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BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

European Coal and Steel Community European Economic Community European Atomic Energy Community

Commission of the European Communities Secretariat-General Brussels



No 2 1980

contents

PART ONE SPECIAL FEATURES

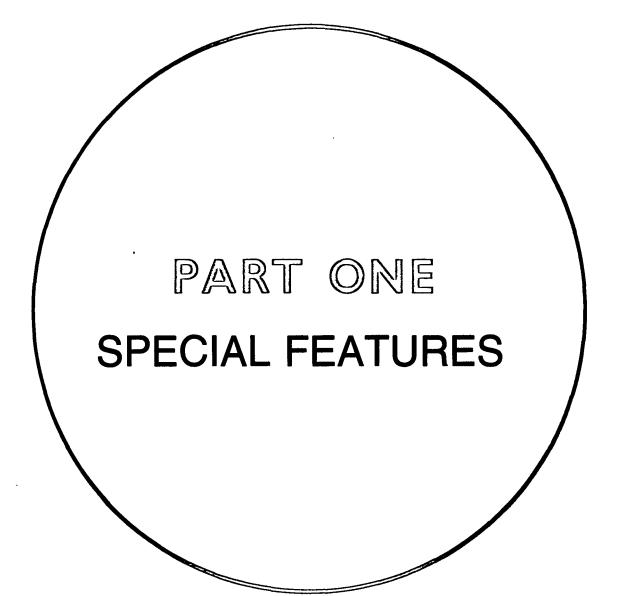
1.	The Commission programme for 1980 — Address by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, to Parliament on 12 February	7
2.	EEC-Yugoslavia cooperation agreement	16
3.	Reactivation of the association with Turkey	19
4.	Agricultural prices for 1980/1981: Commission's proposals	22
5.	1980 budget: new Commission proposal	29
	PART TWO ACTIVITIES . IN FEBRUARY 1980	
1.	Building the Community	34
	— Economic and monetary policy	34
	— Internal market and industrial affairs	35
	— Customs union	37
	— Competition	38
	— Financial institutions and taxation	41
	— Employment and social policy	44
		46
	— Regional policy	
	— Environment and consumers	46
	— Agriculture	48
	— Fisheries	53
	— Transport	55
	— Energy	55
	— Research and development, science and education	57
	- Scientific and technical information and information	
	management	60

2.	Enlargement and external relations	61
	Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries	61
	— Commercial policy	62
	— Development	65
	— International organizations and conferences	69
	— Industrialized countries	72
	- Mediterranean countries	73
	— Developing countries	74
	— State-trading countries	77
	— Diplomatic relations	77 70
	Political cooperation	78
3.	Institutional and political matters	79
	— Institutional developments and European policy	79
	— Institutions and organs of the Communities	80
	Parliament	80
	• Council	87
	• Commission	89
	Court of Justice	91
	Court of Auditors	95
	• Economic and Social Committee	95
	European Investment Bank	97
	— Financing Community activities	102
	PART THREE DOCUMENTATION	
•	THE DOCUMENTATION	
1.	Units of account	106
2.	Additional references in the Official Journal	109
5.	Infringement procedures	111
•	·	
PL	blications of the European Communities	

Supplements 1979

1/79 Europe	an Union —	Annual	reports	for	1978	3
-------------	------------	--------	---------	-----	------	---

- 2/79 Accession of the Communities to the European Convention on Human Rights Commission memorandum
- 3/79 Forestry policy in the European Community
- 4/79 Second Community programme for consumers
- 5/79 Air Transport: A Community approach Memorandum of the Commission
- 6/79 Employee participation in asset formation Memorandum of the Commission
- 7/79 Shipbuilding State of the industry and crisis measures
- 8/79 A transport network for Europe Outline of a policy
- 9/79 European Union Annual reports for 1979



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

BFR = Belgische frank/Franc belge

LFR = Franc luxembourgeois

DKR = Dansk krone

FF = Franc français

DM = Deutsche Mark

LIT = Lira italiana

HFL = Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)

UKL = Pound sterling

IRL = Irish pound

USD = United States dollar

1. The Commission programme for 1980

Commission programme for 1980

Address by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, to Parliament on 12 February

1.1.1. It is a considerable responsibility to present the Commission's programme for the first time to this new Parliament, but it is a responsibility which my colleagues and I welcome at the beginning of this the fourth and last year of our mandate. The introduction of the Commission's programme for 1980 fits naturally into the proceedings of a wellestablished and working Parliament. I look forward to the debate which will follow on Thursday on the main lines of that programme.

Today I intend to concentrate on what we see as the central issues confronting us. I do not intend to say something about everything or attempt a complete Cook's tour of the horizons of the Community. You must therefore forgive me if some things are left out. This does not mean that we do not attach importance to it. It merely means, in my view, that a speech is not a catalogue, and a catalogue is not a speech.

1979 and its achievements

1.1.2. First it would be right to look back briefly at what the Community achieved in 1979. Although 1979 ended with its difficulties it should in many ways be seen as a year of major Community advance. We saw substantial success on a number of major fronts. First, we put in place the European Monetary System after less than a year of discussion, and have seen it establish itself gradually and unspectacularly. We will need to do more to strengthen and support the EMS but its creation is, in my view, an important landmark in our development. Second, we have concluded the accord with a new European partner,

Greece, and have begun the process of welcoming her into the Community. This accession—and the other two which are likely to follow—emphasizes the underlying vitality of the Community and the attraction which it holds for the reborn democracies of Europe. Third, we concluded, after many years of difficult and largely unglamorous negotiation, the Tokyo Round. This MTN achievement offfers us the reasonable prospect for a further development of the free-world trading sytem on mutually beneficial lines, despite the new and more difficult circumstances in the economic and employment fields which face us. Fourth, we reached agreement at Lomé on a renewed convention enhancing and strengthening our relationship with the now 58 ACP countries. Fifth, at the Strasbourg European Council last summer and subsequently at the Economic Summit in Tokyo we led the way towards establishing a new apparatus of cooperation in the energy field. Above all, we saw this Parliament elected-in my view perhaps the biggest harbinger of hope for the future-bringing a new and powerful democratic dimension to our Community affairs.

I make these points to this House because the essential vitality of the Community can sometimes be too obscured by the dust of pressing short-term problems and difficulties. Within the framework of our common institutions there remains a deep reserve of invention, imagination and sustained cohesion which can be brought to bear in the common interests of Europe. It is well to remember what we have already achieved together when we contemplate the problems that we have to resolve together in the future.

The crisis ahead

1.1.3. Looking ahead, we face no less than the break-up of the established economic and

social order on which post-war Europe was built. The warning bells have been sounding for a decade. Bit by bit we have seen the collapse of that long period of monetary stability founded on the Bretton Woods agreements; that process began even before the rise in oil prices in 1973. Energy price increases may not have been the only cause of our present misfortunes but they have been the main catalyst. We have built our industrial society on the consumption of fossil fuels, in particular oil, and it is now certain that if we do not change our ways while there is still time-and 1980 could be almost the last opportunity-our society will risk dislocation and eventual collapse.

Most of the economic indicators are bad. Whereas in 1979 growth of the European economy amounted to about 3.3%, in 1980 it could fall substantially below even the 2% which we were forecasting in a somewhat dispirited fashion at the end of last year. Unemployment rates, which in the early 1970s averaged under 3% for the Community as a whole, rose to 5.6% in 1979 and are forecast to rise to well above 6% this year. Average inflation can be expected to increase from 9% last year to nearly 11.5% in 1980. The current-account deficit on external trade is estimated to rise from almost 8 billion dollars in 1979 to more than 20 billion dollars this year under the impact of last year's 65% increase in oil prices. We may once have hoped that the waves of our recent discontents would quietly recede and that the easier world of the 1960s would re-emerge from beneath the waters. Such facile optimism is now totally untenable. The signs of irreversible change are now visible beyond mistake in the accelerating decline of some of our older industries; in the impact of new technologies in many areas of our daily lives; in the changing and more difficult pattern of our trade.

The essential question for 1980 and the years ahead is therefore how do we adapt our society to the new economic realities?

Energy

1.1.4. I turn first to the question of energy, which was a central issue for the meeting of the European Council in Strasbourg last summer, and subsequently for the Economic Summit in Tokyo. It was, let us recall, the first time the Community had fixed and defended a global target figure for our oil consumption and imports. Yet since then progress has faltered. You will be debating this matter in many of its aspects tomorrow but I nevertheless believe it is right to emphasize the main points now.

In the short term, energy conservation must be the cornerstone of our policy since it forms the quickest and the cheapest way of contributing to a restoration of the balance between supply and demand. I say 'in the short term' because we can and must move quickly. But conservation is not, of course, a stopgap which we can then abandon. It is short term in the sense of being urgent, and not in the sense of being temporary. Some progress has already been made. Thus the total energy consumption of the Nine fell by about 8% between 1974 and 1977. But the potential for further savings is immense: recent studies have shown that over the next two decades there could be savings of 20% to 35% in the transport sector; 15% to 35% in industry and agriculture; and up to 50% in the housing and service sector on the basis of currently available technology. It is the Commission's view that with wider use of best practice in energy-saving equipment and in design, energy savings by 1990 could be as much as 100 million tonnes oil equivalent in

8

excess of Member States' forecasts: in other words a 20% reduction of our import needs.

Second, we believe that throughout the Community we should rapidly raise the levels of our investment in new ways of saving energy, in exploiting our native resources, and in developing new sources. This cannot be left entirely to the market place. Of course industry must make the investments it thinks profitable and contribute to the common effort; but a big responsibility inevitably rests with each Member State and with the Community as a whole in giving a lead to investment in areas of high risk or high technology, particularly where there are big intitial costs and long pay-back times.

There are three obvious areas to which I draw brief attention. First, we must reverse the downward trend, experienced through the 1970s—perversely in view of our experience during this decade—in the consumption and production of coal. Investment is needed for new production capacity; for the construction, modernization and conversion of power stations using coal; and for demonstration projects in coal liquefaction and gasification. Second, the Commission believes that the delays which have occurred in the development of nuclear energy in different parts of the Community should be made up as soon as possible. Third, we need to devote far more time and attention to the development of other sources of energy, those sometimes called new and exotic, but in fact often old and well tried. What we get out of such sources will be in direct proportion to what we put into them. We must not fall into the error of supposing that because a source is apparently cheap, simple, and small scale it cannot be as good as that which is expensive, complicated, and large scale.

Fourth, we need to put greater efforts into our research and development programme.

At present only 2% to 3% of the Community budget is devoted to energy, and only about 4% of energy investment, within the Community, is provided from Community sources. There is much that we can do to concentrate national efforts, to stimulate planning, to avoid unnecessary duplication and give the direction of advance.

In all these areas we have to reckon with the need to protect the environment, to limit and assess the consequences of pollution of land, sea and atmosphere, and to make what we do as safe as we humanly can. Concern about the consequences of developing new and existing sources of energy has been somewhat unfairly focused on the nuclear aspect. There are hazards connected with the greater exploitation of coal, in particular in its effects on the atmosphere; there are hazards in our continued high consumption of hydrocarbons; there are hazards in the development of nuclear energy, among which nuclear waste disposal is conspicuous; but, as is sometimes forgotten, there are also hazards in the use of wind power, wave power, and solar power in its many forms. In working out our programme we must see the hazards as a whole and deal with them honestly and openly.

I think that we have made some progress in recent months towards fuller appreciation of these problems. But it is now six years since the first severe warning and I fear we have missed many more opportunities than we have created. The lesson of recent developments in the Middle East is that we shall not have another such period of grace.

Our efforts to overcome these problems will require time, money, and determination. The most tangible is money. Here the Commission is looking at possibilities which include the idea of some form of energy tax or levy. Such a tax or levy would of course need to be

consistent with our international obligations and should have regard to macroeconomic as well as energy economy considerations. We shall keep this House closely informed of the progress of our work, and we look forward to full discussion with you as soon as our thinking is more precise. When I was in Washington in January, I found that similar ideas were also under examination there. The effect of any Community initiative would be all the greater if it were undertaken in cooperation with our major industrial partners.

New advanced technology

1.1.5. Energy problems may well be the catalyst in quickening the pace of economic change. But I am convinced that the major, perhaps the ultimate test of success or failure in the next decade will be the attitude we adopt to the challenge of the new electronic technologies. The developments now rapidly unfolding herald a new industrial revolution. The first effects of these developments can already be seen reflected most starkly in the loss of jobs in traditional industries. The results can be sudden, sharp and devastating. For example in the traditional watch industry in the Federal Republic of Germany there was a drop in employment of some 40% in the mid-1970s. In printing and publishing, where composition direct from the keyboard has cut out traditional skills, we are now witnessing the prospect of a fall in established employment which could amount to 70%.

But these dramatic effects tend to hide the gains to be had from the same technologies. Such gains come from the demand for the new products available, either wholly new products or from the spin-off effects of increased demand for the products of existing technology. They also arise because of the

more efficient use of resources leading to lower costs and the release of resources for investment elsewhere. The introduction of new data-processing techniques in accountancy, for example, has coincided with a substantial growth in employment, an increase of some 300 000 jobs in France in this sector alone in the past seven years. These are real gains. But because they do not always arise in the same regions or industries as those affected by unemployment, they often go unnoticed. We need not only to exploit these new developments but to contain their social effects and provide far more information than has hitherto been available about them. What is certain in that our major competitors will not hold back. Already they have worked out more consistent and wider-scale strategies than we, and the technological gap between the United States and Japan on one hand, and Western Europe on the other is if anything increasing.

In November last year the European Council was informed of our ideas for the development of a Community strategy in this field. You will already have seen the paper which sets this out. We proposed that the Community should develop a social policy to prepare the way for innovation, should create a homogeneous European market for telematic equipment and services, should foster the growth of a European information industry, should promote industrial and user collaboration, should enhance existing national and European programmes for satellite communication, and above all should apply the new technologies to the Community itself on the continental scale open to us. At that European Council we were invited to develop more fully the main lines of the strategy we had proposed 'in order that we may act in 1980'. The Commission will rapidly so act. I regard such action as vital to the health of our economies, the adaptation of our society

and the economic vigour of the Community over the next decade.

Transport

1.1.6. Before I leave this perspective of the future, I want to mention one other point of great importance for the Community. This is the need to improve the organization of transport within the Community both on its own merits and to serve Community as well as purely national needs. There are few areas of more importance for the cohesion of the Community and the convergence of the economies of its Member States. You already have before you a draft Financial Regulation for transport infrastructure, and you will have seen our Green Paper on the subject. Without going into details here, I should like simply to commend our ideas and seek the sustained support of this House for them.

External policies

1.1.7. I now turn to the increasing interdependence within the industrial world in which these changes are embedded. Our Western economies and societies are rooted in the twin concepts of competition and cooperation. Without competition, there is a prospect of a widening gap between our achievements and those of our major partners and rivals. Without cooperation, we risk damaging each other and losing sight of the vital interests we hold in common. It is on the basis of realistic but humane policies within the Community that our competitive position can be safeguarded; and on the attitudes we adopt towards international cooperation that the essential interests of the Western world can be advanced. It has been a Community interest to play an active role in the series of Economic Summits, last at Tokyo in 1979, next at Venice this June. The way in which the Summit countries are working increasingly together is one of the more encouraging developments of our time.

But the industrialized countries account for only a small proportion of mankind; and the Community more than any other industrial group is linked by history, culture, interest and trade with the rest of the world. The recovery of our economies cannot be dissociated from the development of the poorer countries and the growth in world-wide demand. There is an essential interdependence in the modern world which the energy crisis has illuminated and reinforced. We shall soon engage in a further round of discussions in the North/South Dialogue. In these discussisons the Community must be able to speak with a single voice not just—as is sometimes suggested—at the technical level, but at the top. Our political and economic interest in establishing consensus and cooperation is clear. Three themes will run through the negotiations and form the basis for greater stability in international economic relations which we all seek. First the need to ensure a better balance between energy supply and demand; second the steady growth of the economies of the poorer countries, which is in our interest as much as theirs, and third the provision of special help for those in most need. Within the Community and among the other industrialized countries, progress in this area is a high priority for 1980.

Employment

1.1.8. Concern for the rest of the world should not obscure concern for what is happening here within the Community. I refer in particular to the disfigurement which present

rates of unemployment represent not only for the functioning of our economies but for the equilibrium of our society. We must adopt new attitudes.

Here I make three points. First our people must be closely informed about the changes that are occurring. They must be able to see beyond their immediate horizon to the totality of the changes that affect them. Otherwise we can expect little but defensive and restrictive attitudes to changes from workers who see only that their own industry is contracting, or that their own firm is closing. Second if we are to make the necessary but difficult changes in our society required by developing technology, our policies must encourage greater mobility and willingness to change jobs. In that process temporary unemployment may sometimes be part of the price of progress, but people must be given the means to adapt to new opportunities and to learn new skills. Third we must reduce to the minimum the average period of unemployment. That requires that we must put more effort into training and retraining; that we ensure a better match between available skills and job opportunities in different sectors and regions; and that we pursue further our discussions on the different aspects of time-sharing.

Last month this House had an important debate on unemployment. The Commission has taken careful note of your resolutions. Our policies in 1980 will take full account of them. Here I mention some central points. As Vice-President Ortoli mentioned in last month's debate, the Commission has proposed the maintenance of a relatively high level of public spending to sustain growth. Next we are coming forward with specific ideas about how to cushion the social effects of the telematic revolution to which I have already referred. In our paper we suggest 10 areas for action. We look forward to discus-

sion about them with the social partners. Next we shall try to extend Community action to help in the reorganization of industrial sectors in particular difficulty. I have shipbuilding, steel and textiles particularly in mind. Finally we are looking again at our policies for young people and for women. Young people of working age under 25 make up less than 25% of the whole population, but nearly 40% of the registered unemployed. There is no more serious problem for our society as a whole.

Last year the Social Fund committed some 800 million ECU for training and job creation. The total should be more this year. But we still have to find up to 800 000 new jobs a year until 1985, when the demographic pattern—the number of young people coming in the labour market—is likely to change dramatically. Community institutions and Community funds alone cannot deal with issues of this order of magnitude. But they should have a catalytic effect on the policies followed by the Member States.

European Monetary System

1.1.9. We need to get the balance right. The Community provides the framework within which national economies have the major role but within which Community funds have nevertheless a significant function. Last year the Community framework was greatly strengthened by the introduction of the European Monetary System. If I had foreseen a year ago the stormy waters onto which this frail craft would be launched and have to make its early voyages—a year in which the yen depreciated by 30% against the dollar; the dollar by 10% against the ECU; and gold set off on its wild and unpredictable course.

Had I foreseen all these storms for the first year of the life of the EMS I would not, perhaps, have been confident of its survival. Not only has the system survived, it has worked well involving only two small adjustments to central rates and providing a valuable buttress of greater monetary stability in Europe at a difficult time of international turbulence. I much regret the continued absence of the United Kingdom from full participation in system. I hope the experience we have gained in the EMS will encourage our ninth Member State to come in, and make its contribution to the good health and fortune of the system. Without sterling the system is frankly incomplete. Without participation the United Kingdom is not playing its full part in Europe.

At Dublin the European Council confirmed the timetable already laid down for progress in the System in particular towards the creation of a European Monetary Fund; it should not be allowed to persist for long. The Commission is playing an active role, notably the discussions with the Monetary Committee and the Central Bank Governors, and will be reporting on progress to the next European Council. I should like to see a steady extension of the Work of the EMS, for example through closer internal coordination and the working out of common policies with regard to third countries and other currencies. In saying this I in no way wish to detract from the role of the dollar which is and will remain for the foreseeable future the principal medium of international exchange. Rather our efforts should be seen as part of a common effort with our major trading partners to rebuild a framework within which the monetary turbulence we have experienced in recent years can be esffectively contained. In that process, the EMS has a major role to play.

Budgetary and convergence issues

1.1.10. I turn briefly to internal issues relating to the budget. These issues have dominated Community discussion for six months. I in no way complain. They are of importance and need to be approached in orderly fashion. But let us keep them in perspective. They are essentially part of the process of putting our house in order. Once settled we can get down to the bigger and more important issues affecting the future development of the Community. We cannot afford to spend much more time on family squabbles.

As the House knows, the Commission will decide on its proposals for a new budgetary document for 1980 tomorrow, and Commissioner Tugendhat will present them to Parliament on Thursday. I hope that on the basis of these proposals it will prove possible to move rapidly towards agreement between the Community institutions on the 1980 budget. It is in no one's interest for these difficulties to be prolonged. The Commission is at the disposal of both parts of the budgetary authority to give any further help that may be required.

A vital element in our budgetary proposals is clearly the related issue of agricultural prices which Vice-President Gundelach presented to you this morning. Obviously our proposals must and will be considered on their merits, but they also need to be seen in the light of the mounting agricultural surpluses of recent years and the structure of the 1980 budget. Fundamental change cannot be achieved overnight. But the proposals we have made could if adopted by the Council mark a significant step towards containing expenditure and thus putting our agricultural policy into a better relationship with our other Community policies. For the first time in the history of the Community we should have a lower level of expenditure on agriculture—in

money let alone real terms—than in the previous year. Failure to act now in the Council, following our proposals, could in my view have consequences for the continued existence of the common agricultural policicy in its present form.

I now turn to the complex of problems which go under the label of convergence and budgetary questions. The House will recall the specific mandate given to the Commission by the European Council at Dublin. The result was the paper we sent to the Council and to this House in the first week of February. I make two observations upon it.

We covered two broad issues: structural questions affecting the less prosperous members of the Community, and budgetary questions affecting the United Kingdom. We believe that the proposals we have made under both heads could provide a solution to both sets of problems. In this way we hope that we have, as it were, cut these problems down to size, and made their solution one of practical and specific negotiation. Let us not have too much metaphysical but unrewarding argument.

Next, we believe that what we have proposed would be good not just for the countries directly concerned but for the Community as a whole. To remedy an imbalance is one thing: it has to be done, and we are doing it; but to reinforce the direction of our structural policies and thereby promote genuine convergence is another, and in my judgment still much more valuable and important. That is our purpose. We now have to work out the detailed programmes to give effect to it. As you will see from our paper we have taken good care to avoid disturbing good existing Community policies. Instead we have focused on the temporary, special and ad hoc measures which we think a solution of the problem requires.

There will now be a further period of discussion here and in the Council of Ministers. That period of discussion should be short. It is time for us to settle these issues and put them behind us.

Institutions

1.1.11. My final points are about our institutions. These have been under scrutiny in the report of the Three Wise Men on the Community as a whole and in the report of the Spierenburg Group on the Commission. I have three points to make.

There was remarkable similarity of view in both reports about the role and responsibilities of the Commission. While both pointed to external factors and internal weaknesses, developing over a decade or more, which had led to some dilution of its effectiveness, there was no dispute that the Commission should continue to exercise its political powers of initiative in full independence. That is indeed our prime responsibility. The Commission is neither the servant of the Council nor the secretariat of the Parliament. The institutional framework of the Treaties depends on a creative partnership, perhaps I should say creative and constructive tension, between independent bodies each respecting the other, and each with its own defined responsibilities. Within those responsibilities the Commission must be allowed to get on with the job, and to fulfil its role as the executive of policies as well as the proposer of them.

Like all organizations the Commission needs to adapt and renew its own response to changing circumstances. For this reason we took the initiative in 1978 to appoint the Spierenburg Independent Review Body to examine how the Commission's organization

and staff resurces could best be adjusted to meet future needs. This report will be acted upon. We regard it as our responsibility to hand over to our successors the best possible administrative structure. We will shortly be considering a range of proposals designed to secure streamlining of our administrative services, improvement and strengthening of our internal coordination and planning, and better control over the use of staff. In giving effect to these reforms we shall need the understanding and support of the budgetary authority. We would welcome an early debate on our proposals in the appropriate committee of this House.

Last, the Commission hopes that there will be rapid consideration leading to action on the wider institutional issues raised in the reports. Decisions will soon be necessary on the composition of the next Commission. Our experience does not lead us to think that it should necessarily be smaller than the present one; but nor do we think it should be significantly larger, as the logic of a Community of 12 might suggest. Although I cannot commit the new Commission, I think it right that it should, as it were, submit itself to this House on taking up office.

I am not proposing anything so formal or precise as a vote of confidence; but I know that, to fulfil its functions as it should, the next Commission must be in a position to feel that it has been accepted by those who represent the people of the Community.

Conclusion

1.1.12. I conclude. Following the events in Afghanistan, tension in the world is perhaps closer to danger point than at any time over the past two decades. The gravity of the situation was recognized by the almost unanim-

ous view expressed by this House in its resolution last month; in the serious and important discussions within the Political Affairs Committee which I attended a fortnight ago; and in the series of actions which the Community has taken together in condemnation of Soviet aggression. These events come on top of the difficult economic and social problems which already are exercising pressure on the Community system.

