic skills, and of development training, as part of local job-creation initiatives.

New technologies

Introduction of the new technologies in vocational training

2.1.81. On 2 June the Council meeting on employment and social affairs adopted a Resolution on the measures relating to training and the new information technologies,¹ which the Commission had put before the Council in May 1982.² The Resolution sets out a series of measures to be taken at both Member State and Community level. As regards the latter, the Commission has been called on to set up a network of demonstration projects financed by the Social Fund and intended to encourage the transfer of promising experiments and innovations; to facilitate the exchange of information and persons; to conduct a survey of vocational qualifications in the electronics and data-processing sectors, and to involve the workers or their representatives in the process of introducing the new technologies, especially in the field of vocational training.

Introduction of new information technology in education

2.1.82. The Resolution on the introduction of new information technology in education,³ which the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council adopted on 2 June, follows the same lines. It defines a basic strategy, to be implemented before 1 January 1987, which aims at pooling the experience of the Member States in this field, particularly as regards aims and methods, education organization and the relations between schooling and vocational training. It also provides for the organization of a programme of exchanges and visits for

instructors, the carrying out of comparative analyses with a view to making educational and other software more readily transferable and machinery for the exchange of information along the lines of the Eurydice system.

All these measures will be initiated to supplement the moves on which the Community has embarked in respect of the new technologies in the field of vocational training and will be directly linked with measures related to young people's transition from school to working life.³

Transition from school to working life

Transition of young people from school to adult and working life

2.1.83. The Joint Council meeting held on 3 June examined the outcome of the first programme of pilot projects relating to the transition from school to adult and working life, which was launched in 1977.⁴ While expressing its satisfaction with the results obtained, the Council found that the problems related to this transition were rendered all the more acute by the economic recession. It stressed the importance of the conclusions reached by the Education Committee at its meeting in April⁵ and laid down a series of highly important guidelines:

- (i) increased cooperation between national, regional and local authorities, stressing the importance of local bodies;
- (ii) extended opportunities for training (learning outside the school system, links between schools, industry, commerce and the social environment, vocational training courses, etc.);
- (iii) career information throughout secondary education and the first phase of working life;

¹ Point 1.4.1 *et seq.*; OJ C 166, 25.6.1983.

² OJ C 162, 29.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.41; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.65.

³ Point 2.1.83.

⁴ Eleventh General Report, point 439; Twelfth General Report, point 429.

⁵ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.67.

(iv) greater attention to the specific needs of young people;

(v) improved motivation of the most underprivileged young people and of those with learning difficulties.

At the same time, it took the view that teacher training courses should place greater emphasis on aptitudes for explaining to young people the social and vocational implications of this phase of their education/training and should prepare teachers for increased collaboration with the working world and with officials of the placement services.

Higher education

2.1.84. On 2 June the Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council adopted conclusions on the promotion of mobility in higher education on the basis of their discussions on 24 May 1982 on the recognition of university diplomas and periods of study.¹ They also invoked the conclusions of the March European Council.²

Stress was also laid on the need to improve the information available to students by making use of the Eurydice network or the 'Student's Handbook' published annually by the Commission; to promote study periods of limited duration and courses abroad; to make greater use of twinning arrangements between institutions of higher education; to make more flexible use of the financial resources of these institutions in order to finance stays abroad; not to treat foreign students less favourably than local students as regards tuition fees; to maintain registration and insurance links between students and their institution of origin and to provide specific measures for postgraduate students.

Youth exchanges

2.1.85. On the basis of the Commission report on the second programme of exchanges of young workers for 1979-81,³ the European Parliament adopted a Resolution on 7 June urging that a special programme of exchanges of young people be set up under the EEC-ACP Convention.⁴ To this end it asked that an

appropriation of 200 000 ECU be set aside under a new heading in the general budget to cover the programme's first year.

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2.1.86. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee adopted an own-initiative opinion on young people and their role in the development of the Community.⁵

Living and working conditions, social protection

Labour law, industrial relations

2.1.87. On 15 June, the Commission adopted an amended version⁶ of its proposal for a Directive on procedures for informing and consulting employees ('Vredeling' Directive);⁷ the amendments take account of the opinion delivered by Parliament.⁸

Social security

2.1.88. On 2 June the Council⁹ consolidated Regulations 1408/71¹⁰ and 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed and self-employed persons and their families moving within the Community in a single Regulation. Parliament had given its opinion on this consolidation procedure on 16 May.¹¹

Equality between men and women

2.1.89. Parliament's Committee of Inquiry into the Situation of Women in Europe held three meetings in June. It finalized the adoption of three reports (on taxation and women's employment—the place of women in Community institutions—women and development policy) and went on to examine a

¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.36.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 1.5.3.

³ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.67; OJ L 185, 16.7.1979.

⁴ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁵ Point 2.4.36; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁶ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.7; COM(83)292 final.

⁷ OJ C 297, 15.11.1980; Supplement 3/80 — Bull. EC.

⁸ OJ C 13, 17.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.3.6.

⁹ OJ L 149, 5.7.1971.

¹⁰ OJ L 74, 27.3.1972.

¹¹ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.66.

number of other reports. It also discussed budget problems, emphasizing the role of the European Social Fund in relation to women and the budget resources needed to implement the Community's new action programme on the promotion of equal opportunities for women (1982-85)¹ and the dissemination of information.

2.1.90. The Commission took part in the second meeting of the Council of Europe's Committee for Equality between Men and Women,² held in Strasbourg from 20 to 24 June.

During the same week a seminar was organized by that Committee and the Steering Committee on the Mass Media on the contribution of the media to the promotion of equality between women and men. Three specific topics were discussed at this seminar: the role of the media as agents of social change, employment policy in the media and advertising.

Social integration of handicapped persons

2.1.91. On 15 and 16 June the Commission held the second information and discussion meeting for representatives of the major non-governmental bodies dealing with handicapped persons.³

Family policy

2.1.92. On 9 June Parliament adopted a resolution on family policy in the Community.⁴

Health and safety

Public health

2.1.93. On 29 June the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Directive relating to the protection of dialysis patients by minimizing exposure to aluminium.⁵ It lays down aluminium levels for haemodialysis fluids, dialysis concentrates, peritoneal dialysis solutions and haemofiltration solutions, specifies the quality of the diluting water used and establishes an obligation to provide information for dialysis patients.

Health and safety at work

2.1.94. On 2 June the Council arrived at a common position on the second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work,⁶ on which Parliament has still to give its opinion.

2.1.95. On the same day, the Council agreed to the proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to asbestos.⁷ By laying down uniform exposure limit values and action levels, the Directive is designed to eliminate differences between national regulations on harmful exposure to asbestos at work and to afford workers greater protection.

It contains a number of technical measures to ensure that work processes are organized in such a way as to keep the release of asbestos dust into the air as low as is reasonably practicable. It also makes provision for workers exposed to asbestos at work to undergo medical examinations, the records of which must be kept even after exposure has ceased. The Directive is to enter into force on 1 January 1987, but will not apply to asbestos mining until 1 January 1990. The levels laid down will be reviewed before the latter date in order to take account of any technical progress.

2.1.96. The problems of occupational back-pain were examined at an international seminar held in Luxembourg from 6 to 9 June. Permanent studies show that back disorders account for over a quarter of all individual absences, and are generally increasing in frequency. Recent advances in knowledge have now made it possible to reduce the incidence of these disorders

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

² The first meeting of the Council of Europe's Committee for Equality between Men and Women was held in January 1982.

³ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.72.

⁴ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁵ COM(83)368 final.

⁶ OJ C 308, 25.11.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.55.

⁷ OJ C 262, 9.10.1980; Bull. EC 9-1980, point 2.1.34; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.35; OJ C 301, 18.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.46.

by proper industrial arrangement and by improved industrial design by applying the newly established criteria of safe human capacities, It was concluded that guidance notes for industry should be prepared, that a better data base should be established and that in certain areas more research was needed.

Health and safety (ECSC)

2.1.97. The Commission decided (under Article 55(2c) of the ECSC Treaty) to grant a sum of 19.5 million ECU for 53 projects in the field of technical research on coalmining.¹

Health and safety (Euratom)

2.1.98. On 6 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting a multiannual research and training programme in the field of radiation protection (1985-89);² this decision extends the programme already in progress.³ It will cover the following fields: radiation dosimetry and its interpretation, behaviour and control of radionuclides in the environment, non-stochastic effects of ionizing radiation, radiation carcinogenesis, genetic effect of ionizing radiation and evaluation of radiation risks and optimization of protection.

Regional Policy

Coordination and programmes

Regional developments studies

2.1.99. Under Article 12 of the ERDF Regulation, the Commission decided on 7 June to grant 0.104 million ECU to finance a study closely connected with Fund operations—a technical study on the construction of a drainage and sewerage system at Monifieth, United Kingdom.

Financial Instruments

European Regional Development Fund

Revision of the Fund Regulation

2.1.100. On 21 June the Council again debated unresolved fundamental questions,⁴ in particular the concentration of quota section resources in the less prosperous Member States and the expansion of the non-quota section.⁵ Attitudes within the Council are drawing closer together for only two working hypotheses are now being considered; both are temporary solutions limited to one or two years.

Nevertheless, having failed to reach agreement on the allocation of the national quotas, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to pursue its work in the light of the current discussions and the guidelines laid down by the European Council at its meeting in Stuttgart.

2.1.101. On 9 June Parliament adopted a resolution⁶ inviting the Council to adopt the proposal for the revision of the ERDF Regulation⁵ before adopting the draft budget for 1984.

2.1.102. The Economic and Social Committee delivered a further⁷ opinion on this proposal⁵ on 2 June.⁸

¹ Point 2.1.266.

² Point 2.1.279; OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; COM(83)301 final.

³ OJ L 78, 25.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.111.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.79; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.79.

⁵ OJ C 336, 23.12.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.9.

⁶ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁷ OJ C 178, 15.7.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.4.49.

⁸ Point 2.4.43; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

ERDF aid: second 1983 allocation

2.1.103. On 7 June the Commission approved the second allocation of ERDF grants for 1983, totalling 142.23 million ECU. This contribution goes to 403 investment projects throughout the Member States costing a total of 1 120.28 million ECU.

The Fund Committee had delivered a favourable opinion on these projects on 4 May.¹ The Regional Policy Committee had been consulted on 24 and 25 March² on infrastructure projects costing more than 10 million ECU.

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

The total of 142.23 million ECU was distributed as follows:

(i) 110.05 million ECU to 278 infrastructure projects, of which 35.38 million ECU for

13 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, 74.67 million ECU for 265 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each; the total cost of the infrastructure investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 641.23 million ECU;

(ii) 32.18 million ECU for 125 projects in industrial (including small business) and service activities, of which 12.70 million ECU for 14 projects costing more than 10 million ECU each, 19.48 million ECU for 111 projects costing less than 10 million ECU each.

The total cost of the industrial (including small business) and services investment projects receiving assistance from the Fund amounts to 479.05 million ECU; 8 211 jobs will be created or preserved by these investments.

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.80.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.67.

Table 4 — Grants from the ERDF (second 1983 allocation)

	Number of grant decisions	Number of projects	Investment assisted (million ECU ¹)	Assistance granted (million ECU ¹)
Belgium	—	—	—	—
Denmark	6	26	14.01	3.00
Germany (FR)	41	85	368.49	14.97
Greece	8	11	31.22	5.77
France	—	—	—	—
Ireland	2	2	25.42	5.08
Italy	18	136	114.89	36.87
Luxembourg	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	2	4	18.66	3.28
United Kingdom	33	139	547.59	73.26
Total	110	403	1 120.28	142.23

¹ Converted at January 1983 rates.

The number of projects financed since the Fund was set up now comes to 18 305 and the total assistance granted stands at about 7 535 million ECU.

ERDF aid: non-quota measures

New non-quota measures

2.1.104. On 10 June Parliament delivered its opinion¹ on the Commission's proposals for a second series on non-quota measures.² Parliament welcomed the fact that these proposals supplement and expand the non-quota measures already under way and that their dominant themes together with the choice of declining industries will make for the creation of alternative employment. It also approved the Commission's guidelines concerning economic advisory services. The main thrust of parliament's amendments is to include in the regulations themselves the criteria for selecting the areas to receive aid under the new measures.

Specific measure in favour of Northern Ireland

2.1.105. On 21 June the Council adopted³ the Regulation instituting a specific Community measure to promote urban renewal in Northern Ireland (Belfast).⁴ The Economic and Social Committee had given a favourable opinion on 1 June.⁵

The infrastructure projects which the Community may help to finance are selected from a list to be submitted by the United Kingdom every year accompanied by all the information needed for the assessment of each project. The grants made towards these projects must be additional to national expenditure already planned. These projects are financed within the limits of the budget resources laid down during the budget procedure, as available for the period 1983 to 1989. Community aid may not exceed 70% of the cost of the investment; and this limit also applies to any combination with other Community aids. The Community's financial contribution to these projects is expected to amount to 100 million ECU over three years. Every year the

Commission must report to the Council and to Parliament on the application of this Regulation.

The Commission had already proposed a specific measure for housing in Northern Ireland as part of an integrated operation in Belfast in November 1981.⁶ The Council was unable to take a decision because of doubts expressed by the certain Member States about the Community providing finance for housing.

This is why the Commission presented its alternative proposal in March 1983.⁴ The objective is the same, namely to step up Community aid to a region experiencing considerable socio-economic difficulties. The Council changed the wording of the proposal to make the measure 'exceptional' rather than 'specific'.

Emergency relief to disaster victims

2.1.106. On 2 June the Commission decided to grant emergency relief of 275 000 ECU to the people who had suffered from the floods in Luxembourg in April and May. The Commission also decided in principle to grant emergency relief to the people of France and the Federal Republic of Germany who suffered from the floods of April and May, with the intention of putting a figure on the amounts to be paid over on the basis of official information to be supplied by the French and German authorities.

2.1.107. On 22 June the Commission decided to grant emergency relief of 425 000 ECU to the people who suffered from the landslides in the Valtellina, Sondrio province, Lombardy, Italy in May.

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² OJ C 15, 19.1.1983; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.48.

³ OJ L 171, 29.6.1983.

⁴ OJ C 138, 26.5.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.72.

⁵ Point 2.4.44; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁶ OJ C 346, 31.12.1981; Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.68.

2.1.108. On 9 June Parliament adopted resolutions¹ on:

(i) emergency measure to assist the regions of France (Alsace, Lorraine, Burgundy and the Marne valley) badly hit by the floods;

(ii) the grant of aid to the province of Bolzano, which had suffered serious damage from landslides, floods and exceptionally heavy rainfalls;

(iii) Community aid to the province of Sondrio, Lombardy, which had suffered from severe landslips and avalanches.

Environment and consumers

Environment

2.1.109. In Stuttgart the European Council stressed the need to step up the efforts to combat pollution of the environment, and in particular to take immediate action on forests.² It also welcomed the Environment Council's conclusions on lead in petrol.³

Council

2.1.110. Ministers of the Environment held their second Council meeting of the year in Luxembourg on 16 June to get the Community's action against pollution of the air and of the aquatic environment moving again. It formally adopted a Directive calling for a further reduction in exhaust gas emissions from motor vehicles⁴ and agreed to a proposal on discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment.⁵

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion covering Community support for projects to develop clean technologies and protect the environment in sensitive areas,⁶ containers of liquids for human consumption,⁷ air pollution from industrial plants and by lead,⁸ and movements of hazardous wastes.⁹ It continued its work on the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects and examined a proposal for a Regulation on financial support for projects concerning certain areas of the environment. The Council also took note of statements by

the Commission (on chlorofluorocarbons), Greece (on air pollution in the Athens area), the Netherlands (on exports of certain dangerous pesticides to non-member countries) and by Italy (on the harmonization of the programmes for the reduction of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry and environmental protection in the Mediterranean area).

Action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)

2.1.111. On 16 June the Council held a detailed exchange of views on a proposal for a Regulation which provides for the Community to grant financial aid towards projects on the development of clean technologies and the protection of the natural environment in sensitive areas of Community interest under certain conditions.¹⁰

On examination of the main problems, the Council came out generally in favour of the broad lines of the proposal. It instructed the responsible bodies to continue their work on the matter so that a Regulation could be formally adopted as soon as possible.

Environment and the economy

2.1.112. In conjunction with the Institute for Economic Research (IFO) in Munich, the Commission ran an international conference entitled 'More environmental protection for less money' in Strasbourg on 14 and 15 June. The conference provided a forum for examining the effectiveness and economic impact of the existing instruments for protecting the environment, including making the polluter pay and direct control. New

¹ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² Point 1.5.15.

³ Point 2.1.120.

⁴ Point 2.1.118.

⁵ Point 2.1.113.

⁶ Point 2.1.111.

⁷ Point 2.1.126.

⁸ Point 2.1.129.

⁹ Point 2.1.127.

¹⁰ 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.

approaches such as the 'emissions trading' system introduced in the USA were also considered.

One point which clearly emerged was that increasingly the Community's environment policy would have to recognize that any efficient approach must consist of a combination of these various instruments, tailoring them to the specific environmental, economic and institutional context in the Member States concerned.

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Freshwater and marine pollution

Cadmium discharges

2.1.113. On 16 June the Council approved the proposal for a Directive on pollution caused by discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment.¹ It is the second Directive implementing the framework Directive of 4 May 1976,² the first being the Directive on mercury discharges by the chloralkali electrolysis industry, which the Council adopted on 22 March 1982.³

Like the 1982 Directive, it adopts a twofold approach, combining Community limit values on the one hand with quality objectives on the other. For Member States which opt for the limit value approach, the Directive lays down the values which must be observed from 1 January 1986 onwards; three years later more stringent limits will be brought in. States which prefer the quality objective approach will be required to conform to the objectives which the Directive lays down for fresh water, estuarine waters and territorial (sea) waters.

In addition, whatever approach is adopted, new plants will be subject to specific provisions.

Arsenic discharges

2.1.114. On 8 June the Commission presented a communication⁴ informing the Council of its decision not to make specific proposals on arsenic to follow up the Directive of

4 May 1976 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment.² Studies had shown that arsenic and mineral compounds of arsenic were not sufficiently toxic, persistent or bio-accumulable to warrant inclusion in List 1 of the Directive. The Commission felt that for the time being it would be enough simply to continue monitoring use of the substance.

Paris and Oslo Conventions

2.1.115. As part of its work under the Paris Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources and under the Oslo Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft, the Commission sent representatives to Berlin for the meeting of the Paris Commission from 6 to 8 June and for the joint meeting of the Oslo and Paris Commissions which followed on 9 and 10 June.

A series of decisions were adopted, including one to abandon the use of polychlorinated biphenyls and of polychlorinated terphenyls in new equipment, on their current applications and on monitoring of their collection from existing equipment and of their subsequent disposal.

2.1.116. The Commission also sat in as an observer at a meeting of the Oslo Commission, in Berlin, from 15 to 17 June. A procedure for prior consultation on the dumping of wastes at sea was approved, together with a number of principles to be applied when checking whether the ships used to incinerate waste at sea were in need of repair.

¹ OJ C 118, 21.5.1981; Bull. EC 2-1981, point 2.1.34; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.98.

² OJ L 129, 18.5.1976; Tenth General Report, point 277.

³ OJ L 81, 27.3.1982; EC 3-1982, point 2.1.55.

⁴ COM(83)306 final.

Convention on the Protection of the Rhine

2.1.117. Under the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution, the Commission took part in the plenary assembly of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution held in Luxembourg on 20 June. A proposal that limit values for discharges of cadmium and deadlines for attaining them should be added to Annex IV to the Protocol was adopted. The participants also heard that a bill for ratification of the Convention had been put before the French National Assembly earlier in the month.

Air pollution

Exhaust gases from motor vehicles

2.1.118. On 16 June, with the approval of Parliament,¹ the Council again amended² its Directive of 20 March 1970³ on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from positive-ignition engines of motor vehicles.⁴

The Directive is an important new contribution to improving air quality; compared with the latest Directive adopted in this field (in 1978,⁵ it will bring about further 20% and 30% reductions in the limit values to apply to carbon monoxide emissions and to combined emissions of unburnt hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen. A new, more accurate measuring method has also been introduced to give greater impact to the reductions.

Air pollution from industrial plants

2.1.119. Also on 16 June the Council held initial talks on a Commission proposal for a Directive for tougher measures at Community level to combat air pollution.⁶

As the exchange of views progressed, it became clear that all the delegations were in favour of the Commission proposal. The Council noted the points of concern raised by some delegations and called on the relevant bodies to expedite their work on this issue. It also took note of a statement by the Greek delegation concerning measures against air pollution in the Athens area.

Lead in petrol

2.1.120. On the same date the Council exchanged views on pollution caused by lead and stated that its ultimate objective was to reduce the amount of lead in the environment. To attain this, it would see that all the measures already adopted at Community level were carried through as soon as possible. On the specific question of lead in petrol, it was willing to try to reduce the amounts used as much as possible, ending up—perhaps—with the use of lead-free petrol. With this in mind, the Council called on the Commission to make an interim report to the next Council meeting so that it could prepare to examine the proposals which the Commission will be presenting towards 15 April 1984.

2.1.121. Parliament in turn adopted a resolution on this issue on 6 June.⁷ It hoped that lead-free grades of petrol would be brought on to the market as soon as possible.

Acid rain

2.1.122. Acid rain has become a challenge which requires action by the Community bearing in mind the increasing damage caused and likely to be caused in the future and the transboundary nature of the problem. Accordingly, in a communication⁸ of 9 June the Commission drew the attention of the Heads of State and Government at Stuttgart to the need for stronger Community action on this problem, taking equal account not only of public health considerations but also of the needs of the environment and of economic factors. It gives details of the measures to be taken, which include supplementing the existing Directives (e.g. on large combustion plant and admissible levels of nitrogen dioxide), setting up a network for

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² OJ L 197, 20.7.1983.

³ OJ L 76, 6.4.1970.

⁴ OJ C 181, 19.7.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.5.

⁵ OJ L 223, 14.8.1978.

⁶ OJ C 139, 27.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.85.

⁷ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁸ COM(83)338 final.

monitoring the effects of acid rain on forests and holding an international scientific symposium next September so that the results could be drawn on to expand Community research in this field. The Commission also recommended adopting Community rules for the automobile industry with a view to eliminating lead from petrol completely, taking due account of the impact of such a move on refining costs, energy expenditure and on the carmakers themselves. As a first step, it called on the Member States to bring the lead level in their petrol down closer to the lower limit specified in existing Community legislation.

2.1.123. As a follow-up to the meeting of the European Council,¹ on 27 June the Commission put to the Council a proposal for a Regulation establishing a (five-year) Community scheme to provide forests in the Community with increased protection against fire and acid rain.² The Commission suggested that 100 million ECU would be needed to finance the scheme between 1984 and 1988.

Chemicals

Chlorofluorocarbons in the environment

2.1.124. On 16 June the Council took note of the communication sent by the Commission on 6 June³ which reexamines the measures already taken to limit CFC emissions in the light of the available scientific and economic data.⁴ It also noted that on the basis of the information at its disposal the Commission had reached the conclusion that no change was called for in the preventive policy pursued by the Community hitherto. The Commission would, however, review the situation in 1985.

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

Land

Assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects

2.1.125. The Council again examined in detail the proposal for a Directive concerning

the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects⁵ on 16 June. The proposal is that before planning permission is given the Member States ought to make an appropriate assessment of a series of projects likely to have a significant impact on the environment. The term 'project' is defined as any construction works or other substantial change to the natural environment or landscape, and in particular mining of minerals. The Council concluded by instructing the relevant bodies to continue looking into the questions of principle outstanding.

Natural resources

Containers for liquids for consumption

2.1.126. On the same day the Council held a wide-ranging policy debate on the Commission proposal for a Directive on containers of liquids for human consumption.⁶ The Council noted that the delegations had moved closer together on some of the points still outstanding and that most felt that the provisions should take the form of a Directive. It agreed to resume examination of the points outstanding as soon as Parliament had given its opinion.

Transfrontier movement of hazardous wastes

2.1.127. On the basis of the proposal put forward by the Commission on 17 January,⁷ following the opinions given by Parliament on 8 June⁸ and by the Economic and Social Committee,⁹ the Council proceeded to exchange views on transfrontier movements of hazardous wastes at its meeting on

¹ Point 1.5.15.

² OJ C 187, 13.7.1983, COM(83)375 final.

³ COM(83)284 final; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.86.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.70.

⁵ OJ C 169, 9.7.1980; Bull. EC 6-1980, point 2.1.85;

OJ C 110, 1.5.1982; Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.58.

⁶ OJ C 204, 13.8.1981; Bull. EC 4-1981, point 2.1.39.

⁷ OJ C 53, 25.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.55.

⁸ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.4.33.

16 June. At the end, the Council stated that urgent action was necessary to strengthen Community control over the transfrontier movement of hazardous wastes, recognized the need for a legally binding Community instrument to supplement the existing Directives, called for the adoption of such an instrument by the end of the year at the latest, agreed that the competent authorities in the Member States must be forewarned of transfrontier movements of hazardous wastes and, finally, agreed that more stringent conditions should be imposed on transfers of dangerous wastes.

2.1.128. On 24 June, after obtaining the opinion of Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, the Commission formally notified the Council of an amendment to the original proposal.¹

Improvement of the quality of life

Environmental awareness and education

Pilot schools

2.1.129. The annual seminar for the secondary schools in the pilot network providing teaching on the environment was held in Aberdeen from 27 June to 1 July. It gave the 28 schools concerned, from various Member States, an opportunity to review their teaching activities over the 1982/83 school year and to prepare their syllabus for 1983/84. Projects on water resources, land use, urban studies and local government are to form the backbone of the syllabus.

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International cooperation

2.1.130. The Commission joined in the fourth meeting of the Committee of International Development Institutions for the Environment (CIDIE) which was held in New York from 31 May to 3 June.² The delegates reviewed the main activities of the institutions in relation to the environment. They also discussed how to manage development projects in a manner compatible with environmental considerations and, finally, deforestation.

The Commission presented two studies—one illustrating the procedures and guidelines which the institutions had adopted in order to take due account of the environment when deciding on development aid, the other a survey and analysis of the opportunities for training on the environmental problems raised by development. The second of these topics aroused such interest that it will be taken up again at the next meeting, which is to be held in Luxembourg in 1984, at the invitation of the European Investment Bank.

2.1.131. Between 7 and 10 June the Community, as a Contracting Party to the 1979 Geneva Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,³ took part in the first meeting of the Executive Body set up by the Convention. The delegates agreed that the total annual emissions of sulphur compounds and the amounts crossing the frontiers must be reduced significantly by 1993 or 1995. Studies were already under way to ascertain the cost/benefit ratio for the various rates of reduction conceivable.

2.1.132. The United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission exchanged letters in Brussels on 21 June⁴ to formalize, reinforce and expand their longstanding cooperation on environmental protection.

Consumers

Physical protection

Cosmetic products

2.1.133. On 29 June the Commission adopted a Directive⁵ once again adapting to technical progress⁶ the Council Directive of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the

¹ OJ C 1986, 12.7.1983; COM(83)386 final.

² Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.47.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.60.

⁴ Point 2.2.73; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.59.

⁵ OJ L 63, 6.3.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.48; see also OJ L 185, 30.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.69.

⁶ OJ L 262, 27.9.1976.

laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products. The purpose of the latest adaptation is, in the interests of public health, to ban the use of orthophenylenediamine and 2,4-diaminotoluene in cosmetic products, and also to approximate the laws of the Member States on paraphenylenediamine, a substance hitherto excluded from the scope of the Directive.

Toy safety

2.1.134. To take account of the views expressed by the Economic and Social Committee¹ and of calls for amendments by Parliamentary Committees, the Commission changed the form, while maintaining the substance,² of the principles and guidelines incorporated in its original proposal for a Directive on toy safety.³ The new proposal is in three separate parts, presented together: a framework directive and two implementing directives, one on the physical and mechanical properties of toys and the other on their flammability. The earlier text has also been simplified by the deletion of provisions which were not strictly necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the directive, and by drafting changes.

These three proposals replace the original proposal.

Agriculture

2.1.135. Important agenda items at the European Council⁴ held in Stuttgart were the operation of the common agricultural policy and its development. The meeting had before it a Commission communication on future guidelines for the CAP,⁵ which reads as follows:

'1. The Commission suggests that the European Council endorses the following guidelines for further development of the common agricultural policy:

- The principles of the common agricultural policy must be safeguarded;
- A prudent pricing policy should be applied;
- Guarantees should be modulated in such a way as to discourage formation of surpluses beyond the production thresholds. This could be achieved by

application of the production thresholds and associated mechanisms already introduced for a number of products and by measures analogous to those proposed by the Commission for various sectors in its memorandum on guidelines for the common agricultural policy. To alleviate the possible consequences for certain small producers or for producers in certain less-favoured regions, these measures could be supplemented by Community and/or national intervention.⁶

In addition, the Commission will undertake a systematic examination of agricultural expenditure to determine whether further management savings are possible.

Given the harmful effects of the present agri-monetary system on agricultural production and trade, the Commission will make appropriate proposals for the gradual phasing-out of monetary compensatory amounts.

In the context of implementing the guidelines set out above, the external protection system for agriculture will have to be reviewed, bearing the Community's international commitments in mind.

The Commission considers that, if these principles are applied, agricultural expenditure will on average increase less rapidly than the Community's own resources.

It will present the necessary proposals as soon as possible so that their consequences can be taken into account in the preparation of the 1984 Budget and to enable the Council to adopt them in time for implementation as from the 1984/85 marketing year.

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2. In 1981, following its report on the mandate of 30 May 1980,⁷ the Commission analysed structural changes for various agricultural products (for example, milk products) and presented its conclusions to the Council in a memorandum entitled 'Guidelines for European Agriculture'.⁸ It found that in recent years the trend had been towards a steady increase in these areas of

¹ OJ C 185, 27.7.1981.

² COM(83)323 final.

³ OJ C 228, 8.9.1980; Bull. EC 4-1980, point 2.1.53.

⁴ Point 1.5.3.

⁵ COM(83)380 final.

⁶ These ideas are discussed in the Commission's 1981 memorandum on 'Guidelines for European Agriculture'. Bull. EC 10-1981, points 2.1.83 to 2.1.92.

⁷ OJ C 158, 27.6.1980.

⁸ Mandate of 30 May 1980: Guidelines for European Agriculture, Supplement 4/81 — Bull. EC.

production and that productivity reserves were such that this trend was bound to continue for the foreseeable future. At the same time consumption in the Community was stagnating.

The result is a constant increase in surpluses to be exported, disposed of by means of subsidies on the Community market or stored at high cost and hence a long-term burden on the budget quite independent of the short-term market situation. Following relative stabilization of expenditure over two years, during which considerably less was spent on agriculture than the amounts provided for in the budgets, this permanent feature, combined with fluctuations on the world market, led to an abrupt change in the level and growth rate of agricultural expenditure in 1983. It is to be expected that agricultural expenditure in the current year will be approximately 30% higher than in 1982, forcing the Commission to present an unusually large supplementary budget in the near future.

3. These recent developments have confirmed the soundness of the Commission's analysis. The Commission is still determined to adapt the common agricultural policy—while adhering to the basic principles of the policy—to ensure that agriculture expenditure will increase less rapidly in future than the Community's own resources.