We can achieve nothing unless we act in the spirit of solidarity. That solidarity depends on respect for the rule of law, not only in our own society but in the world as a whole. Our Community institutions—the symmetry of Parliament, Commission, Council and Court each operating within a common framework —are our foundation. We depart from it at our peril. There can be no bargaining with the law. If we flout our own rules for whatever reason, we can hardly expect to command authority or influence elsewhere. No consideration of temporary advantage or national self-interest can transcend our common interest in an orderly world in which rules are respected until there is agreement to change them. The Court interprets the law on the basis of the Treaties of which the Commission is the guardian. There is no duty to which the Commission attaches more importance. It is the rock on which the Community stands.

2. EEC-Yugoslavia cooperation agreement

EEC-Yugoslavia Agreement

1.2.1. Relations between the EEC and Yugoslavia took a further step forward with the initialling in Brussels on 25 February of a Cooperation Agreement and an Agreement on ECSC products.

The Cooperation Agreement represents a fresh departure in the Community's relations with Yugoslavia. Concluded for an unlimited period, the Agreement is the only one of its kind and takes account of Yugoslavia's position as a non-aligned, European, Mediterranean State and a member of the Group of 77 developing countries.

The political and economic significance of the new Agreement was stressed by Mr Jenkins during his official visit to Yugoslavia on 28 and 29 February. Mr Jenkins underlined the scope of the Agreement, which is intended to strengthen, consolidate and diversify relations between the parties, and its comprehensive, wide-ranging nature. noted that such an accord was unprecedented. Its initialling is the culmination of a process that began with the Joint Declaration signed by the President of the Council and Mr Gundelach in Belgrade on 2 December 1976.1

The development of EEC-Yugoslav relations

1.2.2. The first EEC-Yugoslav agreement was signed in 1970 and ran for three years. It expired on 30 April 1973 and was replaced by a second agreement which ran until 30 September 1978. From 1974 onwards, relations between the parties were stepped up. Ministerial meetings were held and the Joint Committee met for the first time at ministerial level in Brussels on 24 July 1975.²

A number of official visits also took place, with Sir Christopher Soames visiting Belgrade in April 1974,3 followed in June of the following year by Mr Ortoli. Mr. Bijedic, President of Yugoslavia's Federal Executive Council, paid a return visit to Brussels on 16 February 1976, the first visit to the Commission by a Yugoslav Head of Government.5 However, the real turning-point in EEC-Yugoslav relations came with the trip to Belgrade on 1 and 2 December 1976 by Mr van der Stoel, President of the Council, and Mr Gundelach.1

The Joint Declaration signed at the end of that visit on 2 December has constituted a blueprint for relations between the two sides.1 The new Cooperation Agreement is a direct product of the ideas and aims set out in the Belgrade Declaration — namely, the desire to intensify and strengthen economic cooperation, develop and improve trade structures and contribute to Yugoslavia's economic development, bearing in mind the country's special position as a non-aligned, European, Mediterranean member of the Group of 77.

From then on, numerous meetings and talks led up to the negotiations which culminated in the finalization of the Cooperation Agreement. Mr Haferkamp visited Belgrade in September 1977,6 closely followed by Mr Simonet, President of the Council. In November of the same year Mr Le Portz, President of the European Investment Bank, signed a contract for the first-ever EIB loan to Yugoslavia, equivalent to 25 million EUA.⁷

On 18 November 1977 the Commission sent the Council a communication and draft directives recommending that negotiations be

Bull. EC 11-1976, point 2340.

Bull. EC 7/8-1975, point 2345.

Bull. EC 4-1974, point 2325.

Bull. EC 6-1975, point 2341.

Bull. EC 2-1976, point 2338. Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.33. Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.3.74.

opened with Yugoslavia for a framework economic and commercial cooperation agreement.1 The Council approved the necessary directives on 17 January 1978,2 and the negotiations got under way on 13 February.³ At the second round of talks, on 11 April 1978, a number of difficulties became apparent, and in July the Commission sent a further communication to the Council on guidelines for the negotiations.5 A third communication followed in October, accompanied by a recommendation to amend the original negotiating directives. In February 1979 the Council adopted supplementary directives;7 in March a Commission delegation visited Belgrade, followed in April by talks with a Yugoslav delegation in Brussels.' Finally, the negotiations were resumed in July 1979.10.

On 15 January this year the Council unanimously called for the speedy conclusion of a broadly based agreement.11 At a negotiating session in Brussels on 1 February the Community submitted fresh proposals to Yugoslavia, and its delegation responded favourably to a number of them. On this basis the final session took place in Brussels on 21 to 23 February, and on 25 February Mr Haferkamp and Mr Andov, a Member of Yugoslavia's Federal Executive Council, initialled both the Cooperation Agreement and the Agreement on ECSC products.

The content of the Agreement

1.2.3. The purpose of the cooperation arrangements set up by the Agreement is to contribute to Yugolavia's economic and social development and thereby strengthen relations between the two parties. They are comprehensive, covering industry, science and technology, agriculture, energy, tourism, transport, the environment, fisheries and other areas.

The provisions dealing with labour are based on those in the agreements with the Maghreb countries and Portugal. There is also provision for exchanges of views between the authorities of Yugoslavia and the Member States on the situation of Yugoslav workers in the Community, particularly the social and cultural aspects.

As regards financial cooperation, the Agreement provides both for the exchange of information and joint analysis of medium-term economic policies and balance-of-payment trends, and for the financing of investment projects of mutual interest, under a five-year Financial Protocol worth 200 million EUA. The Agreement also stipulates that the two parties are to devote particular attention to cooperation activities to promote the free zone established between Italy and Yugoslavia by the 1975 Osimo Agreements, which are of major importance for the development of economic relations between the Community and Yugoslavia.

A further aim of the Agreement is to promote trade between the parties, due account being taken of their respective levels of development and the need to ensure a better balance in their trade, with a view to improving the conditions of access for Yugoslav products to

Bull. EC 11-1977, point 2.2.63.

Bull. EC 1-1978, point 2.2.38.

Bull. EC 2-1978, point 2.2.44.

Bull. EC 4-1978, point 2.2.58. Bull. EC 7/8-1978, point 2.2.65.

Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.2.48.

Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.2.49.

Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.56.

Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.2.43. Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.49.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.43.

the Community market. This will be achieved by stages, the first to last five years. One year before expiry of this period, the Community and Yugoslavia will begin negotiations to determine the arrangements that are to apply subsequently, the aim being gradually to remove the barriers to the bulk of their trade.

Once the Agreement is in force, imports of Yugoslav industrial products will be free of customs duties and quantitative restrictions.

However, there are exceptions to this rule for a number of sensitive products. These include various industrial products, textiles, certain petroleum products, and primary products, which are made subject to a system of tariff ceilings.

The new Agreement, like those with other Mediterranean countries, accords tariff concessions on certain agricultural products of particular importance to Yugolavia's exports, such as baby beef, morello cherries, slivovica, quality wines and tobacco.

Yugoslavia grants the Community most-favoured nation treatment.

The Agreement's general provisions also include rules on dumping and the application of safeguard measures. Yugoslavia may take certain tariff or quantitative measures against the Community where this becomes necessary for industrialization or economic development purposes.

The Agreement provides for the setting-up of a Cooperation Council, and enshrines the will of the parties to encourage ongoing contacts between Parliament and the Yugoslav Assembly.

The Cooperation Council's task is to ensure that the Agreement functions smoothly and that its aims are attained. Its role is a special one in that it will be required to implement unique cooperation procedures which will enable the parties to find joint solutions to any problems which might arise, so that commercial cooperation in particular can develop in accordance with the Agreement, despite a difficult international economic situation.

3. Reactivation of the association with Turkey

Turkey

1.3.1. The meeting held on 5 February by the EEC-Turkey Association Council was of major political importance, as borne out by observers. The two essential features were the 'reactivation' of the Association, which had been somewhat dormant for over three years (the last ministerial-level meeting of Association Council dates back to December 1976), and the important statements by Turkey's new Foreign Minister, Mr Erkmen, who expressed his Government's views on the Association's new lease of life, referring to the prospect of Turkey's joining the Community.

The significance of this meeting was underlined by the presence of eight Foreign Ministers: Mr Erkmen (Turkey), Mr Simonet (Belgium), Mr Olesen (Denmark), Mr Genscher (Germany), Mr Jean François-Ponçet (France), Mr Ruffini (Italy, President of the Council), Mr van der Klaauw (Netherlands) and Lord Carrington (United Kingdom). The Commission was represented by Mr Jenkins and Mr Haferkamp.

Progress achieved

1.3.2. At this meeting the Turkish Delegation outlined its plans for reactivating the Association. It informed the Community of its decision to withdraw the request for suspension of the application of certain provisions of the Additional Protocol and of its desire to introduce selective measures to protect its economy. It was Turkey's opinion that this further proof of its goodwill should encourage the Community to review the offer made by the Council in May 1979 when adapting the Community position on development of the Association with Turkey.

The Community expressed its willingness to examine these new factors with an open

mind. The Association Committee was instructed to report back to the Association Council in April on the measures involved in reactivation so that the latter could draw the appropriate conclusions.

The 'joint conclusions' adopted at the close of this meeting' reflected both parties' desire to initiate, as soon as possible, a constructive dialogue taking account of the fundamental objectives of the Ankara Agreement.

Shortly afterwards, when the Association Committee met on 27 February, the Turkish Delegation explained how Turkey considered the Association should be reactivated in various fields. The Community took note of these explanations, which will permit it to prepare its position.

Statement by Mr Erkmen

1.3.3. When addressing the Association Council, the Turkish Foreign Minister gave details of his Government's approach to reactivating the Association in such fields as the customs union, agriculture, labour, economic and financial cooperation, as well as the textiles sector, in which problems had arisen. Mr Erkmen also reviewed the economic and social difficulties with which his country had to contend and his Government's efforts to redress the economy and liberalize trade.

In the political sphere, he drew attention to the unique nature of the relationship between Turkey and the Community and reiterated on several occasions that the Association must, under the terms of the Ankara Agreement, culminate in Turkey's accession to the Community. In the light of this aim of the Associ-

Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.2.56.

² Point 1.3.5.

ation Agreement, he stressed the need for adopting a new approach, infusing new life into the aims of Article 2 of the Agreement and establishing a more forceful programme of action to this end.

Mr Erkmen's remarks included the following:

'The objective of the EEC-Turkey Association was to bring about conditions such as would ensure Turkish accession to the Community; the Association was based on the political will to achieve the gradual integration of the economies and it symbolized Turkey's attachment to Europe and Europe's attachment to Turkey by a political link, whence its underlying philosophy.

As the Association was a first step towards accession, it could not operate or attain its aim if the Community of the Nine or the future Community of the Ten or Twelve continued to regard nonmember Turkey as a third country and to treat it in the global context in the same way as a number of countries with privileged links with the Community. When the Member States had to make concessions, they were constantly afraid of creating precedents, This fear was not justified with regard to Turkey. If Turkey and the Community were at the present juncture determined to resume their dialogue in order to arrive at concrete and substantial results, a new approach along these lines and free of all uncertaintly should be adopted; otherwise there was a great danger of finding oneself back at the point of departure.

Now that the partners in the Association had decided to reopen and continue that dialogue, it was therefore important to define the objective very clearly. Turkey would become, at some future date which could be brought forward, a fully fledged member of the Community for, if Turkey's aim was only a limited link, such an Association link, based on the establishment of customs union and economic integration, would not have been established. The six founder members of the Community shared Turkey's philosophy, which had given rise to this joint enterprise, now become part of the acquis communautaire. The countries which had later acceded to the Community and the countries which were now applying for accession had accepted, and were prepared to accept, as such this joint enterprise with its political significance and economic implications. Consequently, if Turkey initiated a dialogue with the Community to resolve the various problems arising in the operation of the Association, it would do so — and was indeed obliged to do so — with the firm intention of creating satisfactory conditions such as would allow and facilitate the accession of Turkey to the Community.

A general updating of the Association was necessary to prepare Turkey for accession; it was vital to provide a new action framework and a fresh impetus in implementing the objectives set forth in Article 2 of the Ankara Agreement.

Statement by Mr Ruffini

1.3.4. Replying to the above remarks by the Turkish Foreign Minister, Mr Ruffini, Italian Foreign Minister and President of the Council, said that the Association Council meeting provided the opportunity both to take stock of relations between the Community and Turkey and to resume the dialogue at political level in order to give the fresh momentum to the Association wanted by all.

Mr Ruffini went on to say that the Community had noted the Turkish statement with great interest and that it too was prepared to make the necessary efforts to ensure that this fresh momentum was given as quickly as possible on a concrete basis, taking into account the special nature of the Association links between Turkey and the Community. He added that the Turkish statement should be examined jointly within the Association bodies to enable both parties to expound and reconcile their individual viewpoints; the Association Committee could undertake this examination without delay¹ and report back to the Association Council in April.

¹ The Association Committee met for that purpose on 27 February: see point 2.2.51.

Mr Ruffini stressed that the Community was determined to have with Turkey, as part of the reactivation of the Association, a constructive dialogue with the firm political resolve to overcome the difficulties due in particular to the international economic crisis. It was willing to review with an open mind its position of May 1979¹ on the development of the Association in the light of the new points contained in Mr Erkmen's statement and any further information that might be supplied in the near future.

Referring to the efforts being made by Turkey to cope with the serious economic problems it was experiencing, he said that the Community had noted with sympathy the Turkish Government's decision, because of these difficulties, to defer some of its tariff obligations towards the Community. He also confirmed that the Community and the Member States were prepared to continue the international aid effort they were already making at both bilateral level for Turkey's economic recovery.

With regards to Turkey's concern over enlargement, the Community—to quote the substance of Mr Ruffini's statement—confirmed the position adopted in June 1975 following Greece's application for membership. In other words, the Community reiterated the importance it attached to the maintenance and development of its Association relations with Turkey and renewed its assurance that this further enlargement did not affect these relations nor would it change the rights guaranteed under the Ankara Agreement and its Protocols.

Joint conclusions

1.3.5. At the close of its discussions on the reactivation of the Association and the

development of relations between the Community and Turkey, the Council adopted the joint conclusions set out below:

- 1. 'The Community and Turkey welcomed the resumption of the dialogue within the Association Council at ministerial level and emphasized the major political importance they attach to the reactivation and development of the Association and to the attainment of the fundamental objectives of the Agreement.
- 2. In view of the current international situation both Parties reaffirmed their attachment to the fundamental principles of democracy, freedom and peace underlying the Ankara Agreement.
- 3. The Community welcomed Turkey's decision to withdraw its request for suspension of the application of the Additional Protocol. For its part, the Community is ready to review with an open mind the position adopted in May 1979.
- 4. The Partners to the Association accordingly emphasized the political need for a fresh approach and will do everything to ensure that the constructive dialogue at this meeting is quickly translated into practical decisions on the present problems of the Association, taking into account the special nature of the association links between Turkey and the Community.
- 5. The Association Council to that end asked the Association Committee to continue its discussions in the light of today's proceedings and to report back to it in April so that the Association Council could draw the appropriate conclusions.
- 6. The two Parties wil also seek ways to ensure that the Association develops with a view to facilitating the accession of Turkey to the Community at a later date in accordance with the Ankara Agreement.
- 7. In view of the particularly serious economic and financial problems facing Turkey, the Community and its Member States reaffirmed their determination to continue the efforts undertaken at both bilateral and multilateral level to assist Turkey.

Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.2.56.

4. Agricultural prices for 1980/81

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8. Turkey repeated its preoccupations regarding the consequences of the enlargement of the Community and the Community reiterated the importance it attached to maintaining and developing its Association relations with Turkey, reassuring the latter that further enlargement would not affect relations between the Community and Turkey and that the rights guaranteed by the Ankara Agreement and the Protocols thereto would not be changed thereby.'

The Commission's proposals

1.4.1. The Commission proposes an increase in prices of 2% to 3.5% for most agricultural products, but of only 1.5% for milk, sugar and beef and veal on account of the situation on those markets, and no price increase for butter for a further year.

These proposals,¹ concerning the fixing of prices for certain agricultural products for the 1980/81 marketing year (Table 2) and certain related measures, were put forward to the Council by the Commission on 7 February and presented to Parliament by Mr Gundelach on 11 February.² The effect of the proposals on consumers would be negligible (an increase of 0.8% on food expenditure and of 0.1% in total consumer spending in a full year).

The proposed price rises would be counter-balanced in Germany and the Benelux countries by revalued 'green rates' for the German mark (so that the monetary compensatory amount of 9.8% is reduced by one point) and for the Dutch guilder and Belgian and Luxembourg francs (so that the 1.9% MCA is reduced by 0.5 of a point).

The proposals would lead to additional expenditure of 377 million EUA, but there will be savings of 175 million EUA on special butter subsidies and MCA payments. The net effect would be a slightly lower total agricultural budget than in 1979 and a substantially lower budget than that originally proposed for 1980. The biggest savings would be in the milk sector.

The price proposals also include additional measures in the milk and beef sectors. The Council began its examination of the proposals on 18 February³ and should reach deci-

OJ C 73 of 24.3.1980.

² Point 2.3.9.

³ Point 2.1.48.

sions on them after Parliament has delivered its opinion.

Interdependent measures

1.4.2. The Commission proposals emphasize two factors—the forces currently affecting the common agricultural policy and the need to regard this 'package' as a number of interdependent measures. Dealing with the forces affecting the common agricultural policy, the Commission says:

'The Community faces the problem of having to reconcile four contradictory constraints. If the market situation alone were taken into consideration, the Community would adopt a very stringent prices policy. Such an approach would also be justified by the budgetary situation, which leaves little room for any growth of expenditure. On the other hand, income trends in agriculture as compared with those in the rest of the economy, together with the need to continue dismantling positive compensatory amounts, militate in favour of recommendations to increase Community prices.'

Emphasizing that the different elements of the proposals are interdependent, it says:

'Its proposals for price increases are inextricably linked with the adoption of measures to restore market equilibrium and the dismantling of positive compensatory amounts. The Commission would have to reconsider its position if the debates were tending towards approval of the increases but a postponement of these other measures which require an effort and courage but which are indispensable for the survival of the common agricultural policy.'

Agricultural production, consumption, prices and costs

1.4.3. The situation of the general economy is still serious. Unemployment remains a grave problem with about six million people—5.6% of the available labour force—out of work. The growth rate of the volume of

gross domestic product averaged 3.3% in 1979 (3% in 1978) but is slowing down, mainly as a result of events on world oil markets. Inflation is still high and is accelerating: consumer prices rose by an average of 9% over the year, but at the end of 1979 they were 12% higher than at the end of 1978.

Another unchanged factor is the trend towards higher levels of agricultural production, while, at the same time, consumption continues to be depressed. Deliveries of milk to dairies increased by 2.4%, sugar production is a record 12.2 million tonnes, cereals production at 113 million tonnes is only slightly below last year's peak, beef production is 3% to 4% up on 1978 and wine production is 15% above the average. But in some other markets levels of production have remained more or less stable.

In some cases these increases in production were not accompanied by increases in domestic consumption. In the milk and milk products market, stocks of skimmed-milk powder (218 000 tonnes) are low and private and public stocks of butter (349 000 tonnes) are marginally lower than last year—but only because of considerable expenditure on export refunds and on special disposal measures (4400 million ECU in 1979 against 4000 million ECU in 1978).

In the sugar market, domestic production in 1979 is expected to exceed domestic demand by 2.6 to 2.7 million tonnes. In the beef market, consumption is still greater than production but considerable quantities (330 000 tonnes) have been brought into intervention.

1979 saw a lessening of the difference between Community and world prices for most major agricultural commodities. But the future prospect is one of uncertainty following the decision of the United States to halt

Bull. EC 2-1980 23

exports to the USSR following the events in Afghanistan.

The slowing-down of agricultural cost inflation ended abruptly in 1979. One measure of this is provided by the prices of intermediate consumption, which rose twice as quickly in 1979 as in 1978 (8.8% against 3.3%). The increase was severe in Germany and the Benelux countries, where a fall in average input prices in 1978 became a rise of as much as 7% in 1979. The acceleration of input price rises was sharp in the United Kingdom, Ireland and France. This was partly due to oil price rises, which on average doubled during the year. These affected agriculture directly through higher costs of heating and diesel oil and indirectly through electricity and fertilizer costs. Some of the cost increases due to the 1979 oil price rise have yet to materialize.

Reduction of monetary compensatory amounts

1.4.4. Differences in the increase in inflation rates were not entirely reflected in 1979 in the movement of exchange rates between countries. The European Monetary System was established in 1979, and the year also saw a rapid phasing out of existing negative MCAs. The monetary gap has now been considerably reduced, and no Member State is in a position to bring about the type of rapid price increases in national currency terms that took place in the three previous years. There is not now the scope, therefore, for faster price increases for Member States facing the most rapid cost inflation.

The past year also saw an accelerated dismantling of existing negative MCA's. This took place in three stages: in March when the EMS was introduced, in June when the prices were fixed and in December. As regards United Kingdom MCA's the upward movement of sterling also contributed to the reduction. Negative MCAs at 6 February

1980 were only a fraction of those which existed at 1 January 1979.

Real agricultural incomes fall

1.4.5. After growing rapidly in the first years of the seventies, agricultural incomes were sharply reduced by the raw material crisis of 1974. They recovered slowly after that but have been more or less constant in the period of price moderation.

But first estimates of real agricultural incomes for 1979 show a fall of 1.5%. The fall has occurred in all Member States (except Italy and France) and is especially serious in Ireland, Denmark and Luxembourg. Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Belgium also suffered real income reductions (Table 1).

On the other hand, incomes in the economy as a whole continued to rise, except in the United Kingdom, and showed an increase per worker of about 2.5% in 1979.

Table 1 — Development of real incomes

	• ' '	
	Change (1979/78) in real income per head in the economy as a whole (%)1	Change (1979/78) in real income per head in agriculture (%)1
Germany	+ 3	_ <u>9</u>
France	+ 3	+ 2.5
Italy	+ 4	+ 4.5
Netherlands	+ 2	- 7
Belgium	+ 3	+ 3.5
Luxembourg	+ 2.5	- 13
United Kingdom	- 0.5	- 6
Ireland	+ 2	- 13.5
Denmark	+ 2	– 13.5
Community	+ 2.5	- 1.5

Source: Commission.

¹ Real income in agriculture is represented by net value added at factor cost corrected for the change in labour input. Real income for the economy as a whole is represented by growth in the volume of GDP corrected for the change in employment.

Special measures to balance the milk market

1.4.6. Tough measures are proposed for restoring balance to the market in milk. The market is characterized by continuing increases in milk delivered to dairies (2.4% in 1979, 2% forecast for 1980). The Commission is therefore proposing to maintain its vigorous price policy in the knowledge that price is a central element in determining the level of output and consumption.

The increase of 1.5% in the milk target price breaks down to a 2.8% increase in the intervention price for skimmed-milk powder and a freeze on the intervention price for butter. This proposal is made on the assumption that the Council will adopt measures on the lines of those put forward by the Commission in its November communication to the Council on changes in the common agricultural policy to help balance the markets and streamline expenditure.

The prime purpose of the supplementary coresponsibility levy—proposed at 18 ECU/100 kg of additional milk, or 84% of the target price—is to ensure that in the present critical circumstances the cost of disposal of additional milk in 1980 is borne not by the budget but by the producers concerned.

The Commission has given further study, however, to the situation of small producers in difficult circumstances, in the light of the Council's decision last year to increase the basic co-responsibility levy to 1.5%. The Commission recognizes that there are special circumstances prevailing in less-favoured areas and proposes that producers in those areas be exempted from the basic levy on the first 60 000 litres delivered to the dairy.

The Commission is also proposing to introduce a subsidy for stockfarmers keeping nurse cows on specialized beef units—that is to say using the milk produced by their herds to feed their calves—the subsidy to be 60 ECU per cow for the first 15 cows in the herd. The aim of the scheme is to tilt the economic balance away from milk and in favour of beef production. The size of the premium is equivalent to a 1.5% increase in the beef price.

Financial implications of the Commission's proposals

1.4.7. The Commission estimates that the combined effect of the measures proposed or adopted should be to limit the EAGGF budget for 1980 to 10 370 million EUA, which is comparable to—indeed very slightly less than—the 1979 budget (10 384 million EUA) and 823 million EUA less than the total appropriation in the draft budget for 1980.

The main reduction in expenditure should be supplied by the milk sector: the measures adopted or proposed should reduce expenditure in this sector by 940 million EUA on the 1980 draft budget and by 690 million EUA on the 1979 budget. The budget cuts for 1980 should be achieved by the implementation of the new measures proposed for the co-responsibility levies and the measures adopted or proposed on the disposal of milk products.

Irrespective of the decisions that may be taken, these budget proposals have obviously been drawn up on the basis of the available data and the estimates feasible at the present stage, i.e. with regard to volume of production and market trends in the Community and the world. Any change in these variables would necessitate an adjustment of the estimates.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.2.4.

	_		Amounts fixed			1980/19 proposa		n i l (i l i l i l i l i l i l i l i l i	
	Product	Category of price or amount	1979/1980	1979/1980	1979/1980	Amounts	%	Period of application of proposed prices	
			ECU/tonne	First year!	1978/1979	ECU/tonne	increase		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
	Durum wheat	Target price Single intervention price Aid	277.37 249.12 77.31/ha	5.2 4.8 —	2.3 1.5 1,7	287.77 254.10 77.31/ha	3.75 2.0	1.08.80-31.07.81	
	Common wheat	Target price Common single intervention price	201.42 149.17	3.8 1.9	2.6 1.5	208.97 152.15	3.75 2.0	1.08.80-31.07.81	
		Reference price for bread wheat (minimum quality)	168.06	1.3	1.5	171.00	1.75		
	Barley	Target price Common single intervention	182.89	4.3	2.8	189.75	3.75	1.08.80-31.07.81	
		price	149.17	3.2	1.5	152.15	2.0		
	Rye	Target price Dingle intervention price	192.50 159.82	4.5 3.5	2.7 1.5	5 4 5		1.08.80-31.07.81	
	Maize	Target price Single intervention price	182.89 149.17	4.4 4.0	2.8 1.5	189.75 152.15	3.75 2.0	1.08.80-31.07.81	
	Rice	Target price - husked rice Single intervention price - paddy rice	383.28 218.58	4.9 3.4	5.0 3.3	398.60 228.25	4.27	1.09.80-31.08.81	
Bull.	Sugar	Minimum price for sugarbeet Target price for white sugar Intervention price for white sugar	31.83 432.60 410.90	4.1 4.4 4.4	1.5 1.5	32.31 444.70 422.41	1.5 2.8 2.8	1.07.80-30.06.81	
Bull. EC 2-1980	Olive oil	Production target price Market target price Intervention price Production aid	2 350.40 1 470.90 1 731.90 529.00	4.1 3.3 5.3 1.7	1.5 0.7 1.5	2 420.90 1 758.00 544.90	3 1.5 3.0	1.11.80-31.10.81	

			ı			I		
Вι	Oilseeds	Target price		l				
Bull. EC 2-1980		Colza and rape seed	364.10	3.4	1.5	376.80	3.5	1.07.80-30.06.81
E		Sunflower seed	396.60	4.1	1.5	416.40	5	1.09.80-31.08.81
()		Basic intervention price	252.60	١		250.00		
<u>:-</u>		Colza and rape seed	353.60	3.4	1.5	358.90	1.5	1.07.80-30.06.81
98		Sunflower seed	385.10	4.1	1.5	390.90	1.5	1.09.80-31.08.81
0		Guide price	20100			440.40	4.0	
		Soya seed	394.80	7.0	0.9	410.60	4.0	1.11.80-31.10.81
		Flax seed	397.90	4.3	1.5	411.80	3.5	1.11.80-31.07.81
		Castor seed	515.40	1.5	1.5	530.90	3.0	1.10.80-30.09.81
		Fixed rate aid (per ha)	422.20			127.20	2.0	1 10 00 31 07 01
		Cotton seed	133.38	5.9	1.5	137.38	3.0	1.10.80-31.07.81
	Dried	Fixed-rate aid	6.14	1.7	1.7	6.32	3.0	1.04.80-31.03.81
	fodder	Guide price	126.40	1.5	1.5	131.46	4.0	1.04.80-31.03.81
	Peas and	Activating price	349,70	1.5	1.5	363.90	4.1	
	beans	Minimum price	214.80	1.5	1.5	221.20	3	1.07.80-30.08.81
	F1 1	, , , , , ,			•			
	Flax and	Fixed-rate aid (per ha)	340.55	7.3	1.5	256.00	•	
	hemp	Fibre flax	248.55 225.74	7.2 9.9	1.5 1.5	236.00	3 4	1.08.80-31.07.81
		Hemp	223.74	9.9	1.3	234.77	4	
	Seeds	Aid (per 100 kg)				6		
		Monoecious hemp	12.7	10.7	0	12.90		†
		Fibre flax	17.5	10.4	0	17.80	1.5]
		Seed flax	13.9	6.7	0	14.10		1.07.80-30.06.82
		Grasses	12.1-45.9	3.2-3.4	0-0	2.3-50.3		
		Legumes	4.8-33.9	3.1-4.9	0-0	4.9-36.8		
		Rice	12.1	_	0	12.10		
	Table wine							
	Type RI	Guide price	2.54	4.5	1.6	2.64	3	
	RII	(per degree/hl or per hl	2.54	5.4	1.6	2.62	3	
	RIII	according to type)	39.61	4.4	1.5	40.80	3	16.12.1980-15.12.81
	AI		2.38	4.3	1.3	2.45	3	
	AII		52.79	4.6	1.5	54.37	3	
	AIII		60.28	4.6	1.5	62.09	3	
	Raw	Guide price						
	tobacco	Intervention price	2	2.6	1.5	2	2.3	1.08.80-31.12.80
2	water	intervention price		ł				1

Farm price proposals

	Category of price or amount	19/9/1980 19/9/1980 19/9/1980		1980/19 propos			
Product			1979/1980 1979/1980 1		Amounts	<u>%</u>	Period of application of proposed prices
		ECU/tonne	First year!	1978/1979	ECU/tonne	increase	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Fruit and vegetables	Basic price Buying-in price	1	3.0	1.4	1	3.5	1980-1981
Milk	Target price for milk Intervention price	214.00	5.1	0	217.20	1.5	
	for butter	2 849.70	2.8	0	2 849.70	0	
	for skimmed-milk powder for cheese	1 157.90	8.0		1 190.90	2.8	
	• Grana padana 30 to 60	İ	1				1.04.80-31.03.81
	days • Grana padana six	2 794.30	5.8	0	2 838.70	1.6	
	months • Parmigiano-Reggiano six	3 390.90	5.9	0	3 437.90	1.4	
	months	3 699.80	5.9	0	3 746.80	1.3	
Beef and veal	Guide price for adult bovines* (live weight) Intervention price for adult	1 545.80	5.9	1.5	1 569.00	1.5*	7.04.80-5.04.81
	bovines (live weight)	1 391.20	3.7	1.5	1 412.10	1.5	
Pigmeat	Basic price (slaughter weight)	1 504.46	4.5	1.5	1 549.59	3	1.11.80-31.10.81
Silkworms	Aid per box of silk seed Aid to recognized producer	67.50	9.3	1.5	69.19	2.5	1.04.80-31.03.81
	groups (per box)		 			*	

^{*} The nurse cow premium of 60 ECU is calculated as being equivalent to another 1.5% increase in the guide price.

¹ I.e. annual rate of increase since the introduction of the common price.

² 19 varieties of tobacco, the prices for which apply to the calendar year.

³ Products listed in Annex II to the Council Regulation of 18 May 1972 and periods varying according to product:

Cauliflowers: 1.05.1980 to 30,04.1981 1.06.1980 to 31.05.1981 1.08.1980 to 31.05.1981 Lemons: Apples: 1.06.1980 to 30.11.1980 1.07.1980 ro 30.04.1981 Mandarins: 16.11.1980 to 28.02.1981 Tomatoes: Pears: Peaches: 1.06,1980 to 30.09,1980 Table grapes: 1.08.1980 to 31.10.1980 1.12.1980 to 31.05.1981 Sweet oranges:

⁴ A special price increase of 6.01 ECU/tonne is proposed for bread-making rye.

To be fixed on the basis of the usual criteria and taking into account the proposals contained in document COM(79)710 final of 30 November 1979.

⁶ Aid measures already fixed by Council Regulations (EEC) Nos 1582/79 of 24 July 1979 and 2879/79 of 17 December 1979. The aid also applies to the 1981/82 marketing year. However, for 1981/82 the Commission proposes an increase for the species *Phleum pratense* (7%) and *Trifolium repens*, including giganteum (9%).

NB: Aid for the 1977 hop harvest, in ECU/tonne: for aromatic varieties 453 (+ 9.6%), bitter 345 (+ 17.3%) and others (- 8.75%). Aid for 1978, in ECU/tonne: for aromatic varieties 423 (- 6.6%), bitter 363 (+ 5.2%) and others 484 (- 33.24%).

5. 1980 budget: new Commission proposal

New budget proposal

1.5.1. On 14 February, at Parliament's plenary part-session, the Commission presented the package of new proposals which it had promised with a view to restarting the budgetary procedure broken off on 13 December when Parliament rejected the draft budget for 1980.² The new budget proposal takes over the preliminary draft of 14 June 1979 except for a number of changes mainly concerning the EAGGF Guarantee Section and some items of non-compulsory expenditure.

Containment of agricultural expenditure

1.5.2. The Commission has paid particular attention to the main issues which resulted in the draft budget being rejected—above all the question of containing agricultural expenditure.

The new proposal is based on the Commission's proposals of 29 November last concerning changes in the common agricultural policy (containment of surpluses),³ and the 1980/81 farm price proposals and related measures presented on 7 February.⁴

The budgetary implications of the changes proposed concerning milk, sugar, cereals and beef and veal would amount to a reduction in intervention expenditure in 1980 of 428 million EUA, or 1038 million EUA, averaged out over a whole year.

The price proposals would entail additional expenditure of 57 million EUA in 1980, or around 320 million EUA over 12 months. The Commission's proposal also takes into account certain 'background' factors which have a significant effect on the pattern of expenditure. However, despite the effect on expenditure of certain unfavourable factors

affecting wine and beef and veal, the estimated savings in 1980 are around 421 million EUA in this area.

The overall impact of these factors on the budget in 1980 would be a saving of 793 million EUA compared with the draft budget rejected in December and 813 million EUA compared with the preliminary draft budget which the Commission presented last June.

Strengthening of structural policies

1.5.3. The second issue to which the Commission has addressed itself concerns the cuts made by the Council in non-compulsory expenditure (Regional and Social Funds, industry, energy, research, etc.). The Commission is maintaining the priorities embodied in the preliminary draft budget, in particular the strengthening of structural policies with a view to greater convergence of economies (including the promotion of employment) and a reduction in the dependence on imported energy.

The Commission has focused its attention on those headings in the budget where there is a difference between the respective positions of the two arms of the budgetary authority (Parliament and Council), thinking it preferable to regard as settled those headings on which agreement had been reached. The Commission also took the view that it was possible to leave out appropriations for which the requisite legal basis did not exist, since they could be included in the budget (by meains of a supplementary budget, for example) once

Point 2.3.10.

Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.3.95.

³ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

⁴ Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.7.

the Council has adopted the Regulations in question.

The Commission is proposing that the Regional Fund appropriations be kept at the level proposed in the preliminary draft (1 200 million EUA in total appropriations for commitments; the total appropriations for payments required have been reassessed and a reduction of 200 million EUA is proposed).

The appropriations for commitment which the Commission is proposing for the Social Fund are slightly lower than the total included in the preliminary draft (931 million EUA compared with 1 000 million), but they constitute a considerable increase (55 million EUA) over the amount agreed on by the Council on second reading. The Commission is proposing the amount agreed on by Parliament (385 million EUA) for the appropriations for payment. The Commission is also proposing the inclusion of 30 million EUA in Chapter 54 as a contribution to the ECSC, in view of the urgent need for temporary measures to offset the social consequences of restructuring in the steel industry.

The Commission is proposing that all the energy policy measures satisfying normal implementation requirements, e.g. by virtue of having a legal basis, should be allocated the appropriations agreed on by Parliament. Pending the presentation of an overall plan to encourage investment in the coal industry, the Commission is proposing to increase the allocation for demonstration projects to 66 million EUA (commitments), chiefly in order to step up activities in coal gasification and liquefaction.

As regards research, the Commission's proposal anticipates the Council decision on the JRC's programme for 1980-84 and the fusion programme.

The appropriations which the Commission is proposing for development aid broadly coincide with the amounts agreed on by Parliament.

All in all, the new proposals for non-compulsory expenditure show a 25% increase over 1979 (compared with 42% in the initial preliminary draft and 13.3% in the Council draft, the latter figure being the maximum rate).

Bringing the EDF and borrowing/lending operations into the budget

1.5.4. The Commission's proposals also examine the question of bringing the European Development Fund and borrowing-/lending operations into the budget. Although the instruments submitted to the Member States for ratification make no provision for the inclusion of the fifth EDF in the budget, the Commission is not abandoning the principle that the EDF should be included, and it has set aside Chapters 90 and 91 for the sixth Fund. In the meantime the Commission has proposed practical arrangements to enable Parliament to be involved as fully as possible in the EDF financing and control procedures. As far as the inclusion of borrowing and lehding operations in the budget is concerned, the Commission is abiding by its original proposal to create a Part Two of the general budget for this purpose.

Overall impact of the new proposals

1.5.5. With due regard in particular for the savings on agricultural expenditure and the expected increase in revenue from customs



duties, the new total for the expenditure to be financed from VAT own resources brings the VAT rate down to 0.68% (as against 0.77% after the Council's second reading of the draft budget).

The new totals proposed by the Commission for 1980 are 16 441.7 million EUA in total appropriations for commitments and 14 712.3 millions EUA in total appropriations for payments.

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PART TWO

ACTIVITIES IN FEBRUARY 1980

1. Building the Community

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary union

Interest subsidies for structural loans

2.1.1. In February the European Investment Bank granted Ireland five loans1 carrying a 3% interest subsidy, in accordance with the arrangements agreed when Ireland joined the European Monetary System. On 3 August 1979 the Council had adopted a Regulation² under which such interest subsidies could be applied to certain loans granted from the EIB's own resources or from those of the New Community Instrument during a period of five years (1979-83) in the less prosperous countries participating fully in the European Monetary System (Ireland and Italy have been so designated). These subsidized loans must be concentrated on infrastructure projects which help to resolve the main structural problems of the countries concerned, to reduce regional disparities and to improve the employment situation. The Commission is responsible for deciding which investment projects are eligible for interest subsidies.

Economic situation

Economic situation and outlook in the Community

2.1.2. On 11 February the Council discussed the economic situation and outlook in the Community on the basis of a statement by Mr Ortoli.

While activity had been brisker than expected in 1979, particularly in the latter months of

the year, certain indicators suggested that this revival of activity was unlikely to continue in 1980. Although situations varied from country to country, the most probable likelihood for the Community as a whole was a loss of momentum in economic activity.

Mr Ortoli argued that the economic policy guidelines adopted by the Council in December³ should still be followed. However, he stressed that the Community should be prepared to act in the event of too sharp a fall in economic activity; hence the need for a constant watch to be kept on possible developents in each of the Member States, given that national situations were different.

Monetary Committee

2.1.3. The Monetary Committee held its 258th meeting in Brussels on 25 and 26 February, with Mr Haberer in the chair. It continued its discussions on the future European Monetary Fund, reviewed the problems involved in the convergence of monetary policies and debated international monetary problems in preparation for the next meeting of the IMF's Interim Committee.

Economic Policy Committee

- 2.1.4. The Economic Policy Committee held its 89th, 90th and 91st meetings in Brussels in February:
- (i) On 1 February it met in its full composition and elected its officers for 1980-81: Mr

Point 2.3.46.

² OJ L 200 of 8.8.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.3; Bull. EC 10-1979, points 2.1.3 and 2.1.4.

Rutten was elected Chairman, Mr Wagner 'budgets' Vice-Chairman, Mr Cortesse 'short-term policy' Vice-Chairman and Mr Maldague 'medium-term policy' Vice-Chairman. The Committee then discussed its work programme and examined medium-term economic policy problems, on the basis of work carried out by the Committee in its 'medium-term' composition, with a view to preparing the preliminary draft fifth programme.

- (ii) On 13 February the Committee met in its reduced 'budgets' composition, with Mr Wagner in the chair, and reviewed the 1979 budget outturns and the prospects for 1980.
- (iii) On 20 February the Committee met in its reduced 'short-term policy' composition, with Mr Cortesse in the chair; in preparation for the Council's next examination of the economic situation, the Committee considered the economic outlook for 1980 and the convergence of economic policies in the context of the European Monetary System.

Internal market and industrial affairs

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

Certification procedure for products originating in non-member countries

2.1.5. On 11 February the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on a

special Community certification procedure for products originating in non-member countries.¹

This proposal, which follows up a number of decisions dealing with the application in the Community of the GATT Standards Code (the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade), lays down the conditions for access by products originating in non-member countries to Community certification procedures. The proposed procedure will make it possible to verify accurately whether the applicant is technically capable of fulfilling his obligations and the extent to which the nonmember country has correctly fulfilled its obligations under the GATT rules. Once a certificate has been obtained, the product will be able to move freely throughout the Community without additional checks being imposed by any Member State.

Industrial products

2.1.6. On 18 February the Commission sent the Council a proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants and amending the Council Directive of 22 November 1973.³

The Directive would prevent a detergent being placed on the market if the level of biodegradability of the non-ionic surfactants

OJ C 54 of 4.3.1980.

² Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.3.9.

³ OJ L 347 of 17.12.1973.

it contains is less than 80%; test methods would be those used by OECD, Germany, France or the United Kingdom.

The proposal also supplements the 1973 Directive on detergents by granting temporary exemption for certain uses of non-ionic surfactants, and it provides for a procedure for the adaptation of the detergents directives to technical progress.

- 2.1.7. On 28 February the Commission approved three proposals for Council Directives relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles. They concern:
- (i) safety belts and restraint systems: amendment of the Council Directive of 28 June 1977;¹
- (ii) anchorages for safety belts: amendment of the Council Directive of 18 December 1975;² and
- (iii) strength of seats and of their anchorages: amendment of the Council Directive of 22 July 1974.³

Industry

Restructuring and conversion

- 2.1.8. On 14 February Parliament gave its opinion on two Commission proposals of 16 January 1979 for Council Decisions relating to Community aid for restructuring or conversion investments in shipbuilding and textiles (particularly the man-made fibres industry).
- 2.1.9. The Economic and Social Committee, meeting on 27 and 28 February, gave its opinion on the Commission's report on some structural aspects of growth.

Steel

Specific aids to the steel industry

2.1.10. Acting under the anti-crisis plan, on 1 February 1980 the Commission took a Decision adopting Community rules for specific aids to the steel industry.

Industrial loans

2.1.11. The Commission has decided to grant a LFR 4000 million loan to ARBED - SA, Luxembourg, under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, to help finance the construction of a new beam and medium-section mill at the Esch-Belval works and the improvement of the finishing stands in the Grey works at Differdange and the '330' works at Esch-Schifflange.

Textiles

2.1.12. On 14 February Commission officials met representatives of Comitextil and of the European Clothing Manufacturers' Association as part of the regular consultations between the Commission and trade associations in the textile and clothing industries. The main topic discussed was the

OJ L 220 of 29.8.1977; Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.1.10.

² OJ L 24 of 30.1.1976.

OJ L 221 of 12.8.1974.

⁴ Point 2.3.15; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.27.

[•] Point 2.3.27.

⁷ Twelfth General Report, point 99.

OJ L 29 of 6.2.1980.

^{&#}x27; Point 2.1.22.

marking of the country of origin on textile products; a thoroughgoing exchange of views took place with a view to a forthcoming Commission communication to the Council. Certain problems in the textile industry linked with the enlargement of the Community were also aired.

Customs union

Common Customs Tariff

Nomenclature

2.1.13. On 11 and 27 February the Commission adopted two Regulations whose purpose is to ensure uniform implementation of the Common Customs Tariff nomenclature, concerning the classification of articles of velvet under CCT subheading 59.08¹ and

rectangular sheets of paper resulting from the cutting to size of paper under CCT subheading 48.01 F.²

Tariff measures

Quotas

2.1.14. Pursuant to the agreements concluded by the EEC with the ACP States and the overseas countries and territories, the Council adopted a number of Regulations on 18 February opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for the products listed in Table 3 and originating in those countries.³ The relevant duties have been suspended, either totally or partially, for varying periods:

Table 3 — 1980 tariff quotas

Description of goods	Quota volume	Quota duty	Period
Originating in the OCT			
Rum, arrack and tafia	27 670 hl of pure alcohol	exemption	1.3-30.6.1980
Originating in the ACP States	i		
Rum, arrack and tafia	59 433 hl of pure alcohol	exemption	1.3-30.6.1980
Tomatoes, fresh or chilled	727 t	4.4% with a minimum charge of 0.8 EUA	1.3-30.4.1980

Bull. EC 2-1980

^{&#}x27; OJ L 35 of 12.2.1980.

² OJ L 56 of 29.2.1980.

³ OJ L 55 of 28.2.1980.

Community surveillance of imports

February the Council *2.1.15.* On 18 adopted a Regulation establishing ceilings and Community surveillance for imports of carrots and onions originating in the ACP States, for specific periods in 1980.1

2.1.16. On 15 February Parliament delivered its opinion² on the Commission proposal, transmitted to the Council on 12 September 1979, amending for the second time the Regulation on Community transit.3

Competition

Restrictive practices, mergers and dominant positions: specific cases

Distribution

Collusive pricing

2.1.17. On 8 February the Commission took a Decision under Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty requiring the Bundesverband Deutscher Stahlhandel e.V., an association embracing virtually all German steel stockholders, to terminate concerted practices in relation to the fixing of ex-stock selling prices for rolled products. This class of transaction embraces all sales from stock of products held at stockholders' depots; these sales account for approximately one-third of all sales of steel products on the German market.

In essence, the offending practices involve compilation of detailed costing schedules and distribution of the major stockholding firms' new price lists to all members of the association before they become operative. This tends to encourage a concerted pricing policy by member firms.

In its Decision the Commission indicates the rules to be observed by associations of steel stockholders in connection with technical assistance to members in the matter of costing and information. The point is that the Commission can allow such associations to help small and medium-sized firms to calculate their costs accurately and fix rational selling prices. But this must not lead to a uniform pricing policy.

Mergers

Joint control of a steel firm authorized

2.1.18. On 25 February the Commission authorized the establishment of joint control over the Belgian steel company ALZ NV, Genk, under Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty. This company is a producer of stainless steel cold rolled sheets, and hitherto its principal shareholder has been Cockerill SA, Seraing.

As part of the plans for restructuring the Belgian steel industry the capital of ALZ will be increased, with a new Belgian State holding and an additional holding by an existing minority shareholder, Kempense Investeringsvennootschap NV (KIV). Cockerill will transfer its shareholding in ALZ to the German steel producer Klöckner Werke AG, Duisburg, in exchange for a minority shareholding in Klöckner. The transaction will

² Point 2.3.16; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980. ³ OJ C 241 of 26.4.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.23.

Competition Competition

give Klöckner, the Belgian State and KIV joint control over ALZ, with 48, 24 and 28% respectively of the enlarged share capital.

The transaction presents no problems from the competition point of view. Klöckner has not hitherto been a producer of stainless cold rolled sheet, so that the number of producers from whom consumers can make a choice is not reduced. ALZ makes about 7% of Community output of this product, and has to complete with larger integrated producers in France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

State aids

Regional aids

Federal Republic of Germany

2.1.19. On 1 February the Commission reacted to a series of changes which the Land Government of North-Rhine Westphalia is planning to make to its regional economic aid programme. The changes, which were notified to the Commission as required by Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty, chiefly consist of extending the assisted areas.

Noting that in recent years unemployment in these areas has been worse than the national average and that the rates of aid given remain fairly low, the Commission did not oppose the changes. But it informed the Federal Government that before the end of the year it would be reviewing the social and economic situation of the relevant areas on the basis of a report on the operation of the aid scheme to be submitted by the Land Government. The Commission also reserved its final decision on the amendments, since it wishes first to scrutinize the whole of North-Rhine Westphalia's regional aid programme.

France

2.1.20. On 13 February the Commission approved the French Government's decision, notified to it pursuant to Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty, to extend the area assisted by the Fonds Spécial d'Adaptation Industrielle to cover the Saint Etienne employment basin in the department of Loire.