4. As to the functioning of the market organizations, the Commission considers that for a number of products the granting of an unlimited guarantee irrespective of the quantities produced must be abolished. This will be done by modulating guarantees once a production threshold is exceeded. The modulation must be large enough to discourage production and contain expenditure.

The proposals made by the Commission in connection with the farm price review for 1982 and 1983 were based on these principles. The Council has accepted them. Production thresholds and associated mechanisms have been introduced for milk products, cereals and colza. This policy is beginning to have an effect on prices for these products but it has had no marked effect as yet on agricultural expenditure.

The Commission intends to submit to the Council proposals which will reinforce and supplement the decisions already taken by the latter in sufficient time for their consequences to be taken into account in the preparation of the 1984 Budget and for them to be adopted before the 1984/85 marketing year. In particular, the Commission proposes to employ again some of the formulas which it had set out in the above-mentioned memorandum on guidelines for European agriculture.

In the milk and milk products sector, for example, the Commission has suggested that agricultural producers whose output has increased should be required to pay a levy on their excess production ('additional levy'). It has also suggested that the guarantee system in respect of milk and milk products should be amended to ensure that it no longer constitutes an incentive to highly intensive production, which is largely industrial in character ('intensive levy').

5. Furthermore, the Commission will undertake a systematic examination of various items in the chapters of the budget devoted to agriculture to establish whether further management savings are possible. It would point out, however, that much of current agricultural expenditure is the result of political compromises in the Council.

6. The retention over very long periods of monetary compensatory amounts introduced following currency fluctuations has gradually led to serious distortions of the conditions of production and the development of agricultural trade. This situation is now having a significant influence on the unity of the price system and the functioning of the single market. The 'gentlemen's agreement' which attempted to define conditions for the gradual phasing out of monetary compensatory amounts has proved unsatisfactory.

The Commission therefore intends to submit proposals which, whilst complying with the principles of the common agricultural policy, are designed to achieve the gradual phasing-out of monetary compensatory amounts.

7. The development of agricultural trade, an area in which the Community has commitments within GATT to apply low or zero rates of duty to a number of key products, has direct effects on agriculture in the Community, as regards both surpluses and deficits. These elements will have to be borne in mind in implementing the guidelines which have just been presented.

In the light of these two considerations, the Commission proposes to examine the external protection system for agriculture and to present its conclusions to the Council, bearing the Community's international commitments in mind.

8. Implementation of the policy described above could have a negative effect on the level of agricultural support and on farm incomes. Certain categories of small producers and producers in certain less-favoured regions could be particularly affected.

If necessary, the Commission will submit proposals to remedy this situation, both by the use of existing instruments and, where appropriate, by supplementary Community and/or national intervention.'

In its statement¹ the European Council stressed the need to achieve savings in the agricultural sector by concrete measures compatible with market conditions. Such opportunities as are available must be fully exploited and the market organizations must be reviewed. The Commission was asked to make proposals by 1 August.

Council

Acquis communautaire

2.1.136. At its 13 and 14 June meeting the Council, continuing its work on the adjustment of the *acquis communautaire* for fruit and vegetables and olive oil, examined the report prepared following the meetings of the Directors-General with responsibility for markets in the Member States. The Council on 26 May had agreed that these meetings would be organized.²

The Council concluded that major progress had been achieved on questions still outstanding, though no final decision had been reached, and agreed to submit a report to the European Council.

Minimum standards for the protection of laying hens kept in battery cages

2.1.137. At the same meeting the Council examined a proposal for a Directive laying down minimum standards for the protection of laying hens kept in battery cages.³ Having failed to reach an agreement, it asked the Commission to report as soon as possible—in any event before 1 January 1985—on research work in the Community on the welfare of laying hens under different systems and on the economic and financial implications of adopting minimum Community standards.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.138. Acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council decided at its

meeting on 13 and 14 June to devalue the representative rates for the Belgian/Luxembourg franc and the Irish pound,⁴ the new rates to take effect on 20 June for all sectors except fisheries in Belgium.

2.1.139. At the same meeting the Council—pursuant to the decisions taken by the Ministers of Agriculture when they adopted the 1983/84 prices—further devalued the representative rate of the French franc,⁴ which, for the wine sector, has been fixed with effect from 11 July at the same level as for pigmeat. The effect of this adjustment is to reduce the monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) on wine and increase French wine prices by 4.05% in national currency from that date.

2.1.140. Pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 1372/81 laying down detailed rules for the calculation of monetary compensatory amounts the Commission undertook its periodic examination of the MCAs on products not listed in Annex II to the Treaty; it concluded from this review that there was no need to amend the list of products subject to MCAs at this stage.

Agricultural incomes

2.1.141. On 9 June Parliament adopted a resolution on the level of agricultural incomes,⁵ based *inter alia* on the Commission communication of March 1982 on the impact of disparities in rates of inflation on the CAP.⁶

¹ Point 1.5.3.

² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.97; also Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.1.5 and 2.1.91.

³ OJ C 208, 18.8.1981; EC 7/8-1981, point 2.1.109; OJ C 187, 22.7.1982.

⁴ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983.

⁵ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁶ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.67.

Market organizations

Adjustments to basic Regulations

Milk and milk products

2.1.142. On 9 June Parliament endorsed¹ the proposal for an amendment to the basic milk and milk products Regulation that would authorize the Community to finance entirely the aid for the sale of milk and processed milk products to schoolchildren.² Parliament requested that this programme be extended to institutions of higher education and that other products (cottage or natural white cheese made from skimmed milk and milk-based desserts) be included. It also wished this programme to be renewed annually for periods of not less than five years.

2.1.143. The Council adopted this Regulation on 30 June.³ It complied with the opinion of Parliament in laying down that the aid was to be granted for at least five years and that it would be set at 125% of the target price for milk.

Fresh fruit and vegetables

2.1.144. On 9 June Parliament adopted a favourable opinion⁴ on the proposal for an amendment to the basic Regulation on fruit and vegetables sent by the Commission to the Council in February.⁵ It felt that the adoption of the Regulation proposed would encourage observance of Community preference and called for immediate application of the measures proposed once they had been adopted by the Council.

Products processed from fruit and vegetables

2.1.145. On 10 June Parliament gave its opinion⁶ on a proposal for an amendment to the basic Regulation on processed fruit and vegetables. It endorsed the various proposals concerning the grant of aids, the laying down of quality standards and the fixing of an import price and a guarantee threshold for dried grapes.

New common market organizations

Alcohol

2.1.146. Parliament gave a favourable opinion on 8 June¹ on the amended proposal for a Regulation on the common organization of the market in ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.⁷ Parliament approves this proposal, which it believes should ensure free movement of this product in the Community, bring down the price of agricultural alcohols to that of molasses alcohol, prevent price fluctuations on the world market from affecting Community prices and take into account the traditional features of alcohol production in the various regions. It takes the view that to ensure competition on equal terms the designation and definition of, and rates of excise duties on, the various agricultural alcohols should be harmonized.

Prices and specific measures

2.1.147. On 14 June the Council adopted several regulations concerning prices and specific measures applicable to a series of products for the 1983/84 marketing year.⁸

Cereals and rice

2.1.148. Pursuant to the Council Regulation of 26 May⁹ the Commission laid down detailed rules for the transfer of 450 000 tonnes of common wheat of bread-making quality from the French to the Italian intervention agency,¹⁰ 50 000 tonnes from the German to the United Kingdom agency¹⁰ and 50 000 tonnes from the German to the Irish intervention agency.¹¹ These 550 000

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² OJ C 75, 19.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.100.

³ OJ L 183, 7.7.1983.

⁴ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁵ OJ C 74, 18.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.87.

⁶ OJ C 94, 8.4.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.119.

⁷ OJ C 193, 31.7.1979; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.1.97; OJ C 309, 31.12.1976.

⁸ OJ L 163, 22.6.1983.

⁹ OJ L 138, 27.5.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 150, 8.6.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

tonnes of common wheat must be put up for sale, for use in animal feed, before 1 August 1984.

2.1.149. On 14 June the Council fixed a carryover payment for common wheat and rye used for human consumption, harvested in the Community and in stock at the end of the 1982/83 marketing year.¹ The carryover payment is also granted for maize harvested in the Community and in stock in surplus production areas.

2.1.150. Lastly, on 30 June the Council fixed the amount of the aid for durum wheat for 1983/84.²

2.1.151. In view of the concern about the market in common wheat of bread-making quality in relation to the reference price in some regions of the Community, the Commission made provision for the application of a special intervention measure in the form of buying-in at the end of the marketing year. This scheme is, however, restricted to the quantities needed to support the market in common wheat of bread-making quality at the minimum-quality price level in specific geographical areas as follows: Netherlands 50 000 tonnes;³ Belgium 50 000 tonnes;⁴ Federal Republic of Germany 300 000 tonnes;⁴ France 400 000 tonnes.⁴

In the case of Germany and France the scheme is applicable only in the Länder and departments in which the support price level has not been reached or in which market trends suggest that it may not be reached.

2.1.152. On 15 June the Commission adopted arrangements for the protection of the Greek cereal and rice processing industry for 1983/84.⁵

2.1.153. On 22 June the Commission set the threshold prices for cereals and certain classes of flour, groats and meal for 1983/84.⁶

Fresh fruit and vegetables

2.1.154. On 20 June the Commission set the minimum purchase price for lemons delivered to processors (6.5% increase) and the financial compensation payable after the lemons have been processed (10% increase) for 1983/84.⁷

2.1.155. On the same day it determined the maximum levels of the withdrawal prices for tomatoes grown under glass for the 1983 marketing year.⁷

2.1.156. On 23 June it set the reference prices for pears for 1983/84 and the Community offer price for pears applicable with regard to Greece.⁸

Wine

2.1.157. To take account of the adjustment of the central rates of some currencies,⁹ the Commission on 8 June adjusted the special rates for the conversion into national currencies of the free-at-frontier reference prices for imported liqueur wines.¹⁰ On 27 June some of these rates were adjusted,¹¹ in the light of the current monetary situation, for application from 1 July until 15 December.

2.1.158. On 10 June the Commission adopted the detailed rules for the implementation of aid for the storage of quality wines produced in specified regions.¹²

2.1.159. On 3 June the Commission put to the Council a proposal for a Regulation abolishing the accession compensatory amount applicable to liqueur wines.¹³ This measure, which will take effect on 16 December, is necessary because there is a minimal difference between the prices of Greek liqueur wines and the reference prices for imported liqueur wines.

2.1.160. The Commission adopted on 30 June its annual report on foreseeable trends in the planting and replanting of vineyards in

¹ OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

² OJ L 180, 5.7.1983.

³ OJ L 143, 2.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 145, 3.6.1983.

⁵ OJ L 158, 16.6.1983.

⁶ OJ L 164, 23.6.1983.

⁷ OJ L 161, 21.6.1983.

⁸ OJ L 165, 24.6.1983.

⁹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.8.

¹⁰ OJ L 151, 9.6.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 169, 28.6.1983.

¹² OJ L 153, 11.6.1983.

¹³ OJ C 156, 15.6.1983; COM(83)337 final.

the Community and on the balance of production and consumption in the wine sector.¹

Milk and milk products

2.1.161. On 30 June the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, authorized the transfer of skimmed-milk powder to the Italian intervention agency by the agencies of the other Member States,² as Italy was experiencing supply difficulties.

2.1.162. The Commission adopted a group of regulations on 3 June³ determining the new amounts of aids for milk and milk products following the Council decisions on agricultural prices.

2.1.163. The Commission granted licences in June for the sale of 30 000 tonnes of butter to the Soviet Union. This was the first time it had authorized such a sale since the invasion of Afghanistan. In March the Commission had reintroduced advance fixing of refunds on exports to the USSR.⁴ The arrangements feature safeguards enabling the Commission to monitor the quantities sold and the destinations and to ensure that any sales are at the world price, as requested by Parliament.⁵

Beef/veal

2.1.164. On 29 June the Commission set the intervention buying-in prices for forequarters of beef valid with effect from 4 July.⁶

Sheepmeat

2.1.165. On 23 June the Commission laid down implementing rules for the payment of the variable slaughter premium for sheep,⁷ the Council having taken formal note of them when it adopted the 1983/84 prices and related measures. There is to be a maximum period between certification and slaughter (or export), and carcasses must be marked in the region in which the variable premium is paid.

Sugar

2.1.166. On 16 June the Commission adopted a Regulation⁸ suspending the appli-

cation in the sugar sector of certain provisions of the Regulation of November 1979 concerning the system of export refunds.⁹

2.1.167. On 24 June the Commission also fixed the flat-rate amount provided for under the system of minimum stocks in the sugar sector.¹⁰

2.1.168. Lastly, on 24 June the Commission amended¹⁰ the Regulation laying down detailed rules for the buying-in by the intervention agencies of sugar manufactured from beet and cane harvested in the Community.¹¹ The purpose of the amendment is to adjust the maximum which may be reimbursed for storage costs where a storage contract is concluded between an offerer and an intervention agency from 0.035 ECU/100 kg to 0.040 ECU per ten-day period.

Processed fruit and vegetables

2.1.169. On 15 June the Commission adopted amendments to the 1978 Regulation laying down rules for the application of the system of aid in respect of certain processed fruit, limiting the aid to a maximum weight, packaging included.⁸

2.1.170. On the same day it also determined the minimum prices and amounts of production aid for tomatoes and derived products, hard cherries and Morello cherries and peaches and the dates between which processing contracts must be concluded for 1983/84.⁸

2.1.171. On 15 June the Commission, acting under the 1982 Regulation fixing the

¹ COM(83)412 final.

² OJ L 180, 5.7.1983.

³ OJ L 146, 4.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 70, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.111.

⁵ OJ C 292, 8.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.4.18.

⁶ OJ L 172, 30.6.1983.

⁷ OJ L 165, 24.6.1983.

⁸ OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

⁹ OJ L 317, 12.12.1979.

¹⁰ OJ L 166, 25.6.1983.

¹¹ OJ L 246, 27.9.1977.

quantities of Williams pears and sweet and Morello cherries eligible for processing aid¹ and on the basis of production estimates, determined the limits for the grant of production aid for these products.²

Tobacco

2.1.172. On 21 June the Council fixed, for the 1983 harvest, the intervention prices and premiums granted to purchasers of leaf tobacco, the derived intervention prices for baled tobacco and the reference qualities.³

2.1.173. The Commission extended until 31 December the time limit for the grant of export refunds on raw tobacco from the 1980 and 1981 crops.⁴ The reason for the extension is that there is at the present time scope for export of the varieties of tobacco in these two crops.

2.1.174. Lastly, the Commission proposed to the Council on 21 June that the amount allocated for special aid for individual or associated tobacco growers whose premises or tobacco-handling installations were damaged by the earthquake in Italy in November 1980 be increased by 20 million ECU.⁵ The initial appropriation was 20.3 million ECU.⁶

Seeds

2.1.175. On 29 June the Commission set the 1983/84 reference prices for the three types of hybrid maize for sowing (double and top cross hybrids, three-cross hybrids and single hybrids).⁷

2.1.176. On 9 June Parliament approved⁸ the proposal for a Council Regulation fixing the amounts of aid granted for seeds for the 1984/85 and 1985/86 marketing years.⁹ Parliament took the view, however, that the organization of the market for seeds should be redefined to take account of long-term trends and that durum wheat seeds should be added to the products eligible for aid.

Bee-keeping

2.1.177. On 28 June the Council fixed the maximum percentage of the aid for bee-keeping which may be devoted to the purchase of feeding sugar for the 1983/84 marketing year.¹⁰

Structures

Integrated Mediterranean programmes

2.1.178. In the statement adopted at the end of its meeting in Stuttgart,¹¹ the European Council took note of the Commission communication of March on integrated Mediterranean programmes¹² and asked the Council to study the proposals to be put forward by the Commission.

Amendments to Directives

2.1.179. Parliament having given its opinion,¹³ the Council adopted the Regulation on the programme for the acceleration of collective irrigation works in the Mezzogiorno on 28 June.¹⁴

2.1.180. On 23 June the Commission decided to adjust the boundaries of the less-favoured areas in Greece¹⁵ within the meaning of the 1975 Directive on mountain and hill farming in certain less-favoured areas.¹⁶

Forestry

2.1.181. On 9 June Parliament adopted a resolution on the need to improve forest-fire protection.¹⁷

¹ OJ L 218, 27.7.1982.

² OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

³ OJ L 170, 28.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983.

⁵ OJ C 187, 13.7.1983; COM(83)345 final.

⁶ OJ L 58, 2.3.1982.

⁷ OJ L 172, 30.6.1983.

⁸ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁹ OJ C 31, 5.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.77.

¹⁰ OJ L 177, 1.7.1983.

¹¹ Point 1.5.3.

¹² Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.13 and 3.4.1 to 3.4.3.

¹³ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.104.

¹⁴ OJ L 180, 5.7.1983.

¹⁵ OJ L 186, 9.7.1983.

¹⁶ OJ L 128, 19.5.1975.

¹⁷ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

Coordination of agricultural research

2.1.182. On 13 June¹ the Economic and Social Committee endorsed a proposal for a Council Decision adopting joint research programmes and programmes for coordinating agricultural research.²

Agricultural legislation

Veterinary legislation

Swine fever

2.1.183. The situation with regard to classical swine fever in the Federal Republic of Germany led the Commission to decide on 16 June to restrict trade in live pigs from four regions of Germany.³

2.1.184. In the light of the progress of the disease in the Netherlands, the Commission adopted two Decisions⁴ requiring Member States to prohibit the introduction into their territory of live pigs coming from Dutch areas in which the situation has as yet not been totally clarified.

2.1.185. On 8 June, in view of the improvement in the situation with regard to African swine fever in Italy,⁵ the Commission amended⁶ the Decision it had adopted on 25 March⁷ so as progressively to lift the ban and restore trade in certain categories of products area by area.

Animal feed

2.1.186. On 17 June the Commission amended,⁸ after Parliament had given its opinion,⁹ the proposal for a Directive on the manufacture, putting into circulation and supply of medicated feedingstuffs.¹⁰ Among the amendments are provisions concerning control of production and marketing, indication of the manufacturer of intermediate products incorporated into feedingstuffs and supervision of distribution on the basis of prescriptions issued by veterinarians.

Seeds and propagating material

2.1.187. On account of the insufficient production of reproductive material of certain

forestry species, the Commission decided¹¹ on 6 June to authorize Member States to permit until 29 February 1984 the marketing of forest reproductive material not satisfying the requirements of the 1966 Directive.¹²

2.1.188. On 10 June¹³ Parliament adopted a resolution on the transport of horses intended for slaughter.

Competition

2.1.189. 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:

Germany

Schleswig-Holstein: improvement of conditions for processing and marketing milk and milk products by dairies.

France

Aid for the reorganization of wine cooperatives in Armagnac.

Netherlands

Aid for energy-saving drying facilities for green forage.

Italy

Friuli-Venezia Giulia: establishment of a regional fund to provide aid for agriculture following the 1976 earthquakes; aid for the establishment of regional cooperatives.

¹ OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

² OJ C 27, 2.2.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.185.

³ OJ L 171, 29.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983; OJ L 171, 29.6.1983.

⁵ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.124.

⁶ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983.

⁷ OJ L 93, 13.4.1983.

⁸ OJ C 182, 8.7.1983; COM(83)378 final.

⁹ OJ C 128, 16.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.121.

¹⁰ OJ C 41, 16.2.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.1.59.

¹¹ OJ L 157, 15.6.1983.

¹² OJ L 125, 11.7.1966.

¹³ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

The Commission also recommended Italy to ensure that aids were not granted to the region of Calabria for increasing and improving the production of potatoes (aids per hectare and for the purchase of seed).

Greece

Aids to increase livestock productivity in 1983; aids for tobacco growers who suffered damage as a result of natural disasters in 1980; aids for poultry farmers who suffered losses following natural disasters (snow in 1982); aids for beekeepers to compensate for damage caused by the spraying of fruit trees.

2.1.190. The Commission decided to initiate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the following aids:

Italy

Calabria: bill on the export of horticultural, olive and wine products.

Campania: rationalization of apricot growing (aids per hectare).

2.1.191. The Commission also decided to terminate the Article 93(2) procedure in respect of the following aids:

Italy

Friuli-Venezia Giulia: bill to provide aids for agriculture (aids for facilities in ordinary and less-favoured areas, aids for the construction of an animal feed mill, compensation for damage caused by heavy rain, tornadoes and hail during the summer of 1982 and compensation for silkworm rearers for earthquake damage).

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Guarantee Section

2.1.192. The Commission adopted the provisional accounts for EAGGF Guarantee Section payments for 1982, which total 12 406 million ECU, broken down as shown in Table 5. This figure is 13% up on expenditure in 1981, as a result of appreciably larger Community commitments in a number of agricultural sectors. The percentage is, however, well below the average for 1976 to 1979 (23%).

Table 5 — *Provisional accounts for 1982 payments*

Sector	Expenditure 1981		Expenditure 1982	
	Million ECU	%	Million ECU	%
Cereals and rice	1 943	17.7	1 875	15.1
Milk and milk products	3 343	30.4	3 328	26.8
Oils and fats	1 025	9.3	1 214	9.8
Sugar	768	7.0	1 242	10.0
Beef/veal, sheepmeat, pigmeat, eggs and poultrymeat	1 867	17.0	1 626	13.1
Fruit and vegetables, wine, tobacco	1 462	13.3	2 107	17.0
Other	495	4.5	701	5.7
Total agricultural products	10 903	99.2	12 093	97.5
Accession compensatory amounts	token entry	—	token entry	—
Monetary compensatory amounts	238	2.2	313	2.5
Provisional appropriations (clearance of previous years)	- 161	- 1.4	—	—
Grand total	10 980	100.0	12 406	100.0

Guidance Section

2.1.193. Under the Council Regulation of 15 February 1977 on 'common measures' to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed,¹ the Commission adopted a first batch of decisions granting EAGGF guidance aid for 1983 on 13 June. Altogether 283 projects qualified for a total of 110.6 million ECU. Of this, 'normal' appropriations amount to 71.09 million ECU (232 projects), 33.7 million ECU goes to 37 projects in the Mediterranean regions of the Community, 4.9 million ECU to nine projects in the West of Ireland and 1.0 million ECU to four projects in Northern Ireland.

2.1.194. Additional aid was also granted for nine Greek projects included in the second batch for 1982,² amounting to 6.4 million

ECU, under Regulation No 3164/82 of 22 November 1982³ on the application of Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 in Greece.¹

For the projects in Mediterranean areas, the West of Ireland and Northern Ireland and all regions of Greece except Greater Athens, the contribution by the EAGGF Guidance Section to projects amounts to up to 50% of the total cost of the proposed investment.

The breakdown by Member State is shown in Table 6.

2.1.195. On 13 June, acting under the Council Regulation of 6 February 1979 establishing a common measure for forestry in certain Mediterranean zones of the Community,⁴ the Commission adopted a series of decisions on 13 French and Italian special programmes totalling 42.5 million ECU broken down as follows:

	Number of projects	Aid in national currency	Aid in ECU ¹
France	4	FF 93 374 306	13 626 730
Italy	9	LIT 39 029 782 185	28 857 723
Total	13		42 484 453

¹ June 1983 rate.

2.1.196. On 10 June Parliament adopted a resolution on the utilization of EAGGF appropriations in the fruit and vegetable sector.⁵ Parliament noted that expenditure on this sector had increased substantially since 1975, two of the reasons being the adoption by the Council of the 'Mediterranean package' in 1977, which introduced processing aids, and the accession of Greece.

As regards withdrawals from the market (2% of the harvest in 1980/81), it wishes more products withdrawn from the market to be distributed to social groups in special need and to charities than in the past, and hopes that the system of preventive withdrawals will be extended.

Parliament is also concerned about irregularities and frauds and feels that stricter control of the operations of producers' organizations and processing companies is needed. It calls upon the Council to adopt as soon as possible the proposals put forward by the Commission in March 1982 for stepping up the monitoring of the implementation of Community rules on agricultural products.⁶

¹ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

² Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.139.

³ OJ L 332, 27.11.1982.

⁴ OJ L 38, 14.2.1979.

⁵ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁶ OJ C 79, 31.3.1982.

Table 6 — *First instalment of EAGGF Guidance Section aid under Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 for 1983*I. *Normal appropriations*

	Carryovers (in national currency)		New appropriations		Total aid granted		Number of projects		
			National currency	ECU ¹	National currency	ECU ¹			
Belgium	BFR	83 999 472	BFR	44 668 444	989 396	BFR	128 667 916	2 849 965	20
Denmark	DKR	6 119 407	DKR	18 199 175	2 259 425	DKR	24 318 582	3 019 149	12
Germany (FR)	DM	17 846 556	DM	11 100 730	4 897 632	DM	28 947 286	12 771 523	54
Greece	—	—	DR	981 275 835	12 715 241	DR	981 275 825	12 715 241	16
France	FF	33 586 718	FF	45 339 308	6 669 674	FF	78 926 026	11 610 471	48
Ireland	IRL	53 762	IRL	1 958 255	2 729 218	IRL	2 012 017	2 804 146	15
Italy	LIT	2 039 699 112	LIT	15 000 435 042	11 120 494	LIT	17 040 134 154	12 672 612	26
Luxembourg	LFR	1 620 301	LFR	2 744 752	60 796	LFR	4 365 053	96 685	1
Netherlands	HFL	7 595 988	HFL	2 386 178	936 520	HFL	9 982 166	3 917 770	6
United Kingdom	UKL	1 531 964	UKL	3 563 066	6 070 227	UKL	5 095 030	8 680 160	35
Total					48 448 623			71 097 722	233

II. *Mediterranean areas — Regulation (EEC) No 1361/78*

France	—	FF	43 890 786	6 456 587	FF	43 890 786	6 456 587	23	
Italy	LIT	9 753 636 619	LIT	26 950 283 849	19 979 453	LIT	36 703 920 468	27 210 260	14
Total				26 436 040			33 666 847	37	

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

Ireland	IRL	1 089 080	IRL	2 422 378	3 376 066	IRL	3 511 458	4 893 916	9
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IV. *Animal feed in Northern Ireland — Regulation (EEC) No 1943/81*

United Kingdom	—	UKL	562 263	957 901	UKL	562 263	957 901	4
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¹ May 1983 rate.

Fisheries

Council

2.1.197. The Ministers for Fisheries held a Council meeting in Luxembourg on 20 June and discussed the proposals on TACs and fishing quotas for 1983, adopted by the Commission on 20 April¹ and amended in June² as a result especially of the consultations with Norway on herring stocks.³

Most of the delegations expressed dissatisfaction with the Commission's proposals, which provided for somewhat smaller catches than in 1982. The Commission was called upon to present its proposals for TACs and quotas in future before the beginning of the year in which they were to apply.

The Council agreed to return again later to the subject of 1983 TACs and quotas and the structural and technical measures put forward by the Commission. Greece stated that approval of the 1983 TACs and quotas must be linked to a satisfactory solution on the structural measures.

The Member States objected specifically to the North Sea herring TAC, managed jointly with Norway, and the way it was divided into quotas. Discussion centred on the provisional quotas allocated by the Council on 26 May⁴ for the taking of herring in the northern and central areas of the North Sea (ICES divisions IV a and IV b) by Community and Norwegian fishermen.⁴

The Council adopted Regulations allocating catch quotas for 1983 among Member States in the waters off Norway, Sweden and the Faroes and in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention.⁵

2.1.198. Since the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Norway were about to exhaust their provisional herring quotas, a special meeting of Fisheries Ministers was called on 30 June at the request of the Commission to avoid a suspension of fishing activities. Despite several compromise proposals, the Council was unable to agree on new quotas, either unanimously or by qualified majority.

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.199. In the field of national conservation measures, the Commission on 31 May approved UK draft legislation confining the prohibition on the taking of scallops along the Welsh coast to 1 July-31 October each year. The provisions are in accordance with Article 19 of Regulation (EEC) No 171/83 of 25 January 1983⁶ because they relate to the management of local stocks; they amend a previous measure approved by the Commission in 1982⁷ which prohibited the taking of scallops during the second half of each year.

2.1.200. On 8 June and 29 June the Commission took note of three Danish measures temporarily banning the fishing of saithe, cod and a number of other species in the North-East Atlantic and cod in the Baltic. The Commission found that they were in accordance with Article 20 of Regulation (EEC) No 171/83 and with Article 5(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 170/83 (both of 25 January 1983)⁶ but stated that it might review their compatibility with Community law and the common fisheries policy at any time. The Commission also reminded the Danish authorities that they must manage their fish stocks in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 198/82⁸ or, in the case of North Sea herring, Regulation (EEC) No 1353/83 of 26 May 1983⁹ until final 1983 TACs and quotas were fixed.

External aspects

Bilateral relations

2.1.201. On 20 June the Council adopted Regulations allocating 1983 catch quotas

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.5.

² COM(83)385 final.

³ Point 2.1.202.

⁴ OJ L 139, 28.5.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.135.

⁵ Point 2.1.201.

⁶ OJ L 24, 27.1.1983.

⁷ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.78.

⁸ OJ L 25, 27.1.1983.

⁹ OJ L 139, 28.5.1983.

between the Member States in the waters off Norway, Sweden and the Faroes and in the Regulatory Area defined in the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the North-West Atlantic Fisheries.¹

2.1.202. Following recommendations made by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) regarding North Sea herring; consultations between the Community and Norway were held in Oslo on 7 June; TACs for herring in ICES divisions IV a, IV b, IV c and VII d were fixed and the way they were to be shared between the parties was agreed.

2.1.203. Consultations between the Community, Norway and Sweden were held in Bergen on 13 and 14 June on regulating fishing in the Skagerrak and Kattegat in 1983, particularly sprat fishing. The consultations will continue in the next few weeks.

Multilateral relations

2.1.204. The Commission has negotiated two new agreements dealing with tunny fishing in the Gulf of Guinea. The first, with Equatorial Guinea, was initialled in Brussels on 27 June while the second, with São Tome and Principe, is in the process of being approved by written procedure.

These agreements will allow the tunny fleet to continue fishing in the waters of those two countries; compensation will be paid from the Community budget, while the owners of the vessels concerned will pay fees in proportion to the amount of fish caught.

The Community has already signed agreements with three other African countries—Senegal,² Guinea³ and Guinea-Bissau.⁴

Markets and structures

Market organization

2.1.205. As part of the process of updating the regulations relating to the new common organization of markets, the Commission adopted:

(i) a Regulation defining the administrative expenses of producers' organizations in the fishery products sector,⁵

(ii) a Regulation on the disposal of certain fishery products which have been the subject of measures to stabilize the market.⁶

2.1.206. The Commission adopted a Regulation⁶ amending Regulation (EEC) No 3509/82 fixing 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 1983.⁷

Structures

2.1.207. The Commission decided on 29 June to grant approximately 8.1 million ECU in aid from the EAGGF Guidance Section to 25 investment projects in the fisheries sector as part of the first 1983 instalment under Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural (and fishery) products are processed and marketed.⁸

Of these projects, 19 are to be financed from general appropriations, three from appropriations earmarked for the Mediterranean regions and three from appropriations for the West of Ireland (see Table 7).