The Fund, which began operating at the beginning of 1979 and was temporarily accepted by the Commission subject to certain conditions, is to encourage the conversion of areas whose economies are heavily dependent on iron and steel, shipbuilding and possibly textiles. The Commission considered that the social and economic situation in the Saint Etienne employment basin and the decline in the steel and textile industries there warranted the extension of the Fund's catchment area, but it informed the French Government that a new socio-economic analysis would be necessary if assistance from the Fund was to be extended before 31 December 1980. It also reminded the French Government that it must confine assistance to those areas of the Loire department that are assisted under the regional development premium scheme at the maximum rate.2

United Kingdom

2.1.21. The Commission authorized the British Government to implement changes

39 Bull, EC 2-1980

Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.1.26. Bull. EC 12-1976, point 2.1.32.

which it wished to make to its main regional aid scheme;¹ these had been notified as required by Article 93(3). The main changes consist of upgrading the assisted areas at Corby, East Midlands, and Shotton, Wales, Corby having been scheduled as an assisted area in mid-1979 in view of the impending closure of the steel works there. The upgrading involves an increase in the amount of aid given and, in the case of Corby, the aid granted will exceed the Community maximum rate determined by the 1979 principles of coordination.²

Approving the changes, the Commission observed that the Corby and Shotton areas, both of which constitute labour markets, suffer from heavier unemployment than the national or Community averages and per capita incomes are below the Community average. Moreover, the local economies are dominated by steel works that are scheduled for closure, and further heavy unemployment is imminent (20% and 18% of the labour force respectively).

The Commission also considered that, in view of the general reductions in the intensity of aid announced by the British Government for all assisted areas in July 1979,² the excess over the Community maximum rate in Corby would only be slight. The Commission accordingly gave an exception from the principles of coordination.

Industry aids

Steel

2.1.22. On 1 February the Commission adopted a Decision establishing Community rules for specific aids to the steel industry.³

The purpose of the Decision, which received the Council's unanimous assent on 18 December 1979,4 is to establish a framework ensuring that the state aids which are required for the restructuring of the industry in order to enable it to overcome the present crisis do not unduly distort competition.

The Decision establishes rules for aids to support investment, for aids to defray the costs of closure, for aid to facilitate continued operation during the implementation of a restructuring programme and for emergency aids to rescue undertakings. The appraisal procedures provided for in the Decision are similar to those of the EEC Treaty. The Decision will be in force until the end of 1981.

Although the Decision only applies to specific aids, the Council and the Commission agreed that, in the present circumstances of the steel industry, all aids, whatever their form or origin, must be subject to a coherent Community discipline. The Council took note that the Commission would use its powers under Article 67 of the ECSC Treaty and Articles 92 and 93 of the EEC Treaty to ensure that the principles and procedures applying to specific aids would also be applied in the case of general and regional aids. At the same time as it adopted the Decision the Commission accordingly requested Member States to notify it in advance of all cases of application to the steel industry of general and regional aid systems.

Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.30.

² OJ C 31 of 3.2.1979.

³ OJ L 29 of 6.2.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.49.

Export aids

Netherlands

2.1.23. On 19 February the Commission decided to terminate the procedure under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty which it had commenced in October¹ concerning the application in trade within the Community of an arrangement (Exportfinancieringsarrangement) between the Dutch central bank and the commercial banks.

Under the arrangement the commercial banks were to be given certain facilities to help them finance export business at a rate of interest below the ordinary commercial rate; in the Commission's view this constituted a form of aid caught by Article 92(1) of the EEC Treaty.

As the Dutch Government has undertaken to see that the arrangement is finally terminated, the Commission has now been able to close the procedure.

Financial institutions and taxation

Financial institutions

Insurance

Credit insurance

2.1.24. At its plenary session on 27 and 28 February the Economic and Social Committee endorsed² the Commission proposal³ of 13 September 1979 to amend a provision of the Council Directive of 24 July 1973 on coordination of the taking-up and pursuit of

the business of direct insurance other than life assurance. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to abolish the principle of specialization in credit insurance in the Federal Republic of Germany and to replace it by stricter financial requirements for the companies concerned.

Insurance contracts

2.1.25. At its 27-28 February plenary session the Economic and Social Committee delivered an opinion² on the Commission proposal⁵ of 10 July 1979 for a Council Directive on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to insurance contracts.

Taxation

Indirect taxes

Application of the EEC Treaty in respect of excise duties on certain alcoholic beverages

Significance and implications of judgments by the Court of Justice

2.1.26. The differences between Member States in the structures of their excise duties

¹ Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.34.

² Points 2.3.28 and 2.3.29.

³ OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point

^{2.1.32.} OJ L 228 of 16.8.1973; Bull. EC 7/8-1973, point

⁵ OJ C 190 of 28.7.1979; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.39.

on certain alcoholic beverages will have to be eradicated. This is the upshot of five judgments given by the Court of Justice on 27 February at the conclusion of proceedings instituted by the Commission against five Member States in 1978² and 1979.³

The main problems involved in the harmonization of excise duties in this field had been the subject of proposals put up to the Council by the Commission in 1972,4 but such scant progress was made in examining them that the Council suspended its deliberations at the end of 1974.

In an attempt to break the deadlock, the Commission sent to the Council on 26 June 1979 a Communication⁵ setting out compromise solutions to the main issues of principle raised by its 1972 proposals (concerning beer, wine and spirits); however, at its meeting on 16 October 1979 the Council was unable to make any tangible progress, as the Member States' delegations were awaiting the outcome of the five cases pending before the Court on infringements of Article 95 of the EEC Treaty. The Court's judgments in these five cases thus add a new important dimension to the matter.

Three of the cases concerned the differential taxation applied in France (Case 168/78), Italy (Case 169/78) and Denmark (Case 171/78) in respect of home-produced spirits, to the detriment of imported spirits. The Commission had also instituted proceedings against the United Kingdom (Case 170/78) with a view to establishing that a higher excise duty was charged in that country on light wines made from fresh grapes than on beer, which was thus afforded indirect protection. Lastly, the Commission challenged the Irish legislation whereby the time limits for payment of excise duties depend on whether the beverages in question are homeproduced or imported from other Member States (Case 55/79).

France, Italy and Denmark

2.1.27. In the first three cases, concerning differential taxation of spirits, the Court of Justice agreed with the Commission that, whatever their special characteristics, all the products in question have common generic features, even though some of them may present specific properties to a degree that depends on the raw materials and production processes.

The Court drew two conclusions:

- First, there is an undetermined number of beverages that ought to be treated as 'similar products' within the meaning of the first paragraph of Article 95.
- Second, even where a sufficient degree of similarity between the products concerned could not be established, all spirits have common features which are sufficiently pronounced for there to be in all cases a competitive relationship that is at least partial or potential. The second paragraph of Article 95 of the EEC Treaty thus becomes relevant whenever the degree of similarity between specific kinds of spirits is in doubt or challenged.

Article 95 taken in its entirety, is therefore applicable to all the products concerned without distinction.

Accordingly, the Court held that, with regard to products imported from the other Member

Point 2.3.24.

OJ C 214 of 8.9.1978; Bull. EC 7/8-1978, points 2.3.51 to 2.3.54.

Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.41.

OJ C 43 of 29.4.1972.

Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.39. Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.41.

States, France, Italy and Denmark had failed to fulfil their obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty and must, therefore, apply the same level of taxation to both home-produced and imported spirits.

United Kingdom

- 2.1.28. In the case concerning the United Kingdom (170/78) the Court upheld the Commission's view that:
- wine and beer are to some extent substitutable;
- in the United Kingdom the tax burden on wine is greater than that on beer;
- the development of the two tax systems in question reveals a protective leaning with respect to wine imported into the United Kingdom;
- the proper taxation relationship between wine and beer should be based on alcoholic strength by volume.

The Court did not, however, give its final judgment; it called on the Commission and the United Kingdom to re-examine the subject matter of the proceedings in the light of the legal considerations set out above and to report to it before 31 December on the solution to the conflict worked out by them or, failing that, on their respective positions, taking into account the points of law stated in the judgment.

Ireland

2.1.29. In Case 55/79 the Court held that Ireland had failed to fulfil its obligations under the first paragraph of Article 95 of the Treaty by having introduced tax provisions which had the effect of affording Irish producers preferential treatment with regard to

the time limits for the payment of excise duties, to the detriment of persons importing the same products from other Member States.

Implications of these judgments for tax harmonization

2.1.30 The Court's findings not only concur with the arguments put forward by the Commission in the five cases but also add considerable weight to the compromise suggested in June 1979. In particular, the observations made in the interlocutory judgment concerning the United Kingdom are a key element of the overall compromise. By seeking to establish an appropriate relationship in the United Kingdom between the burden of excise duties on wine and that on beer, the Court expressly underscored the importance of this relationship for the Community as a whole.

Tax avoidance

Proposal to extend the system of mutual assistance to other countries

2.1.31. The Commission acted upon the requests from Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden to participate in the system of mutual assistance now operating between Member States' tax authorities in the fields of direct taxation and value added tax. It asked the Council on 25 February for authorization to open negotiations with these Nordic countries for the purpose of concluding separate conventions associating them with the Community system. Measures to combat international tax evasion and avoidance will be all

¹ OJ L 336 27.12.1977; OJ L 331 of 27.12.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.39; Bull. 12-1979, point 2.1.55.

the more effective as the system is extended to include the tax authorities in non-member countries.

Employment and social policy

Employment

Standing Committee on Employment

2.1.32. The Standing Committee on Employment held its seventeenth meeting in Brussels on 26 February, with Mr Vincenzo Scotti, the Italian Minister of Labour and Social Security, in the chair. The Commission was represented by Vice-President Vredeling and Mr Davignon. The discussions centred on the Commission's Communication on employment in the light of the new microelectronic technology¹ and a statement by Mr Vredeling on progress made concerning the reorganization of working time.

Employment and the new micro-electronic technology

2.1.33. After the discussions on the Commission's Communication, which all sides considered to be excellent, the Chairman made the following statement:

'In view of the current employment situation and its foreseeable trend over the coming months, the basic concern underlying the entire discussion was to do everything to ensure that the new microelectronic technology did not worsen employment but increased the number of jobs available and improved their quality...

'The Committee noted that this was the first time that it had debated this topic of paramount importance, which it ought to consider further.'

Measures to be taken

2.1.34. 'The Committee ... emphasized that an economic policy should be pursued which would encourage growth and the creation of jobs, combat inflation and at the same time promote active policies likely to contribute to the necessary adjustments in the affected regions and sectors ... As the new technology entailed a radical process of converting a major part of European industry, it was vital that this process be coordinated at Community level... Special importance should be attached to the need to make the new technology available in good time for European industry, bearing in mind that the programmes of the main producers in competition at world level were to a large extent supported by massive official aid...

'There were convergent views on the fact that [the introduction of new technology into the production process] should be coupled with active participation [by the two sides of industry] in order to ensure appropriate forms of information and consultation of workers by employers or forms of negotiation between these parties. Such systems could, moreover, be developed and improved in the light of the... special situations of the Member States. The Commission would take the necessary steps to this effect, within the framework of its responsibilities.

'It was also noted that the specific responsibilities of public authorities in the area of adaptation of local and regional labour market policies should be taken further through forward management of employment, in which the representatives of employers and workers should be more closely associated, with a view to increasing reemployment possibilities to allow for losses of jobs as a result of the new technology.

With more particular reference to employment policies, the discussion made it clear that vocational training, including linked work and training, should be based on new guidelines enabling all workers to acquire greater adaptability throughout their working life and enabling specialists... to obtain appropriate qualifications... It would also be necessary to improve the links bet-

¹ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.23.

ween general education and training. In this context, general technical education would have to be adapted to the changes... in society.

'It was pointed out that the work to be undertaken in pursuance of the Council Resolution on the reorganization of working time should take into account the possible effects on employment of the new technology. The workers' representatives took the view that the introduction of the new technology would increase the need for a reduction in working hours.

'It was also felt that it would be essential to ensure that the new technology contributed to improving the quality of life..., notably by placing the possibilities [it] offered at the service of the least-favoured categories... The new technology... could facilitate the employment... of women in jobs which required the highest qualifications.

'Furthermore, in order to prevent the new technology from having adverse effects on the standard of living of workers, especially those whom it was particularly difficult to employ or re-employ, social security arrangements should be adjusted.'

Means of giving effect to the measures proposed

2.1.35. 'In view of the complexity and dimension of [these] problems..., and the interdependence of economic, industrial and social policies, it would be vital to coordinate action taken...

'It would be advisable to strengthen or introduce, at national level and... at Community level, monitoring mechanisms, with which the public authorities and the representatives of employers and workers should be associated. [Their] aim would be the identification of trends and needs in the field of employment. In this connection, the Commission stated its intention of creating a European pool of studies and analyses which would be made available to all interested parties. A thorough knowledge of the situation and how it was developing was a prerequisite for labour market management based on forward planning.

'If job losses were to be avoided, the appropriate authorities at national and Community level would have to ensure that existing financial instruments were employed in an efficient and coordinated manner to facilitate the necessary policy adjustments—especially in the field of vocational training...'

The Committee considered that these conclusions represented a preliminary approach; it agreed to devote a further meeting to the subject in due course to evaluate the results of the measures envisaged and draw up new guidelines for future work.

Reorganization of working time

2.1.36. The Committee took note of a statement by Vice-President Vredeling on progress made in the Commission's work on the reorganization of working time.

Free movement of workers

2.1.37. The Technical Committee on Free Movement of Workers met in Brussels on 20 February for an exchange of views on the conclusions adopted by the Council on 22 November 1979¹ relating to the Commission Communication on the coordination of migration policies toward non-member countries.²

The Committee also examined the impact of the accession of Spain and Portugal on labour movements in the enlarged Community and the implementation of the provisions on free movement between Greece and the Community in view of the special procedures and other provisions in effect at national level.

During a debate on Member States' policies with regard to problems posed by second-generation immigrants, the Committee stressed the need to take measures at both national and Community level.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.43.

² Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.43.

European Social Fund

2.1.38. The Social Fund Committee held a plenary meeting in Brussels on 14 and 15 February, during which it examined 165 applications for Fund assistance from the Member States. The Committee also gave its opinion on 27 draft studies and pilot schemes.

Health and safety

Health protection

2.1.39. On 15 February Parliament gave its opinion on the Commission proposal of 6 March 1979 for a Council Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work.

Regional policy

Coordination and programmes

Regional Policy Committee

2.1.40. The Regional Policy Committee met on 14 and 15 February. It continued its study of the efficiency of regional aids, discussed the role of the services sector in regional development and agreed to intensify research into this question. The Committee heard an account of Community environment policy and of the links between regional and environment policies, and adopted its programme for 1980.

Environment and consumers

Environment

Prevention and reduction of pollution and nuisances

Air pollution

2.1.41. Problems arising from the provisional implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution³—signed by the Community on 14 November 1979⁴—figured prominently among the matters discussed by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems at their eighth annual session, held in Geneva on 18-22 February.⁵

2.1.42. On 15 February Parliament gave its opinion on the Commission proposal, sent to the Council on 11 September, for the conclusion by the Community of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

Chemicals

2.1.43. A further meeting with representatives of the Member States was held in Brussels on 31 January and 1 February in connection with the negotiations between the Com-

Point 2.3.16; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

² OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

³ OJ C 281 of 10.11.1979.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1979, points 2.1.60 and 2.2.28.

Point 2.2.36.

^{&#}x27; Point 2.3.16; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

⁷ OJ C 281 of 10.11.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979; point 2.1.42.

^a The previous meeting was held in November 1979: Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.1.62.

mission and the United States on the Toxic Substances Control Act. The object of the meeting was to review the progress of the current discussions with the US authorities on ways of harmonizing US and Community legislation on toxic chemical substances and to study the next steps to be taken, particularly within the OECD. The advisability of concluding an international agreement on this subject was also considered.

2.1.44. On 18 February the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Directive on methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants.1

Consumers

Public hearing on consumers programme

2.1.45. On 26 and 27 February Parliament organized a public hearing in Dublin on the draft second action programme of the European Communities with regard to consumers, transmitted by the Commission to the Council on 27 Iune 1979.2

This public hearing, the first of its kind, was attended by representatives of consumer organizations and the economic and commercial interests involved, and was officially opened by Mr Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister. In his introductory remarks Mr Burke, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for consumer affairs, reminded those present of the major features of the action programme and stressed the indispensable role of consumers within the economic system. This meeting provided an opportunity to evaluate progress already made at Community level in promoting the interests of consumers, examine the advisability of adopting codes of conduct as an alternative or complement to Community legislation, consider problems relating to after-sales service and discuss Community policy as regards the comparison of consumer product prices.

Information, education and representation of consumers

Consumers' Consultative Committee

2.1.46. On 21 February the Consumers' Consultative Committee (CCC) adopted an opinion on a draft Directive on tradesmarks. The Committee asked for certification marks, assignment and consumer representation at the Trademark Office to be included within the scope of the Directive.

The CCC also adopted an opinion on the amended Commission proposal on product liability.3 The CCC was gratified to note that the Commission had retained its proposals on development risks, despite strong outside pressure. However, the Committee called for better protection for accident victims. It was opposed to the exclusion of agricultural and craft products and to the limits set on compensation—as regards both time and the amounts involved.

Finally, the CCC adopted its programme for 1980, which covers, among other things: prices and services, dialogue with manufacturers, agricultural policy, the consumption of medicines, insurance, advertising, and distribution and marketing structures.

47 Bull. EC 2-1980

Point 2.1.6.

² OJ C 218 of 30.8.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, points

^{1.5.1.}to 1.5.7; Supplement 4/79 — Bull. EC.
OJ C 271 of 26.10.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point

Agriculture Agriculture

Agriculture

2.1.47. Agricultural problems bulked large among the Community's preoccupations during the month of February. The most important of these were the agricultural prices for the 1980/81 marketing year (Commission proposals and first discussions in the Council), the developments in the 'sheepmeat affair' and the question of exports of agricultural products to the USSR.

Agricultural prices for 1980/81

2.1.48. On 18 February the Council held a first exchange of views on the proposals presented by the Commission on 7 February concerning the fixing of prices of certain agricultural products for 1980/81 and related measures.1 It examined more particularly the problems relating to sugar and milk products but failed to reach agreement on the proposed measures at that stage of the discussion.2 These proposals were also the subject of a debate in Parliament on 12 February,3 when Mr Gundelach formally presented them.

Sheepmeat

2.1.49. In the sheepmeat affair there are two closely related sticking points, namely the proposal for a Regulation on the common organization of the market in this sector and the problems connected with the maintenance by France of measures relating to the importation of sheepmeat from the United Kingdom. On 18 February the Council agreed to speed up its work on the first point. With regard to the second, the Commission, along with the proceeding concerning the infringement of Article 171 of the Treaty

which it brought before the Court of Justice in January, addressed a reasoned opinion to France on 8 February requesting it to lift the import charges which it is applying. If France does not comply, the Commission could again refer the matter to the Court, possibly applying for the adoption of interim measures.6

Exports of agricultural products to the USSR

2.1.50. Following the conclusions reached by the Council on 15 January,7 the Commission took a number of measures' designed to prevent Community exports of agricultural products from replacing US supplies to the USSR. These measures were the subject of a report to the Council on 15 February. In addition, on 19 February the Commission adopted a Regulation introducing with regard to exports to the USSR and other East European countries a tendering procedure for selling butter from public storage.' This makes it possible to keep a better check on exports.

2.1.51. In a resolution adopted on 15 February, Parliament 'calls upon the Commission to impose an immediate embargo on all sales of surplus commodities to Russia involving subsidies'.10

48 Bull. EC 2-1980

Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.7; OJ C 63 of 24.3.1980.

Nor was agreement reached at the following meeting (3-4 March).

Point 2.3.9; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

OJ C 93 of 18.4.1978; Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.1.53. OJ C 25 of 1.2.1980; Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.43.

This was in fact done at the beginning of March.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 1.1.5.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.36.

OJ L 46 of 21.2.1980.

OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Economic aspects of the common agricultural policy

General guidelines

Changes in the common agricultural policy

2.1.52. On 11 February the Council meeting of Economics and Finance Ministers discussed the Commission's proposals of December 1979 for the reorganization of the common agricultural policy by improving the balance of markets and streamlining expenditure. Following its discussions it adopted conclusions, among which the following:

'The Council approved the Commission's objective of resolving the specific problems arising, in the interests of safeguarding the common agricultural policy and its economic and social merits, while respecting its principles and taking account of current budgetary difficulties. This goal presupposed substantial savings and a prudent price policy.

The Council considered it to be desirable that the discussions on the Commission's proposals should be guided by the following principles:

An improvement of the common agricultural policy with the aim of considerably reducing the growth rate of agricultural expenditure was absolutely essential also in order to ensure that the 1% own resources limit was not exceeded, having regard to the resources required for other policies.

Subject to the examination of the assessment announced by the Commission of the foreseeable development of market organization expenditure in the event of its proposals being implemented and taking growth in expenditure over the last few years as a basis, it would be necessary to take measures leading to substantial savings, reaching the order of magnitude proposed by the Commission.

In this connection, the Council was of the opinion that the measures should be directed particularly at surplus products; it requested the Commission to see whether further savings might be achieved by means of the more efficient use of the market organization instruments.'

2.1.53. On 18 February the Council (Ministers of Agriculture) examined the Commission proposals for the coming marketing year 'also taking into account its previous proposals on changes in the common agricultural policy to help balance markets and streamline expenditure', hence the special attention which it paid to sugar and milk products.

2.1.54. The proposed changes in the common agricultural policy were the subject of an opinion of the Economic and Social Committee, which met in plenary session² on 27 and 28 February.

Agri-monetary measures

2.1.55. On 13 February the Commission introduced transitional measures in the seeds sector with the object of maintaining the aid expressed in national currency unchanged following the restatement of the aid, originally expressed in u.a., in terms of the ECU.³

2.1.56. On 28 February the Commission adopted a Regulation on the non-application of monetary compensatory amounts to products undergoing certain forms of handling in a Member State and being returned thereafter to the Member State of dispatch.⁴

OJ C 60 of 10.3.1980; Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.10.

² Points 2.3.30 to 2.3.36.

OJ L 37 of 14.2.1980.

⁴ OJ L 56 of 29.2.1980.

Prices and markets

Report on the Situation on the Agricultural Markets

- 2.1.57. On 13 February the Commission transmitted to the Council its 1979 Report on the Situation on the Agricultural Markets. This document supplements, particularly in respect of statistical data, the Report on the Agricultural Situation in the Community published in January.1 It also updates Community production prospects for the 1979/80 marketing year, laying down the following general lines:
- (i) arable crops: the levels will be lower than in 1978, while exceptionally high values will be obtained;
- feedingstuffs: availabilities seem good;
- (iii) livestock products: fresh increases in the production of milk and milk products, pigmeat and beef and veal;
- (iv) specialized crops: wine production higher than the average, no major change in the other products.

Market organizations

Adjustment of the basic regulations

Wine

2.1.58. On 18 February the Council formally adopted2 the nine Regulations to which it had agreed in principle on 10 and 11 December 1979.3

The Council also examined the proposal for a Regulation laying down general rules relating to the distillation of table wine.4 It set the limits to the quantities to be distilled and the minimum purchase price and the aid to be granted according to the product obtained.

Olive oil

2.1.59. On 26 February the Commission sent to the Council a proposals for a Regulation amending the Regulation of 22 September 19666 with regard mainly to the management of the consumption and production aid systems. For consumption aid, the trade organizations representing the beneficiaries should be entrusted with the task of preparing the applications for aid and presenting them to the administrative authorities concerned. As regards production aid, certain tasks should be entrusted to the producer groups and associations.

On the occasion of this amendment of the 1966 Regulation it is proposed that the scope of the Regulation of 19 June 19787 (producer groups and associations thereof) be extended to include the olive oil sector in France.

Market situation: sectoral measures

Beef and veal

2.1.60. With regard to beef and veal the Commission adopted on 8 February a Regu-

The Agricultural Situation in the Community, 1979 Report (published in conjunction with the Thirteenth General Report on the Activities of the European Communities); Bull. EC 12-1979, points 1.4.1 to 1.4.7.

OJ L 57 of 29.6.1980.

Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.105.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.38. OJ C 58 of 8.3.1980.

OJ 172 of 30.9.1966. OJ L 166 of 23.6.1978.

lation¹ amending, in respect of the issue of export licences with advance fixing of refunds, the Regulation of 21 March 1978 on the system of import and export licences for beef and veal.² The purpose of this Regulation is to obtain better information on the export pattern in the beef and veal sector and to introduce rules to ensure better administrative supervision of these exports.

Fruit and vegetables

2.1.61. There was no significant change in the total area planted with apple, pear, peach and orange trees during the 1977/78 marketing year. This emerges from the annual report on the estimated clearings and new plantations of certain types of fruit trees which the Commission sent to Parliament and the Council on 28 February.

On 18 February the Commission transmitted to the Council a report on experience acquired during the first survey carried out by the Member States of the enlarged Community in order to determine the production potential of plantations of certain species of fruit trees.

Oilseeds

2.1.62. On 13 February the Commission sent to the Council a proposal for a Regulation adopting general rules concerning special measures for soya beans introduced by the Regulation of 24 July 1979.³ These general rules, which apply for the first time to beans harvested in 1980, concern the determination of the world market price, the conditions which producers and purchasers must satisfy in order to benefit from the aid system and the measures which the Member States must apply in order to monitor the right to the aid.

2.1.63. On 26 February the Commission transmitted to the Council a report on the situation in the Community colza market. During the Council meeting of 18-22 June 1979,⁴ at which the agricultural prices for 1979/80 were agreed, the Commission undertook to examine certain problems in the colza sector and to propose any necessary action. In its report the Commission concluded that the common organization of the market operates efficiently in the interests of the producer, the crushing industry and the consumer. It therefore considers that only minor amendments should be made in the system of aid for colza.

2.1.64. On 14 February Parliament adopted a Resolution on the Community policy on oilseeds, fats and proteins.⁵

2.1.65. On 28 February the Economic and Social Committee adopted a study on the balance in feedingstuffs between cereals and imported agricultural products which are substituted for them.

Structural policy

Implementation of the socio-structural directives

Approval of national programmes

2.1.66. On 6 February the Commission approved an Italian programme concerning

Bull. EC 2-1980 51

OJ L 32 of 9.2.1980.

² OJ L 78 of 22.3.1978.

³ OJ L 190 of 28.7.1979.

Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.76.

⁵ Point 2.3.16; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Point 2.3.37.

treatment, processing and marketing activities in the livestock sector and the production of feedingstuffs.¹ The Commission considers that this programme is in line with the objectives of the Regulation of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed.²

Conditions of competition

2.1.67. Under Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty the Commission decided on 1 February to terminate the procedure provided for by Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty which it had initiated in respect of a certain number of Italian measures.³ In its decision the Commission took account of the fact that the Italian authorities had repealed some of the laws in question and have undertaken not to continue granting aid per head of livestock for the years subsequent to 1975.

The provisions referred to concerned national measures to assist stock-farming and a five-year plan to increase sheepmeat and pigmeat production, plus—with regard to Piedmont—measures for the development of agriculture and forests in 1975, 1976 and 1977 and a proposal relating to certain adjustments of aid for 1979.

- 2.1.68. It made no comment at the present stage on the following measures communicated by Italy:
- Friuli-Venezia-Giulia. Bill providing for several types of aid, in particular the implementation and/or the continuance of a certain number of investment plans in the stock-farming sector such as: an artificial insemination centre; facilities needed for the treatment and marketing of agricultural products; installations for protection against cer-

tain natural disasters; land development works; irrigation works; making good the damage to land and crops devastated by the 1976 earthquake.

- Abruzzi. Proposal relating to a contribution to the cost of implementing projects receiving aid under Regulation No 17 of 1964. The Communication will take a position on this type of aid in due course.
- Sicily. Bill relating to measures for hothouse crops. This is an aid for research and experiments in the sector and the taking-over by the region of the costs resulting from the introduction of a compulsory programme to protect the health of hothouse workers in accordance with Community provisions.
- Sicily. Proposal concerning measures for durum wheat producers for the 1979 marketing year (including the granting of a lump sum towards the reconstitution of the capital of the Amandes company). With regard to aid for the voluntary storage of durum wheat, the Commission will take a position in due course in the light of the Community's secondary legislation. It reserves the right to do the same, having regard to Article 93(3), in connection with the granting of operating loans at reduced rates to certain cooperatives.
- 2.1.69. The Commission made no comment in respect of the measures communicated:
- by the Federal Republic of Germany concerning a subsidy granted by Rhineland-Palatinate for research projects with a view to the utilization of alternative energy sources in agriculture;

OJ L 54 of 28.2.1980.

OJ L 51 of 23.1.1977; Bull. EC 2-1977, point 2.1.34. Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2.2.54; Bull. EC 12-1974, point 2.2.50; Bull. EC 11-1975, point 2.2.34; Bull. EC 6-1977, point 2.1.102; Bull. EC 7/8-1977, point 2.1.84.

- by the Netherlands concerning the takingover by the State of part of the losses sustained by apple and pear producers following hail:
- by the United Kingdom (Isle of Man) with regard to a subsidy for beef and veal producers; this aid, granted on a headage basis, is incompatible with the Treaty but, since Article 93(2) is not applicable to the Isle of Man, the matter was not pursued;
- by Belgium concerning an amendment to the Royal Decree which provides *inter alia* for an increase in the State's contribution to costs incurred by non-commercial beekeepers' associations and by breeders of rabbits with a view to the conservation of breeds which are dying out.

Seeds and young plants

2.1.70. On 7 February 1980¹ the Commission authorized the Member States to allow the temporary marketing of forestry reproductive materials not satisfying the requirements of the Council Directive of 14 June 1966.² The purpose of its decision is to deal with certain supply difficulties.

Fisheries

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.71. On 7 February the Commission approved two German measures, one amending the regulation giving effect to the 1971

Fishery Agreements Act and the other listing the species of fish subject to a quota on catches in the territorial waters of Member States in 1980.

2.1.72. The Commission also took the necessary steps to implement the system of recording and notification of catches by vessels of Member States, the principle of which had been approved by the Council on 29 January.³

External aspects

2.1.73. Consultations between the Community and Spain on the reciprocal fishing rights arrangements to apply in 1980 were resumed on 4 February; the two parties signed an agreement providing for the issue of 168 standard licences to vessels flying the Spanish flag, authorizing them to catch up to 11 870 tonnes of hake in the Community zone. Certain conditions for coastal fishing by Spanish vessels in this zone have also been improved; fishing by Community vessels in the Spanish zone and other points covered by the arrangements will remain governed by the rules applying in 1979.

- 2.1.74. Consultations with the Faroe Islands on reciprocal arrangements for 1980 were resumed on 12-13 February; no agreement was reached, and the consultations will continue in March.
- 2.1.75. Following authorization by the Council on 29 January, framework agreements on fisheries were signed with Norway and Guinea-Bissau on 27 February.

OJ L 65 of 11.3.1980.

² OJ 125 of 11.7.1966.

³ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.54.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.58.

 The agreement with Guinea-Bissau lays down the principles and rules that are to govern all aspects of fishing by vessels of Member States in the Guinea-Bissau fishing zone from now on. The terms of the agreement are that Member States' vessels may have access to the Guinea-Bissau zone against payment of fees scaled according to the size of vessel. Shipowners must notify the Guinea-Bissau authorities of their catches and, in some cases, land part of their haul at Bissau or include a number of Guinea-Bissau fishermen in their crews. In return for the fishing rights, the Community is to pay financial compensation which will be used for funding projects and services connected with fisheries. In addition, the Community is to encourage the development of sea fishing in Guinea-Bissau by offering grants to Guinea-Bissau nationals wishing to study or train in fields relating to fisheries.

The agreement is for two years in the first instance, renewable annually unless expressly terminated. It is to apply immediately, on a provisional basis pending completion of the requisite procedures, to ensure that licences are issued without delay as the season for certain trawlers in Guinea-Bissau waters has already begun.¹

- The agreement with Norway specifies the conditions under which Norwegian and Member States' vessels may fish in each other's 200-mile fishing zones. The agreement is for six years in the first instance, renewable every six years thereafter unless notice of termination is given.
- 2.1.76. Consultations on a long-term fisheries agreement between the Community and Canada were resumed in Brussels on 31 January and 1 February; they are due to go on in March. Meanwhile, Community vessels are continuing to fish Canadian waters under

an interim agreement covering the whole of 1980.

2.1.77. On 25-29 February the Community took part in the proceedings of a multilateral working party which met in Lisbon to look into the possibility of framing a new convention on fisheries in the North-East Atlantic to replace the 1959 NEAFC. A diplomatic conference had already been held on the subject in 1978, but no agreement was reached because certain countries had reservations about the Community's participation in the proposed convention. The Lisbon working party reached a consensus on a draft for a new convention, which should be open for signature from November.

Markets and structures

Structural policy

- 2.1.78. Under its policy on state aids in the fisheries sector the Commission decided to raise no objections to:
- aid being granted by the United Kingdom for the organization of exploratory expeditions in the South-western Approaches to assess the possibilities of fishing for species not commonly exploited at present;
- the aid scheme operated by the Netherlands in 1978 for the permanent withdrawal of vessels from fishing being resumed in 1980;
- the Danish trout fund continuing its activities in 1980.

^{&#}x27; OJ L 58 of 1.3.1980.

Transport

Inland transport

Infrastructures

Infrastructure investment

Support for projects of Community interest

2.1.79. On 15 February the Commission decided to amend its July 1976 proposal to the Council on support for projects of Community interest in transport infrastructure. This extends the scope of the system of financial support proposed for Member States' infrastructures to those in non-Community countries of particular interest to the Comespecially for traffic Member States, in view of suggestions by Parliament² and the Economic and Social Committee.3

Transport Infrastructure Committee

2.1.80. The Transport Infrastructure Committee met on 5 February to review plans and programmes communicated by national delegations and to examine national contributions to the report on bottlenecks which the Commission had been called upon to prepare as part of the examination of the proposal for a Regulation on financial support for infrastructure projects. As a result of the exchange of views between the Commission and the Committee members, the national contributions to the report were sharpened and amplified. The Commission also took the opportunity to state its views on how the work should proceed in future.

Energy

Formulating and implementing a Community energy policy

Energy Committee

2.1.81. The Energy Committee met on 29 February with a Commission representative in the chair to discuss matters relating to energy conservation.

The first subject discussed was Member States' programmes for oil and energy saving.

There was a full exchange of views on the Saint-Geours report on low-energy growth. The Committee also discussed what action the Community could take to save energy in the motor vehicle sector.

Specific problems

Oil and gas

Transparency of the oil market

2.1.82. On 25 February the Commission sent the Council a Communication on the transparency of the oil market, the Council having called upon it on 27 March 1979 to institute procedures for improving this.4

OJ C 207 of 2.9.1976; Bull. EC 6-1976, points 1401 to 1404.

<sup>OJ C 183 of 1.8.1977.
OJ C 56 of 7.3.1977.</sup>

Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.108.

The same request was made at the Tokyo Summit in June 1979.

In its Communication the Commission lists the measures adopted or being prepared by the Community, in conjunction with other industrialized countries, to improve its procedure for obtaining information on the oil market. Since the Tokyo Summit the Commission has improved these procedures and will now be receiving information on the prices of imported oil products and consumer prices (Council Directive of 4 May 1976²) and on the prices of imported crude oil (Council Regulation of 22 November 1979 on the registration of crude oil imports³). Analysis of the data received has shown considerable disparities in consumer prices between Member States, which are caused by differences between pricing policies-or by the lack of them—and the differing supply positions of the oil companies.

June 1980 will see the end of an experiment now under way which, through the voluntary cooperation of most dealers, will provide a better understanding of how spot markets in oil products work. In addition, a working party made up of representatives of industry and chaired by the Commission is looking into the possibility of setting up an oil 'exchange'.

The Commission is also considering whether the Community, in conjunction with the other industrialized countries, could introduce a quick-acting system to provide information on crude oil purchases not made under forward contracts or on commercial terms normal for international deals, and a certification procedure for the fob prices of crude oil at the point of shipment. Certification would be carried out by the original sellers, generally the producer countries' nationalized oil companies.

Nuclear energy

Uranium prospecting

2.1.83. In a Communication sent to the Council on 29 February the Commission gave the conclusions of its examination of the annual reports for 1973 to 1975 (received by it pursuant to Article 70 of the Euratom Treaty) on uranium prospecting and production, and investment in mining it, performed or planned in the Member States.

The Commission pointed out that a full assessment of the Community's uranium potential would not only increase the Community's uranium reserves but also provide a firm foundation for the formulation of a long-term uranium supply policy. It also reached the conclusion that there is uranium potential outside the areas of interest currently being considered by the Community and that this potential should be assessed. It is also pleased to note that in general prospecting was given a major boost between 1973 and 1975. It considers that this effort should nevertheless be continued, particularly in countries where there has been no prospecting as yet.

Euratom loans

2.1.84. The Commission has decided to grant a loan of UKL 100 million (approximately 158 million EUA) to the South of Scotland Electricity Board, Glasgow.

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 1.2.2.

OJ L 140 of 28.5.1976.

¹ OJ L 297 of 24.11.1979.

The loan has been made under the Commission's policy to reduce Community dependence on imported oil by developing alternative energy sources and will help to finance the construction of a nuclear power station at Torness Point, East Lothian.

2.1.85. On 14 February Parliament adopted two energy resolutions—one on lasting, adequate and cheap energy supplies, the other on the safety of pressurized-water reactors.1

On the same day it also gave its opinion on the Commission Communication sent to the Council on 15 June 1979 on energy objectives of the Community for 1990.2

Research and development, science and education

Nuclear energy: Community strategy and plan of action

2.1.86. On 18 February the Council adopted four resolutions and one decision3 relating to the communications laid before it by the Commission on 20 July and 2 August 1977. The communications, which defined the basic constituents of a Community nuclear strategy and of action to be taken by the Community in the radioactive waste, spent fuel reprocessing and fast-breeder reactor sectors, were based on the Commission's view that the Community will have to call on nuclear power in order to meet its energy needs in the years ahead. They had been endorsed by Parliament on 17 March 1978s and by the Economic and Social Committee at its 26-27 April 1978 session.

Radioactive waste

2.1.87. One of the Council resolutions approved a twelve-year (1980-92) Community plan of action, subject to review every three years, hinging on the following five points: continuous analysis of the situation with a view to the adoption of appropriate measures; examination by the Community of measures to ensure the long-term or permanent storage of radioactive waste under optimum conditions; consultation on wastemanagement practices; the quality and properties of conditioned waste, and waste disposal; continuity of Community research and development work during the plan; and, lastly, regular information for the public.

2.1.88. The Council also adopted a resolution broadening the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee on Programme Management (ACPM) responsible for the indirectaction programme on the management and storage of radioactive waste to include the task of advising the Commission on the plan of action referred to above.

2.1.89. On 11 February Parliament delivered its opinion⁷ on the proposal for a 1980-84 programme (to follow on from the current 1975-79 programme) which the Commission had sent to the Council in February 1979⁸ and on which the latter reached a consensus on 22 October.9

Point 2.3.14; OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.109.

OI C 51 of 29.2.1980.

Bull. EC 7/8-1977, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.4. OJ C 85 of 10.4.1978; Bull. EC 3-1978, point 2.3.13.

Bull. EC 4-1978, points 2.3.53 and 2.3.54. OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

OJ C 80 of 27.3.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.93.

Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.1.136. The Council formally adopted the Decision approving the programme on 18 March 1980.

Reprocessing of irradiated fuels

2.1.90. In this field, the Council decided to set up an ad hoc Advisory Committee whose tasks would be to analyse the reprocessing situation in the Community (needs and capacities), gather information on interim storage capacities, examine ways and means of promoting the development of industrial capacities and coordination between the parties concerned, and, as regards the industrial capacities, consider how all the relevant provisions of the Euratom Treaty might be used to align the interests of promoters and users.

2.1.91. In the same field, the Council adopted a resolution in which—without prejudice to the decision-making procedures of the Member States—it signified its agreement on the importance of keeping open the option of recovering and reusing spent fuels; there must be continuity in the execution of programmes and studies and coordination between interested parties. The Council also thought it necessary that the Community, the Member States and the undertakings concerned should persevere in their efforts to ensure that reprocessing activities remain compatible, throughout their industrial development, with the objectives of public safety, environmental protection and nondiversion of nuclear materials from the intended uses declared by the users.

Fast-breeder reactors

2.1.92. The Council adopted a resolution in which—without prejudice to the decision-making procedures of the Member States—it signified its agreement on the importance of keeping open the option of making fast-breeder reactors available to energy producers on a commercial basis within a period

that takes due account of the Community's energy requirements. Member States and firms which have undertaken development programmes in this field are to ensure continuity in the execution of programmes and studies and continue their efforts with respect to safety, radiation protection and protection of the environment. The Community is to lend its support to the achievement of these objectives; any new form that such support might take, and the arrangements for implementing it, will be decided by the Council on proposals from the Commission.

Science, research and development

European cooperation in scientific and technical research (COST)

2.1.93. On 14 February representatives of Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom signed a joint declaration of intent on the mariculture programme to be carried out in the COST framework.

This provides for cooperation between research institutes in the signatory States in these four areas — nursery rearing of bivalve molluscs; evaluation of the nutritive value of various unicellular algal species for molluscs; identification of the ecological and genetic characteristics of commercially important mollusc species; and sea ranching of the Atlantic salmon to improve the productive yield of the species.

Three other countries (Belgium, Denmark and Portugal) have announced their forthcoming participation in the project.

Scientific and Technical Research Committee

2.1.94. Meeting on 21 February, the Scientific and Technical Research Committee made a preliminary examinaton of the Commission's proposali on a four-year (1981-85) indirect-action programme in the field of biomolecular engineering.

Most of the delegations were in favour, but the Committee thought it worth while setting up an ad hoc working party to assist in defining the scientific and technical content of the programme and the priorities of the various topics proposed.

European Research and Development Committee

2.1.95. The European Research Development Committee devoted its 12 February meeting to a discussion on the research carried out under the FAST programme (forecasting and assessment in the field of science and technology)2 and on the programme of work for the next few years.3 It delivered on the whole a very favourable opinion and put forward a few suggestions.

The Committee also held a discussion on the scientific and technical needs of the developing countries and stressed the importance of cooperation with the Community if those needs were to be met. A number of suggestions were made for specific action by the Community in this field.

Multiannual programmes

Hydrogen as an energy vector

2.1.96. On 12-14 February the Commission organized a conference in Brussels to examine the results of the research carried out on the production, transport and use of hydrogen within the context of the 1975-79 indirectaction programme of energy research.4 The conference, which was attended by over two hundred, was a follow-up of the one arranged by the Commission in October 1978; it revealed the technical progress achieved over the last few years and established in particular that the quantity of energy required for electrolytic hydrogen production could be substantially reduced in relation to the processes now being used; the laboratory work indicated that a reduction of about 30% was conceivable.

Education and Training

Education Committee

2.1.97. At its 11-12 February meeting the Education Committee discussed in detail the programme of work presented by the Commission for the implementation in 1980 of the action programme in the field of education,6 including measures to be taken in connection with the preparation of young people for working life.7

OJ C 28 of 5.2.1980; Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.73.

OJ L 225 of 16.8.1978.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.76.

OJ L 231 of 2.9.1975.

Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.129.

OJ C 38 of 19.2.1976.

OJ C 308 of 30.12.1976; OJ C 23 of 30.1.1980; Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.78.

Scientific and technical information and information management

Euronet

Inauguration of the Euronet-DIANE network

2.1.98. On 13 February Euronet-DIANE, the Community direct-access information network, was officially inaugurated at the European Parliament in Strasbourg by Mrs Veil, President of Parliament, Mr Jenkins, President of the Commission, Mr Colombo, Italian Minister for Posts and Telecommunications and President of the Council, Mr Brunner, the Member of the Commission responsible for the project, and Mr Natali.

Euronet-DIANE brings together:

- twenty-three independent European computerized information and documentation services (host centres), which provide on-line access to some 150 data bases in the field of scientific, technical, social and economic information; these are collectively called DIANE (Direct Information Access Network for Europe); and
- a data transmission network (Euronet), managed by the posts and telecommunications administrations, which provides cheap and reliable access to the DIANE host centres through entry points in every Member State.

The Euronet-DIANE network, which is being given financial support by the Community, has already had a direct impact on the information market and is the culmination of a number of Community projects and innovations, including:

- the creation of the first-ever consortium of the nine posts and telecommunications administrations acting together to build Euronet in cooperation with the Commission:
- the adoption of standard international tariffs for Euronet, irrespective of distance; and
- the adoption by all the host centres of standardized interfaces for their connection to Euronet and to future national networks.

Euronet will be extended to Switzerland at the end of 1980, and further connections are being considered.

The central project is supplemented by various aids to users, including:

- the use of a standard command language in DIANE host centres;
- the development of an automated inquiry and referral service;
- the creation of a central Launch Team;
- the development of computerized multilingual tools, such as terminology data banks and thesauri.

These activities are laying solid foundations for a genuine European market for information that is accessible in the conversational mode.

Following the successful introduction of Euronet-DIANE, the Commission is now promoting the development of new information systems in areas of Community interest. Plans to set up a Community-wide information industry are directed towards dismantling commercial, technical and legal barriers to trade and boosting public and private investment in this growth sector. The impact of new technologies such as videotex, integrated services networks and automated office equipment is also being followed at Community level.

60 Bull. EC 2-1980

2. Enlargement and external relations

EC and applicant countries

Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries

Greece

- 2.2.1. When the EEC-Greece Association Committee met on 8 February, discussion focused mainly on the current Greek anti-inflation measures.
- 2.2.2. On 11 February the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States took decisions on the opening of negotiations with the Community's preferential trading partners so that the agreements between these countries and the Community could be adjusted to take account of Greece's accession. After an initial round of negotiations with Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, held from 25 to 29 February, talks are to resume at the end of March.
- 2.2.3. In February the Commission approved grants totalling over 7 million EUA under the EEC-Greece Financial Protocol as technical assistance for four projects.

Portugal

Accession negotiations

2.2.4. The second session of the ministerial negotiations on accession took place in Brussels on 5 February. The Portuguese Delegation was led by Mr Diego Freitas do Amaral, Portugal's new Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. At this session the Com-

munity and Portuguese Delegations exchanged views on the progress made so far in the negotiations.

After reviewing the various items on which negotiation had opened and considering the work to be done in the months ahead, Mr Ruffini, President of the Council and Foreign Minister of Italy, expressed the hope that the process of establishing an 'overall view' of the main substantive issues would soon be completed so that attention could be turned to negotiating the practical solutions required in each field in turn.

The Head of the Portuguese Delegation confirmed that the Portuguese Government was fully committed politically to bringing about Portugal's accession to the Communities: this aim was indeed the 'number one priority' of its foreign policy. He also announced that Portugal proposed very shortly to make a start on the remaining topics of negotiation, namely agriculture, right of establishment and budgetary, economic and financial questions.

Mr Natali then gave the conference a progress report on secondary legislation.

During his visit to Brussels, Mr Freitas do Amaral had talks with Mr Jenkins, Mr Natali and several other Members of the Commission.

2.2.5. At the seventh session of the accession negotiations at deputy level, held in Brussels on 20 February,² the Community made statements on the ECSC, Euratom, right of establishment, capital movements and secondary legislation. The Portuguese Delegation made statements on agriculture,

Bull. EC 2-1980 61

¹ Bull. EC 10-1978, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5.

² Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.2.

right of establishment and budgetary, economic and financial questions.

2.2.6. The Commission and Portugal continued their examination of Community secondary legislation in February, concentrating mainly on Euratom, energy, research and certain aspects of agriculture.

Spain

Accession negotiations

2.2.7. The fourth deputy-level meeting of the negotiations on Spain's accession to the Communities took place in Brussels on 1 February.1 Discussion focused on the Spanish Delegation's statements on processing traffic and capital movements and the Community Delegation's statement on the right of establishment and the examination of Community secondary legislation.

Commercial policy

Implementing the common commercial policy

Import arrangements

Easing of restrictive measures

2.2.8. Under the Council Decision of 27 March 1975 on unilateral import arrangements in respect of state-trading countries,2 the Commission took the following measures to relax import restrictions:

Italy-Czechoslovakia: exceptional opening of an import quota for synthetic rubber;3

Italy-China: exceptional opening of import quotas for various products;4

United Kingdom-Czechoslovakia: opening of a quota for a textile category (No 31);4

Federal Republic of Germany-China, Czechoslovakia and Poland: exceptional opening and adjustment of import quotas for several categories of textile products.4

2.2.9. On 19 February the Commission adopted a Regulation opening an additional quota for the importation into the Community in 1980 of woven pneumatic mattresses originating in Poland.5

Protective action

Anti-dumping measures

2.2.10. On 18 February the Council imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty on certain sodium carbonate originating in the USSR.6 The duty applies only to light sodium carbonate, since imports of dense sodium carbonate have not caused any damage to the Community industry.

In connection with the anti-dumping/antisubsidy procedure concerning imports of standardized electric multi-phase motors hav-

Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.6.

OJ L 99 of 21.4.1975.