2.1.208. The Commission raised no objection to the introduction in France of an investment aid scheme in the sea fishing sector. Aid is in the form of subsidies or low-interest loans to investment in artisanal and industrial fishing and on-shore investment. The total set aside for the scheme in 1983 is 91.82 million ECU.

¹ OJ L 169, 28.6.1983.

² Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.93; Thirteenth General Report, point 352.

³ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.118.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.132.

⁵ OJ L 149, 7.6.1983.

⁶ OJ L 152, 10.6.1983.

⁷ OJ L 368, 28.12.1982.

⁸ OJ L 51, 23.2.1977.

Table 7 — *First 1983 instalment of aid from the EAGGF Guidance Section*

	Number of projects	Aid (ECU)
1. General appropriations		
Belgium	2	210 980
Denmark	2	490 195
Germany (FR)	2	73 043
France	2	361 128
Ireland	2	176 037
Italy	2	870 811
United Kingdom	7	1 301 387
Total	19	3 483 581
2. Mediterranean appropriations		
France	1	158 341
Italy	2	3 133 782
Total	3	3 292 123
3. West of Ireland appropriations		
Ireland	3	1 366 515
Total	25	8 142 219

Transport

2.1.209. In the Conclusions of the Presidency¹ the Stuttgart European Council emphasized the importance of transport policy in completing the internal market. It noted with interest the ideas expounded in the memorandum submitted by the Netherlands Government on all aspects of transport policy.²

Council meeting

2.1.210. On 7 June the Council approved a Decision extending to international passenger traffic the commercial independence already enjoyed by the railways concerning goods traffic between Member States.³

In the road transport sector, the Council took a favourable view of the proposed Directive

simplifying administrative formalities for removals between Member States.⁴

The Ministers also took a favourable view (one delegation giving its agreement subject to confirmation of the Regulation on the formation of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁵ Lastly, they held a further discussion on the proposal for a Directive on the weight and certain other characteristics (not including dimensions) of road vehicles used for the carriage of goods.⁶

¹ Point 1.5.14.

² Points 2.1.210 and 3.4.1.

³ Point 2.1.219.

⁴ Point 2.1.224.

⁵ OJ C 265, 9.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.88.

⁶ OJ C 16, 18.1.1979; Bull. EC 9-1981, point 2.1.110.

The Council considered the proposed Regulation on financial support for transport infrastructure¹ and discussed the extension of the Commission's brief to negotiate a Community contribution towards the funding of the Innkreis-Pyhrn motorway (IKPA) in Austria.²

The Council agreed to the proposal for a Regulation on the liberalization of scheduled interregional passenger air services between Member States.³

The Council approved a framework Decision that the taking of counter-measures against non-Community countries in the maritime transport sphere should be subject to the consultation of the Member States and the Commission.⁴ The Council also approved a Recommendation calling on the Member States to ratify or accede to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue.⁵

The Council took formal note of the Commission's second interim report on the implementation of the 1979 Regulation concerning the ratification by Member States of the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences.⁶ At the same meeting it emphasized the importance of adopting the proposal for a Regulation laying down detailed rules for the application of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty to maritime transport⁷ in view of the fact that the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences comes into force on 6 October 1983.

During the discussions on the proposal for a Resolution on a priority programme 1983-85⁸ the Netherlands Delegation submitted a memorandum on the common transport policy.⁹ The Council decided to examine this memorandum at the same time as the proposed Resolution.

At the close of the meeting the Council took note of three statements: one by the Dutch Government concerning acts of piracy against Community vessels committed in the port of Lagos or at sea nearby, one by the French Government concerning the situation of the merchant fleets of the Member States of the Community particularly with regard to unfair practices by non-EEC shipping companies, and one by the German Government concern-

ing limit values for exhaust fumes from road vehicles.

Inland transport

Common policy for inland transport

2.1.211. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion¹⁰ on the proposal for a Council Resolution on the implementation, in stages, of a series of measures in the field of the common transport policy.¹¹ This proposal accompanied the Commission communication of 11 February.

Infrastructures

Support for projects of Community interest

2.1.212. The Council once again examined the draft Regulation¹² presented by the Commission in 1980 amending its proposal¹³ of 1976 on support for projects of Community interest in transport infrastructure.

It asked the Commission to prepare as soon as possible a proposal for a Regulation to enable it to spend the 15 million ECU entered in the Budget for 1983. A similar procedure¹⁴ was followed last year after Parliament entered a sum of 10 million ECU in the Budget for 1982.

¹ Point 2.1.212.

² Point 2.1.230.

³ Point 2.1.229.

⁴ Point 2.1.227.

⁵ Point 2.1.228.

⁶ OJ L 121, 17.5.1979; Thirteenth General Report, point 378.

⁷ OJ C 282, 5.11.1981; Bull. EC 9-1981, points 2.1.27 and 2.1.119.

⁸ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.128.

⁹ Point 3.5.1 *et seq.*

¹⁰ Point 2.4.40; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

¹¹ OJ C 154, 13.6.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.128.

¹² OJ C 89, 10.4.1980; Bull. EC 2-1980, point 2.1.79.

¹³ OJ C 207, 2.9.1976; Bull. EC 6-1976, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.4.

¹⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.151; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.155.

Experimental programme

2.1.213. On 10 June¹ Parliament adopted a favourable opinion on the Commission communication to the Council on an experimental transport infrastructure programme.² It approves the method chosen by the Commission for the selection of projects and considers that only projects which combine both national and Community interest and which facilitate the movement of persons and goods between Member States should receive Community funding. Projects should cover all modes of transport. Parliament underlined the important contribution to the fight against unemployment which could be made by an intensive investment programme in the transport sector.

Fixed cross-Channel link

2.1.214. On 10 June parliament adopted³ a new resolution on the construction of a fixed cross-Channel link.⁴ This resolution is particularly concerned with the possibilities of Community funding for such a link, and also refers to the Council Regulation of December 1982 on the granting of limited support in the field of transport infrastructure.⁵

Approximation of structures

International railway cooperation

2.1.215. On 16 June the Commission sent to the Council a progress report on international railway cooperation.⁶ This report gives details of work undertaken following the Commission communication of May 1982 and updates the report⁷ sent to the Council in December 1982.

2.1.216. On 29 June the Commission forwarded to the Council a communication on obstacles to closer international railway cooperation.⁸ It comes under the action programme on international railway cooperation⁹ which the Commission sent to the Council in May 1982, and deals more specifically with the railways' statutes in the context of general external obstacles, and concludes that there is no need for general Community action.

2.1.217. On 29 June the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation to railway undertakings in the Member States on strengthening their cooperation in the commercial management of international passenger and goods transport by rail.¹⁰ The Recommendation's aim is to promote the adoption and implementation of new instruments and procedures based on the common interests of railway companies. This would be done through marketing, sales and rate-setting strategies designed to enable railway companies to present themselves on international transport markets as a single carrier and to assess the profitability of the services to be offered to their customers in relation to the aggregate costs and revenue in respect of the traffic links concerned.

Combined transport

2.1.218. On 15 June the Commission forwarded to the Council a communication and a proposal for a Recommendation to railway companies and piggyback companies in the Member States on combined transport.¹¹ The Commission proposes that the Council recommend to railway and piggyback companies that they hand over, in the near future, management responsibilities to the new international piggyback transport company, Interunit, which was set up in October 1982 by a number of railway companies and national piggyback companies. New piggyback companies should also join Interunit as and when they are formed.

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.156.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ OJ C 144, 15.6.1981; Bull. EC 5-1981, point 2.3.8; OJ C 125, 17.5.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.1.88.

⁵ OJ L 376, 31.12.1982.

⁶ COM(83)347 final.

⁷ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.137; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.157.

⁸ COM(83)396 final.

⁹ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.137.

¹⁰ COM(83)404 final.

¹¹ OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; COM(83)331 final.

Operation of the market

Commercial independence of the railways

2.1.219. Parliament¹ and the Economic and Social Committee² having given favourable opinions, the Council approved the proposal for a Decision on the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage traffic³ which the Commission had presented in December 1982. This Decision ties in with that adopted by the Council on 19 July 1982 on the fixing of rates for the international carriage of goods by rail.⁴

Fixing of rail rates for container and piggyback transport

2.1.220. On 24 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Recommendation to railway companies on the fixing of rail rates for international container or piggyback transport.⁵ The present structure of combined transport rates does not meet the needs arising from the special features of an international market. For the rail leg of combined transport operations rates are mostly formed by adding together national tariffs which are based on differing cost levels and structures. The Commission proposes that the Council send a recommendation to railway companies underlining the need for through tariffs based on the overall link which will ensure degressivity of tariffs in proportion to the total distance covered.

Access to the market.

Community quota

2.1.221. On 15 June the Commission sent to the Council a proposal⁶ amending the Council Regulation of 16 December 1976 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.⁷ This proposes a new method of adjusting the Community quota. The method would apply for five years and would be based on trends in transport demand. The ultimate aim of this system is to organize the international road haulage market in such a way as to render the

quota superfluous as an instrument to regulate access to the markets for the carriage of goods between Member States. The second part of the proposal hence provides for subsequent abolition of the quotas and their replacement by a system of market access based on the individual operator, his efficiency and productivity.

Liberalization of frontier traffic

2.1.222. On 23 June the Commission adopted, with a view to transmission to the Council, a proposal for a Directive⁸ which r States which do not have a common land frontier with other Member States benefit from the liberalization measures in respect of frontier traffic and traffic to and from frontier areas.

Non-resident carriers

2.1.223. On 2 June the Economic and Social Committee delivered a favourable opinion⁹ on the proposal for a Directive on the conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate certain national transport services,¹⁰ which the Commission sent to the Council in December 1982.¹¹

Removals

2.1.224. On 7 June the Council took a favourable view of the proposal for a

¹ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.148.

² Point 2.4.42; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

³ OJ C 23, 28.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.161.

⁴ OJ L 234, 9.8.1982; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.148.

⁵ OJ C 187, 13.7.1983; COM(83)357 final.

⁶ OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; COM(83)340 final.

⁷ OJ L 357, 29.12.1976.

⁸ COM(83)395 final.

⁹ Point 2.4.41; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

¹⁰ OJ C 18, 22.1.1983.

¹¹ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.60.

Directive to simplify the administrative procedures applying to removals firms in the Member States.¹ It will take a formal decision once Parliament has given its opinion.

Regular coach services

2.1.225. Under the terms of the Regulation of 28 June 1972² the Commission sent to the Council on 8 June a report on regular and special regular services by bus or coach between Member States in 1978, 1979 and 1980.³

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Fuel supplies

2.1.226. On 29 June the Commission adopted, for transmission to the Council, a proposal for a Directive on fuel rationing for commercial transport between Member States.⁴ This aims to mitigate, in the event of a crisis, the effects of oil supply difficulties on road haulage operations between Member States. This proposal was drawn up in response to Parliament's resolution of October 1981 on potential energy savings in the transport sector.⁵

Sea transport

2.1.227. On 7 June the Council approved a framework decision whereby Member States which have taken or intend to take counter-measures against non-member countries in the maritime transport sphere are to consult the other Member States and the Commission. The Decision was proposed by the Council Presidency and is designed to supplement the arrangements introduced in 1978.⁶

2.1.228. The Council also approved a recommendation, adopted at the initiative of the German Presidency, calling on the Member States to ratify the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue.

Air transport

2.1.229. On 7 June the Council approved a proposal for a regulation designed to liberalize scheduled inter-regional passenger air services between Member States.⁷ Parliament⁸ and the

Economic and Social Committee⁹ gave their opinions on this proposal in October 1981. These opinions prompted the Commission to amend its original proposal¹⁰ in December 1981.

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Relations with non-Community countries

2.1.230. On 7 June the Council discussed the negotiations with Austria on transport matters. Discussions were also held on the extension of the brief¹¹ given to the Commission in 1981 to include negotiations on a Community contribution towards the funding of the Innkreis-Pyhrn motorway (IKPA), as called for by Parliament in its Resolution¹² of 11 February.

Energy

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

The Community's energy strategy: developments and new courses of action

2.1.231. On 7 June the Commission sent to the Council a communication on Community energy strategy¹³ in response to the request

¹ OJ C 307, 24.12.1982; Bull. EC 11-1982, point 2.1.120.

² OJ L 67, 20.3.1972.

³ COM(83)295 final.

⁴ OJ C 195, 22.7.1983; COM(83)405 final.

⁵ OJ C 287, 9.11.1981; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.3.21.

⁶ OJ L 258, 21.9.1978; Twelfth General Report, point 371.

⁷ Bull. EC 10-1980, point 2.1.87.

⁸ OJ C 287, 9.11.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, point 2.3.20.

⁹ OJ C 343, 31.12.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, point 2.3.43.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.157.

¹¹ Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.158.

¹² OJ C 68, 14.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.130.

¹³ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4; COM(83)305 final.

made by the Council at its meeting on 21 April.¹

Energy and energy research in the Community: a five-year programme and its financing

2.1.232. Again on 7 June the Commission sent the Council a communication setting out a five-year programme of action and suggesting how it should be financed.² This communication is in keeping with the Commission's latest proposals on the future financing of the Community.³

Specific problems

Energy saving and the rational use of energy

2.1.233. On 22 June the Commission amended⁴ its proposal for a Regulation on the payment of financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment in the rational use of energy.⁵ The amended proposal takes account of the request for an extension of the scope of the regulation which Parliament made in an opinion delivered in April.⁶

Oil and gas

2.1.234. On 7 June the Commission sent the Council a communication on the oil refining industry in the Community.⁷

2.1.235. On 20 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal on the granting of support for Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector,⁸ acting under the Regulation of 9 November 1973.⁹ This request for financial aid covers 43 out of 49 projects submitted to the Commission at its invitation.¹⁰

The proposed support will total 34 467 053 ECU for the period 1983-85.

Solid fuels

Policy proposals

2.1.236. On 14 June the Commission sent the Council a communication containing proposals for a balanced solid fuels policy.¹¹

Coal research

2.1.237. After receiving the assent of the Council¹² and a favourable opinion from the ECSC Consultative Committee,¹³ the Commission decided on 7 June, acting under Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty, to grant 19.5 million ECU for coal research (19 285 200 ECU for 53 research projects, 150 000 ECU for the abstracting and translation of technical literature on coal from 'difficult' languages, 64 800 ECU for the dissemination of research results).

Of the research projects, 30 are devoted to mining engineering and 23 to product preparation and beneficiation.

Energy saving and new energy sources

2.1.238. On 22 June a conciliation meeting was held between the Council and Parliament on two Regulations for 1983 (concerning which the Council had reached a common position in March¹⁴) as part of a multiannual programme to implement energy demonstration projects.¹⁵ It was agreed that the Regulations should mention both the amount considered necessary and the fact that the programme is to cover a number of years.

2.1.239. On 27 June the Commission sent the Council a communication¹⁶ aimed at assisting discussion by the Council of the

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, points 2.1.140 and 2.1.142.

² Points 1.2.5 to 1.2.20; COM(83)315 final.

³ OJ C 145, 3.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 1.1.5.

⁴ OJ C 188, 14.7.1983; COM(83)376 final.

⁵ OJ C 285, 30.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.91.

⁶ OJ C 128, 16.5.1983; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.143.

⁷ Point 1.2.18; COM(83)304 final.

⁸ COM(83)363 final.

⁹ OJ L 312, 13.11.1973.

¹⁰ OJ C 175, 13.7.1982.

¹¹ Point 1.2.16; COM(83)309 final.

¹² OJ C 163, 22.6.1983.

¹³ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.4.33.

¹⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.163.

¹⁵ OJ C 227, 1.9.1982; OJ C 261, 6.10.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, 2.1.174.

¹⁶ COM(83)381 final.

problems raised by the choice of a five-year period for the programme. The communication sets out the priorities for the various subsectors, indicates the funds that will be required and provides additional information which the Council had asked for at its meeting on 21 April.¹

Nuclear safety

Radiation protection

2.1.240. On 6 June the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a decision adopting a multiannual research and training programme in the field of radiation protection.² This programme extends from 1985 to 1989 the programme that was adopted on 18 March 1980³ for the period 1980-84. It responds to public concern about the potential risks of exposure to natural or man-made ionizing radiation and is aimed at assessing objectively, through a concerted effort at European level, the effects and hazards of such exposure.

Plant safety

Research

2.1.241. On 17 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a decision adopting a research programme on reactor safety (1984-87).⁴

This programme comprises activities to be carried out under the 'shared-cost' principle on the safety of light water reactors and liquid metal fast breeder reactors (LMFBRs). Its total cost is estimated at some 160 million ECU, of which approximately half or 81.3 million ECU is to be charged to the Community budget, while the remainder is to be covered by national budgets or contractors.

Decommissioning of nuclear power plants

Research

2.1.242. On 17 June the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting a programme of research

on the decommissioning of nuclear installations (1984-88).⁵

Radioactive waste

2.1.243. The Commission sent the Council at the end of May an initial report⁶ on the present situation in and prospects for the management of radioactive waste in the Community. This report takes stock of work carried out and achievements made in the management and storage of radioactive waste, with due regard to the requirements of nuclear programmes, and sets out the policy line the Commission intends to follow in future.

2.1.244. The Commission also sent the Council on 9 June a communication⁷ emphasizing that implementation of the plan of action for 1980⁸ should continue along the lines currently laid down and that a review of the plan was not necessary.

Research and development

2.1.245. The European Council, meeting in Stuttgart, stressed in its declaration the need to develop and reinforce the effectiveness of Community action in research, innovation and new technology.⁹

2.1.246. This month was marked by a major milestone—the startup of JET (Joint European Torus).¹⁰ This achievement represents a great step forward towards the future harnessing of controlled nuclear fusion energy.

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.140.

² Point 2.1.279; OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; COM(83)301 final.

³ OJ L 78, 25.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.111.

⁴ COM(83)299 final.

⁵ Point 2.1.265; OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; COM(83)298 final.

⁶ COM(83)262 final.

⁷ COM(83)330 final.

⁸ OJ C 51, 29.2.1980; Bull. EC 2-1980, point 2.1.87.

⁹ Point 1.5.4.

¹⁰ Point 2.1.260.

Council meeting

2.1.247. The Council meeting of Research Ministers on 28 June recorded its agreement on a resolution setting up a new instrument for implementing the Community's research, development and demonstration strategy and containing a first framework programme for 1984-87.¹ It also agreed on a Decision adopting a second Community research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology for 1983-87² and on a resolution concerning a Community plan of action relating to the evaluation of Community research and development programmes.³ The Council held a preliminary discussion on the Commission's proposal for a multiannual programme for the JRC for 1984-87.⁴ It adopted a decision on experimental Community action to stimulate the efficacy of the Community's scientific and technical potential.⁵ It examined the first strategic European research and development programme on information technology (Esprit).⁶ Finally, it adopted a decision on a research and development programme (1983-85) in the raw materials sector.⁷

Development of the common policy

Framework programmes for Community research, development and demonstration activities and a first framework programme covering the period 1984-87

2.1.248. The Council meeting of Research Ministers, after discussing the proposals the Commission set out in its communications of 22 December 1982⁸ and 20 May 1983⁹ relating to an initial framework programme for 1984-87, recorded its agreement on a resolution¹⁰ setting up a new instrument for implementing the Community's R,D&D strategy and containing an initial framework programme for 1984-87.

This resolution is the first concrete embodiment of the new guidelines laid down by the European Council in Stuttgart¹¹ for the development and increased efficiency of Community action in research, innovation and new technology. It represents an important political commitment by the Council in

the field of science and technology. The following scientific and technical objectives were approved by the Council resolution: promoting agricultural and industrial competitiveness, improving the management of raw materials and energy resources, stepping up development aid, improving living and working conditions, improving the effectiveness of the Community's scientific and technical potential, and horizontal action.

The full text of the resolution is given below:

'Whereas Article 2 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community assigns to the Community the task, among others, of promoting throughout the Community a harmonious development of economic activities, a continuous and balanced expansion and an accelerated raising of the standard of living;

Whereas it is important to promote balanced scientific and technical development within the Community;

Whereas research, development and demonstration activities (R, D & D) must be accompanied by adequate dissemination of the knowledge acquired by means of these activities and by effective use of the results obtained;

Whereas, at its meetings on 9 November 1981¹² and 8 March and 30 June 1982,¹³ the Council affirmed the need to systemize and optimize Community action in the field of research, development and demonstration, having recognized that the strategic coherence of the Community's activities would be enhanced and the preparation and adoption of decisions in the aforementioned field would be greatly facilitated by the adoption and regular review by the Community institutions of a framework programme containing broad indications for the medium-term development of scientific and technical objectives;

¹ Point 2.1.248.

² Point 2.1.257.

³ Point 2.1.258.

⁴ Point 2.1.281.

⁵ Point 2.1.259.

⁶ Point 2.1.269.

⁷ Point 2.1.267.

⁸ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.173.

⁹ OJ C 166, 25.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, points 1.3.2 to 1.3.6.

¹⁰ Supplement 3/83 — Bull. EC (in preparation).

¹¹ Point 1.5.4.

¹² Bull. EC 11-1981, point 2.1.126.

¹³ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.120 and Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.164.

Whereas, at its meeting on 8 February 1983,¹ the Council expressed a large measure of agreement on the need to increase Community expenditure on research and development and on the proportionally larger share which should be allotted to it in the Community's overall budget, subject to further clarification of the budgetary implications;

Whereas, on 18 June 1983,² the European Council adopted the Declaration concerning the development of policies and new Community action, budgetary discipline, own resources and particular problems of certain Member States;

Whereas the Commission's proposal concerning a first framework programme 1984-1987 seems likely to promote such a development of Community research, development and demonstration policy;

Whereas the Treaty establishing the European Community does not provide the specific powers of action required for the adoption of this Resolution.

Hereby adopts this resolution:

Article 1

The development of a common strategy in the field of science and technology shall take place on the terms laid down in this Resolution and in accordance with the Communities' other strategies and policies.

Article 2

The common strategy in the field of science and technology shall be defined in framework programmes setting out the scientific and technical objectives to be pursued at Community level together with selection criteria for Community action, relative priorities and financial indications.

These framework programmes shall be drawn up by the Commission in consultation with the Member States.

On the basis of the framework programmes, the Commission shall prepare proposals for specific research, development and demonstration activities which meet the objectives referred to in the first paragraph.

Article 3

The Council hereby approves the principle of framework programmes for periods of four years which will be reviewed at least every two years and revised if necessary.

On the basis of proposals submitted to this end by the Commission and after receiving the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council shall:

— approve the framework programmes;

— adopt, in accordance with the framework programmes approved and with the procedures instituted by the Treaties, specific decisions on the R, D & D activities of the Communities.

Article 4

The Council hereby approves the scientific and technical objectives for the period 1984 to 1987 and the selection criteria set out in Annexes I and II respectively.

The Council hereby confirms its agreement on the need to increase Community spending on R, D & D. While bearing in mind the need to frame Community policies, but awaiting the outcome of the general discussion on the Communities' resources and policies, for the time being the Council takes note of the financial indications relating to the objectives to be attained in the period 1984-87 (Annex III). These indications are to serve as a guide for Commission planning and the adoption by the Council of specific R, D & D activities during that period.

These objectives and criteria, on the one hand, and these financial indications, which still have to be defined, on the other, shall constitute the elements on which implementation of the 1984-1987 framework programme will be based.

The planning and adoption of programmes will of course take account of financial constraints.

Article 5

In 1985 at the latest, the 1984-87 framework programme will be reviewed on the basis of a Commission proposal and conclusions drawn from the experience gained from this first framework programme, with a view to evaluating its effectiveness and improving its underlying approach.

This review may result in revision of the first framework programme.'

2.1.249. Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee gave their opinions on the framework programme for 1984-87 on 10 June³ and 1 June⁴ respectively. Parliament commented very favourably on the programme and approved the Commission's

¹ Bull. EC 2.1983, point 2.1.134.

² Point 1.5.4.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ Point 2.4.44; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

choice of seven key areas. It also considered that research appropriations should be higher (4% of the budget).

Coordination of national policies

2.1.250. CREST, meeting on 23 and 24 June, accepted the broad lines of the Commission's proposals on the first strategic European R&D programme on information technology (Esprit). In particular, it recorded its agreement on the guidelines of the programme and the main themes covered: microelectronics, software, data processing, office automation and computer-integrated manufacturing. It was not yet able, however, to make any statement on the level of resources necessary, although several delegations had recognized that substantial funds would be required in order to meet the objectives of the programme.

2.1.251. At the same meeting, CREST gave its approval to the second phase of the research and training programme in the field of biomolecular engineering. The Committee thought it important to increase knowledge and broaden experience in this area in order, in particular, to improve the Community's competitiveness in the agricultural and industrial sectors; it therefore agreed to the additional appropriation of 7 million ECU and 2 officials requested.

Cooperation with non-member countries

Cooperation with the United States in controlled thermonuclear fusion

2.1.252. On 15 June the Commission asked the Council for a brief to negotiate a cooperation agreement between the Community (Euratom) and the United States in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion.¹ The Commission took this initiative in response to the activities of the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment.²

The agreement which the Commission proposes to negotiate should cover all R&D activities in the field of magnetically confined

fusion. It would be an outline agreement under which specific agreements could subsequently be concluded between bodies associated with the Community's fusion programme and the competent institutions in the United States.

EEC-Sweden agreement on wood

2.1.253. On 14 June,³ acting on a proposal from the Commission,⁴ the Council adopted the cooperation agreement between the Community and Sweden on a research and development programme on wood.

Under this agreement Sweden is participating in the 'Wood as a renewable raw material' sub-programme of the raw materials R&D programme (1982-85) adopted by Council Decision on 17 May 1982,⁵ which provides in particular for the conclusion of agreements between the EEC and non-member countries.

The Commission has thus conducted negotiations with Sweden which have led to a cooperation agreement. This agreement provides as follows:

- (i) Sweden's financial contribution to the European programme shall be 500 000 ECU to 31 December 1985 and shall be added to the Community's financial contribution, set at 12 million ECU for a period of four years from 1 January 1982;
- (ii) the Advisory Committee on Programme Management set up for the Community sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material shall be enlarged to include Swedish representatives among its members;
- (iii) with regard to shared-cost contracts, Swedish individuals or firms shall be placed on an equal footing with those of the

¹ COM(83)349 final.

² Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.108; Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.153.

³ OJ L 185, 8.7.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.108.

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

Community. By this agreement Sweden becomes the first non-member country to participate in a Community indirect-action research programme (the fusion programme apart).

COST Committee of senior Officials

2.1.254. The COST Committee of Senior Officials held its 72nd meeting¹ in Brussels on 17 June. It discussed in particular the COST budget for 1984, new COST projects on telecommunications (e.g. COST Project 207 on digital land mobile radio communications), the presentation of the framework programme and four concerted-action projects drawn up by the Management Committee for COST project 46 (mariculture).

COST projects

2.1.255. A Memorandum of Understanding relating to the execution under COST of a European research project on in vitro cultures for the purification and propagation of horticultural plants (COST Project 87) was signed on 16 June by Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

2.1.256. On 4 June the Community, represented by Mr Paolo Fasella, Director-general for Science, Research and Development, signed the Memorandum of Understanding relating to the execution of a European research project on powder metallurgy (COST Project 503).²

Horizontal activities

Second research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology 1983-87 (FAST II)

2.1.257. On 28 June the Council meeting of Research Ministers recorded its agreement, after Parliament³ and the Economic and Social Committee⁴ had delivered favourable opinions, on a decision adopting a second (1983-87) research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology (FAST II).⁵

The work carried out under this programme will focus on three main topics: new forms of growth for Europe; the transformation of service activities and technological change; and new strategic industrial systems and the analysis of the impact on the future of the people of Europe of, in particular, the communications and agri-food industries. In order to carry out this research, the programme will be allocated a team of 12 scientists and a total budget of 8.5 million ECU which will enable the collaboration of the best forecasting teams in Europe to be secured through study contracts.

Community plan of action on the evaluation of the results of R&D programmes

2.1.258. The Council also recorded its agreement on 28 June on a resolution concerning a Community plan of action relating to the evaluation of Community research and development programmes.⁶

The plan of action covers a period of three years (1983-85) during which, in addition to programme assessments, a set of parallel activities will be carried out including studies on methodological aspects, the encouragement of research in this sphere and the promotion of information exchanges within the Community.

At the end of this phase and in the light of experience gained, the Commission will, if necessary, present a further communication to the Council concerning the implementation of a fully operational evaluation system applicable to all the Community's R&D programmes.

Stimulating the effectiveness of scientific and technical potential

2.1.259. On 28 June⁷ the Council adopted a Decision on an experimental Community

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.154.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.171.

³ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁵ OJ C 89, 31.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.190.

⁶ Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.110.

⁷ OJ L 181, 6.7.1983; OJ C 182, 8.7.1983.

action to stimulate the effectiveness of the Community's scientific and technical potential.¹ This experimental scheme is to cover a period of two years beginning on 1 July 1983 and was allocated a budget of 7 million ECU; the stimulating measures it contains should help to boost the effectiveness of European research.

This initiative is a response to the increasing difficulty European science is encountering in translating its acknowledged excellence into the socio-economic progress and competitive advantage enjoyed by our major trading partners. During an initial two-year experimental phase, several ways of stimulating European research will be put to the test, including research grants, the twinning of laboratories in different countries, the development of specific multinational projects and the encouragement of mobility among research workers. The scientific fields concerned (pharmaco-biology, solid-state physics, optics, combustion, photometry/photo-acoustics, interface phenomena and climatology) were chosen on the grounds that they are likely to require cooperation between research teams, to encourage the promotion of high-quality teams, or to intensify the communication and dissemination of information within the European scientific system. This choice does not, however, rule out the possibility of funding even more promising proposals if the methods to be used can be tested.

Multiannual programmes

Energy

JET start-up

2.1.260. JET (Joint European Torus), the largest and most ambitious tokamak in the world, was operated for the first time on 25 June. As Mr Davignon pointed out at the Council meeting of Research Ministers on 28 June, JET is the first major project to be realized entirely within a truly Community research programme. JET, the construction of which was launched by the Council Decision of 30 May 1978,² was financed to the extent

of 80% by the Community, 11% by the United Kingdom and the remainder by the other Member States as well as Sweden and Switzerland. The financing limit of around 320 million ECU and the construction deadline of five years were adhered to remarkably well.

JET, built at Culham in England, is the first European reactor (the two others being in the United States and Japan) designed for the study of controlled thermonuclear fusion. Conditions during the start-up operation were very modest compared with the ultimate performance expected in about seven years' time. A current of 60 000 ampères was passed through a low-density hydrogen gas for about 1/10 of a second, converting the gas into a plasma. In the latter part of the programme it is hoped to reach temperatures of around 100 million degrees Centigrade—hotter than the centre of the sun.

Completion of the construction of JET will permit a whole series of experiments designed to prove the possibility of harnessing nuclear fusion as a long-term energy source. The Commission has already initiated the study of the next phase, i.e. technological feasibility, by setting up the NET (Next European Torus) team: NET could be built at the start of the next decade.

2.1.261. On 14 June the Council decided to amend³ the Statutes of the JET (Joint European Torus)⁴ following the accession of Greece to this joint undertaking and a number of other changes which have taken place since the Statutes were last amended.

R&D programme on non-nuclear energy

2.1.262. On 23 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision

¹ OJ C 337, 23.12.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.174.

² Bull. EC 5-1978, point 2.1.109.

³ OJ L 164, 23.6.1983.

⁴ OJ L 151, 7.6.1978; OJ L 213, 21.8.1979.

adopting a research and development programme in the field of non-nuclear energy (1983-87).¹

The general aim of the proposed programme is to help improve the Community's position in the energy sphere by diversifying energy sources and using them rationally. To this end, R&D work is proposed in areas where greater benefit can be derived from Community action than from isolated national projects.

This non-nuclear programme will be financed jointly by the Community, industry, universities and public and private national R&D centres.

Its main aims are to help respond, through a cooperative R&D effort, to two needs, namely that of preserving some political and economic freedom of manoeuvre in the face of changes in availability, cost and acceptability of current majority fuels by increasing the range of energy sources, and the need to stimulate the competitiveness of Community industries in the development, production and marketing of energy technologies and products.

The proposed programme, for which a budget of 379 million ECU is envisaged, comprises eight sub-programmes:

- (i) solar energy (80)²
- (ii) biomass (53)
- (iii) wind energy (32)
- (iv) geothermal energy (39)
- (v) energy conservation (53)
- (vi) use of solid fuels (63)
- (vii) production and use of new energy carriers (43)
- (viii) energy systems analysis and modelling (16)

The action programme as a whole includes two other sub-programmes:

- (i) testing of solar energy systems, and
- (ii) energy management in dwellings to be carried out by the Joint Research Centre as part of its own programme.

Research action programme on nuclear energy

2.1.263. On 2 June the Commission sent the Council a communication on a research action programme on the development of nuclear fission energy.³ The research activities proposed in this programme relate to the safety of light-water and fast reactors, radioactive waste, nuclear fuels and actinides, the management and safeguarding of fissile materials, and the decommissioning of nuclear plants. These activities will constitute a follow-up to the programmes that are currently being conducted and take account of results obtained so far as well as future needs. The funds to be devoted to this research during the period 1984-87 are estimated at 477.5 million ECU. The Commission intends to carry out this research in both the form of direct action, i.e. in the JRC's laboratories, and in that of shared-cost action, i.e. in laboratories in the Member States.

Research programme on reactor safety

2.1.264. On 17 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting a research programme on reactor safety (1984-87).⁴

A budget of 81.3 million ECU is envisaged for this shared-cost research programme. Intimately linked with the JRC's programme of direct action, this programme provides effective support of the Member States' activities in an essential field. A major part of the programme will be devoted to accident prevention, with special reference to the problems associated with the role of operators in nuclear plants, man-machine interaction and the integrity of reactor primary circuits and pressure vessels.

¹ COM(83)311 final.

² The figures opposite the titles give the estimated budget resources required in million ECU.

³ COM(83)300 final.

⁴ COM(83) 299 final.

Research programme on the decommissioning of nuclear plants

2.1.265. The Commission also sent the Council on 17 June a proposal for a Decision adopting a research programme on the decommissioning of nuclear plants (1984-88).¹

The budget envisaged for this shared-cost research programme amounts to 12.1 million ECU. The Commission intends to tackle the problems of rehabilitating and reclaiming the sites and materials used for nuclear plants with the same concern for stringency and safety as prevailed during their operation.

Other aspects of this action programme form an integral part of the JRC's future programme of direct action (1984-87).²

Technical research on coal mining

2.1.266. After the Council had given its assent³ and the ECSC Consultative Committee had delivered its opinion,⁴ the Commission decided on 7 June, in pursuance of Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty, to grant 19.5 million ECU for technical research on coal mining, including 19 285 200 ECU for 53 selected research projects, 150 000 ECU for the survey and translation of technical literature on coal mining published in languages reputed to be difficult and 64 800 ECU for the dissemination of information. Among the research projects chosen for funding, 30 relate to mining engineering and 23 to coal dressing and beneficiation.

Raw materials

2.1.267. On 28 June⁵ the Council meeting of Research Ministers, acting on a proposal⁶ from the Commission, adopted a Decision whereby uranium research activities are to be included in the raw-materials programme⁷ adopted by the Council in May 1982.

Support for industrial development

Esprit programme

2.1.268. In the declaration⁸ it adopted at Stuttgart, the European Council stressed the need for negotiations on a number of schemes

of an exemplary nature, such as the Esprit programme, to be completed as quickly as possible.

2.1.269. The Council meeting of Research Ministers discussed a number of matters raised by the Commission's proposal for an initial European strategic programme of research and development in information technologies (Esprit).⁹ In line with the European Council's Stuttgart declaration,⁸ all the delegations confirmed their agreement on the underlying strategy of the programme, whose pilot phase¹⁰ started at the beginning of the year¹¹ and whose progress has hitherto been heartening. Closing the discussion, the Council instructed its preparatory bodies actively to pursue their examination of the technical aspects of the matter, in order that the necessary decisions might be taken by the end of the year.

2.1.270. CREST, meeting on 23 and 24 June, commented¹² favourably on this programme.

Multiannual R&D programmes in the fields of basic technological research and the applications of new technologies

2.1.271. On 24 June the Commission sent the Council two proposals¹³ for Decisions adopting multiannual R&D programmes, one in the field of basic technological research and the other concerning the applications of new technologies.

¹ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983; COM(83)298 final.

² Point 2.1.281.

³ OJ C 163, 22.6.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.4.33.

⁵ OJ L 181, 6.7.1983.

⁶ OJ C 341, 29.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.187.

⁷ OJ L 174, 21.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.151.

⁸ Point 1.5.4.

⁹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.162.

¹⁰ OJ L 369, 29.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.19.

¹¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.1.160.

¹² Point 2.1.250.

¹³ COM(83)350 final.

These two new programme proposals are aimed at promoting industrial competitiveness in Community industries not defined as high-technology sectors (the latter, of course, being covered by other programmes such as Esprit).

The proposal on basic technological research (for a duration of four years, with a budget of 135 million ECU and a staff of 26) covers applied research in nine key technological fields, each of which is important to a number of industrial sectors.

The proposal concerning the applications of new technologies (for a duration of four years, with a budget of 35 million ECU and a staff of seven) covers the adaptation and application of technologies developed in other branches of industry for the benefit of a specific sector, clothing manufacture being chosen as the test area.

All the proposed research is of a pre-competitive nature, which means that industry will have to carry out further development work before arriving at marketable products or processes.

Furthermore, the areas concerned were selected after extensive consultation with industry, partly via the Advisory Committee on Industrial Research and Development (CORDI). This same Committee approved the principle, which is stressed in the communication, that industry itself should as a rule finance 50% of the cost of projects included in these programmes. Projects should also have a Community dimension, preference being given to proposals for projects involving cooperation between groups of two or more bodies (of which at least one should be an industrial firm) in two or more Member States.

Continuation and extension of the biomolecular engineering programme

2.1.272. On 15 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal¹ for a Decision adopting the second stage (January 1984 to March 1986) of the Community's multiannual research and training programme in the field of biomolecular engineering, the first stage of which was adopted by the

Council in December 1981.² This programme is aimed at stimulating work on biotechnology within the Community in order to enable it to compete with the rest of the world in the key sectors associated with the preparation of improved agricultural and bio-industrial products.

The appropriations necessary for the execution of the second stage of the programme are estimated at 7 million ECU, which are to be added to the 8 million ECU already granted. The only major addition to the first stage of the programme is the extension to all branches of industry, in particular the pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals industry, of what is known as 'enzyme engineering'. This involves the development of methods enabling cells and enzymes to be used for the large-scale production of special substances which are generally very rare or difficult to extract and which play a vital role in human life (e.g. vitamins, semi-synthetic penicillins and hormones). In the first stage this research was limited to agri-foodstuffs production.

The programme will be carried out by way of shared-cost contracts to be concluded with public or private bodies established in the various Member States.

2.1.273. CREST, meeting in Brussels on 23 and 24 June, delivered a favourable opinion on this programme.³

Telecommunications

2.1.274. The Commission sent the European Council, for its Stuttgart meeting, a report on telecommunications⁴ the aim of which was to draw attention to the growing problems of this sector.

Biotechnology

2.1.275. The Commission also sent the European Council a report on biotechnology and the Community's role.⁵

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¹ OJ C 180, 7.7.1983; COM(83)356 final.

² OJ L 375, 30.12.1981; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.166.

³ Point 2.1.251.

⁴ Point 2.1.41; COM(83)329 final.

⁵ Point 2.1.42; COM(83)328 final.

2.1.276. On 6 June Parliament passed a resolution¹ on basic technological research in the automobile industry.

Science and technology for development

2.1.277. On 10 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for 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).² An initial budget for 60 million ECU is requested. The programme covers the following six main sectors: agriculture in the broad sense (favouring self-sufficiency in food and rural development), health, population, the environment, energy and underground resources.

Programmes will be chosen in the light of a catalogue of research capacities in the developing countries, and the programme selection criteria will be the urgency of needs, consistency with the aims of and resources allocated to the Community's other assistance schemes and the scientific standard and effectiveness of programmes.

Agriculture and fisheries

2.1.278. On 1 June the Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion³ on a proposal for a Council Decision adopting joint research programmes and programmes for the coordination of agricultural research.⁴

Living and working conditions

Research programme on radiation protection

2.1.279. On 6 June the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Decision adopting a multiannual research and training programme in the field of radiation protection.⁵ This programme extends for the period 1985-89 the one adopted on 18 March 1980⁶ for 1980-84.

This programme was drawn up in the context of the Commission's strategy as set out in the framework programme and is integrated with the R&D programme on medicine and public health,⁷ which is aimed at improving the health of the individual and his protection against environmental hazards. It will cost

94 million ECU and will be implemented, as in the past, by way of shared-cost contracts with national institutions and universities. The programme responds to public concern about the potential risks from exposure to natural or man-made ionizing radiation and will endeavour, through a concerted European effort, to assess objectively the effects and hazards resulting from such exposure.

The topics to be accorded priority are the possible effects of low doses of ionizing radiation, the transfer of radionuclides in the environment and in man, radiation-induced cancer and genetic alterations, the prevention of radiation accidents and the treatment of victims, and the comparative assessment of the risks from ionizing radiation.

Previous Commission programmes have considerably advanced the state of the art in radiation protection by supporting research in this area. The radiation protection programme thus enables the best use to be made of the Member States' intellectual and technical potential. The Commission ensures that the programme is carried out in close liaison with corresponding research in the Member States and will, where necessary, adjust it to the changing requirements of radiation protection.

ECSC social research

2.1.280. On 15 June, under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission transmitted to the Council (for its assent) and to the ECSC Consultative Committee (for its opinion) a memorandum⁸ on the establishment of a fifth research programme⁹ on 'industrial hygiene in mines'. The programme is to last five years and the total appropriation proposed is 11 million ECU.

¹ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 1.7.1983.

² OJ C 180, 7.7.1983; COM(83)354 final.

³ OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁴ OJ C 27, 2.2.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.185.

⁵ OJ C 179, 6.7.1983; COM(83)301 final.

⁶ OJ L 78, 25.3.1980; Bull. EC 3-1980, point 2.1.111.

⁷ OJ L 248, 24.8.1982; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.186.

⁸ COM(83)343 final.

⁹ OJ C 159, 5.7.1978; Bull. EC 6-1978, point 2.1.49.

New JRC research programme

2.1.281. The Council of Research Ministers held a preliminary discussion on the proposal for a multiannual programme for the JRC for 1984-87 which the Commission had submitted to it on 10 June¹ in accordance with the Council's conclusions of 10 March.²

2.1.282. The action programmes to which the Joint Research Centre will contribute are:

- (i) industrial technologies,
- (ii) fusion,
- (iii) fission,
- (iv) non-nuclear energy sources,
- (v) environment.

The proposals for the 1984-87 programme of the Joint Research Centre define its mission for the future. The main themes of the programme are:

- (i) safety and protection of the environment;
- (ii) standardization of nuclear materials and measurements and development of new materials for industry.

2.1.283. The first theme extends the nuclear safety studies already confided in the past to the Joint Research Centre, as well as the study of environmental problems, to a more general survey of safety and protection of the environment. As a consequence, new projects have been added, such as the study and assessment of industrial hazard conditions in non-nuclear sections (e.g. the chemical industry) and the evaluation of means of preventing them, a very important task in the aftermath of accidents such as those at Flixborough and Soveso and the wreck of the Amoco Cadiz; the study of the possible contribution that remote sensing by satellites (being studied at the Ispra Establishment) could make to the prevention and limiting of natural disasters (early warning, emergency plans, etc.).

To the activity of the Joint Research Centre in the field of thermonuclear fusion has been

added the study of the safety aspects of future fusion reactors. In the safety field it is the Ispra Establishment which is playing the most important part; it is increasingly becoming a European focus for safety in the nuclear and non-nuclear fields.

2.1.284. The second theme is that of improving industrial competitiveness. The nuclear measurements and reference materials programme, to be implemented at the Geel Establishment, is concerned with the important field of standardization of reference materials and measurements in the nuclear industry. The high-temperature materials programme, to be carried out at the Petten Establishment, concerns the development and testing of advanced materials with a view to their use by industry in aggressive environments.

2.1.285. The Council's discussions on this proposal have confirmed its wish, stated on 10 March,² to see the JRC continue to play a key role in the Community's research strategy, and its willingness to provide it with the funds and staff necessary for accomplishing its task. With these principles in mind, the delegations gave their general appraisals of the structure of the programme as proposed and made specific observations on points of the programme which they wished to single out for special attention.

Finally, the council instructed its preparatory bodies to examine, in the light of the conclusions of 10 March,² all the technical aspects of the programme, with a view to bringing its work to a successful conclusion at its October meeting.

¹ COM(83)327 final; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.1.143; Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.165; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.1.177.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.166.

2. Enlargement and external relations

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Enlargement

2.2.1. The European Council meeting in Stuttgart—held from 17 to 19 June¹—adopted the following statement on the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal:

'The accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal will be pursued with the objective of concluding them, so that the accession treaties can be submitted for ratification when the result of the negotiation concerning the future financing of the Community is submitted.'

2.2.2. On 9 June² Parliament had urgently appealed to the European Council due to meet in Stuttgart to take the necessary decisions for the enlargement negotiations to be concluded rapidly.

EIB Loans

2.2.3. On 21 June, in response to the requests made by the Portuguese and Spanish Governments on 21 September 1982 and 28 January 1983 respectively, the Council, acting on Commission proposals,³ decided to extend pre-accession aid in favour of Portugal and financial cooperation with Spain from 1 July 1983 to 30 June 1984. The new amounts, of the order of 75 million ECU for Portugal and 100 million ECU for Spain, should take the form of loans from the European Investment Bank's own resources.

The Council also agreed to examine, in good time before mid-1984, the matter of continuing financial cooperation with Spain and Portugal, particularly in the light of progress made in the accession negotiations.

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.4. The 26th deputy-level meeting of the accession negotiations was held on 27 June, when the negotiations on approximation of

laws (except for patents) and on environment and consumer protection were brought to a conclusion.

Spain

Accession negotiations

2.2.5. The 16th ministerial meeting of the negotiations for Spain's accession to the Community was held in Luxembourg on 21 June under the chairmanship of Mr Hans Werner Lautenschlager, State Secretary in the German Foreign Office; the Spanish delegation was headed by Mr Manuel Marín, Minister of State for Relations with the EEC.

The Community presented statements on the following points:

- (i) fisheries;
- (ii) external relations (EEC)
- (iii) external relations (ECSC);
- (iv) tobacco taxes and monopolies (concluding the negotiations on taxation and the tobacco monopoly).

Appreciable progress was made with regard to the oil monopoly and external relations (quantitative restrictions in respect of non-member countries).

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Commercial policy instruments

2.2.6. The proposal for a Council Regulation on the strengthening of the common commercial policy,⁴ with particular regard to protection against unfair commercial

¹ Point 1.5.1 *et seq.*

² OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

³ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.2.4; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.5.

⁴ OJ C 83, 26.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.6.

practices, was referred to in the Presidency's conclusions at the European Council in Stuttgart¹ and was also examined once more by the Council.

2.2.7. On 29 June² Parliament approved the proposal, which is in line with its resolution of 16 December 1981 on the Community's anti-dumping activities.³ However, Parliament wants the Regulation to lay down certain conditions to ensure that there are adequate grounds for initiating a procedure. It has also requested a number of other changes, namely that the Commission shall take a decision within 60 days of being notified instead of 45, that it should be able to take interim protective measures on its own initiative, in critical circumstances, and that it should report annually to Parliament on measures taken under the regulation. Parliament has also asked that the Regulation should cover services as well as goods.

2.2.8. The Economic and Social Committee delivered an opinion on the proposal on 2 June.⁴

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.9. Under the Council Regulation of 4 December 1980,⁵ the Commission decided on the following measures in respect of State-trading countries:

Italy-Hungary/Poland: opening of quotas for unwrought aluminium;⁶

Benelux-Hungary: opening of quotas for sporting cartridges for shotguns;⁷

France-Poland: opening of quotas for spirits;⁸

United Kingdom-German Democratic Republic: introduction of a subceiling for raschel bags.⁹

Trade protection

Anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures

2.2.10. The Council imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of hexamethylenetetramine originating in the German Democratic Republic or the Soviet Union.⁶ A provisional anti-dumping duty had

been imposed on this product by the Commission in February.¹⁰

2.2.11. The Commission imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on imports of:

- copper sulphate originating in Czechoslovakia or the Soviet Union;⁶
- outboard motors from Japan;¹¹
- unwrought nickel, not alloyed, in the form of cathodes produced by electrolysis, either uncut, or cut into squares, originating in the Soviet Union;¹²
- certain glass textile fibres (rovings) originating in Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic or Japan.¹³

2.2.12. It also amended¹³ the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of iron or steel coils for re-rolling originating in Argentina, Brazil, Canada or Venezuela.¹⁴

2.2.13. The Commission decided¹⁵ to accept price undertakings from:

- one Japanese exporter of glass textile fibres (rovings);¹⁶
- two Canadian exporters of iron or steel coils for re-rolling;¹⁷
- exporters of low-carbon ferro-chromium originating in South Africa, Sweden, Turkey and Zimbabwe.¹⁸

¹ Point 1.5.12.

² OJ C 205, 1.8.1983.

³ OJ C 11, 18.1.1982; Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.3.11.

⁴ Point 2.4.37; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁵ OJ L 353, 29.12.1980.

⁶ OJ C 151, 9.6.1983.

⁷ OJ C 162, 21.6.1983.

⁸ OJ C 175, 2.7.1983.

⁹ OJ C 155, 14.6.1983.

¹⁰ OJ L 40, 12.2.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.2.11.

¹¹ OJ L 152, 10.6.1983.

¹² OJ L 159, 17.6.1983.

¹³ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983.

¹⁴ OJ L 82, 29.3.1983.

¹⁵ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983; OJ L 161, 21.6.1983.

¹⁶ OJ C 310, 27.11.1982.

¹⁷ OJ C 303, 20.11.1982.

¹⁸ OJ C 338, 24.12.1982.

2.2.14. The Commission decided¹ to terminate the proceedings in respect of imports of:

- certain glass textile fibres (mats) originating in Czechoslovakia or the German Democratic Republic;²
- low-carbon ferro-chromium originating in South Africa, Sweden, Turkey or Zimbabwe;³
- non-alloyed unwrought aluminium originating in Egypt.⁴

2.2.15. The Commission published a notice that it is was initiating an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of exterior panel doors originating in Taiwan.⁵

Treaties and trade agreements: extension or automatic renewal

2.2.16. On 14 June the Council authorized the extension or automatic renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and other countries.⁶ These are agreements for which the date of expiry or the date for giving notice falls between 1 May and 31 July (second batch for 1983).

Export credits

Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits ('Consensus')

2.2.17. Negotiations continued⁷ in June for the possible renewal of the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits.⁸ A draft compromise was circulated to the participants by the Chairman of the OECD Group on Export Credits, Mr Wallen.

OECD Understanding on Export Credits for Ships

2.2.18. On 14 June the Commission proposed to the Council that it should once again extend⁹ its Decision of 28 April 1981 on the implementation of the OECD Understanding on Export Credits for Ships.

Sectoral commercial policy measures

Iron and steel products

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.19. The Commission continued preparations with the Member States for a possible steel arrangement with Brazil,¹⁰ at the latter's request. A specific proposal for an agreement was communicated by the Community to the Brazilian authorities, which have not yet replied.

2.2.20. The Commission held consultations with a number of other countries in the context of existing arrangements. Two meetings were held with Finland, dealing essentially with trade trends and the finalization of price mechanisms.

Consultations also took place with Austria to check on the balanced development of trade which is an intrinsic aspect of all arrangements with EFTA countries.

Discussions took place with Poland regarding certain problems related to the rate of imports and their regional distribution.

Textiles

Agreements and arrangements with non-member countries

MFA countries

2.2.21. Consultations between the Community and Hong Kong, the first under the new bilateral textiles agreement,¹¹ were held in Brussels on 8 June. In response to a request by Hong Kong for an increase in the

¹ OJ L 160, 18.6.1983; OJ L 161, 21.6.1983.

² OJ C 310, 27.11.1982.

³ OJ C 338, 24.12.1982.

⁴ OJ C 31, 5.2.1983.

⁵ OJ C 152, 10.6.1983.

⁶ OJ L 164, 23.6.1983.

⁷ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.13.

⁸ Sixteenth General Report, point 632.

⁹ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.2.18.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.15.

¹¹ Sixteenth General Report, point 641.

permitted rate of advance use of 1984 quotas, an upward adjustment of the rates according to the sensitivity of the products concerned was agreed upon.

The opportunity was also taken to discuss a number of practical problems relating to the implementation of the agreement.

Mediterranean preferential countries

2.2.22. On 22 June the Community and Spain concluded an agreement concerning the economic arrangements to be applied in 1983 to trade in textile products.

The Commission continued the consultations with Turkey begun in March¹ with a view to concluding a voluntary restraint arrangement covering a number of textile and clothing products. However, the consultations did not result in progress towards the early conclusion of such an arrangement.

2.2.23. The Commission also held consultations with Morocco and Tunisia as part of the general administration of the arrangements concluded with those countries.

Relations with industrialized countries

EFTA countries

Closer cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries

2.2.24. In accordance with the wishes expressed by Parliament in its resolution of 11 February,² the Commission sent a communication to the Council on closer cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries on 9 June,³ notably with a view to facilitating the examination of progress made between July 1982⁴ and June 1983. The Commission had drawn up a list of the sectors for which it believed that closer cooperation would be both desirable and feasible. They included: fisheries, competition rules applying to undertakings, industrial policy, cooperation in R&D, international economic relations, development cooperation, cooperation in international organizations and information. The Commission intends to send this list to Parliament also, as requested.

Joint Committees

2.2.25. The Joint Committees set up under the EEC-Austria and the ECSC-Austria Free Trade Agreements met in Brussels on 29 June. The delegations discussed the operation of the Agreements in the general context of cooperation between the Community and Austria. They discussed a number of bilateral trade matters and exchanged information on the economic situation.

2.2.26. The Joint Committees set up under the EEC-Finland and the ECSC-Finland Free Trade Agreements met in Helsinki on 10 June, when the delegations commemorated the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Agreements. They exchanged information on the economic situation and the development of trade and discussed the operation of the Agreements.

The meeting of the Joint Committees was preceded on 9 July by a seminar on the subject of 'The Community: past, present and future', organized by the Finnish Economic Association (ETLA) and the Federation of Finnish Industries.

Sweden

2.2.27. The third round of annual high-level consultations⁵ between the Commission and Sweden took place in Stockholm on 23 June. The Commission delegation was led by Mr Haferkamp and the Swedish delegation by Mr Mats Hellström, Minister of Foreign Trade.

The delegations expressed great satisfaction with the fruitful and close cooperation that has developed between the Community and Sweden in numerous fields, including areas outside the trade sphere. It now covers such areas as environmental protection, research and assistance to developing countries. The

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.2.16.

² OJ C 68, 14.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 2.2.18 and 2.4.15.

³ COM(83)326 final.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.2.50.

⁵ Bull. EC 6-1981, point 2.2.41; Bull. EC 7/8-1982, point 2.2.51.

parties agreed that it is in their mutual interest to deepen and extend such cooperation wherever possible.

Much attention was given to general trade policy and economic issues. As interdependent, highly industrialized, export-oriented economies, the Community and Sweden have a common interest in fighting protectionist pressures and in bringing about sustained economic recovery.

After discussing points connected with imports of pulp into the Community, the two parties agreed that their experts should meet to examine the part played by Sweden in herring fishing. Lastly the Swedish Government decided to set up a commission to look into the restoration of reciprocity concerning right of establishment for banks in Sweden.

United States

Bilateral talks on agriculture

2.2.28. The fourth meeting on agriculture between senior Community and United States officials¹ was held in Washington on 22 June. A joint statement was adopted which confirmed the formation of an informal working party, established the basis for regular exchanges of information and statistics, and reviewed the results of the discussions, product by product.

Cooperation on thermonuclear fusion

2.2.29. On 17 June the Commission proposed to the Council the negotiation of an agreement with the United States on thermonuclear fusion.²

New Zealand

Visit to the Commission

2.2.30. Mr Warren Cooper, New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Trade, paid a three-day visit to the Commission from 15 to 17 June.

The purpose of his visit was to underline the importance for New Zealand of its relationship with the Community—especially of continuing access to the United Kingdom market for butter and to the Community market for sheepmeat and goatmeat. Mr

Cooper was received by Mr Thorn and also met Mr Dalsager, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Ortoli and Mr Tugendhat. On 17 June he met Mr Davignon and Mr Richard.

The President expressed the Commission's understanding of the importance of access to the Community market for New Zealand. The Commission intends to make a proposal to the Council which will seek to ensure, despite the currently difficult Community market situation, a reasonable and remunerative level of access for New Zealand butter. It is currently preparing a report on the functioning of the common organization of the market in sheepmeat which it expects to send to the Council before 1 October.

Relations with other countries and regions

Mediterranean countries

Mediterranean policy

2.2.31. As part of the exploratory talks with the Mediterranean countries to examine the difficulties they might encounter as a result of enlargement,³ Mr Natali visited Cyprus on 3 June for talks with the President, Mr Kyprianou, and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Finance.

2.2.32. The same issues were also discussed at a meeting between a Commission and an Israeli delegation on 8 and 9 June.

Cyprus

2.2.33. On 30 June the Council adopted the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate a new financial protocol—the second—with Cyprus to replace the current Protocol, which expires at the end of 1983.⁴ The content of the new protocol had been agreed by the Council on 21 June.

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.19.

² Point 2.1.252.

³ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 1.2.2; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.22.

⁴ OJ L 332, 29.11.1978; Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.42.

2.2.34. As regards future trade relations between the Community and Cyprus, the Council agreed to start examining the proposal made by the Commission under the EEC-Cyprus Association Council Decision of 24 November 1980¹ relating to the transition to the second stage of the Agreement.²

2.2.35. On 23 June the Commission recommended to the Council³ that a protocol be concluded setting out the trade arrangements to be applied between Cyprus and the Community in 1983.⁴

2.2.36. During his visit to Cyprus on 3 June,⁵ Mr Natali took part in the European Day at the Nicosia Fair.

Malta

2.2.37. On 21 June the Council resumed its examination of the content of the second financial protocol to be negotiated with Malta. After an in-depth exchange of views which brought the respective positions closer together, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to endeavour to reach agreement in the light of these discussions.

2.2.38. On 30 June, pending the opening of negotiations to establish contractual trade arrangements with Malta, the Council autonomously extended⁶ the existing trade arrangements⁷ until 31 December 1983.

2.2.39. On 8 June Parliament adopted a resolution on the situation in Malta, expressing the hope that relations between Malta and the Community would develop favourably.⁸

Tunisia

2.2.40. Following the exchanges on 8 April of the instruments of notification that the necessary procedures had been completed, the Protocol on financial and technical cooperation between the Community and Tunisia (signed in Brussels on 29 October 1982)⁹ entered into force on 1 June.¹⁰

Israel

2.2.41. The second EEC-Israel Financial Protocol, negotiated in 1981,¹¹ was signed on

24 June. This Protocol, which is intended to replace the one which expired on 31 October 1981, provides for loans on market terms of up to 40 million ECU from the European Investment Bank to Israel in the period to 31 October 1986.

2.2.42. The second EEC-Israel Financial Protocol was also the major topic of talks on 2 June between Mr Isaac Shamir, Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr Thorn, Mr Haferkamp and Mr Pisani.

2.2.43. On 9 June Parliament discussed EEC-Israel relations and adopted a resolution on the unfreezing of financial relations.¹²

Countries of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula

Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries

2.2.44. A delegation from the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) led by Mr Al Wattari, the Assistant Secretary-General, met Mr Davignon in Brussels on 23 June.

The delegation, which was in Brussels from 21 to 23 June, also had a series of talks with senior officials from the Commission in Brussels and Luxembourg. Discussions covered various areas of Commission activity in the energy sector, in particular policy issues related to oil and gas, energy saving, R&D demonstration projects, energy programming, and statistics and data bases. The activities of the European Investment Bank were also reviewed.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1980, point 2.2.54.

² Bull. EC 7/8-1980, point 2.2.58.

³ OJ C 183, 9.7.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.2.26.

⁵ Point 2.2.31.

⁶ OJ L 180, 5.7.1983.

⁷ OJ L 367, 31.12.1980; OJ L 371, 30.12.1982.

⁸ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁹ OJ L 337, 29.11.1982; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.44.

¹⁰ OJ L 110, 27.4.1983.

¹¹ Fifteenth General Report, point 748.

¹² Point 2.4.17; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

These meetings form part of a cooperation programme agreed during a visit to Kuwait by a Commission delegation in November 1982; it should be followed in November by a high-level meeting between OAPEC and the Commission.

Latin America

Andean Pact

2.2.45. The negotiations between the Community and the Andean Pact countries with a view to concluding a cooperation agreement resumed from 6 to 8 June, after a break of almost three years due to the *coup d'état* in Bolivia in July 1980 and the Falklands crisis.¹

The Andean Group delegation was led by the coordinator of the Junta, Mr Edgard Moncayo. The three days of negotiations enabled the delegations to reach agreement on most topics, although there are points on which the two sides' positions are still far apart.

Negotiations will be resumed once the Junta has reported to the Andean Pact Commission on the results of the latest meeting.

Europe-Latin America Interparliamentary Assembly

2.2.46. The sixth meeting of the Europe-Latin America Interparliamentary Assembly took place in Brussels from 13 to 16 June. Mr Haferkamp stressed the existing close economic and financial cooperation between Europe and Latin America and the need for further consolidation of mutual relations in order to cope with the challenges resulting from the international economic crisis (unemployment, indebtedness, danger of protectionism). His comments were echoed by Mr Alois Mertes, President of the Council, and Mr Piet Dankert, President of the European Parliament. The final act adopted on 16 June contains a number of concrete proposals for strengthening economic, financial, technical and cultural cooperation between Europe and Latin America.

Development²

North-South relations

UNCTAD VI

2.2.47. UNCTAD VI, whose importance in the North-South dialogue was emphasized by the European Council in Stuttgart,³ opened in Belgrade on 6 June.