OJ C 44 of 21.2.1980. OJ C 77 of 27.3.1980.

OJ L 45 of 20.2.1980.

OJ L 48 of 22.2.1980.

ing an output of more than 0.75 kW but not more than 75 kW, the Commission decided on 22 February to accept the undertakings given by exporters in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland and Romania and to terminate the procedure against them. On the same day the Commission adopted a Regulation imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of such products from the USSR.

The Commission also initiated an antidumping/anti-subsidy procedure concerning certain chemical fertilizers originating in the United States.²

Treaties and trade agreements: extension or tacit renewal

2.2.11. On 5 February the Council authorized the extension or tacit renewal of a number of trade agreements concluded by Member States with non-member countries (first batch for 1980) which are due to expire between 1 February and 30 April.³

Export credits

2.2.12. In an exchange of views held on 5 February concerning Community action against the USSR following the events in Afghanistan, the Council again considered the question of export credits, which had been raised in January. The press release issued after the meeting stated:

'As regards export credits, the Member States intend, as part of a joint position vis-à-vis the USSR, to apply the existing OECD consensus without any derogations.'

Sectoral measures of commercial policy

Steel

Arrangements with non-member countries

2.2.13. Under the 'anti-crisis' plan' for 1980 (external measures), the Commission continued negotiations, based on the Council decisions of 18 December 1978, for the renewal in 1980 of the arrangements on ECSC iron and steel products. Agreement was reached with the following countries: Austria and Sweden (5 February), Hungary February), Norway (15 February), Poland (19 February), Bulgaria (20 February) and Spain (25 February). By a note verbale dated 26 February the Japanese Mission gave notification of the exchange of letters of 25 January on special cooperation between the Community and Japan concerning trade in ECSC iron and steel products.

The 1980 arrangements' follow the same lines as those concluded for 1978 and 1979, though some of the restrictions have been eased in accordance with Commission proposals. Sixteen Nimexe lines concerning special steels are withdrawn from the scope of the arrangements and covered by the consultation clause alone. Henceforth, consultation will no longer be compulsory for products of first processing, except in the case of Spain, in respect of which it has been agreed in a letter subsequent to the arrangement to hold regular consultations on such products. The

OJ L 53 of 27.2.1980.

² OJ C 47 of 26.2.1980.

³ OJ L 35 of 12.2.1980.

⁴ Bull. EC 12-1979, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.9.

arrangements do not apply to temporary imports where there is no change of ownership. (Previously it was laid down that such imports must be re-exported to the country of origin.)

Negotiations are continuing with Romania and Czechoslovakia.

Autonomous measures

- 2.2.14. On 26 February the Commission decided to terminate the anti-dumping procedure initiated in June 1979 concerning imports into the Community of certain angles, shapes and sections of iron or steel originating in Romania. An undertaking by the Romanian body concerned that it would raise its export prices was considered satisfactory by the Commission and accepted.
- 2.2.15. Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, decided on 5 February to maintain in force until the end of 1980 the tariff preferences applicable to ECSC products originating in the overseas countries and territories associated with the Community.³ The measures thus extended were adopted in May 1976⁴ in order to allow the implementation of tariff suspensions granted under the Lomé Agreement on ECSC products concluded at the time of the first ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé.

Textiles

Agreements and arrangements with non-member countries

New agreements and arrangements

2.2.16. On 1 February the Community signed a textiles arrangement with Greece

covering the year 1980. The provisions of the arrangement, which conform to the directives adopted by the Council on 14 December 1979, are very similar to those covering 1979⁵ and provide for a system of close administrative cooperation. This arrangement is intended to pave the way for the smooth integration of the Greek textile industry into the Community.

- 2.2.17. On 18 February the Council adopted two Regulations concluding agreements on trade in textile products signed by the Community with Brazil and Uruguay.
- 2.2.18. Textile agreements between the Community and South Korea, Pakistan and Thailand entered into force on 1 February on completion of the necessary procedures.

Application of existing agreements and arrangements

2.2.19. Following talks between the Community and Pakistan on various problems arising from the implementation of the EEC-Pakistan textile agreement, it was agreed to explore ways of simplifying certain details so as to facilitate the work of recording Pakistan's exports of products subject to quantitative limitation. The Pakistan authorities also asked the Community to consider as favourably as possible any requests they might

OJ L 56 of 29.2.1980.

 $^{^{2}}$ OJ C 146 of 12.6.1979; Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.2.19.

³ OJ L 35 of 12.2.1980.

⁴ OJ L 130 of 19.5.1976; Bull. EC 5-1976, point 2314.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1979, point 1.1.10.

OJ L 70 of 17.3.1980.

OJ L 23 of 30.1.1980.

OJ L 11 of 16.1.1980.

OJ L 26 of 1.2.1980.

make concerning the allocation among Member States of the Community ceilings established.

- 2.2.20. In the course of consultations with Uruguay, agreement was reached on new quantitative limits for certain wool worsted products destined for the UK and Benelux markets.
- 2.2.21. On 27 February the Commission introduced Community surveillance for certain polyester yarns, low-cost imports of which have increased considerably in recent years.
- 2.2.22. Because of the impact of these imports on the United Kingdom market in particular, the Commission acted to introduce protective measures as from 15 February against imports into the United Kingdom of continuous polyester filament and textured polyamide carpet yarn originating in certain non-member countries, including the United States.² On the basis of a Commission report on the problems created by these imports, the Council invited the Commission to press ahead with consultations with the United States and if necessary consider what other appropriate measures should be taken.

Development

North-South relations

2.2.23. North-South relations were at the centre of discussions at meetings and conferences held during February by the Preparatory Committee for the New International Development Strategy, 3 UNIDO (Third Gen-

eral Conference), the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries' and the OECD's Executive Committee.

UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries

2.2.24. The Intergovernmental Group responsible for the least developed countries—also acting as the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries—held its first session in Geneva from 4 to 15 February.

The two basic issues on its agenda were:

- (a) the immediate action programme (1979-81) and new global action programme for the least developed countries, based on an idea put forward at UNCTAD V in Manila;⁷ and
- (b) preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be called in 1981 as decided by the General Assembly last December.

At the end of the session the Intergovernmental Group adopted four resolutions on the following subjects:

- (i) an examination of progress to date and of the steps taken to implement the immediate action programme (1979-81) and the studies and preparations for a substantial new action programme for the eighties;
- (ii) recommendations concerning the least developed countries, to be included in the

OJ L 58 of 1.3.1980.

OJ L 45 of 20.2.1980.

³ Point 2.2.35.

⁴ Point 2.2.38.

⁵ Point 2.2.24.

Point 2.2.44.

⁷ Bull. EC 5-1979, point 1.3.10.

International Development Strategy for the United Nations Third Development Decade;

- (iii) preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
- (iv) the possible inclusion of certain developing countries in the United Nations list of least developed countries.

The hard-fought discussions which preceded the adoption of these resolutions pointed up the differences of opinion between the Group of 77 and their partners on the actual volume of financial support and on the target dates for doubling official development assistance and the national income of the least developed countries. They also revealed the sensitivity of the developing countries to the repercussions which an increase in aid to the least developed countries might have on the level of aid to the developing countries in general and their concern that national sovereignty should be left intact. Moreover, throughout the session intensive coordination took place within the Community, which played a leading role in establishing the position of the group of Western industrialized countries on the International Development Strategy.

Commodities and world agreements

Cocoa

2.2.25. On 26 February the Commission sent the Council a Communication on the maintenance of the 1975 International Cocoa Agreement and the continuation of the negotiations for its renewal.

This Agreement, which has already been extended by six months, expires on 31 March 1980 and the International Cocoa Council

must decide on a further extension before that date. It will also have to hold consultations on the problems still outstanding, particularly the level at which prices are to be fixed in a new agreement, this having been the main cause of the failure of the negotiations in 1979.

Copper

2.2.26. The Community participated in UNCTAD's Seventh Preparatory Meeting on Copper, which resumed its work¹ in Geneva from 18 to 22 February.

The Commission representatives played an active part in this meeting and in the efforts to reach a compromise on a formula for an agreement adapted to the market situation which would allow for economic measures to be deferred until a consensus had been obtained on the need for them.

Since such a compromise proved impossible to achieve because some countries were opposed to any prior commitment while others demanded the application of economic measures immediately upon the entry into force of an agreement and neither group was prepared to move, the session ended with the problem of further work on copper being referred to the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee on the Integrated Programme for Commodities, leaving open the possibility of reconvening the Seventh **Preparatory** Meeting.

Tin

2.2.27. The sixteenth session of the International Tin Council, which held its first meet-

¹ Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.19.

Development Development

ings from 14 to 18 January, was resumed on 26 February, preceded on 25 February by a meeting of the Working Party on Stockpile Releases. The Community attended these meetings, which were devoted to further consultation with the USA on the proposed plan to release 35 000 long tons of surplus tin from its GSA stockpile.

Hard fibres

2.2.28. A further meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on the Establishment of Coir International was held in Rome under the auspices of FAO from 14 to 16 February in order to examine problems in connection with the setting-up of this organization. Progress was made on participation and financing, for which the principle of voluntary direct contributions was accepted. Other aspects have been left open, notably those relating to the institutional structure of the arrangement, and the framework in which the discussions could be continued and concluded (FAO or the UNCTAD Integrated Programme for Commodities — Hard Fibres).

2.2.29. The FAO Intergovernmental Working Group on Hard Fibres (sisal, coir and abaca) met in Rome from 20 to 22 February.²

With regard to coir, the session noted the conclusions of the Ad hoc Working Group on the Establishment of Coir International;³ for sisal, a new price bracket (USD 650-700)⁴ was agreed on, despite the fact that current prices are higher. No price was set for abaca, however; the Philippines, the main exporting country, would have liked a higher price level than would have been acceptable to the main importing countries, including the Commun-

ity. The FAO Secretariat will be conducting a study on possible ways of enabling the Philippine authorities to monitor actual prices in relation to the indicative price more effectively.

Tungsten

2.2.30. The UNCTAD Working Group on Tungsten met from 25 to 29 February. Its terms of reference were to find ways of reaching an agreement on measures for stabilizing the tungsten market, and to reach a decision on convening a negotiating conference.

Despite many years' preparatory work, once again the Committee could do no more than note the differing views of the participants, with some encouraging the establishment of a world agreement, and others still opposed to any binding economic measure. A compromise proposal put forward by France in 1978 failed to draw the two viewpoints any closer together. The only sign that a breakthrough may be possible—albeit tentative as yet—is that the participants have accepted discussions on the formulation of a reliable price indicator, an 'essential prerequisite for any attempt to stabilize prices.

The Working Group asked the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities for permission to resume examining the items on its agenda at the end of 1980 or in the course of 1981.

Bull. EC 2-1980 67

¹ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.21.

² Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.2.25.

Point 2.2.28.

⁴ Per tonne of East African UG fibre cif Europe.

Food aid and emergency and exceptional aid

Aid for Afghan refugees

2.2.31. On 5 February, acting in accordance with its guidelines of 15 January, the Council approved emergency aid of 10 million EUA to cover the refugees' basic needs, together with food aid in the form of 12 000 tonnes of cereals, 300 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 1 000 tonnes of sugar. The aid will be allocated via the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Food aid

Annual programmes

2.2.32. On 22 February the Commission transmitted to the Council its proposals concerning the 1980 programmes for food aid in the form of cereals, skimmed milk powder and butteroil.

In their present form the proposals involve the same quantities as in 1979.2 During the budgetary procedure, the Commission proposed a significant increase in the aid, and Parliament made amendments along the same lines. However, in order to begin implementing the 1980 programme without waiting for the 1980 budget to be adopted, the Commission proposes an initial programme confined to the quantities set out by the Council in the draft budget. If a bigger appropriation is entered in the 1980 budget, the Commission will propose a supplementary programme. If not, there will be a ceiling on Community aid for the fifth consecutive year despite the increase in needs and requests.

The present allocation therefore covers a total of 720 500 tonnes of cereals, 150 000 tonnes of milk powder and 45 000 tonnes of butteroil. As usual, priority has had to be given to the poorest countries (almost 90% of direct aid). The cost of the programmes is at present estimated at 139 million EUA for cereals, 196 million EUA for skimmed milk powder and 176 million EUA for butteroil.

Exceptional aid

Emergency aid

2.2.33. On 27 February the Commission decided to grant aid totalling 300 000 EUA to help the people in the Azores (Portugal) who were hit by the earthquake that devastated several islands in the archipelago on 1 January.

The aid will be allocated via Secours catholique français.

An initial instalment of 100 000 EUA had been granted on 8 January for the supply of some 600 tents.³

Relations with non-governmental organizations

2.2.34. As regards the cofinancing of projects in the developing countries, at 29 February the Commission's departments had committed 766 035 EUA for nine projects presented by six NGOs.

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.23.

² Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.30.

³ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.26.

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

General Assembly

New International Development Strategy

2.2.35. The fourth meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the new International Development Strategy was held in New York from 11 to 29 February. The Community set out its position on the objectives of the future Strategy, which formed the subject of the meeting. Forthcoming meetings of the Preparatory Committee will endeavour to determine ways of achieving the Strategy's objectives. The Strategy is due to be adopted at the special session of the General Assembly scheduled for August/September.

Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission of Europe

2.2.36. The eighth annual session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems was held in Geneva from 18 to 22 February. Discussions centred primarily on implementation of the decisions taken at the High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment held in November 1979, in which the Community took part.¹

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the High-level Meeting, the participants at the eighth session of Senior Advisers set up an interim executive body, made up of the signatories to the Convention on Long-range Transboundery Air Pollution, to be responsible for applying the resolution and implementing the Convention on a provisional basis pending its entry into force.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries

2.2.37. The UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries, meeting in Geneva from 4 to 16 February,² achieved positive results in its work on implementation of the resolution passed by UNCTAD V at Manila.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Closure of the Third General Conference

2.2.38. UNIDO's Third General Conference, which opened in New Delhi on 21 January with representatives of some 120 countries and international organizations taking part,³ failed to reach a consensus (consensus being the result aimed at in a number of international conferences in recent years).

Despite intensive negotiations and major efforts right up to the last minute, the Group

¹ Bull. EC 11-1979, point 2.2.28.

Point 2.2.24.

³ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.30.

of 77 finally opted for a vote on the text of its initial proposals. India, in the chair, had endeavoured to produce a compromise document, which still included many of the points contained in the Group of 77 paper, notably those concerning the establishment of a global industrialization fund and political issues (e.g. the PLO, apartheid, Zionism, neocolonialism). However, at the last minute India had to withdraw its text in the face of reservations voiced or hinted at by certain parties.

Voting on the Group of 77 paper (which set out in final form the conclusions of the Group's Havana Ministerial Meeting held from 17 to 21 December 1979) therefore followed the expected pattern: 83 votes in favour (the Group of 77 minus numerous absent members, and the East European Group plus China), and 22 votes against (the Group of Western industrialized countries, minus Turkey). A significant fact is that, following the vote, the Soviet Union, as spokesman for the Group of state-trading countries (not including China), stated the Group's position and its reservations, notably regarding the financial aspects of the Group of 77 text. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, themselves members of the Group of 77, also expressed reservations on this point.

Since the key provisions were aimed at the industrialized countries—which voted against or expressed reservations on the substance -the New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action seem to have little chance of being implemented. Moreover, the positions adopted at New Delhi were inevitably influenced by the prospect of North-South global negotiations within the United Nations system. However, all the Groups declared themselves willing to pursue the North-South Dialogue within that framework in the hope of achieving better results.

The Community played an active part at the Conference in both plenary sessions and meetings of the commissions, having prepared the ground thoroughly first in Brussels and then on the spot. The Commission was represented by Mr Davignon, who addressed the Conference, and by a delegation which during the final days acted as spokesman on certain matters in the informal negotiations.

Food and Agriculture Organization

Intergovernmental Working Group on Hard Fibres

2.2.39. The FAO Intergovernmental Working Group on Hard Fibres met in Rome from 20 to 22 February. This meeting, following on from the meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on the Establishment of Coir International held from 14 to 16 February, discussed the problems arising from the formation of this body, which will also be required to deal with hard fibres² within an institutional framework yet to be determined.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

Implementation of the results of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations

2.2.40. The month saw the launch of several committees set up following the entry into force on 1 January of the codes on nontariff barriers pursuant to the agreements concluded under the MTNs.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.30.

² Point 2.2.29.

The following five committees held their first meetings in Geneva:

- (i) Committee on Anti-Dumping Practices (concerned with the implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement);
- (ii) Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (set up under Article 16 of the Agreement on Interpretation and Application of Articles VI, XVI and XXIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade);
- (iii) Committee on Import Licensing;
- (iv) Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade;
- (v) Committee on Trade in Civil Aircraft.

These meetings were principally concerned with organizational matters, notably electing the chairmen and vice-chairmen, discussing the procedure for the participation of non-signatories as observers, and fixing programmes and timetables for the different committees.

2.2.41. The Councils set up in the agricultural sphere also held their first meetings. The International Dairy Products Council and the International Meat Council, established by the Contracting Parties under the GATT pursuant to the agreements on agriculture concluded under the MTNs, held their inaugural meetings on 4-5 February and 7 February respectively. Both meetings were devoted to internal organizational matters. The two Councils—which will henceforth be the forums for discussions of all matters relating to trade in the products in question—will meet twice a year.

Textiles Committee

2.2.42. Measures to restructure the textile industry—with account being taken of the

objectives of the Multifibre Arrangement—were examined in detail by an ad hoc working group whose terms of reference had been defined by the GATT Textiles Committee on 11 December 1979. The group met for the first time in Geneva on 12 February and finalized its work programme. A report is to be submitted to the Textiles Committee before the end of 1980.

Consultations

2.2.43. The consultations initiated by the Community with the United States at the end of 1979—pursuant to Article XXIII(1) of the GATT—on the double oil price and its effects on exports of man-made fibres have continued this year. On 5 February the Council asked the Commission to pursue these consultations actively in the hope of reaching a satisfactory solution. However, as already reported,² the Commission was obliged to take protective measures against imports into the United Kingdom of certain synthetic textiles from the United States.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Executive Committee

2.2.44. On 26 February the Commission took part in a special session in Paris of the OECD Executive Committee convened to examine the probable shape of commercial policies in the 1980s and to take stock of preparations for the forthcoming North-South global negotiations within the United Nations system.

¹ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.2.49.

² Point 2.2.22.

Voicing a common sentiment, the Commission representative said that the months immediately following the Multilateral Trade Negotiations should be used to give teeth to the instruments resulting from those negotiations.

The Committee took note of the discussions held the previous day by the Group on North-South Economic Issues on the subject of the global negotiations, where the prevailing feeling had been that the negotiations should concentrate selectively on the major issues such as the world economy and development.

Symposium on the Steel Industry

2.2.45. On 27 and 28 February a Commission delegation took part in an OECD-organized Symposium on the Steel Industry in the 1980s. The object of the symposium was to discuss developments in the world steel industry up to 1985, the problems of trade in steel products at world level and other problems relating to the steel industry such as capacity, consumption, production, employment and so forth. One of the sessions was chaired by Mr Davignon.

Industrialized countries

EFTA countries

2.2.46. In February the Commission opened negotiations with the EFTA countries, with the exception of Portugal, on adjustments to the free trade agreements between the Community and those countries in order to take account of Greece's accession to the European Communities.¹ In particular, provision

has to be made for measures to ensure the attainment of free trade by the end of the transition period.

United States

2.2.47. During his visit to Brussels on 18 and 19 February, Governor R. Askew, United States Trade Representative, had meetings with Mr Haferkamp, Mr Gundelach, Mr Davignon and Mr Cheysson. Governor Askew was accompanied by Mr Hormats, Ambassador Smith, Ambassador Enders, Mr Ray and others.

Considerable attention was given during these discussions to the steel industry and to the Commission's recent measures on synthetic fibre yarns,² while footwear and certain other industrial and agricultural products were also considered. Both sides agreed to remain in close contact and to have regular consultations during the coming months so as to avoid the emergence of trade conflicts as far as possible.

Japan

2.2.48. A delegation from the Japanese Diet attended Parliament's part-session in February. It discussed a number of international and bilateral matters with Members of Parliament and also talked to Mr Jenkins and Mr Haferkamp.

New Zealand

2.2.49. Mr Talboys, the New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign

Point 2.2.2.

Point 2.2.22; OJ L 45 of 20.2.1980.

Affairs and Minister of Overseas Trade, visited the Commission on 20 February, when he had discussions with Mr Jenkins, Mr Gundelach and Mr Haferkamp.

The issues raised by Mr Talboys concerned post-1980 butter exports to the Community and the proposal for a Regulation on sheepmeat. The Commission emphasized that it was very conscious of how important the Community market was for New Zealand butter and lamb exports and expressed its willingness to propose to the Member States how best these problems could be dealt with.

Mediterranean countries

Turkey

Reactivation of the Association with Turkey

2.2.50. The 5 February meeting in Brussels of the EEC-Turkey Association Council, which had last met at ministerial level in December 1976, was particularly important on two counts. Firstly, Mr Erkmen, Foreign Minister of Turkey, confirmed the desire to 'reactivate' the Association, which was clearly stated in 'the 'joint conclusion' adopted at the end of the meeting; secondly, he made known Turkey's hopes of joining the Community as soon as possible.

2.2.51. The EEC-Turkey Association Committee also met, on 27 February. The Turkish Delegation explained the measures Turkey proposed to take in order to reactivate the Association in various fields. The Community representatives took note of these explana-

tions, which will be of considerable help in preparing the Community position.

2.2.52. The meeting held by the EEC-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee in Strasbourg on 12 and 13 February was chaired jointly by Mr Fellermaier, Member of the European Parliament, and Mr Vural, Member of Turkey's National Assembly, and attended by Mr Haferkamp. Discussion focused mainly on the Association Council's exchanges of views and 'joint conclusions' of 5 February, and in particular on the aim of consolidating the Association so as to pave the way for Turkey's accession to the Community. Mr Haferkamp announced that the Commission intended to take practical measures to assist the Ankara Government's economic recovery programme. He also urged that discusssions on the fourth Financial Protocol should start without delay so as to ensure smooth transition from the third.

Cyprus

Signature of the Transitional Protocol

2.2.53. Under the Transitional Protocol negotiated between the Community and Cyprus,² which was signed on 7 February, the tirst stage of the EEC-Cyprus Association Agreement was extended until 31 December. This first stage had previously been extended until 31 December 1979, and a Communication on negotiations for the new Protocol had been presented by the Commission to the Council on 25 January. The exploratory talks on transition to the second stage (establish-

Bull. EC 2-1980 73

Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

^{&#}x27; OJ C 45 of 22.2.1980.

ment of a customs union) started on 29 January.'

Yugoslavia

Initialling of Cooperation Agreement

2.2.54. Negotiations between Yugoslavia and the Community for an economic and trade Cooperation Agreement were completed on 25 February with its initialling,2 in accordance with the spirit of the Belgrade Declaration of 2 December 1976.

Commission President visits Belgrade

2.2.55. At the invitation of the Yugoslav Government, Mr Jenkins made an official visit to Yugoslavia, where he had talks with the President of the Federal Executive Council, Mr Veselin Djuranovic, the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Josip Vrhovec, and others. These exchanges of views primarily concerned relations with the Community in general and, more specifically, the new Cooperation Agreement and how best to make full use of its potential.

2.2.56. On 15 February Parliament adopted a Resolution on relations between the EEC and Yugoslavia.3

Tunisia

74

2.2.57. Mr Cheysson, Member of the Commission with special responsibility development, paid an official visit to Tunisia from 13 to 15 February. His talks with the Tunisian Government ranged over matters relating to enlargement of the Community, fisheries, textiles and implementation of activities programmed under the Cooperation Agreement. The two parties expressed satisfaction with their exchange of views and with the prospects for consolidating relations between the Community and Tunisia, despite the unsettled international and Mediterranean scene.

Developing countries

ACP States and OCTs

ACP-EEC Convention

Implementation of the new Convention

Transitional measures

2.2.58. For the purpose of implementing the transitional measures required from 1 March 1980 until the Convention signed in Lomé on 31 October 19794 enters into force, the Council adopted, on 18 February, a Regulation concerning the application of Decision 1/80 of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers of 18 January 1980 relating to such mea-

The same day the Council also approved a set of measures presented by the Commission in order to allow advance application of certain Lomé II provisions on cooperation in the agricultural sector.5

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.2.42. Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Bull. EC 10-1979, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5.

OJ L 55 of 28.2.1980.