The main issues before the Conference included commodities, trade in goods and services, financial and monetary issues, and the problems of the least developed countries.

Following intense preparation,⁴ which continued in Belgrade itself, the Community and the Commission contributed actively to the work of the Conference on all these subjects. As a result of the Council meeting of 21 June on Foreign Affairs, the Community was also able to offer to pay the capital contributions of three least developed ACP countries to the Common Fund: Equatorial Guinea, São Tome and Togo. Several Community Ministers and Mr Pisani came to Belgrade for the opening and closing stages of the Conference. The outcome of the Conference will be covered in the next Bulletin.

2.2.48. On 1 and 2 June the Economic and Social Committee delivered an own-initiative opinion on the preparation of UNCTAD VI.⁵

World Food Council

2.2.49. The Community participated in the ninth ministerial meeting⁶ of the World Food Council (WFC), which was held in New York from 27 to 30 June with Mr F. Merino Rabago (Mexico) in the chair. There were two major items on the agenda.

¹ Fourteenth General Report, point 698; Sixteenth General Report, point 708.

² See also Relations with other countries and regions.

³ Point 1.5.16.

⁴ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.33.

⁵ Point 2.4.38; OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

⁶ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.2.32.

First, the approaches to be adopted as regards agricultural and food development in the different parts of the Third World were examined under the general heading of food trends, strategies and priorities in the developing regions. Particular attention was given to food problems in Africa and to the need to work out and implement a new form of development cooperation with the African countries. In this connection, the importance of food strategies was again stressed.

Secondly, on the question of food security issues, a call was made for the implementation of new measures to help promote the expansion of agricultural exports from the developing countries.

In addition, the WFC expressed its concern with regard to the concentration of cereal stocks in North America and called for consideration to be given to negotiations for an agreement on trade in cereals.

The Council elected Mr E. Whelan, Canada's Minister for Agriculture, as Chairman for 1983-84. It also decided that its 1984 meeting would be devoted to taking stock of progress since 1974 and establishing the priority tasks for the future.

Annual meeting of the Arab Group of Funds with the EEC

2.2.50. On 2 June the fourth annual meeting of the Arab Group of Funds with the Community was held in Brussels.¹ These meetings are aimed at strengthening coordination between both parties on development policies and project financing in developing countries.

The Commission welcomed the Abu Dhabi Fund, the Kuwait Fund, Qatar, the Saudi Fund, the Arab Bank (BADEA), the Arab Fund (AFESD), the Islamic Development Bank, and the European Investment Bank. Mr Pisani addressed the meeting, underlining the importance of coordination between the Community and the Arab Group, and stressing the volume of the common development task, in Africa particularly.

In view of the mutual advantages to be gained from these meetings, it was decided to extend their scope in future.

Points of general interest covered in the meeting included the conduct of future dialogue on sectoral development policy in the individual countries such as the development of food strategies), a shared interest in mobilizing private capital for development, and the similarity in volume of commitments and disbursements of the two sides in 1982 (EEC USD 2 100 million and USD 1 600 million respectively, the Arab Group USD 2 700 million and USD 1 600 million respectively).

2.2.51. Under the chairmanship in turn of the Commission and of the EIB, an operational discussion was held on current or potential co-financed projects ranging over Africa and the Arab world, with a view to closer future cooperation at planning and project level.

Meeting of the Commission and BADEA

2.2.52. Mr Chedly Ayari, President of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), visited Mr Pisani for a wide-ranging discussion on African development policy.

Faced with inadequate results from aid in the past, and scarcer resources in the future, the two sides agreed to hold regular meetings with a view to working out a common, coherent approach to development issues.

Such meetings could also provide a framework for operational meetings between the EEC and the Arab Group of Funds.

Campaign against hunger in the world

2.2.53. On 14 June the Council took note of progress made in Community support for food strategies in certain African countries.² The Council encouraged the Commission to continue its active cooperation with the four

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.2.24.

² Bull. EC 9-1981, points 1.2.4 and 1.2.5; Sixteenth General Report, point 722.

countries concerned (Kenya, Mali, Rwanda, Zambia), and to submit a new report at the next meeting of the Council.

2.2.54. The Council then held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the main points in the Commission's communication on food aid for development.¹ This exchange of views led to a first series of general conclusions being drawn on how to integrate food aid into the development policies of the recipient countries. These conclusions, which are still provisional, will be supplemented and elaborated at later meetings.

2.2.55. As to the proposal for a regulation on the implementation of a special programme to combat world hunger²—another item on the agenda—the Council, aware of the need for speedy approval of this Regulation, held a thorough-going discussion in which it reached substantial agreement, to be endorsed officially in July. The Community will accordingly be able to implement this special programme—to which 50 million ECU was allocated in the 1983 budget—in the form of support measures for food strategies and policies and of specific campaigns in a number of ACP States and developing countries in Asia and Latin America.

Food aid, emergency aid and exceptional aid

Food aid

Annual programmes

2.2.56. On 21 and 22 June the Council adopted a favourable approach to the quantities of products to be supplied as food aid in 1983 and the list of countries and bodies eligible for such aid. The draft Council Regulation³ laying down for 1983 implementing rules for the framework Regulation concerning food aid policy and food aid management⁴ can therefore be formally adopted as soon as Parliament has delivered its opinion.

Emergency aid

2.2.57. On 15 June the Commission authorized the following allocations of emergency food aid to victims of drought:

- 2 000 tonnes of cereals, valued at 300 000 ECU, to some 35 000 people in the Tumbes region and 48 000 peoples in the Piura region, in northern Peru;
- 2 500 tonnes of cereals (275 000 ECU) to Lesotho;
- 350 tonnes of vegetable oil (200 000 ECU) to Mozambique;
- 500 000 ECU to Zimbabwe, for the purchase of beans or groundnuts.

Commodities and world agreements

Coffee

2.2.58. On 21 and 22 June, the Council decided that the Community should sign the International Coffee Agreement.⁵

Negotiations on the new agreement had been organized by the International Coffee Council, which groups 47 exporting and 24 importing countries. They were concluded on 16 September 1983,⁶ and the agreement is scheduled to come into effect on 1 October next. Its structure is, broadly speaking, identical to that of the last (1976) agreement, which was based on machinery to regulate supply involving a price range and an import control system, but greater flexibility is allowed for in the new agreement.

Cereals

2.2.59. The Council adopted on 21 June⁷ the Decision on the signing and the deposit of the declaration of provisional application of

¹ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.1.9 and 1.1.23.

² OJ C 37, 10.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.2.31.

³ OJ C 70, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.2.31.

⁴ OJ L 352, 14.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.2.36.

⁵ COM(83)286 final.

⁶ Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.2.16.

⁷ OJ L 181, 6.7.1983.

the 1983 Protocols for the further extension of the Wheat Trade Convention, 1971, and the Food Aid Convention, 1980, constituting the International Wheat Agreement, 1971.

Commercial, industrial, financial and technical cooperation

Fairs and exhibitions

2.2.60. Pursuing its programme to promote participation by developing countries in international trade events,¹ the Commission has organized exhibition stands:

- for six African and three Latin American States at the Barcelona Fair from 2 to 10 June;
- for five African States, one Asian State and one Latin American State at the Trieste Fair, which specializes in the coffee and wood trade, from 17 to 29 June.

Aid to non-associated developing countries

2.2.61. Following a favourable opinion delivered by the Committee on aid to non-associated developing countries at its meeting on 7 June, the Commission took the following financing decisions on 20 June (under Article 930 of the budget—1982 and (for the ICM) 1983 appropriations):

- Intergovernmental Committee for Migration: 1 400 000 ECU—regional project (technical assistance) for the reintegration of skilled Latin American nationals in five Central American countries (autonomous project);
- Nepal: 3 700 000 ECU (total cost: 4 800 000 ECU) to provide villages with water supply and sanitary facilities (autonomous project);
- All non-associated developing countries and bodies eligible for financial and technical aid from the Community: remaining 3 million ECU out of a total 4 million ECU (1 million ECU granted in April) for the preparation

and follow-up of development projects and programmes.

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.62. From 1 January to 30 June, 241 admissible projects totalling 29 072 425 ECU were submitted to the Commission by 104 NGOs.

During the same period, a grant totalling 5 946 045 ECU was committed for 45 projects.

2.2.63. In addition, 406 820 ECU was spent on co-financing seven campaigns to inform the European public about development issues.

ACP States and OCT

ACP-EEC Convention

Negotiations for a new convention

2.2.64. On 20 and 21 June, the Council discussed at length a number of questions relating to the mandate to be given to the Commission for negotiating a new ACP-EEC Convention.² It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to organize its proceedings so as to enable the Council to approve the mandate in July.

2.2.65. On 7 June Parliament passed a resolution advocating the establishment under the future Convention of a special programme for the exchange of young people.³

Institutions

Consultation of representatives of business and labour in the ACP

2.2.66. The seventh annual meeting⁴ of representatives of business and labour in the

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.46.

² Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.1.2 to 1.1.8.

³ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.2.60.

ACP and EEC, organized by the Joint Committee of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly, took place in Geneva on 4 June and proved very successful not only as regards the number of organizations represented but also as to the level of debate and the results achieved. Two items featured on the agenda: ACP migrant workers and their families in the Community and the furthering of vocational training in the ACP-EEC Convention.

The former topic, which had already been discussed at the 1982 meeting,¹ was examined this time on the basis of a much praised report written by Mr André Soulat (Economic and Social Committee), which concludes that there is a need for measures coordinating migratory policies at Member State, Community and ACP State level. The report recommended that specific provisions to this effect be included in the future ACP-EEC Convention.

The second item, introduced by Mrs Alma Williams (Economic and Social Committee), likewise awakened keen interest. All the participants stressed the absolutely essential role of training in a development context. Discussion on precise guidelines for the better recognition of this element both in the implementation of the present Convention and in the formulation of the new one will be continued at the next meeting.

Throughout the meeting the representatives of business and labour repeatedly expressed the hope of becoming more fully involved in ACP-EEC cooperation both under the present Convention and as regards the forthcoming negotiations for a new one which would, they hoped, define their role in this respect and elaborate on the social aspects of development.

European Development Fund

2.2.67. In June the Commission decided on the allocation of 4th and 5th EDF resources totalling 51 655 932 ECU to finance projects and programmes and emergency aid operations within its purview in the following sectors:

	(ECU)
Water engineering	1 079 000
Energy	31 030 000
Economic infrastructure	800 932
Training	8 501 000
Agriculture	1 000 000
Fishing	220 000
Stockfarming	1 400 000
Promotion of tourism	4 300 000
Emergency aid	3 325 000
Total	51 655 932

*

Visits

2.2.68. General Gnassingbe Eyadéma, President of the Togolese Republic, was officially received on 24 June by Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, and Mr Edgard Pisani, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for development.

During the talks, the importance of the role played by cooperation and development for relations between Togo and the Community was stressed and both sides reaffirmed their common commitment to that spirit of cooperation—in political, economic and trade affairs—in which the Lomé Convention is being implemented.

Both sides were agreed that the next ACP-EEC Convention must draw on the useful experience acquired in implementing the previous agreements, and that stress should be laid on priority development objectives, with the fulfilment of human potential being seen as the key element.

Finally the two parties stressed the importance of regional cooperation as constituting the only means whereby the countries of the region could tackle their problems at international level. Here too the new ACP-EEC Convention would have an important role to play; in this connection, Togo reaffirmed its determination to continue working on a regional basis alongside the other States within ECOWAS.²

¹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.2.60.

² Economic Community of West African States.

International organizations and conferences

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNCTAD VI

2.2.69. The sixth session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development was held in Belgrade from 6 June to 3 July.¹ The Community took part in the proceedings, which will be reviewed in the next issue of the Bulletin.

2.2.70. The preparatory work for this Conference was furthermore the subject of an opinion, on the initiative of the Economic and Social Committee, on 2 June.²

World Food Council

2.2.71. The ninth annual session of the World Food Council, which took place in New York from 27 to 30 June, mainly dealt with two points: food trends and priorities from the regional angle and food security matters.³

International Labour Organization

International Labour Conference

2.2.72. Employment policy was a priority item on the agenda of the 69th session of the International Labour Conference. For this reason Mr Ivor Richard in his address stressed the need for coordinated action to improve the employment situation and, above all, to fight against unemployment among young people.

On the basis of reports prepared by the International Labour Office, the Employment Committee drew up a draft report and a resolution on employment. In order to step up coordination within the group of Community countries the Commission participated very actively in the preparatory work and on the spot.

United Nations Environment Programme

2.2.73. Cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission was strengthened by an exchange of letters on 21 June.⁴

The Commission has maintained close and regular contact with UNEP since it was set up in 1972; exchanges of information have taken place and the Commission attends meetings of UNEP's Governing Council on behalf of the Community.

The most recent of these meetings was in Nairobi in May.⁵

United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

2.2.74. The signing of the Final Act of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea⁶ was the subject of a resolution passed by Parliament on 9 June.⁷

Council of Europe

2.2.75. On 21 and 22 June the Council signified its agreement on certain guidelines which the Community and the Member States propose to follow with respect to cooperation in a pragmatic and constructive spirit with the Council of Europe. The guidelines adopted include the following:

'The Community in no way wishes to encroach on the field of jurisdiction or the activities of the Council of Europe and will continue constructive cooperation with it, as reaffirmed by the President of the Council before the European Parliament during a debate on the German-Italian initiative.'⁸

¹ Point 2.2.47.

² Point 2.4.38.

³ Point 2.2.49.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.59.

⁵ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.90.

⁶ Bull. EC 5-1982, points 2.2.23 to 2.2.30.

⁷ Point 2.4.16; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁸ Point 2.4.19; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

The Community stresses that, like the Council of Europe, it is concerned to see the widest possible application of the legal instruments of the Council of Europe and of the Community. The Community suggests that each of the two organizations examine the possibilities for action to that end. Informal talks have already started between the Secretariat of the Council of Europe and the Commission with the aim, in particular, of determining the Conventions to which the Community could accede.

The Community considers that no line should be drawn *a priori* between matters within the province of the Council of Europe and those within the province of the European Communities,

given the different aims of the two organizations and the developing nature of their tasks.¹

2.2.76. The annual discussions between the Commission's Secretary-General and the Council of Europe Ministers' deputies took place in Strasbourg on 14 June.

The examination of cooperation between the Community and the Council of Europe showed that relations between the two institutions are growing stronger and leading increasingly to jointly financed concrete measures.

3. Financing Community activities

2.3.1. At its meeting in Stuttgart the European Council adopted a declaration on own resources and the specific problems of certain Member States and on problems linked with budgetary discipline and sound financial management.¹ It instructed the Commission to bring forward proposals by 1 August for increasing the effectiveness of the structural funds (Regional Fund, Social Fund, EAGGF Guidance Section). Community policies, the effectiveness of these policies, the improvement of budgetary discipline and the arrangements for financing the Community will be the subject of a general discussion before talks begin on the new system of Community own resources.

Budgets

General budget

Supplementary and amending budget No 2/1983

2.3.2. On 1 July² the Commission adopted a second preliminary draft supplementary

budget for 1983, representing 2 441 million ECU in commitments and 2 380 million ECU in payments. The trend in expenditure in the early months of the year revealed additional requirements, mainly in agriculture as a result of the Council's farm price decisions for 1983/84 and the unfavourable economic trends on the agricultural markets (in particular lower world prices than forecast and higher Community production than was expected when the budget was established).

The increases proposed for the EAGGF Guarantee Section amount to 1 811.9 million ECU, of which 438 million ECU is a consequence of the agricultural price decisions.

The Commission's proposals also take account of other requirements necessitating

¹ Points 1.5.5, 1.5.6 and 1.5.7.

² Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.3.1.

an increase in appropriations. The main items are:

	(million ECU)	
• specific urban renewal measures in Belfast	commitments	32.0
	payments	25.6
• adjustment of the compensation for the UK for 1982 and a reduction in the resulting budgetary cost of this measure for the Federal Republic of Germany through the implementation of additional regional infrastructure and energy measures of Community interest	United Kingdom	384.5
	Germany	78.1
• EAGGF guidance measure for the less prosperous Member States		20.0
• special aids to the victims of the November 1980 earthquake	Italy	20.0
• extension of aid to Poland		14.0

2.3.3. On the revenue side, the Commission has revised its estimates for agricultural levies and sugar levies downwards by 137.8 million ECU, offset by 158.65 million ECU in miscellaneous additional revenue and the part of the final balance for 1982 which was not included in supplementary and amending budget No 1/1983.

With the new appropriations proposed, the amount to be financed from VAT own resources rises to 13 587.0 million ECU, i.e. an increase in the VAT rate from 0.79% to 0.96%. This leaves a safety margin of only some 550 million, which means that the own resources still available to the Community are virtually exhausted.

The restructuring of the 1983 budget leads to an increase in appropriations for non-compulsory expenditure amounting to 639.2 million ECU in commitments and 609.4

million ECU in payments. The Commission is therefore proposing that a new rate of increase for this expenditure be determined by the conciliation procedure.

1984 budget

Preliminary draft budget

2.3.4. On 10 June the Commission, in accordance with Article 78(3) of the ECSC Treaty, Article 203(3) of the EEC Treaty and Article 177(3) of the Euratom Treaty, sent the budgetary authority the preliminary draft general budget of the Communities for 1984, which it had adopted on 11 May.¹

With the preliminary draft budget totalling 28 619.84 million ECU in appropriations for commitments and 25 528.42 million ECU in appropriations for payments, a new maximum rate of increase has to be fixed for non-compulsory expenditure. Compared with 1983, this rate fixed initially at 11.6%² amounts to 46.61% for commitments and 26.97% for payments.

As required by the Financial Regulation, the preliminary draft was accompanied by a general introduction³ and the Commission's entry-by-entry analysis of expenditure, revenue and borrowing and lending operations.

Supplementary measures in favour of the United Kingdom for 1983

2.3.5. Following on from the position it adopted in March⁴ the European Council at its meeting in Stuttgart adopted 'conclusions' under which it was agreed that the United Kingdom would receive net compensation of 750 million ECU for 1983. The amounts fixed as a result of this decision will be included in the general budget for 1984.

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.3.1.

² Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.3.1.

³ Bull. EC 5-1983, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.7.

⁴ Bull. EC 3-1983, points 1.5.6 and 2.3.5.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.6. In June the Commission concluded four private placings—one in German marks for the equivalent of 20.7 million ECU, one in Swiss francs for the equivalent of 27.7 million ECU, one in Belgian francs for the equivalent of 2.2 million ECU and another in German marks for the equivalent of 5.3 million ECU.

Loans paid out

2.3.7. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission granted 7.67 million ECU in loans for subsidized housing and conversion in June.

*Subsidized housing*¹

2.3.8. Loans for the building of subsidized housing amounted to 0.16 million ECU, all for mineworkers.

Conversion loans

2.3.9. Conversion loans (Article 56) totalling 7.51 million ECU were granted to the following firms:

Germany

Supraregional: Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft AG, Frankfurt, for small and medium-sized firms.

Saarland: Saar-Auto-Service-Mosolf GmbH, Saarlouis.

Belgium

Luxembourg and Liège provinces: Belgium Mechanical Fabrication BMF SA, Brussels: Aubange and Grâce-Hollogne plants.

EEC-NCI

Loans raised

2.3.10. In June the Commission made a public bond issue of DM 250 million (the equivalent of 110.3 million ECU). It has a term of 10 years with an interest rate of 8.25%. It was issued at par.

EEC-balance of payments

2.3.11. In connection with a loan which the Community granted to France,² the Commission made a public issue in June for USD 1 800 million in floating rate notes, the equivalent of 2 000 million ECU. It has a maximum term of seven years and was issued at par.

¹ Only payments made during the month are reported in this section. Decisions to grant loans were reported in the 'Employment, education and social policy' section at the time of decision.

² Point 2.1.8.

4. Institutional and political matters

European political cooperation

2.4.1. The European Council, meeting at Stuttgart, adopted 'conclusions' on international political questions including Poland, the CSCE, the Middle East and Central America.¹

2.4.2. After a Council meeting on 21 June the Foreign Ministers adopted the following statement on Argentina:

'At their meeting on 21 June the Ten dealt again with the situation in Argentina after the declaration of the Argentine military junta of 28 April on the question of missing persons.

The Ten reaffirm the demand to the Argentine Government voiced already in their declaration of 6 May² and the press statement of 15 May after the informal Foreign Ministers' meeting in Gymnich³ that the Argentine Government give satisfactory clarification of the fate of missing people.'

2.4.3. On 9 June Parliament adopted resolutions on the unfreezing of financial relations with Israel, aid for Palestinian refugees, the situation in Malta and the sending of an International Red Cross delegation to Iran.⁴

European policy and relations between the institutions

European policy

European union

2.4.4. The Heads of State and Government and the Foreign Ministers of the Ten signed a Solemn Declaration on European Union, the full text of which is to be found elsewhere in this issue.⁵

2.4.5. On 9 June⁶ Parliament adopted a resolution appealing to the European Council to take constructive steps towards European Union. In another resolution adopted on 30 June⁷ it expressed disappointment at the outcome of the Stuttgart meeting.

Greek memorandum

2.4.6. The European Council stated that it was conscious of the problems facing Greece in its efforts to integrate into the Communities and agreed broad guidelines on the Greek memorandum.⁸

Greenland

2.4.7. On 7 June Parliament delivered its opinion⁹—in response to the request made by the Council pursuant to the Treaties (Articles 96 ECSC, 236 EEC and 204 EAEC) on 8 June 1982¹⁰—concerning the Danish Government's memorandum on Greenland's withdrawal from the Community and the application to Greenland of a special system of association.¹¹ Parliament recommends granting the Danish Government's request and negotiating a new status for Greenland as a territory outside Europe, providing for Greenland's special relations with the Community in a mutually harmonious form. Parliament considers it vital that, in the event of Greenland being granted overseas territory status, this should be supplemented by a concurrent agreement between Denmark and Greenland on the one hand and the Community on the other to establish mutual rights and obligations on a lasting basis.

Uniform electoral procedure

2.4.8. Following on from the statement made at its 24-25 May meeting,¹² the Council adopted a formal Decision on 2 June¹³ to the effect that the second elections to the

¹ The conclusions are set out in full at point 1.5.1 *et seq.*

² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.4.1.

³ *Ibid.*, point 2.4.2.

⁴ Point 2.4.17; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁵ Point 1.6.1 *et seq.*

⁶ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁷ OJ C 205, 1.8.1983.

⁸ Point 1.5.17.

⁹ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.4.3.

¹⁰ Point 2.4.12; OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

¹¹ Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.4.1.

¹² Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.4.7.

¹³ OJ L 155, 14.6.1983.

European Parliament by direct universal suffrage are to be held between 14 and 17 June 1984.

2.4.9. On 7 June Parliament adopted a resolution asking the Commission to submit a proposal by the end of 1983 that would grant citizens of Member States residing in a Member State other than their own the right to stand for and vote in local elections.¹

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Historical archives of the European Communities

2.4.10. At a ceremony in Brussels on 28 June Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, accompanied by Mr Richard Burke, member of the Commission with special responsibility for the documents, inaugurated the historical archives of the ECSC High-Authority. The decision to open these archives to the public was taken by the Commission on 8 February² after receiving the Council's assent. To mark the inauguration, an exhibition was held of documents illustrating various themes of research into the beginnings of the ECSC and implementation of the Treaty, notably the setting-up of the institutions, the establishment and expansion of the common market in coal and steel and relations with the Member States, non-member countries and international organizations. A detailed guide has also been published.³

Research workers wishing to consult the archives can obtain all the necessary information from the archives department at the Square de Meeûs building in Brussels.

During the ceremony, attended by several public figures who had participated in the events to which the archives relate, Mr Thorn stressed that in the past historians had tended to accentuate their national viewpoint but that nowadays historical research ought increasingly to adopt an international approach. The provision of these important

new sources will allow systematic, interdisciplinary and comparative research into the history of post-war European integration.

Parliament⁴

Strasbourg: 6 to 10 June

2.4.11. At its June part-session Parliament dealt with a wide variety of subjects, to all appearances basically technical but nevertheless carrying political implications and a definite electoral interest, both for Parliament and for broad sectors of public opinion. Items thus prominent on the agenda included the supervision and control of transfrontier shipment of hazardous wastes within the European Community, application to Greenland of the special association rules following withdrawal from the Community and the amended Regulation on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables.

Greenland's withdrawal not a precedent

(7 July)

2.4.12. Presenting his report Mr James Janssen van Raay (*EPP/NL*) recalled that in two referendums, in 1972 and in February

¹ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

² OJ L 43, 15.2.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.4.6.

³ *Opening of the historical archives of the European Communities to the public*. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, L-2985 Luxembourg.

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 184, 11.7.1983 and the report of the proceedings is contained in OJ Annex 1-298. 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.

1982,¹ the inhabitants of Greenland had voted not to join the Community and then to withdraw from it. This choice had prompted the Danish Government to request, on 19 May 1982,² the withdrawal of Greenland—an autonomous territory but an integral part of the Kingdom of Denmark—and had obliged the Council on 8 June 1982,³ in accordance with the Treaties, to seek the opinions of the Commission⁴ and Parliament on granting Greenland the status of an associated country. While deploring the turn of events, the rapporteur could see some justification for the change of status. In the first place, the territory was not European in that it was 4 000 km away from Copenhagen and only 40 km from the coast of Canada. Then Greenland had special ties with Denmark since it was a former Danish colony. The only problem consequent upon withdrawal lay in maintaining free access for Community fishermen, mainly German, to Greenland's waters. But, went on Mr Janssen van Raay, withdrawal did not raise any basic problem by way of setting an example: it could not constitute a precedent since this was not a European territory.

The Council President, Mr Alois Mertes, declared that fishing was indeed a key issue in the negotiations, where positions were still very far apart on the question of access for Community fishermen to Greenland's waters and on the matter of reciprocity in terms of Community imports of Greenland fish. For the Commission Mr Richard Burke, who endorsed the van Raay report, also stressed the need to preserve a balance on this question of fisheries.

Mr Ernest Glinne (*Soc/B*) felt that though they must—like the Legal Affairs Committee—regret yet respect this democratic decision, they must also appreciate the fears expressed by the Political Affairs Committee about the political repercussions. In its opinion drafted by Lord O'Hagan (*ED/UK*) the Committee believed that this withdrawal would constitute a dangerous precedent and would show a questionable conception of the Community as born of the Treaty of Rome. In contrast, Mr Ehrard Jakobson (*EPP/DK*) supported the van Raay report, which enabled

Parliament to demonstrate that the small countries had a say in the Community. Mr Alan Tyrell (*ED/UK*) agreed that Greenland had every right to leave the Community, but it must pay the price. It could therefore not be granted the special status of 'overseas country and territory' except in return for a satisfactory fisheries agreement which recognized that the Community was now protecting Greenland's 200-mile exclusion zone and that Community subsidies had enabled Greenland to expand its fishing fleet by 10%. This view was not shared by Mrs Bodil Boserup (*Com/DK*), who held that the negotiations on fisheries must not be conducted on the premises of acquired or historical rights and could in no circumstances be linked with those on the question of whether the status of 'overseas country and territory' should be conferred. Mrs Veil (*Lib/F*), however, contended that Greenland could not lay claim to more favourable conditions than those it was now enjoying. But it was free to withdraw since the Community could not be anything but a voluntary union. Mr Daniel Vié (*EPD/F*), Mr Finn Lyngé (*Soc/DK*) and Mr Robert Chambeiron (*Com/F*) in turn endorsed the van Raay report and held that Denmark's legal action brooked no discussion, Mr Chambeiron declaring that Greenland should be accorded the status of associated country, with no restrictions.

The van Raay report was finally adopted by 122 votes to 9 with 7 abstentions and carried an amendment by Mr Wilhelm Helms (*EPP/D*) recommending that the new status providing for Greenland's special relations with the Community be presented in a mutually harmonious form. Mr Francescopaolo d'Angloslante (*Com/I*) had announced that he would not vote for the report for three reasons: the Community being a community of states, it was not possible for part of a state to withdraw; Greenland, which was not a developing

¹ Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.4.1.

² Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.4.1.

³ Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.4.3.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.10.

country, could not be granted the privileged status of an associated territory; the argument that withdrawal would not create a precedent was fallacious, as exemplified by Sicily, which, until the eleventh century, was under Arab domination and lay geographically further south than Tunisia. Mr Richard Cottrell (*ED/UK*) had said that he was willing to ease the exit of Greenland if the Greenlanders were accepting the consequences of their referendum.

Supervision of transfrontier shipments of hazardous wastes

(6 and 8 June)

2.4.13. Presenting her report on measures to be taken concerning transport of hazardous wastes, Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (*Soc/B*) remarked that the 'odyssey' of the 41 drums of dioxin had offered an opportunity to compare theory with practice.¹ She found it absolutely essential for the Community to provide itself with an effective legal instrument to ensure that such a scandal never happened again. But whilst the Commission had proposed a directive² which would regulate only the shipment of dangerous waste, Mrs Van Hemeldonck would have preferred a regulation applicable three months after publication in the Official Journal and extended to cover all dangerous products. She regarded the distinction between products and wastes as theoretical and facile since it meant that what in fact were dangerous wastes could be improperly described as simply dangerous products. She also insisted that the proposal should cover transport through transit countries. The vehicles involved should therefore be fitted with standardized plates so that the load, the nature of the risk and measures to be taken in the event of accidents could be readily identified, and a number of safe compulsory routes should be agreed, which would mean that checkpoints did not have to be too numerous. On the matter of responsibility Mrs Van Hemeldonck contended that the producer was solely responsible from beginning to end of the process. The national authorities should be responsible for monitoring shipments but the Commission would

also be involved since one of the requirements would be compulsory notification to the Commission of routes to be followed and places where the material was to be unloaded and stored or destroyed. These records would have to be kept for 10 years. In conclusion, Mrs Van Hemeldonck stressed how far a solution swiftly adopted so soon after the dioxin affair would show the citizens of Europe that only a European remedy could solve the real problems that concerned them.

Mr Ingo Friedrich (*EPP/D*) wholeheartedly approved the Commission's proposal. He did not want to see it changed into a regulation or extended to cover toxic products, in order not to raise any obstacles to its quick and effective application. Inspired by the same concern for effectiveness, Mr Georges Donnez (*Lib/F*) and Mrs Mechthild von Alemann (*Lib/D*) said they, too, were against any change of legal instrument; but they wanted to see a directive applicable within six months and not, as planned in the Commission proposal, within a year. Both speakers also hoped that the emphasis would be laid on the competence required of transporters and the guarantees by Member States. Mrs Sylvie Le Roux (*Com/F*), on the other hand, earnestly appealed for an end to industrial secrecy, which prejudiced personal safety and was a danger to the environment; wastes and substances were indistinguishable in their effects.

Speaking for the Commission Mr Karl-Heinz Narjes's first point was that the Council must adopt this proposed directive quickly. He was therefore against extending it to cover all dangerous substances as this would hold up the decision-making process by at least a year. He also warned the House against adopting an amendment requiring the country of origin to destroy wastes since not all the Member States had the facilities to do this. Wastes should preferably be destroyed in the country which could offer the best conditions of safety. But he reminded the House that of the 160 million tonnes of waste generated each year by the Community, 16% entailed

¹ Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.4.16.

² OJ C 53, 25.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.55.

transfrontier shipments, which meant an annual traffic of 200-300 000 lorries crossing internal frontiers. Agreeing that only the producers were responsible and therefore liable for penalty he also approved the idea of changing the proposed directive into a regulation, which will be binding immediately.

The Van Hemeldonck report carrying an amendment by Mrs Ursula Schleicher (EPP/D) and Mrs Marcelle Lentz-Cornette (EPP/L)—which excluded dangerous products from the scope of the proposal—was finally adopted with no dissenting votes and two abstentions. Mr Alain Bombard (Soc/F) had earlier announced his intention of voting for the report, although he regretted the omission of dangerous substances; he urged the Commission to adopt a Regulation as soon as possible prohibiting discharge into the sea of any dangerous substance or waste. Mrs Marijke Van Hemeldonck (Soc/B) said she was appalled by the threefold refusal; the House had refused to extend the Commission proposal to all dangerous substances, had denied the possibility of prison sentences for those responsible for accidents like the one at Seveso and had refused to consider information for workers.

New methods for calculating reference prices for fruit and vegetables (8 and 9 June)

2.4.14. In his report on the Commission's proposal for amending the present method of calculating reference prices for fruit and vegetables, Mr Arnaldo Colleselli (EPII) endorsed the Commission's guidelines.¹ Stressing the positive effects he began by pointing out that the proposed new method would make more allowance for rising production costs in the Community and would also avoid a gradual erosion of Community preference. The reference price would thus be a buffer against imports of fruit and vegetables from non-member countries since this produce could not be imported at prices below the reference price unless countervailing charges had been paid. Moreover, extending the reference price to a wide range of Mediterranean products should

even help to boost Community preference on oranges, mandarins, lemons, clementines, apples, pears, table grapes, peaches, cherries, aubergines, tomatoes, cucumbers, marrows and, soon, melons.

Mr Nikolaos Vgenopoulos (Soc/G), Mr Konstantinos Kaloyannis (EPP/G), Mrs Jeanne Pauwelyn (Lib/B) and Mrs Nicole Pery (Soc/F) rose in turn to support the Commission's commendable efforts to reinforce the system for protecting Mediterranean produce. Mrs Pery nevertheless regretted that the expanding role of the producer organizations had still to be acknowledged by the Council but she was glad that the reference prices had been extended to other fruit and vegetables and hoped that they would be further extended to include strawberries, garlic and spring carrots. Emphasizing that this Commission proposal should take effect before the accession of Spain and Portugal, she reminded the House that Spain would then be producing 9% of the apples, 12% of the peaches, 15% of the grapes and 41% of the citrus fruits, which showed that a sound common organization of the fruit and vegetable markets must be established well beforehand. Finally, Mrs Pery mentioned the quality of fruit, complaining that over the last few years it had been sacrificed for the sake of aesthetic appearance, which explained why between 1970 and 1980 annual per capita consumption of fruit had fallen from 40 to 30 kg.

For the Commission, Mr Poul Dalsager urged that 1 January 1985 be maintained as the effective date of the proposed Regulation. This would probably be the date of the accession of Spain and Portugal and the proposed amendment could not be accepted by some Member States except in the context of that enlargement. Mr Dalsager could therefore see no reason why the effective date for the new method of calculation should be in advance of enlargement.

¹ OJ C 74, 18.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 2.1.86 and 2.1.87; OJ C 281, 4.11.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, point 1.3.1.

Parliament then adopted the Colleselli report after Mrs Yvonne Theobaldi-Paoli (*Soc/F*) had stated a preference for the original version, which, to remove any discrimination between the highly protected produce of the north and the particularly vulnerable produce of the south, recommended immediate implementation. Mr Emmanuel Maffre-Baugé (*Com/F*) believed that even if applied immediately and even if it righted the injustice which had long afflicted the fruit and vegetable producers, the improvement to the rules for fruit and vegetables would serve no purpose if Spain joined the common market. He would vote for the report while still urging a halt to the enlargement negotiations, which he hoped to see replaced by a genuine cooperation policy.

2.4.15. Parliament gave opinions on a number of Commission proposals including:

- (i) a draft Council resolution on the easing of the formalities relating to checks on citizens of Member States at the Community's internal frontiers and on the passport union and the abolition of personal checks at the internal frontiers of the Community;¹
- (ii) new block exemption Regulations for exclusive purchasing and distribution agreements² (own-initiative opinion);
- (iii) Regulations on a second series of specific Community regional development measures (non-quota section);³
- (iv) a Directive amending the Directive relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from positive-ignition engines of motor vehicles;⁴
- (v) a Regulation on the common organization of the market in ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin and laying down additional provisions for certain products containing ethyl alcohol;⁵
- (vi) a Regulation amending the Regulation on the market in milk and milk products;⁶
- (vii) a Regulation amending the Regulation on the common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables;⁷
- (viii) a Regulation fixing the amount of aid granted for seeds for the 1984/85 and 1985/86 marketing years;⁸

(ix) a communication on a transport infrastructure experimental programme and on the contribution of a comprehensive European transport investment programme to the fight against unemployment;⁹

(x) a Decision on the first framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities (1984-87);¹⁰

(xi) a Decision adopting a research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology (FAST) (1983-87).¹¹

2.4.16. The House also passed resolutions on:

(i) the European Council's mandate on the realization of the internal market: the House called on the European Council, due to meet in Stuttgart, to decide on a timetable under which the Council of Ministers would have to take decisions by June 1984 on a further package of measures on the realization of the internal market;

(ii) the situation of commerce and craft industries in the Community: the Commission was urged to place commerce and crafts on its list of priorities immediately and in the near future to submit to the Council the necessary proposals for discussion of this matter and for action to promote this sector;

(iii) a European Community programme to promote youth exchanges;¹² Parliament stressed the Community's political commitment to the encouragement of youth exchanges and called for a programme for the wide-ranging and intensive promotion of

¹ Point 2.1.15.

² Point 2.1.58.

³ Point 2.1.104.

⁴ Point 2.1.118.

⁵ Point 2.1.146.

⁶ Point 2.1.142.

⁷ Point 2.1.145.

⁸ Point 2.1.176.

⁹ Point 2.1.213.

¹⁰ Points 2.1.248 and 2.1.249.

¹¹ Point 2.1.257.

¹² Bull. EC 6-1982, point 2.1.67.

such exchanges. It recommended that the programme be extended to include exchanges of young people between the Member States and the ACP countries. This would require an appropriate entry in the Community budget (200 000 ECU);

(iv) family policy in the Community: the House considered that as an integral part of all Community policies, family policy must be developed along two main fronts, by highlighting the family aspects inherent in the Community's economic, social and cultural policies and by boosting resources in terms of money and staff in order to be able to apply measures for the benefit of the family;

(v) adoption of the new Regulation for the ERDF: the House urged the Council to adopt a new Regulation before the adoption of the 1984 draft budget;

(vi) level of agricultural incomes: the House noted the difficulties involved in analysing the relationship between inflation and farm incomes, and considered that the approach chosen by the Commission¹ covered only one aspect of the problem. The Commission was therefore urged to review its present conclusions on the basis of a deeper and more differentiated study;

(vii) utilization of appropriations under the fruit and vegetables sector of the EAGGF: recalling its resolution of 20 April 1982,² Parliament appealed to the Commission and the Member States to do all in their power to ensure that the measures initiated some time ago to improve the production and marketing of citrus fruit were at last put into effect. It was convinced that a number of subsidy measures had not had the desired effect and should therefore be either administered more effectively or reviewed.

(viii) the need to improve forest-fire protection: the Council was urged to adopt as soon as possible the Commission's proposal to increase appropriations by 46 million ECU for forestry action in Mediterranean regions, and requested that a new budget entry ('forest-fire protection') under the EAGGF Guidance Section, be made and allocated appropriations in the 1984 budget;

(ix) transport of horses intended for slaughter: on the grounds that transport over long distances was far more of an ordeal for horses and stricter provisions were therefore required than for other animals, Parliament urged the Commission to submit a proposal for a directive as soon as possible to tighten up the current provisions of the Directives of 8 August 1977³ and 12 May 1981;⁴

(x) Community aid to the province of Sondrio (Lombardy) severely affected by serious landslips and avalanches: the House called on the Commission to give a firm expression of its solidarity with the population of Sondrio, by granting aid which took account of the scale of the material damage and the need to restore the infrastructures;

(xi) urgent measures in favour of the regions seriously affected by the floods: the House requested that the Community grant aid with all due despatch to the regions affected in order to alleviate the distress of the people concerned and with a view to making good the damage caused by the floods;

(xii) granting aid to the province of Bolzano and, in particular, to Val Venosta, where extremely heavy damage was caused in May by mud, flooding and exceptional rainfall: the Commission was urged to provide appropriate resources forthwith to alleviate the plight of the population affected in the province of Bolzano;

(xiii) lead in petrol: the Commission was asked to submit to the Council as soon as possible proposals for the updating of the Directive of 29 June 1978⁵ on the lead content of petrol;

(xiv) the possibilities of providing Community support for a fixed link across the Channel: referring to its resolutions of 8 May 1981⁶ and 22 April 1982,², the House regretted that there had been considerable

¹ Bull. EC 3-1982, point 2.1.67.

² OJ C 125, 17.5.1982.

³ OJ L 200, 8.8.1977.

⁴ OJ L 150, 6.6.1981.

⁵ OJ L 197, 22.7.1978.

⁶ OJ C 144, 15.6.1981.

delays in carrying out the study on the financial implications of a fixed Channel link and that the enthusiasm with which the decision of September 1981 was initially greeted now seemed to have waned. The responsible British and French authorities were therefore urged to do everything in their power to enable this decision to be taken as swiftly as possible;

(xv) basic technological research in the automobile industry: the House called for concerted action by the Community in respect of research programmes undertaken in government research establishments in order to avoid unnecessary duplication; it believed that national programmes could be coordinated at European level.

It stressed the fact the Community's financial aid should be in the form of indirect action;

(xvi) accession of Spain and Portugal—resolution to the European Council in Stuttgart;¹

(xvii) signing of the final act of the Conference on the Law of the Sea by the European Community: the House again² called on the Commission to urge the five Member States which had not yet signed the Act to do so, so that they may, at all events, participate fully and vote in future preparatory discussions; the Council was similarly requested to bring its influence to bear on those of its members which had not yet signed and, once one more Member State had signed, to take a decision forthwith on signature by the European Community;

(xviii) right of citizens of a Member State residing in a Member State other than their own to stand for and vote in local elections.³

2.4.17. In the field of political cooperation Parliament passed the following resolutions:

(i) unfreezing of financial relations between the Community and Israel: believing the Agreement of 17 May 1983 between Israel and Lebanon to be a key element of the Lebanese and Middle-East peace process, Parliament called on the Council and Commission to unfreeze the financial relations between the EEC and Israel immediately;

(ii) aid programme for Palestinian refugees: considering that the 60 000 or more Palestinian refugees living in southern Lebanon were facing a hopeless personal situation and conditions of both moral and material discomfort, the House asked the Commission to launch an immediate aid programme to be administered by the Lebanese Government;

(iii) the situation in Malta: Parliament expressed the hope that relations between Malta and the Community would develop in a positive manner so that the Commission's proposals for financial aid to Malta could be adopted by the Council in the near future;⁴

(iv) sending an International Red Cross delegation to Iran: recalling its resolution of last March,⁵ Parliament called on the Iranian Government to allow an International Red Cross delegation to visit Mr Kianouri and other political prisoners in Iran in order to investigate prison conditions at close hand.

Special part-session in Strasbourg, 29 and 30 June

2.4.18. Parliament also met for a special part-session in Strasbourg for an in-depth political review of the conclusions reached by the Stuttgart European Council from 17 to 19 June and to hear the report of the German Presidency.⁶

Results of the European Council and report of the German Presidency

2.4.19. Parliament held two different debates combined as a discussion of the results of the Stuttgart European Council⁷ and the report of the German Presidency.

The first debate was opened by a lengthy statement with highly political considerations

¹ Point 2.2.2.

² OJ C 13, 17.1.1983.

³ Points 2.4.8 and 2.4.9.

⁴ Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.2.43.

⁵ OJ C 96, 11.4.1983.

⁶ OJ C 205, 1.8.1983.

⁷ Point 1.5.1 *et seq.*

by Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, President of the Council, on the six months of the German Presidency but also on the comprehensive and interrelated nature of the guidelines adopted at Stuttgart. Reviewing the high spots of action over the last six months he mentioned in turn the reform of the Social Fund, which would now allocate 75% of its resources to the training of young people under 25 spending 40% of its funds in the least-favoured regions, the stimulation of productive investment by tripling the capacity of the new Community instrument and the granting of a 4 000 million ECU loan to France for balance-of-payments support, adoption by the Council of a number of directives to improve the operating conditions of the internal market, the important measures taken to improve the environment at the Council meeting on 16 June and the agreement on a common fisheries policy. Turning to the latest European Council Mr Genscher highlighted the 'package of decisions' which would have to be taken in Athens in December in accordance with the procedures adopted at Stuttgart. He then underlined the importance of the Solemn Declaration on European Union, deploring that the provisions on Parliament did not go far enough: anyone who supported the election of the European Parliament by universal suffrage should be prepared to accord it intrinsic parliamentary powers. Mr Genscher deeply regretted the reservations of a number of States—among them France, the United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland, which considered that the only way of resolving a disagreement was to prolong the discussion until consensus was reached—about adherence to Treaty rules on Council voting. Mr Genscher wound up by reviewing political cooperation and the enlargement process. He welcomed the success of peace initiatives at the Madrid Conference, in the Middle East and in Central America, and highlighted the link between future decisions on Community financing and the accession negotiations.

2.4.20. Opening the second debate Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, began by paying tribute to the German

Presidency for the sustained effort it had made over an extremely difficult six months. Presenting the results achieved at Stuttgart, he welcomed the adoption of the Solemn Declaration, which had crowned dogged and patient efforts and had the dual merit of opening new avenues without discounting past achievements. He regretted however that it was a declaration by the Heads of State or Government rather than a declaration by the Community, with which all the institutions, and Parliament in particular, should have been associated. He, too, was sad to see that the original draft had been watered down by certain governments, particularly where Parliament's powers and decision-making were concerned. He expressed the hope that each member of the European Council would regard the Solemn Declaration as a starting point rather than the summit of their ambitions. Mr Thorn went on to remind the House that the Commission had fulfilled its mandate by making proposals on increased Community resources, new policies and reform of the common agricultural policy. As a result disaster had been avoided in Stuttgart. But while nothing had been lost, nothing had been gained either, since decisions had been postponed to the European Council in Athens. He welcomed the approach which had been adopted, namely joint discussion of the three issues and an overall solution. Going into these issues in more detail, he spoke first of the common agricultural policy where improvements in the form of greater competitiveness and reduced surpluses had now become urgent. The Council, which had ignored the Commission's 1981 proposals, was now being forced to consider them because own resources were running out. Concerned about the Council's reluctance to develop new policies, Mr Thorn called on Parliament to press it to take action to encourage Europe's scientific and industrial development, define new policies and measures and seek ways of ensuring that national and Community measures complemented each other. On the issue of increased Community resources he made it clear that the Commission repudiated the notion of 'fair return'; what it wanted was equity and solidarity. As an example he reminded the

House of the Commission's proposal for modulated VAT. He went on to emphasize the link between the 750 million ECU rebate granted to the United Kingdom for 1983 and the adoption of arrangements for the future financing of the Community, to show that the Commission supported Parliament's resolution of 18 May¹ rejecting temporary measures and *ad hoc* solutions. Parliament and the Commission should neither block implementation of this agreement (this would paralyse the Community) nor comply with it slavishly (this might break the link with a long-term solution). They should, rather, see to it that the agreement was implemented in a Community spirit. He urged the House to use the urgent procedure to give its opinion on the proposals that the Commission would be submitting to the Council by 1 August. The ball would again be in the Council's court, but it would have to act within the institutional framework. It could use special procedures if need be but these would have to be Community procedures. Never before, he warned, had the Community had to grapple simultaneously with so many complex and difficult problems and in such a short space of time. And it would have to do so under the threat of exhausted resources.

2.4.21. In his capacity as President of the European Council, Mr Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, began his speech by warning against rash national measures and shortsighted policies. He called for solidarity in the interests of achieving a free internal market, a 'liberal' external policy, institutional development of the Community and a development policy, all of which precluded the Community being regarded as a mere free-trade area. Taking a longer-term view of the Stuttgart European Council, he stressed the positive features of the meeting, which had given fresh impetus to the Community by initiating wide-ranging negotiations, defining objectives and setting a timetable, while bearing the Member States' economic and financial problems in mind. The Chancellor reaffirmed Community principles, declaring that there was no question of 'fair return', of abandoning transfers of funds, or of renouncing

established and new policies in the search for a solid, lasting basis for the Community's finances. On the Solemn Declaration—which was, he pointed out, provisional—he echoed the criticisms and regrets voiced in the House about the restrictions introduced by the Member States. He believed that Parliament's position should be strengthened, but had been surprised by the rather negative reactions of national parliaments. In conclusion, he told Parliament that the people of Germany, living as they did in a divided country, were particularly keen on a united Europe. They needed Europe and they were ready to make sacrifices for it. But Europe called for more than economics. Heartfelt conviction was needed too. Europe's critics had yet to come up with an alternative and he was convinced that, in the end, political unification would be achieved.

2.4.22. Mr Ernest Glinne (*Soc/B*) found the Stuttgart meeting unproductive, given the extent of the crisis that was jeopardizing European prospects. What was wanted was more, not less integration, but integration with a purpose. Mr Egon Klepsch (*EPP/D*), by contrast, took a favourable view of what had been achieved at Stuttgart, particularly as regards reform of the Social Fund and the logical 'package' of key issues. He rejected any notion of limiting Community finances and wholeheartedly supported a return to majority voting in the Council. Sir Henry Plumb (*ED/UK*) described the results of the Stuttgart meeting as 'meagre' and only hoped that Chancellor Kohl's aspirations would be realized. He added that, if Parliament did not adopt a budget embodying the United Kingdom rebate, it would be attempting to offload on to one Community partner the exclusive burden of its legitimate dispute with the Council. Although Mr Guido Fanti (*Com/I*) also took a negative view of Stuttgart, he favoured increased integration by reinforcing the European Monetary System to resist the all-powerful dollar; he also favoured increased own resources. Mr Martin

¹ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.4.11.

Bangemann (*Lib/D*) regarded Stuttgart as a milestone and felt that the German Presidency had shown courage; its intentions were courageous too. It was now for Parliament to decide whether the United Kingdom's rebate should be included in the budget, and it would agree to this only if a lasting solution to the financing problem were found.

Mrs Jacqueline Nebout (*EPD/F*) urged the United Kingdom to accept a lasting solution (which presupposed increased own resources) to the financing of the Community, since this was a prerequisite for acceptance in principle of the payment of compensation. For the rest, she felt that Stuttgart had been 'a summit of ambiguity'. Mr Arie de Goede (*NA/NL*) called for an end to 'British blackmail'. Mr Jaak Vandemeulebroucke (*Ind/B*) and Mr Rudi Arndt (*Soc/D*) had reservations about Stuttgart. Mr Lambert Croux (*EPP/B*), though dissatisfied too, described the meeting as a turning point. Institutionally the Solemn Declaration contained many positive points, providing for more consultation of Parliament and its enlarged Bureau on a greater number of issues. On the institutions, Lady Diana Elles (*ED/UK*) said that 'Parliaments seize powers, they do not expect and wait to be given them'. Mrs Antoinette Spaak (*NA/B*) and Mr René Piquet (*Com/F*) felt that the important thing was to go for the possible, but to go all the way on employment, industry and agriculture. Although the spirit of Messina was absent at Stuttgart, to the regret of Mr Mauro Ferri (*Soc/I*) and Mr Otto Habsburg (*EPP/D*), Parliament must be given a share of legislative power and defence should become a priority. Finally, Mr Pierre Bernard Cousté (*EPD/F*) considered Stuttgart to be a stepping stone to European Union because of 'the global approach' chosen and the assumption that own resources would have to be increased if common policies were to be pursued or introduced.

At the end of the debate, the House adopted by 114 votes to 17 with 23 abstentions a

joint resolution tabled by Mr Glinne (*Soc/B*), Mr Barbi (*EPP/I*) and Mr Habsburg (*EPP/D*), Lady Elles (*ED/UK*), Mr Spinelli (*Com/I*) and Mr Haagerup (*Lib/DK*). In it Parliament deplored the European Council's failure to agree on any positive action to help Europe's 12 million unemployed. It regretted that the Solemn Declaration did not comply with Parliament's wishes and stated its intention of continuing its work on European Union with a view to extending its influence and powers. However, it approved the urgent Community procedure which had been adopted; this, unlike inter-governmental negotiations, could pave the way for a revival of Europe. It accepted the principle of compensation to the United Kingdom for 1983 provided that this was considered 'in the context of the Council's declaration on the future financing of the Community' and that the United Kingdom accepted a lasting solution to the financing problem. Mr Louis Baillot (*Com/F*) had earlier announced his intention of abstaining on what he called an 'ecumenical' text, which did not reflect what had been said in the House.

2.4.23. During this special part-session Parliament gave its opinion on a Commission proposal on the strengthening of the common commercial policy, notably with regard to protection against unfair commercial practices.

Council

2.4.24. The Council held 15 meetings in June. 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 8 — Council meetings in June 1983

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
848th Luxembourg 2 June	Labour and social affairs	Mr Blüm	Mr Richard	<p><i>European Social Fund.</i>¹ Common position adopted.</p> <p><i>Asbestos.</i>¹ <i>Agreement on Directive on protection of workers exposed to asbestos.</i></p> <p><i>Promotion of employment for young people.</i>¹ Initial exchange of views.</p> <p><i>Second action programme — Safety and health at work.</i>¹ Common position adopted.</p> <p><i>Vocational training relating to new information technologies.</i>¹ Resolution adopted.</p> <p><i>Social security for migrant workers</i>¹ Two regulations adopted.</p>
849th Luxembourg 2 June	Education (Council and Ministers meeting within the Council)	Mrs Wilms	Mr Burke	<p><i>Introduction of new information technology in education.</i> Resolution adopted.</p> <p><i>Promotion of mobility in higher education.</i>¹ Conclusions approved.</p> <p><i>Education of migrant workers' children.</i>¹ Discussed.</p> <p><i>Parliament resolution on Community programme in field of education.</i>¹ Position taken on certain points of Parliament's resolution.</p> <p><i>Problems of teacher employment.</i>¹ Discussion.</p>
850th Luxembourg 3 June	Labour, social affairs and education (Council and Ministers meeting within the Council)	Mr Blüm	Mr Richard	<p><i>Vocational training policies in the eighties.</i>¹ Substance of resolution approved.</p> <p><i>Youth exchange programmes.</i>¹ Oral communication from Commission.</p> <p><i>FAST I.</i>² Oral progress report.</p> <p><i>Transition of young people from education to adult and working life.</i>¹ Review of results of first programme of pilot projects.</p>
851st Luxembourg 7 June	Transport	Mr Dollinger	Mr Kontogeorgis	<p><i>Rules for maritime competition.</i>³ Council took note of interim report on progress in discussions on proposal for regulation.</p> <p><i>Counter-measures in field of international maritime transport.</i>³ Agreement on outline decision.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
852nd Luxembourg 13 June	Foreign affairs	Mr Genscher	Mr Thorn Mr Tugendhat	<p><i>Maritime search and rescue.</i>³ Agreement on recommendation calling on Member States to ratify International Convention of 1979 on maritime Search and Rescue or accede to it.</p> <p><i>Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences.</i>³ Council noted Commission's second interim report on implementation of Council Regulation on ratification by Member States of UN Convention.</p> <p><i>Interregional air services.</i>³ Agreement on Directive concerning authorization of scheduled interregional air services of passengers between Member States.</p> <p><i>Weights and dimensions of commercial road vehicles.</i>³ Further exchange of views.</p> <p><i>Fixing of rates.</i>³ Favourable line taken.</p> <p><i>Commercial independence of railways for international passenger traffic.</i>³ Agreement on decision.</p> <p><i>Common policy in inland transport — Netherland Government memorandum.</i>³ Initial discussion on procedures in respect of draft resolution on implementation, in stages, of series of measures in field of common policy for inland transport; Council noted Netherlands Government's memorandum.</p> <p><i>Negotiations with Austria in inland transport sector.</i>³ Commission report.</p> <p><i>Transport infrastructures.</i>³</p> <p><i>Piracy at Lagos.</i> Statement by Netherlands delegation.</p> <p><i>Unfair practices in shipping sector.</i></p> <p><i>Exhaust fumes from road vehicles.</i> Statement by German delegation.</p> <p><i>Carriage of goods by road between Member States.</i>³ Favourable view.</p> <p><i>Preparation for Stuttgart European Council.</i></p>

Table 8 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
853rd Luxembourg 13 and 14 June	Agriculture	Mr Kiechle	Mr Dalsager	<p><i>Acquis communautaire.</i>⁴ Report prepared for European Council.</p> <p><i>Minimum standards for protection of laying hens kept in battery cages.</i>⁴ Compromise proposal considered.</p> <p><i>Agri-monetary questions.</i>⁴</p>
854th Luxembourg 13 June	Economic and financial affairs	Mr Tietmeyer	Mr Ortoli Mr Tugendhat	<p><i>Direct insurance — Provision of services.</i>⁵ Further discussion.</p> <p><i>NCI III — First tranche.</i>⁶ Decision. Preparation for European Council.</p> <p><i>Interest rate subsidies for certain EMS loans.</i>⁶</p> <p><i>Supervision of credit institutions on a consolidated basis.</i>⁵ Agreement.</p> <p><i>Seventh Directive on consolidated accounts.</i> Formal adoption.</p>
855th Luxembourg 14 June	Development cooperation	Mr Köhler	Mr Pisani	<p><i>Food strategies in certain developing countries.</i>⁷ Commission progress report.</p> <p><i>Food aid for development.</i>⁷ Broad exchange of views.</p> <p><i>Special programme to combat hunger in the world.</i>⁷ Detailed discussion.</p> <p><i>Acute financial problems of poorest countries.</i>⁷ Statement by Netherlands Minister.</p> <p><i>Trade promotion.</i>⁷</p> <p><i>Food aid in 1983.</i>⁷</p>
856th Luxembourg 16 and 17 June	Environment	Mr Spranger	Mr Narjes	<p><i>Assessment of environmental impact of certain private and public projects.</i>⁸ Further detailed review.</p> <p><i>Cadnium.</i>⁸ Agreement on proposal for Directive on pollution caused by dangerous substances discharged into aquatic environment of the Community.</p> <p><i>Measures concerning used containers for certain beverages.</i>⁸ Broad policy debate.</p> <p><i>Proposal for Council Regulation on financing Community action relating to the environment (ACE).</i>⁸ Favourable attitude to broad outlines.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
857th Luxembourg 20 June	Fisheries	Mr Rohr	Mr Kontogeorgis	<p><i>Combating air pollution from industrial plant.</i>⁸ Initial discussion.</p> <p><i>Lead in petrol.</i>⁸ Exchange of views.</p> <p><i>Transfrontier movement of hazardous waste.</i>⁸ Discussion.</p> <p><i>Air pollution by gases from positive-ignition engines of motor vehicles.</i>⁸ Directive adopted.</p> <p><i>Commission communication on chlorofluorocarbons: reexamination of situation.</i>⁸</p> <p><i>Pesticide exports.</i>⁸ Statement by Netherlands delegation.</p> <p><i>Third environmental action programme.</i>⁸ Statement by Italian delegation.</p> <p><i>Waste from titanium dioxide industry.</i>⁸ Statement by Italian delegation.</p> <p><i>Common fisheries policy.</i>⁹ First examination of Commission's proposals for TACs for certain fish stocks for 1983; share of catches available to the Community and allocation between Member States.</p>
858th Luxembourg 21 and 22 June	General affairs	Mr Genscher Mr Lautenschlager	Mr Thorn, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Natali, Mr Pisani, Mr Giolitti	<p><i>Accession of Spain.</i>¹⁰ Preparations for 16th session of ministerial conference.</p> <p><i>Extension of financial cooperation with Spain and Portugal.</i>¹⁰ Council agreed to recommend that the EIB make certain amounts available to these countries.</p> <p><i>Food aid in 1983.</i>⁷ Favourable approach concerning quantities of products to be supplied and list of those eligible for aid.</p> <p><i>Relations with ACP States — Guidelines for forthcoming negotiations.</i>⁷ Discussed in detail.</p> <p><i>Relations with Cyprus and Malta.</i>¹¹</p> <p><i>UNCTAD VI.</i> Detailed discussion of unresolved aspects of Community position.</p>

Table 8 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
859th Luxembourg 21 June	Internal Market	Mr Lambsdorff	Mr Haferkamp, Mr Narjes	<p><i>Anti-dumping duties.</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up to European Council.</i></p> <p><i>Review of ERDF.</i>¹² Further discussion.</p> <p><i>Urban renewal in Belfast.</i>¹² Regulation instituting specific Community measure adopted.</p> <p><i>Relations with Council of Europe.</i>¹³</p> <p><i>Demonstration and pilot projects in energy field — Conciliation procedure with Parliament.</i>¹⁴ Discussion of points of substance.</p> <p><i>Community certification.</i>¹⁵ Major outstanding problems discussed.</p> <p><i>Strengthening of common commercial policy — Illicit practices.</i>¹⁶ Examination.</p> <p><i>Transnational development of supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer.</i> Broad agreement on principle of draft decision.</p> <p><i>Proprietary medicinal products.</i> Review.</p>
860th Luxembourg 21 June	Steel industry	Mr Lambsdorff	Mr Ortoli Mr Davignon Mr Andriessen	<p><i>Production quotas.</i>¹⁵ Assent to extension of present arrangements to end of July.</p>
861st Luxembourg 28 June	Research	Mr Riesenhuber	Mr Davignon	<p><i>Forecasting and assessment in science and technology 1983-87 — FAST II.</i>⁷ Substantive agreement.</p> <p><i>Evaluation of results of Community R&D programmes.</i>⁷ Substantive agreement on resolution on Community plan of action.</p> <p><i>JRC multiannual programme 1984-87.</i>⁷ Preliminary exchange of views.</p> <p><i>Framework programmes for Community research, development and demonstration activities and initial framework programme for 1984-87.</i>⁷ Resolution agreed.</p>

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
862nd Brussels 30 June- 1 July	Fisheries	Mr Rohr	Mr Kontogeorgis	<p><i>Stimulating the effectiveness of scientific and technical potential.</i>⁷ Decision taken on experimental Community action.</p> <p><i>Esprit programme — New information technology.</i>¹⁵ Certain key issues examined.</p> <p><i>Raw materials — Uranium.</i>⁷ Decision taken on 1983-85 programme.</p> <p><i>Herring fishing in the North Sea.</i>⁹</p>

¹ Employment, education and social policy.

² Research and development.

³ Transport.

⁴ Agriculture.

⁵ Financial institutions and taxation.