Lastly, the Council adopted a number of measures aimed at taking account of relations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and with the overseas countries and territories associated with the Community: the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the ACP States or the OCTs; import arrangements for tomatoes, carrots and onions originating in the ACP States (1980);1 and decisions on import arrangements for rum, arrack and tafia from ACP States and OCTs.1

Aid programming

2.2.59. In conjunction with the individual ACP States, the Commission has started to programme Community aid for the period covered by the new Convention. In all, 59 ACP States are to benefit, and the Commission will do its best to speed up the programming process during the transitional period up to the entry into force of Lomé II.

Accessions

2.2.60. On 27 February St Vincent and the Grenadines formally acceded to the ACP-EEC Convention and thus became an ACP State.2

Institutions

ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly

2.2.61. The Joint Committee of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly met in Arusha, Tanzania, from 25 to 28 February, under the co-chairmanship of Mr Kango Ouedraogo (Upper Volta) and Mr Bersani (Italy). It examined a preliminary draft report to the

Consultative Assembly taking stock of the results of Lomé I in preparation for the forthcoming entry into force of Lomé II. Other items on the agenda included the respect and protection of the rights of students, trainees and migrant workers frm the ACP States, cultural cooperation and preparation of the meeting to be held with representatives of business and labour on the role played by small and medium-sized enterprises in development strategy.

Lastly, it adopted three declarations, on the results of Lomé I and the forthcoming entry into force of Lomé II, sugar and southern Africa.

Association of OCTs

2.2.62. On 5 February the Council adopted a Decision³ adjusting its Decision of 29 June 1976 on the overseas countries and territories so as to take account of the accession of St Lucia and Kiribati, two former OCTs, to the Lomé Convention.

Export earnings

Stabex

2.2.63. On 6 February the Commission approved the following transfers, for 1978, under the system for stabilizing export earnings:

Sudan — groundnuts, in shell: 9 325 911 EUA;

Swaziland — iron ore: 5 490 459 EUA.

OJ L 55 of 28.2.1980.

² OJ L 65 of 11.3.1980.

OJ L 35 of 12.2.1980.
DJ L 176 of 1.7.1976.

2.2.64. On 4 February the Commission also decided to make the following advance payments for 1979:

Gambia—groundnut oil: 3 100 000 EUA; Gambia—groundnut oil-cake: 592 000 EUA.

European Development Fund

New financing decisions

2.2.65. In February the Commission decided to finance projects at a total cost of 13 505 000 EUA, the sectoral breakdown being as follows:

Economic infrastructure 12 000 000 EUA Education and training 320 000 EUA Exceptional aid 1 185 000 EUA

13 505 000 EUA

Asia

ASEAN countries

2.2.66. As part of the Community programme to assist regional integration of the developing countries, an advanced training course lasting several weeks opened on 2 February at the ILO International Centre for Advanced Technical and Vocational Training in Turin for technical staff, most of them from the member countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations. The purpose of this course, which covers the design, equipment, operation and maintenance of plant using non-traditional sources of energy, such

as geothermal and heliothermal power, is to give the participants the grounding they need to assist regional and national authorities later on in implementing projects utilizing these types of energy.

South Asia

India

2.2.67. On 29 February Mr Haferkamp inaugurated in Brussels the India Trade Centre of the Economic Mission of India, in the presence of Mr A.S. Gill, Commerce Secretary of the Indian Government, and Mr Dave, the Indian Ambassador.

In his address, Mr Haferkamp pointed out that the Community financial contribution (1.1 million EUA spread over three years — the largest to be allocated to date for a trade promotion project) was commensurate with the hopes placed in the success of this venture. In this connection, he recalled that 75% of EEC imports from India now consisted of manufactures but that this substantial trade flow could only be increased, or indeed maintained, if constant efforts were made in the coming years to explore new markets and adapt products. Here the new Centre would have a major role to play.

Mr Gill made the point that the Centre's inauguration came at just the right time to sustain the 'second wind' which Indian exports so needed on order to put an end to the recent lack of growth. This venture also anticipated the closer ties between India and the Community in all areas of economic cooperation which his Government continued to work for in the current negotiations on an agreement to replace that of 1973.

Latin America

Andean Group

2.2.68. On 28 February the Commission recommended to the Council that negotiations be opened with the Andean Group (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) with a view to concluding a framework non-preferential cooperation agreement. This agreement would be of an evolutive nature, and no sphere falling within the Community's responsibility would be excluded from the outset. It will take account of the level of development of the Andean Group countries and seek to consolidate, intensify and diversify trade between the two regions as well as laying the foundations for economic cooperation in all fields where the parties consider there is a need.

This recommendation is a follow-up to the talks held in July 19791 between the President of Colombia, Mr Turbay Ayala, and Members of the Commission.

Coming so soon after the conclusion of the cooperation agreement with the ASEAN countries,2 the opening of negotiations for a similar agreement with the Andean Pact would thus bear out the Community's desire for balanced external relations.

Brazil

2.2.69. On 5 February, acting on the Commission's request of 26 September 1979,3 the Council authorized the Commission to open negotiations for a trade and economic cooperation agreement with Brazil.

State-trading countries

Romania

2.2.70. The fourth round of the negotiations between the Community and Romania for agreements on industrial products (other than textiles and iron and steel products) and the establishment of a Joint Committee took place in Brussels on 7 and 8 February. This round produced the first major results in the talks — the initialling of the Agreement setting up a Joint Committee.

The Committee will meet each year at the highest possible level, alternating between Brussels and Bucharest. It will examine developments in trade between the parties and will make recommendations on any matters of mutual concern in that connection.

Substantial progress was also made on the industrial agreement, and the delegations agreed to meet again soon.

Diplomatic relations

2.2.71. The President of the Council and the President of the Commission received Their Excellencies Mr N'Faly Sangare and Mr Alfredo Ferreira Fortes, who presented their letters of credence as Heads of the Missions of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea and of the Republic of Cape Verde

77

Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.99.

Bull EC 12-1979, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.8.

Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.2.52. Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.2.71; Bull. EC 5-1979, point 2.2.78; Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.2.61.

respectively to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC) with effect from 5 February.¹

The two Presidents also received Their Excellencies Mr Idriss Jazairy and Mr Pierre Cuenoud, who presented their letters of credence as Heads of the Missions of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and of the Swiss Confederation respectively to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC) with effect from 7 February.

The new Ambassadors of Guinea, Algeria and Switzerland succeed Mr Sekou Top, Mr Messaoud Ait Chaalal and Mr Claude Caillat, who have been appointed to other duties. Mr Fortes is Cape Verde's first Head of Mission to the Communities, bringing the total number of diplomatic missions to the Communities up to 115.

European political cooperation

Ministerial meeting

2.2.72. The Foreign Ministers of the Nine met in Rome on 19 February to discuss political cooperation. The meeting was chaired by Mr Ruffini, Foreign Minister of Italy, President of the Council and of European political cooperation, while the Commission was represented by Mr Jenkins and Mr Haferkamp.

At a press conference given after the meeting Mr Ruffini issued the following text:

Position of the Nine on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan

'1. The Nine focused their discussion mainly on the situation created by the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

- 2. They noted their agreement on the analysis of the situation and its implications. In this connection they took the view that their declaration of 15 January¹ is still completely valid.
- 3. They stressed in particular that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan remains their objective and that they will endeavour to establish the conditions for this.
- 4. It is also their desire to seek out ways and means of restoring a situation in line with the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 14 January, which appeals to all States to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned character of Afghanistan and to refrain from any interference in the internal affairs of that country.
- 5. They take the view that, in this spirit, the crisis could be overcome contructively through an arrangement which allows a neutral Afghanistan to be outside competition among the powers.
- 6. Accordingly, they have decided to go into this point more thoroughly and to concert their position on the subject with all allied and friendly countries and with all countries having an interest in the equilibrium and stability of the region.'

2.2.73. On 15 February Parliament adopted five Resolutions on political cooperation themes, namely: measures to be taken by the European Community following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; the arrest of Andrei Sakharov; the Olympic Games in Moscow; the tragic situation and threat of famine in Cambodia; and events in Guatemala.³

OJ C 57 of 7.3.1980.

² Bull. EC 1-1980, point 1.1.4.

OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Institutional and political matters

European policy

Institutional developments and European policy

Action on the Report of the Three Wise Men

2.3.1. As agreed by the European Council in Dublin' when it discussed the Report on the European Institutions2 prepared by the Three Wise Men, an informal meeting of State Secretaries for Foreign Affairs was held at Varese, Italy, on 8 February; Mr Zamberletti, Italian State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, was in the chair, and the Commission was represented by Mr Gundelach.

The meeting considered the main points of the Report and reached a number of initial conclusions for more detailed study by the Representatives. Permanent Α ministerial meeting is to be held in March to prepare the ground for a brief discussion of the Report at the next European Council.

Convergence and budgetary questions

2.3.2. Convergence and budgetary questions were again at the centre of Community interest in February.

The Council meeting on economic and financial affairs on 11 February discussed the Commission Communication³ (the fourth of its kind) adopted at the end of January and transmitted to the Council on 5 February.

The new Communication was presented by Mr Ortoli, who considered that the Commission had accordingly satisfied the request made by the Dublin European Council on 29 and 30 November. Reactions to it varied.

Mr Pandolfi, Italian Treasury Minister, asked the Governments to consider the paper with a view to discussing it later, the procedure to be determined by the Presidency.

2.3.3. Mr Jenkins spoke on the same subject the next day when presenting the Commission's Programme for 1980' to Parliament. He reminded the House that the Commission's new Communication had been called for by the European Council. He emphasized that the proposals in it were capable of providing a pragmatic solution to two major problems—the structural difficulties met by the least prosperous Member States and the question of the UK contribution to the Community budget. The Commission, he said, had sought to reduce these problems to their proper dimension and to make proposals that would both remove certain disequilibria and promote a measure of real convergence.

2.3.4. A few days later, on 18 February, the same topic was discussed when Mr Jenkins and Mr Cossiga met in Rome on the eve of the political cooperation meeting. It was only natural that the Presidents of the Commission and the Council should meet, for the European Council in Dublin had asked the Commission to make proposals enabling the Council to prepare solutions for adoption at the next European Council, which the President was to convene as soon as the time was ripe.⁴

Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.11.

Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.

Bull. EC 1-1980, points 3.4.1 (full text) and 2.3.5. Bull. EC 11-1979, point 1.1.7.

Point 1.1.10.

Powers of the Community and the Member States

2.3.5. In the light of the Opinion given by the Court of Justice on 4 November 1979 concerning the question of Community powers1-which had arisen in connection with the agreement on natural rubber concluded in October 1979² under the UNCTAD Integrated Programme for Commodities—the Commission defined its position in a recommendation sent to the Council on 25 February. It proposes that only the Community in its own right should sign the agreement and should bear the cost of financing it. In its Opinion the Court had stressed that in the case at issue the Community's powers depended on the arrangements for financing the buffer stock which it was proposed to set up under the agreement. The Community would have exclusive powers if the stock were financed from the Community budget; however, if the costs were borne by the Member States, they would have to participate in the agreement.

In its recommendation the Commission opted for the solution of exclusive Community powers.

Institutions and organs of the Communities

Parliament³

Part-session in Strasbourg from 11 to 15 February

2.3.6. Again in February the political issues constituted the main focus of concern in Par-

liament; the House passed three resolutions on the consequences of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the arrest of the scientist Andrei Sakharov. One of these resolutions urged the governments of the Nine to advise their National Olympic Committee to ask their teams and individual athletes not to take part in the Moscow Olympics: the text gave added point to the resolution passed in January⁴ and threw Parliament's support behind the declaration made by the President, Mrs Veil, in Washington at the end of January.

One of the main items of the agenda for February was energy⁵ and the problems related to it, such as the management and storage of radioactive waste.⁶ But the House also devoted much time to the Community's immediate problems of 1980 in debates on the Commission's programme,⁷ the programme, the programme, the programme is the commission's programme, the programme is the commission is the co

² Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.2.21.

The countries of origin are indicated in brackets by the following abbreviations: B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, D = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

OJ C 279 of 8.11.1979; Bull. EC 10-1979, point 2.3.7.

³ 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 59 of 10.3.1980, and the report of proceedings is contained in OJ Annex No 251. The political group and nationality 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 Independant Groups and Members; NA = Non-Affiliated.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.3.12.

⁵ Point 2.3.11.

Point 2.3.16.

Point 2.3.7.

ramme for the Italian Presidency, agricultural prices for the new marketing year and the Commission's statement concerning its new budget proposals for 1980.

Commission programme for 1980 (12 and 14 February)

2.3.7. After presenting the General Report on the Activities of the Communities in 1979, Mr Jenkins outlined the Commission's programme for 1980.4

His statement was greeted with reserve and disappointment on the part of some members: Mr Glinne (Soc/B), on behalf of his Group, was sorry that the programme offered no prospects for the future; in a similar vein, Mr Jonker (EPP/NL) found that Mr Jenkins' statement and his tone lacked bite; the Commission was not providing leadership (Mr Scott-Hopkins (ED/UK)); here was a 'Europe of poverty, unemployment and submission' (Mr Gremetz (COM/F)); 'no imagination' (Mr Berkhouwer (Lib/NL)). The EPD Group in the person of Mr Nyborg (EPD/DK) felt that the Commission was not active enough in tackling the technical barriers in the internal market; Mr Pannella (Ind/I) put his hopes in another Europe. Mr Spinelli (COM/I) compared the Commission to a 'plane in a fog, with no radar, not knowing where it was flying'.

Despite these general criticisms, most of the Groups nevertheless gave the Commission some support. Mr Glinne (Soc/B) urged it to demonstrate more forcefully its independence from the Council. Mr Jonker (EPP/NL) warned the Commission against losing its power of initiative as the European Council widened its prerogatives, while Mr Pannella (Ind/I) put the blame for the Commission's failings fairly and squarely on the Council,

when he said that it was the governments who would have the Commission as it was, in so far as policy decisions were taken by the Council. Mr Gendebien (NA/B) wanted to see a Commission less dependent on governments

At the close of the debate Mr Jenkins hoped that Parliament and the Commission would lend each other support, rather than give vent to their frustrations in the Community's present difficulties by bandying recriminations.

Programme of the Italian Presidency (13 February)

2.3.8. There had not been enough time during the January sittings for a full debate on the programme of the Italian Presidency presented by Mr Ruffini.⁵ This postponement enabled the House to make an in-depth analysis of the programme in February.

Though the statement was generally described as ambitious, some members, such as Mr Visentini (Lib/I), felt that it lacked overall vision. Expressing doubts that all the words could be translated into deeds, Mr de la Malène (EPD/F) specified the three problems requiring priority attention: the common agricultural policy, the budget and the British contribution. To settle the problem of the contribution, Mr Galland (Lib/F) suggested three things the Council could do: it could put Community preference into practice, develop new common policies and set up temporary arrangements for solidarity which could be applied to help any Member State in

Point 2.3.8.

Point 2.3.9.

¹ Point 2.3.10.

Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.12.

⁵ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.3.13.

difficulty. Mr Galland was thus prompted to contest the merits of the Commission's new suggestions on this issue.

Agricultural prices for 1980/81 (12 February)

2.3.9. Mr Gundelach stoutly defended the Commission's farm price proposals for 1980/81,² which were causing concern among the farming community. He explained that the Commission had had to 'reconcile the irreconcilable'. 'If you look at the market situation alone,' he said, 'you will be forced to refuse price increases; if you look at the budget in isolation, you will even ask for a reduction in prices; but if you look in isolation at the income needs of our 8 million farmers and their families, then you will be forced to ask for substantial price increases.'

Then, in attempting, as best it could to square the circle, the Commission had had to face up to the need for 'surgery'. The strategy was to balance the markets, to make producers pay the cost of increased production in sectors already in surplus and to dovetail the price proposals into the Commission's action on structure.

Reaction to Mr Gundelach's statement was very mixed. For Parliament's Committee on Agriculture, Mr Früh (EPP/D) spoke of alarm among the farming community over the difference between the proposed average increase of 2.6% and the 7.9% which would have resulted from strict application of the 'objective method'. The common agricultural policy was not to be judged by the single yardstick of what the budget could stand at the moment.

Mrs Castle (Soc/UK) was against any increase in surplus products and felt that small producers should be helped by a defi-

ciency payments scheme. Mr Marshall (ED/UK) condemned what he called the 'terminal cancer' of the common agricultural policy and disapproved of the idea of subsidies for sales of butter to the Soviet Union.

Mr Pranchère (COM/F) was worried about the risk of a slump in beef and veal prices. He attacked the imports of butter from New Zealand and tax-free imports of vegetable fats. In conclusion, he protested against the liquidation of farmholdings and called for the abolition of monetary compensatory amounts.

Mr Delatte (*Lib*/F) stressed the need for buffer stocks; he considered food a strategic product. He also called for a tax on imported oils and fats and criticized the reduction of the sugar quotas at a time when demand was rising.

Mr Davern (EPD/IRL) and Mr Blaney (Ind/IRL) felt that the co-responsibility levy would be detrimental to the small farmer.

Mr Sutra (SodF) was astonished at the proposals, which offered a rate of increase below the rate of inflation. It was false to speak of surpluses when Community production and imports were being considered together. If imports from New Zealand were part and parcel of a policy believed to be right for the Community, then the whole Community ought to foot the bill and not just the farmers. His concluding comment was that monetary compensatory amounts were an aid from the poor to the rich.

In reply to the criticisms Mr Gundelach acknowledged that the 'objective method' would

Bull. EC 1-1980, point 3.4.1.

² Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.7.

Parliament Parliament

result in an increase of 7.9%. But this method was only one factor in an overall context, in which budgetary and economic problems had to be considered, as well as market conditions. Moreover, the objective method ignored increases in production. And yet farmers' incomes depended, more than any others, on the prices they could get and the quantities they produced. True, their real incomes were diminishing but not as much as was claimed. To those who were astonished to see prices increased, albeit slightly, in sectors with surpluses, Mr Gundelach replied that this was necessary if it was to be possible phase out monetary compensatory amounts.

Commission statement on the 1980 budget (13 and 14 February)

2.3.10. Mr Tugendhat set out the main lines of the new preliminary draft budget for 1980, which the Commission addressed to the Council at the end of February. His statement highlighted the main points on which the Commission had focused its efforts: agricultural expenditure; entry in the budget of lending and borrowing operations and the EDF; and non-compulsory expenditure. Mr Tugendhat considered the new budget better balanced. What was more, it reduced the proportion of VAT accruing as revenue; the Community was thus not quite so close to its revenue ceiling, which had been looming near as a threat to structural policies and hence to Parliament's budgetary powers.

In the brief debate which followed Parliament did not take a position. Some reservations were, however, already heard, particularly concerning the cuts made in expenditure on energy and transport as compared with the original preliminary draft. Mr Ansquer (EPD/F) wondered whether Parliament was not in fact being fooled about the improvements it thought it was getting.

Energy

(13 February)

2.3.11. The debate on energy centred on a paper and three oral questions, namely the report by Mr Fuchs (*EPP*/D) on the Commission's Communication on energy objectives of the Community for 1990 and convergence of policies of Member States,² two questions from Mr Müller-Hermann (D), for the *EPP* Group, and Mr Pintat (*L*/F) on energy supply and a third from Mr Schmid (*Sod*/D) on the safety of pressurized-water nuclear reactors.

Mr Fuchs's report contained scathing criticism of the Council. The principles which it had adopted in 1974 and 1975 in respect of a common energy policy had not been more than declarations of intent. The Energy Ministers were 'constantly incapable' of implementing the European Council's decisions, that is of putting Community interests before national interests.

The only way for the Community to meet its vital energy needs in 1990 would be through coal and nuclear energy. This meant going ahead with the expansion of nuclear energy and defining stricter safety standards at Community level. For its part, the Commission must help in making the public aware of the energy problem. It must also present a practical programme involving a loan of 2000 mil-

¹ Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5.

² Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.109.

lion EUA to finance investments in the energy industry and promote the conservation and 'recycling' of energy.

Mr Müller-Hermann, Mrs Walz (EPP/D) and other members put a number of questions to the Council, condemning its failure to act. They urged it to get a common energy policy on the stocks, with the aim of reducing the Community's dependence on oil by 1990; the dialogue with the public must be stepped up and clear information provided. Both Mr Fuchs and Mr Müller-Hermann urged the Socialists to drop their 'antinuclear' attitude, calling it a 'policy of irresponsible fear' which the Community could not afford.

When putting their question about the safety of pressurized-water reactors, Mr Schmid and other Socialists asked the Commission to make representations to the French Government about the safety of the population just over the border following the discovery of cracks in the Gravelines and Tricastin reactors. Mr Schmid confirmed that the Socialists consider safety the top priority.

2.3.12. Speaking for the Council, Mr Bisaglia listed the proposals which the Council had adopted and those on which it had still to reach a decision and reiterated the major options determined at the European Councils.

For the Commission, Mr Brunner made an eloquent appeal for the Community at last to act in order to release itself from its dependence on imported oil. He did not reject the idea of a Community loan, but added that a loan cost money and that it was by no means certain that governments with a heavy debt servicing burden would agree to such a loan. The Community, for its part, should play a coordinating role. It would use the funds at

its command to support projects adopted by the governments.

2.3.13. The second part of the debate brought out the dissent between those who are convinced of the need to go nuclear and those who still have misgivings. Thus Mr Linkohr (Sod/D) had to justify the views of his Group, views based on stringent safety requirements, which at the moment were not being met. Other Socialist members, notably Mrs Roudy (F) and Mr Abens (L) also spoke in the same vein.

In the debate the Socialists were supported by some of the independent or non-affiliated members, including Mr Coppieters (*Ind/B*), who called for a moratorium on nuclear energy, and Mr Gendebien (*NI/B*), wary of nuclear power, which to his mind implied political options involving the centralization of society.

The spokesmen of the other Groups argued, with varying degrees of conviction, for the nuclear option, yet denying, like Mr Hoffman (EPP/D), that it was to be nuclear energy 'at any price'. Mr Seligman (ED/UK) said that if we banned nuclear power we were choosing poverty. For Mr Ippolito (Com/I) nuclear energy was indispensable but every safety measure had to be taken and a policy of energy-source diversification actively pursued.

Winding up the debate, Mrs Lizin (SodB) criticized the Commission for being too modest about its own role, notably in regard to the investigations now being conducted into accidents in nuclear power stations. She felt that the Commission should not swallow the information which the governments condescended to send it. Where nuclear safety was involved national independence was out of the question.

Voting

2.3.14. At the end of the debate three resolutions were adopted. The first, on the Community's energy objectives for 1990 and convergence of policies of the Member States and on nuclear energy and energy policy,' was passed despite the opposition of many Socialists, Independents and non-affiliated members and, for different reasons, of the French Communists. The resolution passed was a slightly amended version of the motion in Mr Fuchs' report.

The second resolution concerned the 'safety of pressurized-water reactors; two proposals moved by members of the Socialist Group were rejected. The text adopted, moved by Mr Seligman (ED/UK), welcomed the decision to build a reactor of this type in the United Kingdom, while emphasizing the demands of safety.

In conclusion to the question from the EPP Group on Community energy supply, the House also passed a resolution calling, in particular, for a reduction in electricity production based on hydrocarbons, a Community programme incorporating coal and nuclear energy, a European solution to the problems of safety and waste and better information for the public from the governments.

Textiles and shipbuilding (12 and 14 February)

2.3.15. In parallel with its proposal for a Regulation on Community aid for industrial restructuring and conversion operations²—on which Parliament delivered its opinion in April 1979³ but which has not yet been adopted—the Commission consulted the House on its proposals⁴ designating the first two eligible industries (shipbuilding and textiles), as Parli-

ament requested in its opinion² on the proposal for the basic Regulation.

On behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Sir David Nicholson and Miss Forster (ED/UK) called for a general policy of aid for restructuring and converting crisis industries over the next five years and urged that the various Community Funds be coordinated in order to conduct that policy.

As regards shipbuilding, Mr Carossino (Com/I) questioned the Commission about its programme, asking it, in particular, to begin negotiations with the Member States in order to make shipyards more competitive.

Rather than a discussion of the measures proposed by the Commission, the ensuing debate was much more an opportunity for the Groups to highlight the shortcomings of Community industrial policy and even challenge the policy itself.

Mr Delors (Soc/F), for example, appealed for an overall design for industrial cooperation in the Community. Policy must be given a better trim by putting priority on the right to work and countering the regional imbalances; there was no dynamic conversion policy. Policy must also be more consistent. A Fund for industry should be set up together with a Council of Industry which would provide the impetus for Community action.

Mr Damseaux (Lib/B) felt that the Community must face the facts. Europe's share of the shipping market had declined while that of

¹ Bull. EC 6-1979, point 2.1.109.