⁶ Economic and monetary policy.

⁷ Development.

⁸ Environment and consumers.

⁹ Fisheries.

¹⁰ Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries.

¹¹ Mediterranean countries.

¹² Regional policy.

¹³ International organizations and conferences.

¹⁴ Energy.

¹⁵ Internal market.

¹⁶ Commercial policy.

Commission

Activities

2.4.25. The Commission devoted much of its proceedings this month to preparations for the Stuttgart European Council and to its follow-up.

2.4.26. In addition, the Commission met with Mr Charalambopoulos, the Greek Foreign Minister, who will preside over the Council for the second half of this year — the first Greek in the Community's history to do so. Mr Thorn underlined the many and varied responsibilities which would weigh on the Council Presidency at this particularly crucial time, and the Commission assured the Foreign Minister that it would do everything in its power to make his term of office a success.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.27. The aids code for the steel industry stipulated that the Commission had to give its opinion by 30 June on the aid measures planned by the Member States and on the corresponding restructuring plans. On 29 June the Commission approved most of the aid programmes, but with the proviso of drastic cutbacks in capacity. These cutbacks, exceeding what the Member States had expected, were decided by the Commission as a fair and even-handed means of bringing about the Community-wide reduction that had been agreed.¹

¹ Point 1.1.1 *et seq.*

The Commission adopted two block exemption regulations on exclusive distribution and exclusive purchasing agreements. From 1 July onwards these instruments will replace the Commission Regulation which had been in force since 1967. The original Regulation has been improved in the light of experience gained in applying it and, more particularly, of the rulings of the Court of Justice.

A revised version of the proposal for a Directive on informing and consulting the employees of companies with complex structures (Vredeling Directive), taking account in large measure of the views expressed by Parliament in December 1982, was approved by the Commission.¹

The Commission adopted a series of documents on the common energy policy, within the context of a five-year action programme.²

On budgetary matters, the Commission decided on the contents of the preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget for 1983, required first and foremost because of the increase in agricultural support expenditure.

The Commission approved its report to the Council on the budgetary policy to be followed by the Member States in 1984, centred on continuing efforts to procure economic recovery.

The Commission adopted nuclear and non-nuclear research programmes. It approved two reports to the Stuttgart European Council, one on biotechnology and the other on telecommunications, laying the foundations for Community action in areas in which the techniques for the future are being developed.

It also approved a proposal for a Council Decision on a programme of aid for the development of own scientific and technical research capabilities in the developing countries (1984-87).

The new JRC programme for the next four years (1984-87) was approved, together with a proposal for the setting up of a JRC Council of Administration.

Lastly, the Commission approved a communication to the Council on agricultural negotiations with Spain and Portugal, which takes into account the concerns expressed during negotiations by both the Member States and the applicant countries.

*Discussions, policy debates
and work in hand*

2.4.28. The Commission's work also involved preparing for the numerous Council meetings which took place throughout June. Very close attention was paid to preparations for the Stuttgart European Council.³ Following the summit, the Commission decided on a number of organizational measures in order to give effect, between now and 1 August, to the directives given to it by the European Council, in particular on agriculture and the management of the structural Funds.

**Relations with workers'
and employers' organizations**

2.4.29. The Commission briefed the European Federation of Building and Wood Workers on its paper on the Community action programme forestry and forest-based industries.

2.4.30. During preliminary consultations representatives of the European Trade Union Confederation considered equal treatment for men and women, unemployment in the education sector and the repercussions of the new technologies on employment, safety and health at work (notably protection of workers against risks arising from exposure to chemical, physical and biological pollutants: noise). Experts from Euro-Fiet, the European branch of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees, dealt with the issues of employment and working conditions following the introduction of new technologies.

¹ Point 1.3.1 *et seq.*

² Point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

³ Point 1.5.1 *et seq.*

Court of Justice¹

2.4.31. New cases

Case	Subject	Basis
ECSC — Steel		
78/83 R — SA Usinor v Commission	Application for suspension of the decision imposing a fine on the applicant for exceeding its production quotas, pending the Court's judgment in the main action	Article 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Court
102/83 — Hoogovens Groep BV v Commission	Decision notifying the applicant of steel production quotas	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
103/83 — SA Usinor v Commission	Decision notifying the applicant of steel production quotas: such notification should have been addressed to another undertaking	Article 33 of the ECSC Treaty
Free movement of goods		
94/83 — Officier van Justitie v A. Heijn BV	Does a domestic prohibition on the marketing of apples imported from another Member State on the ground that those apples contain residues of a pesticide not mentioned in Annex II to Directive 76/895/EEC constitute a measure having an effect equivalent to quantitative restriction, and if so can it be justified by reference to Article 36 of the EEC Treaty?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
97/83 — Criminal proceedings against CMC Melkunie BV, now called Melkunie Holland BV	Must the Dutch Milk Order of 1974, which lays down certain requirements for 'pasteurized' goods, be regarded as a measure having an effect equivalent to quantitative restrictions on import if applied to goods imported from another Member State, and if so can it be justified by reference to Article 36 of the EEC Treaty?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

¹ For more detailed information, see the texts 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).

Case	Subject	Basis
Customs union		
98/83 — Van Gend & Loos NV v Commission	Annulment of the Commission decision of 10 January 1983 finding that the remission of import duties in a particular case is not justified (import of textiles): Regulation (EEC) No 1430/79	Article 173 of the EEC Treaty
99/83 — C. Fioravanti v Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato	Which Member State is competent to take proceedings in respect of an infringement committed in the course of a transit operation? Regulations (EEC) No 2812/72 and No 542/69	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
105/83 — Pakvries BV v Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries ¹	Application of a regulation on Benelux territory, with particular reference to recovery of charges where an irregularity has been committed: Regulation (EEC) No 542/69, Article 59 and Article 36(1)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services		
107/83 — Ordre des Avocats au Barreau de Paris v O. Klopp	Interpretation of Article 52 <i>et seq.</i> of the EEC Treaty: freedom of establishment of advocates	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
116/83 — Bureau Belge des Assurances, Automobiles v 1. A. Fantozzi 2. Les Assurances Populaires SA ²	Interpretation of Directive 72/166/EEC as regards national insurers' bureaux's liability towards third parties in respect of loss or damage sustained by them in the territory of one Member State and caused by a vehicle normally based in the territory of another Member State if the driver of the vehicle acquired it by theft or duress	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Competition		
91/83 — Heineken Brouwerijen BV v Inspecteur der Vennootschapsbelasting	Interpretation of Articles 92 and 93 of the EEC Treaty as regards Dutch legislation regulating investment by companies	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Taxation		
110/83 — G. Weissgerber v Finanzamt Neustadt an der Weinstrasse	Could a credit negotiator who had not passed on turnover tax to his clients rely from 1 January 1979 on the exemption from turnover tax for the negotiation of credit if the Sixth VAT Directive had not been duly implemented?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
Social security		
101/83 — Raad van Arbeid v P. B. Brusse	Does Article 17 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 make it possible for Member States to declare that a system other than that applicable to a worker pursuant to Articles 13 to 16 applies, and if so is he entitled to child allowances?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
104/83 — S. Cinciuolo v 1. Union Nationale des Fédérations Mutualistes Neutres 2. Institut National d'Assurance Maladie Invalidité	Does Article 51 of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 apply to benefits such as those in respect of industrial accidents or occupational disease which, by virtue of the national rules against overlapping benefits, originally affected the amount of the pension fixed pursuant to Article 46 and any subsequent adjustments to which might affect that pension?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Free movement of workers		
100/83 — A. Miraglia v City of Augsburg	Is public policy prejudiced when a Community citizen, being entitled to remain in a State, is unable to maintain himself fully and is therefore obliged to draw social benefit, and if so, is the withdrawal of his residence permit compatible with the following Community legislation: Article 48(3) of the EEC Treaty, Directive 64/221/EEC, Directive 72/194/EEC, Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68, and Regulation (EEC) No 1251/70?	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
Agriculture		
106/83 — Sermide SpA v Cassa Conguaglio Zuccheri, Ministero delle Finanze and Ministero del Tesoro	Validity of Regulation (EEC) No 700/73 (Article 7(1)) and Regulation (EEC) No 3358/81 (Article 1)	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
109/83 — Eurico Sarl v Commis- sion ¹	Interpretation of Decision 76/748/EEC to establish whether the Ente Nazionale Risi, the Italian intervention agency, is vested with specific authority to act in the name of the EEC or is an independent body	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty
112/83 — Société des Produits de Maïs SA v Directeur Général des Douanes et Droits Indirects	Validity of Regulation (EEC) No 652/76 and consequences of invalidity with regard to a request for reimbursement of monetary compensatory amounts levied by the national authorities on the basis of that Regulation	Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

Case	Subject	Basis
<p>114/83 and 114/83 R — 1. Société d'Initiatives et de Coopération Agricole Kerisnel and 2. Société Interprofessionnelle des Producteurs et Expéditeurs en Fruits et Légumes² v Commission²</p>	<p>Application for compensation for the damage suffered by the applicants as a result of the Commission's failure to act against illegal imports of early potatoes from Greece</p> <p>Application for the adoption of interim meas- ures ordering the Commission to take any appropriate measures within its competence and to carry out an inquiry into the conditions of the market</p>	<p>Article 215 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>117/83 — Fa. K. Könecke GmbH & Co KG Fleischwaren- fabrik v Bundesanstalt für landwirtschaftliche Marktord- nung (BALM)</p>	<p>What rules govern a request for repayment of a deposit released by the intervention agency on the basis of false information: Regulation (EEC) No 1071/68</p>	<p>Article 177 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>Administrative and institutional questions</p>		
<p>108/83 — Luxembourg v Parlia- ment³</p>	<p>Annulment for lack of competence of the resolution of the European Parliament on the consequences to be drawn from the adoption by the European Parliament on 7 July 1981 of the Zagari Report⁴</p>	<p>Article 173 of the EEC Treaty</p>
<p>Infringements</p>		
<p>113/83 — Commission v Italy¹</p>	<p>Failure to comply with Community rules by requiring two transport authorizations under the Community quota system when a coupled combination of vehicles, consisting of parts registered in different Member States, effects international carriage by road: Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76</p>	<p>Article 169 of the EEC Treaty</p>

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commission: 39/83 R, 115/83⁵

v Parliament: 111/83¹

¹ OJ C 182, 8.7.1983.
² OJ C 187, 13.7.1983.
³ OJ C 178, 5.7.1983.
⁴ OJ C 161, 20.6.1983.
⁵ OJ C 194, 21.7.1983.

2.4.32. Judgments

Date and case	Held
<p>Steel</p> <p>22.6.1983, 317/82 — Usines Gustave Boël SA and Fabrique de Fer de Maubeuge SA v Commission</p>	<p>Application dismissed (annulment of a Commission decision setting production quotas for steel adjustment)</p>
<p>Competition</p> <p>7.6.1983, 100-103/80 — Musique Diffusion Française SA, Melchers & Co, Pioneer (Europe), and Pioneer (GB) Ltd v Commission¹</p>	<p>1. Commission Decision 80/256/EEC of 14 December 1979 (IV/29.595 — Pioneer Hi-Fi Equipment) is annulled to the extent to which it finds that the concerted practices exceeded the period late January/early February 1976.</p> <p>2. The Court fixed new fines.</p> <p>3. The applications were dismissed for the rest.</p>
<p>Agriculture</p> <p>28.6.1983, 271/81 — Société Coopérative d'Amélioration de l'Élevage et d'Insémination Artificielle du Béarn v L.J.M. Mialocq, H. Saphore, and Société Agri-Sem</p>	<p>Article 37 of the Treaty does not concern a monopoly in the provision of services, even if that monopoly enables the relevant Member State to direct a branch of the national economy, provided that the State does not infringe the principle of the free movement of goods by discriminating against imported goods and in favour of goods of domestic origin</p>
<p>Infringements</p> <p>7.6.1983, 78/82 — Commission v Italy²</p>	<p>Application dismissed (application by Commission for a declaration that by continuing to fix uniform profit margins for retail sales of manufactured tobacco the Italian Republic has failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 37 of the EEC Treaty)</p>
<p>21.6.1983, 90/82 — Commission v France</p>	<p>The French Republic has failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty by fixing the retail selling price for certain types of manufactured tobacco at a different level from that determined by the manufacturers or importers</p>
<p>28.6.1983, 161/82 — Commission v France</p>	<p>Application dismissed (Article 37 of the EEC Treaty, Article 2 of Directive 77/504/EEC — artificial insemination of animals)</p>
<p>8.6.1983, 57/83 R — Commission v France</p>	<p>Order for removal from the Court Register—alcohol monopoly—French measures in favour of 'liberated' alcohol</p>
<p>22.6.1983, 151/82 — Commission v Luxembourg</p>	<p>Order for removal from the Court Register—Directive 75/319/EEC—proprietary medicinal products</p>

**Disputes between the Community
and its staff**

v Commission:

1.6.1983, 36, 37 and 218/81³ — Applications dismissed

9.6.1983, 225/82² — Judgment for the applicant in part, application dismissed for the rest

30.6.1983, 39/83 R — Application for the adoption of interim measures dismissed

v Parliament: 19.5.1983, 306/81 — Application dismissed

v Court of Auditors: 20.5.1983, 69/83 R² — Application for the adoption of interim measures dismissed

¹ OJ C 179, 6.7.1983.

² OJ C 175, 2.7.1983.

³ OJ C 173, 1.7.1983.

Court of Auditors

2.4.33. On 9 June the Court of Auditors adopted two special reports, one on skimmed milk processed into caseins and caseinates and one on the budgetary management of the programme for supplying agricultural products and foodstuffs to Poland.

Economic and Social Committee

208th plenary session¹

2.4.34. The Economic and Social Committee held its 208th plenary session on 1 and 2 June with Mr Ceyrac in the chair.

In addition to opinions on Commission proposals, during this very busy session the Committee adopted three own-initiative opinions—on the role of youth in the development of the Community,² UNCTAD VI,³ and problems of youth training and employment.⁴ The last of these topics will also be the subject of a conference to be organized by the Committee in the autumn.

Beforehand the Committee held a commemorative sitting to mark the 25th anniversary of its foundation and its first plenary session.

Opinions

Youth training and employment

2.4.35. With four abstentions, the Committee adopted *nem.con.* its own initiative opinion on the employment of young people. The opinion identified a number of specific problems to be solved (mobility, social security without work experience, aid for the handicapped and equal opportunities for women) and proposed measures in the fields of education, vocational training and social security (education and training schemes, combination of part-time work and further training, training and assistance for new firms, mobility aid for the unemployed, post-school training, mutual recognition of diplomas by the Member States and retention of social benefits during periods of part-time work). It also suggested more general measures such as voluntary early retirement, aid to create jobs connected with the services sector, the environment and development aid, the promotion of cooperatives, the inclusion of young people in research projects, encouragement to small and medium-sized businesses to

¹ OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

² Point 2.1.36.

³ Point 2.4.38.

⁴ Point 2.4.35.

recruit young people and the improvement of conditions for manual work.

It felt that it was a task for the European Social Fund and the Community as a whole to promote training and increase openings for young people by coordinating the work of the Member States.

The degree of consensus among the members of the Committee was such that Mr De Grave (workers — Belgium) proposed organizing a year of action against unemployment and particularly youth unemployment. Mr Pearson (employers — Ireland) asked for the document not to be made definitive until after the conference on youth unemployment to be held in October.

Mr Dassis (workers — Greece) considered that the answer to the problem lay in redistributing the work available and, to some extent, in part-time work. He asked the Commission to put forward concrete proposals as a matter of urgency and the Council to take the decisions incumbent upon it. In this, he was supported by Mr Tixier (workers — France).

Mr Vercellino (workers — Italy) considered that this opinion went only half-way to solving the problem; what was needed now was a forum where young people could express their own feelings about problems of direct concern to them.

Mr van Rens (workers — Netherlands) wondered to what extent the Commission's programme to create 2.5 million jobs in five years would solve the problem of youth unemployment. The rapporteur replied that, even with these measures, youth unemployment was expected to rise.

Young people and their role in the Community

2.4.36. The Committee's second own-initiative opinion of this session was adopted unanimously. It expressed the hope that the Community would launch a special programme to enhance the role of young people in its development and promote better mutual understanding with young people.

The main aims of this programme would be to help young people understand better

the reasons behind the creation of the Community, demonstrate that the Community can help them achieve their ideals, promote mutual awareness between youth and the European Community and develop solidarity.

The Committee advocated more emphasis on training and informing teachers, launching experimental teaching and language programmes, introducing the European dimension into the study of history, making radio and TV programmes for young people, twinning, youth exchanges and the development of regional and local information services to make people more aware of the impact of Community achievements on their daily lives.

Unfair commercial practices

2.4.37. The Committee endorsed by 118 votes to 3 with 7 abstentions the proposal for a regulation on the strengthening of the common commercial policy with particular regard to protection against unfair commercial practices.¹ While emphasizing that openness to trade with non-member countries is necessary if Community industry is to thrive, the opinion considers that effective defences against unjustified and unfair competition which violates international commercial law are also a guarantee of economic and social progress. The Committee, which had already defended this view in the past,² approved the procedure adopted by the Commission and made a number of comments. In particular, it suggested that 'unfair' should be replaced by 'illicit', that attention should be paid to the activities of all public bodies, not simply those at government level, and that trading firms as well as producers should have the right to lodge complaints.

It also considered that three conditions should be satisfied before the procedure could be brought into effect: illicit practice, damage

¹ OJ C 83, 26.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9.

² OJ C 126, 28.5.1977; OJ C 230, 10.9.1981; Economic and Social Committee study *The European Community's external relations — stocktaking and consistency of action* ESC 440/81 final.

and a causal link between the two. The procedure should operate in two phases: international procedures to settle differences by reaching an agreed settlement and the adoption of trade policy measures. During the first phase, retaliation would be limited to suspending or withdrawing concessions made during negotiations while the second, which would not necessarily follow the first, would involve increases in existing customs duties, import surcharges and quantitative restrictions.

UNCTAD VI

2.4.38. The Committee's third own initiative opinion was adopted *nem.con.* with four abstentions. It requested the Commission to encourage all parties in the UNCTAD to commit themselves to stimulating the growth of world trade in commodities and manufactures, improving the flow of financial resources and allowing the economies of developed and developing countries to adjust in ways that would not hinder growth. The Committee also suggested that countries which no longer need to benefit from special preferences should be encouraged to accept the general GATT arrangements.

NCI III

2.4.39. In its opinion of 26 January on the basic NCI proposal,¹ the Committee had approved the principle of continuing and extending NCI activities in accordance with general Community guidelines. It therefore approved the proposal to authorize the initial lending tranche under NCI III.² The Committee stressed that NCI loans must complement other forms of financing, and should be used chiefly in helping job-creative small and medium-sized businesses.

Transport

2.4.40. The Committee unanimously endorsed a proposal for a Council Resolution on the implementation in stages of a series of measures in the field of the common policy for inland transport and the attached communication.³ The Committee agreed with the Commission's analysis of why little progress had hitherto been made and accepted

the guidelines of a common policy (improved productivity and profitability, the amount of integration so far achieved in the light of geographical diversity and outside threats to the organization of the transport market and the need to take a decision at the appropriate level). The Committee reserved the right to return at a later date to railway policy and appropriate measures and the work programme for 1983-85. The Committee demanded some progress from the Council and urged it to prepare an overall plan and a pragmatic approach to take more decisive action.

2.4.41. The Committee's opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate certain national transport services within a Member State⁴ was adopted by 58 votes to 42 with 8 abstentions. The Committee subscribed to the general ideas behind the proposal and welcomed the fact that it would permit commercial vehicles to improve their productivity on bilateral or multilateral hauls by putting an end to an irrational and uneconomic practice. It considered this proposal to be fully in the Community interest and hoped that its implementation would not be impeded by the reluctance of certain Member States to increase annual goods transport quotas and the distortions which arise from different national systems of price fixing, access to the market and tax and insurance services.

2.4.42. The Committee unanimously approved a proposal for a Council Decision on the commercial independence of the railways in the management of their international passenger and luggage transport.⁵ The Committee hoped that this Directive would promote commercial

¹ OJ C 77, 21.3.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.4.50.

² OJ C 66, 11.3.1983; Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.3.

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

⁴ OJ C 18, 22.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.160.

⁵ OJ C 23, 28.1.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.61; Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.148.

competition and improve the position of the railways in the international passenger market.

European Regional Development Fund

2.4.43. The Committee unanimously adopted an additional opinion to the one adopted in April 1982¹ on the proposal to amend the European Regional Development Fund.² It emphasized the importance it attached to the reform of the Fund along the lines proposed by the Commission and deplored the failure of the Council to reach agreement. It considered, that, if the five elements previously mentioned (coordination of national policies, replacement of project financing by programme financing, concentration of interventions, increased non-quota section and provision of a legal basis for integrated operations) were watered down or deleted in the search for a compromise, the whole revision process would have served only to show the Council's inability to strengthen regional development policy and this would have serious consequences for the Community as a whole.

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2.4.44. The Committee also adopted opinions on the following proposals:

(i) indication of origin of certain textile products.³ The Committee was unable to come out in favour or against the Commission proposal. Since it considered it unlikely that the Council would adopt the proposal, it asked the Commission to look at the problem afresh;

(ii) determination of persons liable for payment of a customs debt⁴ and the security to be given to ensure payment of a customs debt.⁵ The Committee was in favour of these two proposals;

(iii) a specific measure to promote urban renewal in Belfast.⁶ The Committee felt that the formula put forward was sufficiently flexible while still retaining guarantees for monitoring the implementation of projects;

(iv) joint research programmes and programmes for coordinating agricultural research;⁷

(v) the framework programme for scientific and technical activities 1984-87. The Committee approved the communication from the Commission to the Council of December 1982⁸ and the proposal for a Council Decision transmitted in May.⁹ Nevertheless, it felt that the budget was too limited, the range of actions proposed too broad and that priorities should be defined more carefully;

(vi) a research programme on forecasting and assessment in science and technology (FAST) 1983-87;¹⁰

(vii) measures for the standardization and simplification of statistics of trade between Member States;¹¹

(viii) the introduction of a specimen declaration form to be used in intra-Community trade.¹²

ECSC Consultative Committee

235th meeting

2.4.45. The ECSC Consultative Committee held its 235th ordinary meeting on 21 and 22 June in Munich with Mr Rudolf Nickels in the chair.

The Committee gave its opinion on the extension beyond 1 July of the measures taken under Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty.¹³

¹ OJ C 178, 15.7.1982; Bull. EC 4-1982, point 2.4.49.

² OJ C 336, 23.12.1981; Bull. EC 10-1981, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.9; OJ C 261, 6.10.1982; Bull. EC 9-1982, point 2.1.39.

³ OJ C 93, 14.4.1982, Bull. EC 12-1981, point 2.1.16.

⁴ OJ C 340, 28.12.1982; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.32.

⁵ OJ C 30, 4.2.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.21.

⁶ OJ C 138, 26.5.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.172.

⁷ OJ C 27, 2.2.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.128.

⁸ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.173.

⁹ OJ C 169, 29.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

¹⁰ OJ C 89, 31.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.190.

¹¹ OJ C 21, 26.1.1983; Bull. EC 1-1983, point 2.1.6.

¹² OJ C 71, 16.3.1983; Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.20.

¹³ Point 2.4.46.

It considered the forward programme for steel for the third quarter of the year,¹ the revised general objectives for steel for 1985,² the work programme on solid fuels³ and the new arrangements for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry.⁴

It also approved the fifth research programme on mine safety.⁵

The Committee considered the 19th report (1981) of the Mines Safety and Health Commission and decided to hold over to September discussion of the social aspects of the restructuring of the steel industry.

Extension of production quotas

2.4.46. With one dissenting vote, the Committee approved the proposal to extend the measures taken under Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty beyond 1 July.⁶

Most speakers favoured the Commission's proposals to extend the arrangements for two and a half years although some doubted whether the situation in the steel industry would have stabilized by the end of 1985. There were differences of opinion on whether categories II and III should be included in the quota system.

The Commission representative again stressed that the Commission had produced an overall strategy which it intended to apply flexibly and in a manner which would allow a return to normal market mechanisms whenever possible.

Forward programme for steel for the third quarter

2.4.47. The Committee approved the forward programme for steel⁷ which allows for the production of 26 million tonnes of crude steel in the Community during the third quarter of 1983. The Committee gave full support to the Commission's proposal and criticized the Council for taking so long in considering this matter. The chairman suggested holding a special meeting after 25 July if this seemed necessary following the Council meeting scheduled for that date.

General objectives for steel for 1985

2.4.48. The Committee considered a freshly updated version of the revised general objectives for steel for 1985⁸ which the Commission had prepared in the light of the Committee's opinion given in February.⁹

There were a variety of views of the extent of overcapacity in 1985 but the Committee emphasized the importance which should be attached to the indirect, social effects of restructuring. The Commission representative stated that it was not possible at that point to define the objectives in as concrete a way as would be desirable and that the main thrust of the objectives was that the restructuring efforts should continue.

Work programme on solid fuels¹⁰

2.4.49. The Committee once again drew attention to the importance of coal, including imported coal, as an energy source and the need for a consistent policy in this area. The question of stocks should be settled and price transparency improved. The Committee expressed its profound disapproval of the phased reduction of sales aids for the disposal of coking coal and agreed to reconsider these matters in September.

Coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry

2.4.50. Despite criticism of the phased reduction in sales aids, there was general support for the Commission's proposal to extend the system for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry.¹¹ The

¹ Point 2.4.47.

² Point 2.4.48.

³ Point 2.4.49.

⁴ Point 2.4.50.

⁵ Point 2.1.280.

⁶ Bull. EC 5-1983, point 2.1.31.

⁷ Point 2.1.28.

⁸ Bull. EC 3-1983, point 2.1.19; Bull. EC 10-1982, point 2.1.15.

⁹ OJ C 72, 17.3.1983.

¹⁰ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.133.

¹¹ OJ C 132, 19.5.1983; Bull. EC 3-1983, points 2.1.152 and 2.1.159.

Committee's view was that the prohibition on aligning prices below the target price would hinder sales and asked for the existing aid arrangements to be continued.

European Investment Bank

Operations in June

2.4.51. Loans announced by the European Investment Bank in June for investments within the Community totalled 160.65 million ECU,¹ broken down as follows: 58.4 million ECU in Italy, 33.7 million in France, 26.65 million in the United Kingdom, 26 million in Ireland and 15.9 million in Denmark. Of the total amount, 58.8 million ECU was provided from the resources of the new Community borrowing and lending instrument (NCI).² Outside the Community the Bank lent 42.9 million ECU to ACP countries (Nigeria, Gabon and Malawi) and 28.5 million ECU to Mediterranean countries (Spain, Jordan and Lebanon).

Community

Italy

2.4.52. In Italy LIT 78 000 million was lent for investments in advanced technology in the data-processing and office systems sector by the Olivetti group. Of this, LIT 55 000 million is for restructuring work at a factory at Scarmagno, Piedmont, for the production of data- and word-processing systems and terminals, while the remaining LIT 23 000 million will go towards converting two factories at San Bernardo d'Ivrea and Vidracco in Piedmont to production of printers and magnetic disk units. Both investments are part of the Community effort to promote advanced technology and enhance the competitiveness of European industry.

France

2.4.53. Loans totalling FF 227 million were made for energy investments in France. Of this, FF 200 million drawn from NCI resources will go towards the development of a new lignite mine at Gardanne, near

Aix-en-Provence, and the construction of a 600 MW generating unit at the nearby power station. The schemes, which will also involve special precautions to minimize pollution, will extend the working life of the mine to 1995 and beyond, representing a saving of 11 million tonnes of oil equivalent. The Bank has already lent FF 750 million from its own resources for the project, under which the power station is due for completion by the end of 1984, while work on the mine should be finished in 1988. The Bank also lent FF 27 million for a project to use geothermal energy for district heating in Meaux. Water is drawn from a depth of almost 2 000 metres at a temperatures of 76°C and will cover around 80% of heating and hot water requirements for some 7 000 homes, making for savings equivalent to more than 10 000 tonnes of oil a year.

United Kingdom

2.4.54. A total of UKL 17.75 million was lent for infrastructure projects in the United Kingdom. A loan of UKL 9 million was made for improving water supplies and sewerage in assisted areas in Wales to encourage industrial development and tourism and a further UKL 2 million was lent in Wales for the construction of 5.5 km of a road linking Llanelli with the M4 motorway at Hendy in order to relieve congestion on the existing road to the east (and London). In the south-west UKL 4 million was lent to Devon County Council for road improvements, the extension of a hotel and catering training college in Plymouth, new radar equipment at Exeter airport, road and drainage for four industrial estates and a waste disposal site at Plymouth. A loan of UKL 2.75 million was made for waste treatment facilities and sea defence works in Lancashire designed to promote industrial activity and tourism.

¹ The conversion rates at 31 March used by the EIB in statistics for the second quarter were 1 ECU = BFR 45.32, DKR 8.11, DM 2.30, DR 68.54, FF 6.52, HFL 2.54, IRL 0.69, LIT 1 326, LFR 45.32, UKL 0.60, USD 0.97.

² OJ L 298, 20.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

Ireland

2.4.55. A loan of IRL 18.5 million was made in Ireland from NCI resources for the construction of the country's first major coal-fired power station at Moneypoint, County Clare. The loan carried a 3% interest subsidy under the arrangements adopted when Ireland joined the European Monetary System.¹ The power station, which will comprise three 300 MW units, is due to be fully operational in 1987 and will help in diversifying energy imports, reducing oil imports by an estimated 1.3 million tonnes a year.

Denmark

2.4.56. Loans to Denmark totalled DKR 101.7 million. They included DKR 73 million for the construction of a natural gas transmission system supplying South Jutland and comprising 275 km of gas pipeline, metering and regulating stations and accessory equipment. By allowing gas to be used in place of oil the scheme is expected to reduce oil imports by some 215 000 tonnes a year by 1990. A loan of DKR 28.7 million was made for the construction of a sewage treatment plant and for the extension and improvement of the existing sewerage system at Kalundborg with a view to reducing marine pollution and helping to open up new areas for industrial development. A global loan of DKR 25 million was made from NCI resources to Finansieringsinstituttet for Industri og Håndvaerk A/S for productive investments by small and medium-sized firms outside officially designated assisted areas under the regional development programme. It will complement the global loans made by the Bank from its own resources for investments intended to promote regional development or reduce energy consumption.

Outside the Community

ACP States

2.4.57. Under the Lomé Convention the Bank lent 40 million ECU for small and medium-scale investment in industry, agricultural processing, mining and tourism in

Nigeria. The funds were advanced in the form of a global loan to the Nigeria Industrial Development Bank Ltd, which will on-lend the proceeds, in part in cooperation with regional development finance companies.

The Bank lent 2.5 million ECU from the risk capital which it manages on behalf of the Community for a feasibility study on the optimum conditions for developing iron ore deposits in the Haut Ivindo region in Gabon. The borrower is the Gabonese Republic, which will pass on the funds to the Société des Mines de Fer de Mékambo.

A further loan of 400 000 ECU was made from risk capital for a feasibility study in Malawi on limestone deposits in Chingalume and other mineral resources in the region with a view to exploiting them for cement production.

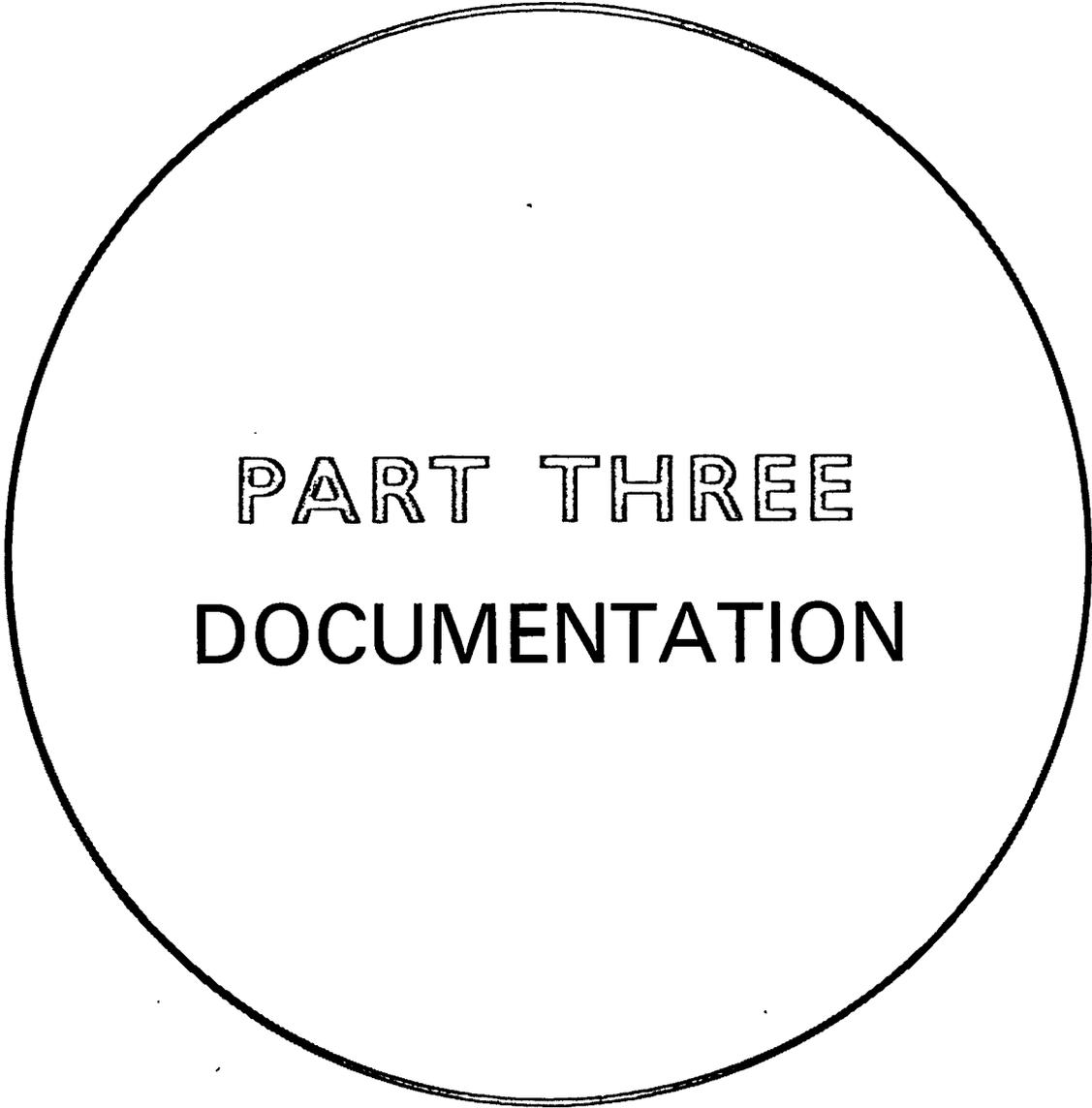
Mediterranean countries

2.4.58. A loan of 17 million ECU was made to the government of the autonomous region of Andalusia under the arrangements for pre-accession aid to Spain to help finance some 250 small and medium-scale infrastructure schemes, including road reconstruction and improvement works, improvement of rural roads, electrification and tourist facilities. The loan represents the final drawdown from the initial 200 million ECU earmarked for aid to Spain, which is due to be extended in the coming months.

In Jordan 6.5 million ECU was lent for work on improving and extending the power distribution network in Amman and its environs by the Jordanian Electricity Power Company Ltd.

To assist the Lebanese Government in its efforts to revive the country's economy 5 million ECU was lent towards equipping Zouk thermal power station near Beirut with two 125 MW generator units.

¹ OJ L 200, 3.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.2.



PART THREE
DOCUMENTATION

1. ECU

Values in national currencies of one ECU

30 June 1983 ¹	
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (convertible)	45.4067
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc (financial)	45.7611
German mark	2.26822
Dutch guilder	2.54110
Pound sterling	0.583428
Danish krone	8.14408
French franc	6.81312
Italian lira	1 344.79
Irish pound	0.720331
Greek drachma	75.3278
United States dollar	0.891769
Swiss franc	1.87717
Spanish peseta	129.663
Swedish krona	6.80821
Norwegian krone	6.50323
Canadian dollar	1.09438
Portuguese escudo	105.229
Austrian schilling	15.9805
Finnish mark	4.94040
Japanese yen	213.757
Australian dollar	1.01975
New Zealand dollar	1.36148

¹ OJ C 173, 1.7.1983.

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

June 1983		
National currency	Value in national currency of one ECU	
	From 1 to 19 June	From 20 June
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	44.3662	44.9008
Danish krone	8.23400	8.23400
German mark	2.57524 ² 2.65660 ¹ 2.54273 ⁵ 2.51457 ⁶	2.57524 ² 2.65660 ¹ 2.54273 ⁵ 2.51457 ⁶
Greek drachma	66.5526 ³ 71.5619 ² 77.2479 ⁴	66.5526 ³ 71.5619 ² 77.2479 ⁴
French franc	6.37174 ⁸ 6.55400 ⁵ 6.49211 ⁶ 6.62985 ⁷ 6.19564 ²	6.37174 ⁸ 6.55400 ⁵ 6.49211 ⁶ 6.62985 ⁷ 6.19564 ²
Irish pound	0.716950	0.725690
Italian lira	1 341.00	1 341.00
Dutch guilder	2.81318 ¹ 2.70981 ⁶ 2.73327 ⁵ 2.75563 ²	2.81318 ¹ 2.70981 ⁶ 2.73327 ⁵ 2.75563 ²
Pound sterling	0.618655	0.618655

¹ For seeds.

² For other products.

³ For olive oil.

⁴ For beef and veal, sheepmeat, and milk and milk products.

⁵ For milk and milk products.

⁶ For beef and veal, and sheepmeat.

⁷ For pigmeat.

⁸ For olive oil, wine and fish.

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 on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 11-1982

Point 2.4.19

Opinion No 3/82 of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities on a proposal for a Council Regulation amending and extending the terms of validity of Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 2892/77 implementing in respect of own resources accruing from value-added tax the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources

OJ C 151, 9.6.1983

Bull. EC 12-1982

Point 2.4.25

Opinion No 5/82 of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities on a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2744/80 establishing supplementary measures in favour of the United Kingdom

OJ C 160, 18.6.1983

Bull. EC 2-1983

Point 2.1.40

Commission Decision of 8 February 1983 by virtue of Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in relation to a proposal for aids in the textile and clothing industry (undertakings 34 and 57)

OJ C 171, 29.6.1983

Point 2.1.128

Progress towards a common transport policy — Inland transport

OJ C 154, 13.6.1983

Bull. EC 6-1983

Bull. EC 3-1983

Point 2.1.41

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the European Economic Community on direct insurance other than life assurance

Proposal for a Council Directive on the implementation of the Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the European Economic Community on direct insurance other than life assurance

OJ C 154, 13.6.1983

Point 2.1.161

The Community coal market in 1982 and the outlook for 1983

OJ C 147, 6.6.1983

Bull. EC 4-1983

Commission communication on the promotion of employment for young people

Draft Council resolution on the promotion of youth employment

OJ C 149, 8.6.1983

Bull. EC 5-1983

Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6

Proposal for a Council Decision on the framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984 to 1987

OJ C 169, 29.6.1983

Point 2.1.23

Proposal for a Council Directive adopting the measures provided for in Article 3(3) of Directive 76/889/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment and of Directive 76/890/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the suppression of radio interference with regard to fluorescent lighting luminaires fitted with starters

OJ C 166, 25.6.1983

Point 2.3.16

Decision of the European Parliament of 18 May 1983 granting a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Communities for the 1981 financial year concerning Sections I — Parliament; II — Council; III — Commission; IV — Court of Justice; V — Court of Auditors

Decision of the European Parliament of 18 May 1983 on the discharge to be granted to the Commission of the European Communities in respect of the utilization of the appropriations of the Fourth European Development Fund in the 1981 financial year

OJ L 174, 30.6.1983

3. Infringement procedures

Initiation of proceedings for failure to implement directives

3.3.1. In June the Commission sent a letter of formal notice to Italy concerning its failure to implement the Council Directive of 12 May 1981¹ establishing measures necessary for the implementation of the Directive of 18 July 1977² on the protection of animals during international transport.

Reasoned opinions

3.3.2. In June the Commission delivered five reasoned opinions concerning five Member States in the following cases:

- (i) Water content of frozen poultry (Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy);
- (ii) Milk Marketing Boards (United Kingdom);
- (iii) Marketing of motor vehicles (Greece).

¹ OJ L 150, 6.6.1981.

² OJ L 200, 8.8.1977.

4. Memorandum from the Netherlands Government on European transport policy

3.4.1. The Netherlands Government has sent its partners a memorandum containing some thoughts on European transport policy, whose importance the Government stresses:

Introduction

'The need for a more balanced and harmonious development of the Community's activities is universally recognized. The budgetary and political reasons for this are well known.

European transport policy cannot be excluded from these reflections on how to improve the functioning of the Communities and develop new policies. Transport forms an important part of the common market. Only by means of a European transport policy based on the principles of this common market can the advantages which European unity can offer the various economies and the Community's citizens come to fruition. Macroeconomic reasons also firmly indicate the need for an expansion of this sector.

At the meeting of the Council of Ministers for Transport on 23 February 1983 and at the European Council on 21 and 22 March, the Netherlands undertook to submit to its partners a number of considerations on European transport policy. In doing so, the Netherlands has sought to relate these considerations to the valuable communication from the European Commission entitled "progress towards a common transport policy—inland transport"¹ and to the outcome of previous discussions in the framework of the Council.

Towards a European transport policy

It must be noted that there are still a number of important links missing in the Community's approach to the transport sector. Although progress has been made in certain sectors, there can hardly be any mention of a coherent Community transport policy despite the fact that Article 3 of the EEC Treaty refers to the common transport policy—on a par with the common agricultural policy and the common commercial policy—as one of the principal activities for attaining the Community's objectives.

The Netherlands Government takes the view that this disappointing state of affairs cannot be ascribed to the low importance of transport for the European Community. The share of transport in the Community's national product amounts to no less than 6% and is therefore higher than that of agriculture (5%). Moreover, the Community's transport sector provides work for approximately 6 million workers.

Transport is furthermore an economic activity which cannot be judged only on its own merits. It is an important condition for the development of intra-Community trade, industry and agriculture. Improvement of transport policy and transport infrastructure within Europe will lead to a fall in production costs and also to an improvement in the competitive capacity of Europe's economy *vis-à-vis* third countries. Europe is therefore doing itself an injustice by continually delaying decisions on Community transport policy. There is even less cause for this since the development of this policy need not give rise to additional budget expenditure for the Community. On the contrary, it may be assumed that transport policy (as desired by the Netherlands) will lead to considerable savings for all Member States. In this connection, it should be pointed out that the absence of a genuine common free transport market is leading to great inefficiency of production factors, i.e. to an estimated annual productivity loss of several thousand million ECU, which unnecessarily increases prices of the goods transported for the consumer and effects the competitiveness of Community products.

The Netherlands takes the view that agreement should urgently be reached at the highest political level on the priority to be given to Community transport policy. A start on this has already been made within the European Council. This policy should be based on the principle of the free movement of services and on greater effectiveness and profitability of the transport sector. The costly and discriminatory barriers which still exist within the Community should be eliminated as rapidly as possible. It is hardly logical that the free movement of goods and persons has to a large extent been achieved while transport, which is actually needed to bring about such free movement, is still faced with all kinds of barriers. Moreover, the Netherlands Government considers that the question may well be asked as to whether the general principles laid down by the EEC Treaty with regard to the provision of services are not also applicable now to the transport sector since the expiry of the transitional period.

Barriers to the free provision of services occur in particular in the area of *road transport* where restrictive bilateral and Community quotas unnecessarily hinder the expansion of transport. The function of transport is to bring together the supply of and demand for goods, i.e. to bring about the free movement of goods. This role cannot be fulfilled under a system of quotas and other restrictions. That is why, at the Transport Council meeting on 23 February 1983, the Netherlands announced a proposal in order to put an end to this unsatisfactory situation.

This proposal reads as follows:

Should the answer to the question raised earlier regarding the possible applicability of the general provisions of the Treaty on freedom to provide services be in the negative, the Netherlands Government would then advocate full liberalization of road transport within a maximum of five years through a fixed, automatic system of annual increases in the bilateral and Community quotas.

If necessary in order to ensure the quality of transport offered, the Netherlands considers a Community system of licences for access to the road transport market acceptable.

Under this system, every operator with sufficient experience on the national market who fulfilled the harmonized requirements for access to the profession of international road haulier would be granted a licence of indefinite duration allowing him to carry out transfrontier transport between all the Member States as is currently the case

¹ Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.128.

under Community licences. The scope of the licences and the amount of the licensed transport capacity would be determined exclusively on the basis of the individual haulier's actual qualified transport capacity and his potential turnover. This would mean that licences would be issued to each haulier for the number of vehicles which he himself considers necessary. The fact is that only the hauliers are in a position to determine how great demand is.

This system would not, however, alter the fact that the hauliers' compliance with the above conditions and criteria and their observance of the relevant legal provisions on overloading, and of EEC Regulation No 543/69, etc. must be adequately monitored.

In principle therefore, macroeconomic factors should not have any part to play in the allocation of licences. In times of serious market disturbance the licensing system would however allow Community action to achieve some temporary organization of the market.

It should also be pointed out in this connection that the special attention given to *rail transport* in some Member States for wider political reasons must not be allowed to have an adverse effect on road transport. The railways should in principle operate on a commercial basis on the market and increase their efficiency, and should not be given subsidies to artificially retain certain markets at the expense of other modes of transport. The promotion of rail transport on an artificial, non-commercial basis to the detriment of road and inland waterway transport increases transport costs in the Community as a whole and disturbs competition between the various forms of transport. The conditions of competition between all modes of transport should therefore be harmonized.

To this end railway undertakings should introduce the following measures:

- *selective marketing:*

It is the responsibility of the railways themselves to decide whether to operate on the markets which are most suited to and most lucrative for railways, thereby promoting the objective of covering costs;

- *restructuring of rail transport services:*

This means that railways should not operate on markets which are structurally unsuited to rail transport. At the same time they should adapt their production system more rapidly to the everchanging demand for rail transport services;

- *cost-cutting:*

The railways will have to increase efficiency further themselves, introduce economies where

necessary, reconsider unprofitable transport operations, etc.

- *increasing cooperation between railways:*

National governments must aim at a commercial policy for the railways, the minimum requirement for the longer term being to break even. In addition they must continue to promote cooperation between railways, standardization and pooling of stock.

The priority requirement for the Community's *inland waterways* is to improve the balance of supply of and demand for transport services. In this connection, it is of prime importance that national rules on scrapping be harmonized as far as possible. The practice of reserving coastal shipping for vessels of the home nationality leads to inefficiency and increases the cost of transport.

There is as yet no question of deregulating *air transport*. Here too, freedom to provide services at Community level needs to be introduced without delay. A first step should be to take a decision as soon as possible applying the standstill principle in Article 76 of the EEC Treaty to this sector.

In view of its worldwide nature, the most pressing requirement for *shipping* is a more consistent Community-orientated external policy. This applies, *inter alia*, to the solution of possible conflicts regarding application of the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. As regards internal EEC policy, provisions should be adopted as soon as possible applying the rules on competition in the EEC Treaty (Articles 85 and 86) to shipping.

Good *transport infrastructure* within the Community is a prerequisite for the smooth operation of road, rail and inland waterway transport. The Netherlands remains an advocate of allocating annual amounts from the Community budget for infrastructure projects of Community interest.

In conclusion, the Netherlands Government accordingly urges that a higher priority be accorded to transport in future within overall Community policy. The European Council in Stuttgart could thus call upon the Council to take measures as soon as possible to eliminate the obstacles which have so far prevented the liberalization of road transport, in particular, provided for in the Treaty. The European Council could at the same time conclude that an annual progress report on the development of transport policy should be made to it.

In order to carry out these decisions, the Council of Ministers should meet more frequently in the appropriate composition.'

5. Eurobarometer

3.5.1. The latest Eurobarometer survey, carried out between 25 March and 27 April 1983, has just been published by the Commission.¹

This Eurobarometer is one of the most important ever compiled, both because of the number of subjects covered and because it is now possible to observe many of the issues relating to the life of Europeans, the functioning of the Community and European integration over a sufficiently long period—a decade in fact.

With only 12 months to go before the second direct elections to the European Parliament, this issue of Eurobarometer is especially significant, even though it does not deal specifically with that aspect of European political life.

This report on public opinion in Europe comprises four chapters:

The mood of Europeans

Two questions generally regarded as useful in gauging economic developments were asked again. They bear on changes over the last 12 months in the country's general economic situation and the financial situation of individual households. Negative answers still by and large outnumber the positive answers in all but one country—Denmark. The Danes, who in October 1982 took a very poor view of the trend in Denmark's economic situation, saw things in a much brighter light six months later. In Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium the feeling is less gloomy, while the Greeks, the French, the Irish and the Luxembourgers tend to appear more pessimistic. Although, as in the past, respondents tend to assess the situation of their individual households in less negative terms than the situation of the country as a whole, there are again exceptions—Greece and, in particular, Denmark.

Compared with the previous survey, there is no significant change as regards the feeling of satisfaction with life: Denmark, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are still heading the field, with France, Italy and Greece bringing up the rear. A look at the 10-year trend (1973-83) throws up a few interesting variations against a generally stable background: a slight upward trend in Italy (which started very low) and in Denmark (which started very high), as well as in Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom; a slight downward trend in France and Ireland, a more pronounced one in Belgium.

Expression of the feeling of happiness turns out to be relatively stable, with a slight upward trend since April 1975 (when this question first appeared in Eurobarometer), except in Belgium and Den-

mark. But for the first time a question was asked on what 'happiness' meant to respondents in each country. A clear majority (58%) cited good health. The next two most important things were a successful marriage and getting on well together in the family; money took only fourth place. This order is much the same in all countries, which shows that these are values common to all the peoples of western Europe.

Another important indicator of the social climate is satisfaction with the way democracy works. It is by definition very sensitive to political events, but our observations show that the differences between national political systems tend to remain relatively stable. The longer-term trend (1973-83) is distinctly upwards in Denmark, Germany and the United Kingdom and distinctly downwards in Belgium.

All the Community countries are faced with the problem of unemployment. At the same time, signs of economic recovery are discernible here and there.

A new question was aimed at finding out how far the public believed that something like full employment would be restored if business picked up.

The answers were clear enough: seven out of 10 people believe that the problem of unemployment will not disappear if the economy picks up. The most pessimistic are the Dutch (91% of those who replied). Greece is the only country where the optimists outnumber the pessimists.

Political values and attitudes

With the European elections only 12 months away, a comparative reappraisal of political values and attitudes is of obvious interest.

Interest in politics. Four out of 10 Europeans say they are 'a great deal' (11%) or 'to some extent' (31%) interested in politics. Those who take the most interest are the Dutch, the Danes and the Germans; those taking the least are the Belgians and the Italians.

Exposure to information media. There is high correlation between this variable and interest in politics: the Danes, Germans and Irish rank first; the Italians are at the bottom of the table, behind the Greeks. The relative importance of the different

¹ Eurobarometer—Public opinion in the European Community in spring 1983, No 19 (Brussels, June 1983).

media varies widely from country to country: television reaches well nigh all the European public; radio is a major source of information in Denmark, Ireland and the Netherlands, but much less so in Greece and Italy; the newspapers are more frequently quoted in Germany, Denmark and Luxembourg, but 20% to 30% of the Belgians, Greeks, Italians and French say they *never* read the political news in the dailies.

The feeling of national pride. More than three quarters of the people interviewed say they are very proud or quite proud of their country. The Greeks (90%) were the most frequently heard expressing these patriotic feelings, while the Belgians (68%) and especially the Germans (56%) are the least inclined to do so.

Peace, the supreme value. Asked about the importance they attach to peace as against other things (standard of living, liberty or human rights) worth defending, even at the risk of war, the great majority of Europeans (80% of those who replied) chose peace.

The main socio-political cleavages. The purpose of this question—already asked in 1979 and 1981—is to determine at regular intervals how far Europeans agree or disagree on a number of political issues that are topical in most Community countries:

- extension of public ownership (nationalization) has less and less support almost everywhere;
- increased economic aid for the Third World countries is not getting as much support as it did in 1981 or 1979, no doubt because of the economic crisis;
- the development of nuclear energy still commands fairly solid support, but with appreciable differences from country to country: the Germans, the French and the British tend to favour it, whereas all the others, but especially the Irish, the Dutch and, increasingly, the Danes, are against it;
- the strengthening of military defence is supported by a majority moderately in favour but, here again, with differences between countries: the Greeks, the British and the Irish are fairly positive; the Dutch, the Belgians, the Italians and especially the Danes are less keen; the trend is moving definitely against it in the Netherlands.

The issues on which European consensus is firmest are combating terrorism, protecting the environment and, albeit to a lesser degree, reducing inequality in incomes and giving regions more autonomy.

Attitudes to Europe and the European Community

'Do you ever think of yourself ... as a citizen of Europe?' The value of the answers to this question

is that in the next two half-yearly surveys they will highlight attitudes to the election of the European Parliament. With no significant change from last year, one person out of two says that this happens 'often' (16%) or 'sometimes' (34%).

Attitudes towards the unification of Europe are still very much in favour in all countries except Denmark. The climate even shows a slight improvement over the two preceding surveys, notably in Germany and Belgium, and proportionally more among opinion leaders than in the rest of the population. The general erosion of support for a united Europe that emerges from an analysis of the results over 10 years (1973-83) therefore seems to be slowing as general economic conditions are tending to improve.

It is much the same story with the assessment of membership of the European Community. In April 1983 the majority of respondents—the United Kingdom apart—still continue to feel that belonging to the Community is 'a good thing'; 74% in the Netherlands, 72% in Luxembourg, 64% in Italy, 57% in France, 51% in Germany, etc.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of belonging to the Community? Generally speaking, the positive assessments outnumber the negative, but there are a few exceptions—the United Kingdom (standard of living, industry, agriculture), Ireland (industry) and even Italy (agriculture). The most valuable attribute of the Community in the eyes of most respondents in most countries is its contribution to 'the security of the country'.

Lastly, an entirely new question was asked on what might be called the emotional structure of the Community: which is the country to which you feel closest and which is the one most foreign to you? For the great majority of Europeans the closest is France, followed some way off by Germany, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. The most 'foreign', which in fact means the most remote, is Greece.

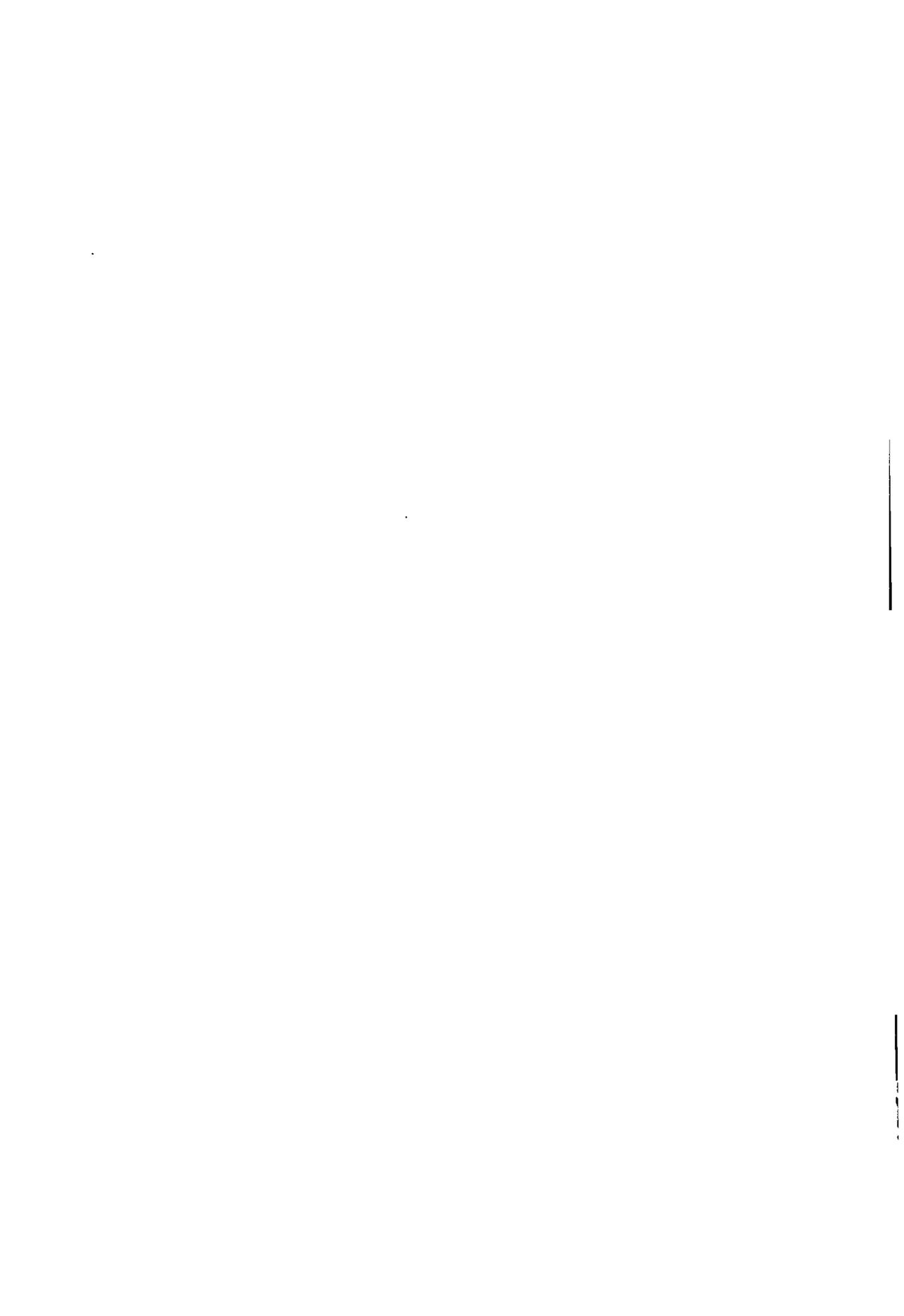
Spain and Portugal

Though slightly up on the results six months earlier, Spanish and Portuguese involvement in Community affairs is still very limited. Roughly one Spaniard out of three and two Portuguese out of 10 considered themselves involved to some degree.

The proportion of those who feel they are adequately informed is growing in Spain: 20% in April 1983 as against 12% in 1982. In Portugal, as the proportion of don't knows diminishes the proportion of those who think they are not adequately informed is tending to increase.

This trend in the involvement of the general public seems to have had an impact already on the general attitude in Spain towards the unification of Europe, for the favourable opinions are gaining ground. In Portugal, there are still more don't knows than definite answers, and no distinct trend can be observed.

As regards attitudes to joining the Community, 46% of Spaniards and only 28% of Portuguese were in favour. Compared with the figures for previous polls (1980-82), these results would indicate that the public is growing somewhat tired of the whole business as the negotiations fall behind the planned schedule.



Publications of the European Communities

Publications of the European Communities

6 — 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:

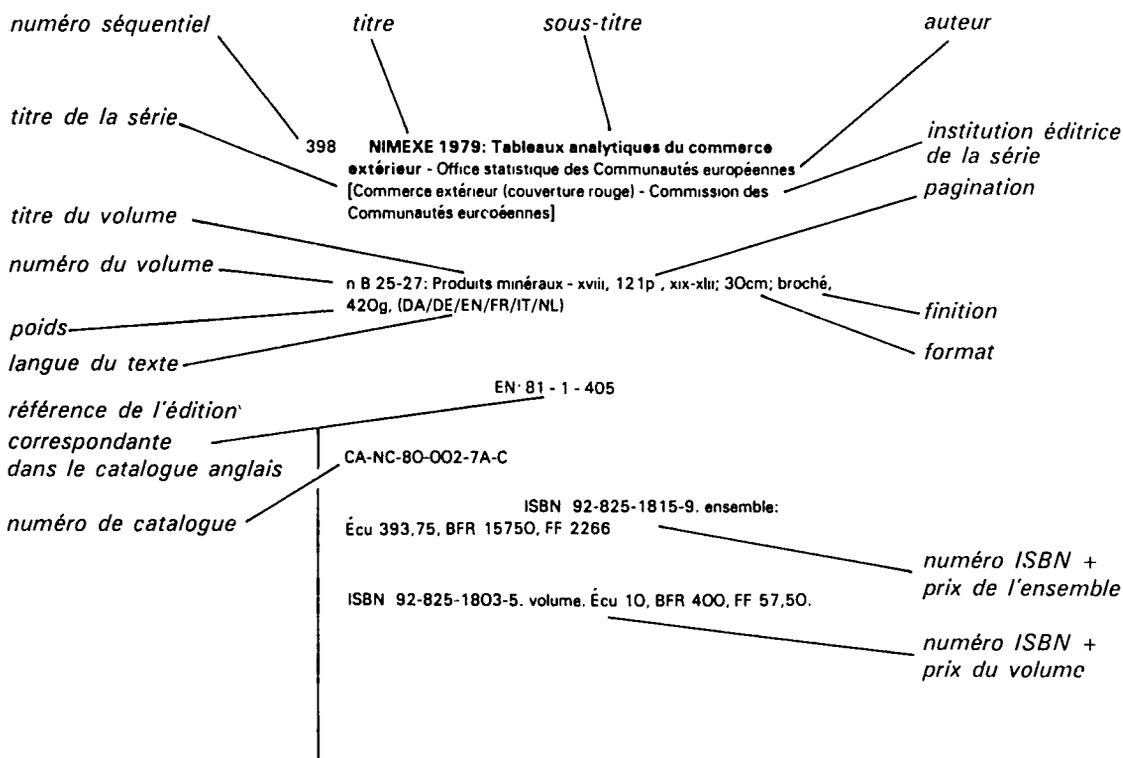
DA	Danish	GA	Irish
DE	German	IT	Italian
GR	Greek	NL	Dutch
EN	English	ES	Spanish
FR	French	PT	Portuguese

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.

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