² OJ C 272 of 16.11.1978; Bull. EC 11-1978, point 2.1.11.

³ OJ C 127 of 21.5.1979; Bull. EC 4-1979, point 2.3.10.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1979, point 2.1.27.

the third world was substantially increasing. We had to modernize and at the same time reduce freight capacity. Mr Damseaux went on to deplore the 'free-for-all' in the credit terms offered in the different Member States. The need for a competitive industry must in the long term prevail over regional considerations

Mr Poncelet (EPD/F) wanted a genuine European textile policy. He was horrified to see that as a result of the textile agreements concluded by the Community in 1979 ceilings fixed earlier had been far exceeded. This had penalized Community industries which had invested in good faith. In conclusion, he pointed to the inconsistency between providing aid for restructuring and then financing new textile companies, particularly American or Japanese ones, in depressed areas.

The French Communists, in the persons of Mrs Demarch and Mrs Hoffmann, accused the Community of organizing the 'scuttling of crisis industries and subsidizing dismissals to the advantage of the multinationals, the aim of industrial policy ought first and foremost to be the satisfaction of national needs.

In his reply for the Commission Mr Davignon pointed out that the first stumbling block for industrial policy lay in the fact that no one had sensed the need for it when the Treaty was signed. He went on to say that one and the same strategy should embrace both old and new industries, adaptation and development. Having deplored the inertia of the Council, which should be prodded into taking a definite position, he told the French Communists that the workers in one country could not be considered in isolation from workers in the others. If Community coordination did not back up the efforts which had to come from the governments, then the rich would get richer and the poor get poorer.

He ended by emphasizing the slender resources available to the Commission compared with the overwhelming scale of the problems involved.

At the end of the debate Parliament adopted the report presented by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, including an amendment by the Committee on Budgets to the effect that financial aid for industrial restructuring and conversion be initiated on the strength of appropriations authorized in the budget without waiting for regulations to be adopted by the Council or submitting projects to it for prior informal agreement.

- 2.3.16. As usual Parliament adopted a number or resolutions or opinions. These concerned:
- (i) management and storage of radioactive waste: the resolution motion amended during the January sittings¹ approves the programme proposed by the Commission;²
- (ii) Community policy on oils, fats and proteins: Parliament called on the Commission to propose a balanced policy and open negotiations with the main supplier countries in order to stabilize the markets;
- (iii) the proposal for a Regulation on Community transit:³ Parliament approved this proposal, finding that it was a major step towards simplifying administrative formalities; it suggested a number of amendments to clarify the text;
- (iv) the proposal for a Decision on the conclusion of the Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution: Parliament

¹ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.3.14.

OJ C 80 of 27.3.1979; Bull. EC 2-1979, point 2.1.93.
OJ C 241 of 26.9.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point

^{2.1.23.}OJ C 281 of 10.11.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point 2.1.42.

believed that swift and effective application of the Convention would be a big step forward;

- (v) the proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from harmful exposure to chemical, Physical and biological agents at work: this was approved but the Commission was asked to make a few adjustments in respect of fixing limit values;
- (vi) relations between the Community and Yugoslavia.
- 2.3.17. In regard to food aid and aid for disasters Parliament passed two resolutions on emergency aid to be granted to the island of Réunion, devastated by hurricane Hyacinth. In another resolution the House emphasized the tragic situation and threat of starvation in Kampuchea.

In the sphere of political cooperation, besides the resolution on Afghanistan,² Parliament passed a resolution on events in Guatemala, condemning the terrorist violence blighting the country and 'inviting the governments of the Member States to operate a diplomatic boycott of the dictatorial regime'.

Council

2.3.18. The Council held three meetings in February. Table 4 lists the number, date and place of each meeting, the names of the Council President and Commission representatives and the main items dealt with. The footnotes refer to the points in the Bulletin where a more detailed account is given of decisions taken, agreements reached, positions adopted and questions discussed.

² Point 2.2.72.

Table 4 — Council meetings in February

Meeting No, place and date	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
623rd Brussels 5.2.1980	Foreign affairs	Mr Ruffini, Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs		Nuclear energy. Agreement on 'nuclear trilogy' (radioactive waste, reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuels and fast-breeder option).¹ New JRC and fusion programmes. Permanent Representatives Committee instructed to agree on appropriate technical solutions so that programmes can be adopted at a forthcoming meeting. Steel: budgetary aspect. Council considered Commission's proposal

Points 2.1.86 to 2.1.92.

Bull. EC 2-1980 87

OJ C 89 of 5.4.1979; Bull. EC 3-1979, point 2.1.52.

Table 4 continued)

Meeting No, place and date	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
623 rd Brussels 5.2.1980				to allocate additional resources to ECSC budget to finance Commun- ity aid for conversion projects.
(contin.)				Yugoslavia. Council informed of progress in negotiations for EEC-Yugoslavia Agreement. ²
•				Brazil. Commission authorized to open negotiations for Economic and Commercial Cooperation Agreement.
1				GATT: textile fibres. Discussion of Commission report on problems arising from considerable increase in imports of certain textile fibres originating in the USA. Council asked Commission to continue consultations with USA under GATT Article XXIII(1).4
				Afghanistan
				Aid for refugees. Agreement on emergency aid and food aid pro- jects for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. ⁵
				Exports of agricultural products. Council reaffirmed decisions taken on 15 January.
				Export credits. Council agreed common policy on relations with the USSR — Member States to apply existing OECD consensus without any derogations. ⁷
				Gulf countries. Initial discussion on possibility of economic cooperation.

Point 2.3.50.

Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3.

Point 2.2.69.
Point 2.2.2.
Point 2.2.31.
Point 2.1.50; Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.1.36.
Point 2.2.12.

Commission Commission

Table 4 (continued)

Meeting No, place and date	Subject	President	Commission	Main items dealt with
624th Brussels 11.2.1980	Economic and finan- cial affairs	Mr Pandolfi, Italian Minister of the Treasury	Mr Ortoli, Vice-President; Mr Tugendhat, Member	Financial implications of CAP. Council took note of Commission's proposals for improving common agricultural policy as an aid in balancing markets and streamlining expenditure; Permanent Representatives Committee asked to review financial aspects of improvements.
				Economic situation in the Com- munity. General discussion. ²
				Convergence. Council discussed the Commission's new communication on convergence and budgetary questions.
625th Brussels 18.2.1980	Agriculture	Mr Marcora, Ita- lian Minister of Agriculture and	Mr Gundelach, Vice-President	Farm prices. Initial discussion on proposals for farm prices and certain related measures. ³
		Forestry		Wine. Council laid down certain technical rules for implementing a series of measures decided in December concerning market management and structural operations.
				Sheepmeat. Discussion on common organization of market.

Point 2.1.52.

Commission

Activities

2.3.19. As in January, the Commission again focused its attention mainly on the

1980/81 farm prices, the new 1980 budget proposals, and energy questions. Other topics which it considered included relations with Turkey, a cooperation agreement with Yugoslavia and guidelines for the generalized preferences scheme after 1980.

Point 2.1.2. Point 2.1.48.

Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.105. Point 2.1.58.

Point 2.1.49.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.3.20. The main proposals or communications adopted by the Commission for transmission to the Council concerned common agricultural prices and related measures for the coming marketing year. agricultural markets in 1979, the new 1980 budget proposals and food aid programmes for 1980 (cereals, skimmed-milk powder and butteroil). It also adopted decisions on emergency aid to disaster victims (Azores and Réunion) and took a number of decisions on infringement procedures. A recommendation was sent to the Council for negotiations to be opened with the Andean Group.

Discussions, policy debates and work in hand

2.3.21. The main subjects discussed at the Commission's four meetings in February were: the problems raised by the sale of agricultural products to the USSR following the events in Afghanistan (continued from Ianuary); future relations between the Community and Turkey; accession negotiations with Spain (guidelines for agriculture); the problems posed by imports of man-made fibres from the United States; the outcome of the ministerial political cooperation meeting on 19 February; a proposal for a Directive relating to duties on manufactured tobacco. The Commission also held general discussions on Community action on energy, the Community's generalized preferences scheme after 1980 and the application of measures on new information technology.

Emergency aid to Member States

2.3.22. On 12 February the Commission decided to grant a further one million EUA (about FF 5 858 000) in emergency aid to the island of Réunion in addition to the 300 000 EUA approved on 30 January. The Commission will consider any future requests submitted by the French Government for structural aid under the EAGGF or the ERDF. Two Resolutions adopted by Parliament on 15 February—on the urgent need for emergency aid for the island—were transmitted to the Commission and the Council.

Relations with workers' and employers' organizations

2.3.23. A number of subjects were discussed during the preliminary consultations with trade unions. Representatives of the European Trade Union Confederation discussed the rights of public service workers to representation and the Confederation's consumer protection policy. Experts from the European Trade Union Committee of Food and Allied Workers and from the European Federation of Agricultural Workers Unions discussed European dairy policy.

Representatives of the European Metalworkers' Federation took part in a briefing session on the current situation in the field of electromechanical and nuclear equipment.

¹ Bull. EC 1-1980, point 2.3.24.

OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

Court of Justice Court of Justice

Court of Justice*

2.3.24. New cases

Case	Subject	Type of action	
Free movement of goods			
55/80 — Firma Musik-Vertrieb Membran GmbH, Hamburg v Gema, Berlin' and 57/80 — Firma K-tel Interna- tional, Frankfurt am Main v Gema, Munich'	The payment of the difference between the copyright fees imposed in respect of the marketing of sound recordings in a country where such fees are higher		pre-
53/80 — Officier van Justitie v Koninklijke Kaasfabriek Eyssen BV ¹			pre-
Customs Union			•
54/80 — Procureur de la République v S. Wilner ²	Valuation for customs purposes of inferior- quality textiles and clothing imported from the USA; interpretation of Regulation (EEC) No 803/78		pre-
50/80 — J. Horvath, Hamburg v Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Jonas	Payment of customs duties on smuggled goods (heroin)	Reference for liminary ruling	pre-
Competition			
58/80 — Dansk Supermarked AS, Aarhus v Imerco AS, Glostrup'	Exclusive sale of goods in Denmark	Reference for liminary ruling	pre-

OJ C 55 of 5.3.1980. OJ C 58 of 8.3.1980. OJ C 69 of 20.3.1980.

^{*} For more detailed information, see the texts published by the Court of Justice in the Official Journal and in the European Court Reports and the publications of its Information Office, the annual synopsis of the work of the Court or the information quarterly).

Case	Subject	Type of action
61/80 — Coöperatieve Stremsel- en Kleurselfabriek, Leeuwarden v Commission		Application for annulment
Taxation		
46/80 — SpA Vinal v SpA Orbat	Compatibility with Article 93 of the EEC Treaty of the taxing of synthetic ethyl alcohol at a rate higher than that imposed on ethyl alcohol	Reference for pre- liminary ruling
Social security for migrant workers		
47/80 — Caisse régionale d'assurance maladie Rhône-Alpes v F. Inzirillo	Requirement that children affording entitlement to the mother's allowance possess French nationality	
Agriculture		
56/80 — Firma A. Weigand, Bingen am Rhein v Schutzver- band Deutscher Wein e.V., Mannheim ¹	Interpretation of Regulation (EEC) No 355/79 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines	
62/80 — Antwerpse Rijstmolens NV v Council and Commission and 63/80 — Remy Products NV v Council and Commission ²	Compensation for loss suffered between the date of abolition of the refund for quellmehl and maize gritz and the judgment of the Court reintroducing the refund	
Infringements		
41/80 — Commission v Italian Republic ³	Non-application of Directives 76/889/EEC and 76/890/EEC (lighting equipment — fluorescent lamps)	

OJ C 58 of 8.5.1980. OJ C 71 of 22.3.1980. OJ C 55 of 5.3.1980.

Case	Subject	Type of action
42/80 — Commission v Italian Republic ¹	Non-application of Directives 73/361/EEC and 76/434/EEC (wireropes, chains and hooks)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
43/80 — Commission v Italian Republic ¹	Non-application of Directive 76/696/EEC (non-automatic weighing machines)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
44/80 — Commission v Italian Republic ¹ .	Non-application of Directives 76/116/EEC and 77/535/EEC (fertilizers)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
45/80 — Commission v Italian Republic ¹	Non-application of Directive 76/767/EEC (pressure vessels and methods for inspecting them)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
48/80 — Commission v Kingdom of Belgium ¹	Non-application of Directive 70/156/EEC (motor vehicles)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
49/80 — Commission v Kingdom of Belgium ¹	Non-application of Directive 76/767/EEC (pressure vessels)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty
65/80 — Commission v Federal Republic of Germany ²	Non-application of Directive 76/907/EEC (dangerous substances)	Action under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty

Disputes between the Community and its staff

v Commissions: 51/80, 52/80, 59/80, 60/80 v Council: 64/804

OJ C 55 of 5.3.1980. OJ C 71 of 22.3.1980. OJ C 75 of 25.3.1980. OJ C 76 of 26.3.1980.

Judgments

Date and case	Held
Customs union	
26.2.1980, 54/79 — Firma Hako-Schuh Dietrich Bahner, Augsburg v Hauptzollamt Frankfurt am Main Ost¹	
14.2.1980, 84/79 — Firma R. Meyer-Uetze, Hanover v Hauptzollamt Bad Reichenhall ²	The 'uniform free-domicile price' is not necessarily uniform for all destinations. The national court must decide what evidence is to be produced to establish that the free-frontier price is lower than the uniform free-domicile price
Social security for migrant workers	
14.2.1980, 53/79 — Office national des pensions pour travailleurs salariés v F. Damiani ²	The national court may award the claimant, at his request, interest at a rate to be fixed by the court on the amount of the benefits payable on a provisional basis
Agriculture	
13.2.1980, 74/79 — Office de commercialisation et d'exportation, Casablanca v SA Méditerranéenne et Atlantique des Vins Samavins, Saint Cloud ²	The question at issue is governed by the contractual relationship between the parties and not by Community law
13.2.1980, 77/79 — ML. Damas v Fonds d'orientation et de régulatisation des marchés agricoles ²	The premium in question binds the recipient personally. In the event of a disposal of the property, the recipient loses his entitlement to the premium
26.2.1980, 94/79 — Criminal proceedings against P. Vriend.	The national rules in question (marketing of vegetative propagating material) are incompatible with Articles 30 to 34 of the EEC Treaty
Infringements	
27.2.1980, 168/78 — Commission v French Republic	France has failed, in respect of products imported from other Member States, to fulfil its obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty (potable spirits)

OJ C 71 of 22.3.1980.
OJ C 58 of 8.3.1980.

Date and case	Held
27.2.1980, 169/78 — Commission v Italian Republic	Italy has failed, in respect of products imported from other Member States, to fulfil its obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty (potable spirits)
27.2.1980, 170/78 — Commission v United Kingdom	The parties are to reconsider the subject-matter of the dispute and report to the Court before 31 December 1980. The Court will give final judgment after that date
27.2.1980, 171/78 — Commission v Kingdom of Denmark	Denmark has failed, in respect of products imported from other Member States, to fulfil its obligations under Article 95 of the EEC Treaty (alcoholic beverages)
27.2.1980, 55/79 — Commission v Ireland	Ireland has failed to fulfil its obligations under the first paragraph of Article 95 of the EEC Tre- aty (alcoholic beverages)
Disputes between the Community and its staff	
13.1.1980, 256/78 (v Commission) ¹	Judgment in favour of applicant
7.2.1980, 43/79 (v Commission) ²	Judgment in favour of applicant

Orders for removal from the register

27.2.1980, 50/79 — Commission v France 13.2.1980, 134/79 — Criminal proceedings against G. Brunetti

Court of auditors

2.3.25. On 21 February the Court of Auditors adopted an opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 (and related rules) as regards the use of the ECU.

Economic and social committee

176th plenary session

2.3.26. The Economic and Social Committee held its 176th plenary session in Brussels on 27 and 28 February with Mr Vanni, Chairman of the Committee, in the Chair.

OJ C 58 of 8.3.1980. OJ C 55 of 5.3.1980.

Opinions

Industry

2.3.27. In its opinion on the Commission report on some structural aspects of growth the Committee looks at the recent downward trend in income and productivity growth rates and puts formard proposals for a new economic growth strategy.

Financial institutions

2.3.28. In a unanimous opinion on the Commission proposal for a Directive on insurance contracts forwarded to the Council on 10 July 1979² the Committee, in a desire to protect individuals, asked the Commission to include clearcut provisions on questions such as the time allowed for cancellation, the banning of misleading clauses, specific references to exclusions and expiry dates, and terms and conditions for the termination of insurance contracts.

2.3.29. The Committee also adopted an opinion, again unanimously, endorsing the proposal for a Directive on the setting-up and pursuit of credit insurance.³

Changes to the common agricultural policy

2.3.30. The Committee gave an opinion on the package of proposed Regulations contained in the Commission Communication of 3 December 1979⁴ introducing changes in the common agricultural policy to help balance the market and streamline expenditure.

Sugar

2.3.31. While the Committee is in favour of the proposal, particularly the maintenance of

a quota system, it feels that the Member States should have some room for manœuvre enabling them to adjust A and B quotas within the overall quota allocated to take account of differences between the regions.

Milk and milk products

2.3.32. In the Committee's view the milk proposals are unlikely to improve the situation on the market and fail to take sufficient account of incomes and employment.

Beef and veal

2.3.33. The Committee welcomed most of the points in the proposal but expressed doubts as to the feasibility of introducing a new Community grading system for beef and veal carcases promptly or replacing intervention by private storage from 1 April to 15 August.

Cereals

2.3.34. In view of the situation in the cereal sector and the conditions under which rye is grown the Committee does not feel that it is necessary to lower the intervention price as the Commission proposes.

Fruit and vegetables

2.3.35. The Committee feels strongly that the aid granted to the producers of certain

Twelfth General Report, point 99.

² OJ C 190 of 28.7.1979 and Bull. EC 7/8-1979, point 2.1.39.

³ OJ C 245 of 29.9.1979; Bull. EC 9-1979, point

⁴ OJ C 60 of 10.3.1980; Bull. EC 11-1979, points 1.2.1, to 1.2.10.

fruit-and vegetable-based processed products should be kept sufficiently high to offset the handicap which Community products suffer in competition with products from nonmember countries, which are heavily subsidized.

Starch

2.3.36. The Committee was unwilling to approve the Commission's proposal unless it could be sure that the starch sector, which processes large quantities of agricultural raw materials produced in the Community and is of great importance to the job market will not be jeopardized.

Study

2.3.37. In a study adopted on 28 February the Committee advocates the initial stabilization of imports of cereal substitutes intended for use in animal feed. It notes that there has been a systematic increase in the use of these products (particularly manioc) primarily because they are available cheaply. Community cereals are suffering as a result of this imbalance which, if it is allowed to continue, will in the long term make the Community more dependent on external suppliers and bring the animal feed market under the influence of the world market.

European Investment Bank

Operations in 1979

Financing operations up by 40%

2.3.38. During 1979 the financing operations of the EIB—the Community's long-

term financing institution—amounted to 3 071.1 million unites of account, an increase of 40% compared with the 2 188.3 million u.a. of 1978 and almost double the 1 571.5 million of 1977.

Loans for industrial projects, the development of energy resources and for other infrastructures in the Member States, or of direct interest for the Community, amounted to 2 558.2 million u.a., or roughly one-third more than the 1 966.5 million in 1978; more than 90% of this sum went to Italy, the United Kingdom, Ireland and France.

of loans-2 281.2 these million Most u.a.—were granted from the Bank's own resources (consisting mainly of funds raised on the world capital markets). The remainder, 277 million, was financed from resources of the New Community Lending and Borrowing Instrument² (still called the 'Ortoli Facility'), which became operational when the first loans were granted in September 1979.3 The facility is maintained by loans floated by the Commission on behalf of the Community. The Bank acts on behalf of the Community in granting loans for financing projects which the Commission approved.

Another major innovation last year was that under the arrangements governing the participation of Ireland and Italy in the European

¹ The EIB' unit of account is made up in the same way as the European Unit of Account (EUA) and the ECU. The conversion rates at 31 December 1979 used by the Bank in statistics for the first quarter of 1980 were: 1 u.a. = DM 2.49, UKL 0.65, FF 5.79, LIT 1 157, HFL 2.74, BFR 40.32, LFR 40.32, DKR 7.72, IRL 0.67, USD 1.44.

² OJ L 298 of 25.10.1978; Bull. EC 10-1978, point 2.1.10.

³ Bull. EC 9-1978, point 2.1.5 and 2.3.73 to 2.3.76.

Monetary System, interest relief grants of 3%¹ were applied to certain loans in those countries. These subsidies were covered by funds earmarked for the purpose in the Community's 1979 Budget.

The expansion of the Bank's operations in 1979 reflects the emphasis laid by the European Council on the importance of projects involving a number of key sectors for the future development of the Community: the need to stimulate investment and combat unemployment, to narrow the gaps between the economic performances of Member States, to adjust to structural change, in particular with a view to the Community's enlargement, and, as far as possible, to reduce the Community's dependence on imported oil, which is a serious threat to economic growth in the years ahead.

Outside the Community the Bank lent 512.9 million u.a. (as against 221.7 million in 1978) to assist development in ten Mediterranean countries linked to the Community by Association or Cooperation Agreements and in sixteen African and Caribbean countries which signed the first Lomé Convention. Of that sum, 420.9 million u.a. was granted in the form of loans from the Bank's own resources (very often carrying interest relief financed by the Community) and 92 million in the form of financing on special terms (specifically, long-term loans, with minimal interest rates and various risk capital operations) granted from budgetary funds which the Bank manages on behalf of the Community.

2.3.39. To afford the means of boosting its lending operations, the Bank in 1979 raised the total of its borrowings to 2 481.2 million u.a. (mainly by public bond issues), roughly half of which was raised on the international market and certain national markets outside

the Community, the other half coming from markets within the Community. This sum represents an increase of 27% compared with the 1949.7 million raised in 1978. The main currencies borrowed were the US dollar (40.5%), the Mark (22%), the Guilder (11%), the French franc (8.3%), the Yen (6%) and the Swiss franc (4.5%). The Bank also borrowed in Belgian and Luxembourg francs, Austrian schillings and pounds sterling.

Community: priority for regional development and energy supplies

2.3.40. More than two-thirds of the amounts lent out in the Community have gone to investments in regions that are economically underdeveloped or suffering from industrial conversion problems.

The Bank has concentrated its efforts on areas where the difficulties are greatest and unemployment is highest: 62% of all regional development assistance has gone to regions -Ireland, the Mezzogiorno, Northern Ireland and Greenland—that qualify for absolute priority under the Community's regional policy. The great importance constantly attached to loans for regional development is in line with the Bank's main task under the Treaty of Rome and with one of the main objectives in the Council Decision on the New Community Instrument. The finance has been used to support a wide variety of industrial projects, water supply, sewers and irrigation schemes, and the improvement of telecommunications, transport facilities and electricity and gas supplies.

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

The Bank has also expanded the scale of its operations pursuant to its second main task—financing projects of common interest to several Member States or to the Community as a whole. This covers industrial cooperation between firms in different countries, the development of a European capacity in key industries, cross-frontier communications, environmental protection and, last but not least, investment to reduce the dependence of the Community on imported oil (for which loans have also been given under the NCI).

Breakdown by industry

2.3.41. In 1979 nearly 45% of all the loans given in the Community concerned energy. The total of 1 146.5 million u.a., of which 149.5 million were given under the NCI, was nearly 60% up on the previous year's figure of 721.3 million.

Water supply, irrigation, drainage and sewerage projects received 567.4 million (90.1 million under the NCI), and communications received 456.6 million (37.4 million under the NCI). In 1978 the corresponding figures were 357 million and 625.6 million.

Although the climate was not conducive to heavy investment and there were no requests for finance from major public-sector undertakings that had borrowed from the EIB in previous years, the Bank nevertheless lent more to other sectors, and particularly to manufacturing firms, whose share rose by 40% from 262.6 million EUA in 1978 to 377.6 million in 1979; moreover, there was a much wider spread of investments than before.

One noteworthy point is that 137.3 million u.a. was given in the form of 'global loans' to

national or regional institutions for onlending to finance small and medium-sized industrial projects selected with the agreement of the EIB (the 1978 figure was 99.9 million). The Bank attaches great importance to these global loans, for they are commonly used to finance labour-intensive projects which are of great value in the present situation. For the first time, incidentally, the Bank gave a global loan (worth 12 million u.a. to France for financing small and medium-sized infrastructure projects undertaken by public and local authorities to improve the regional development situation.

Breakdown by country

2.3.42. Loans in Italy ran to 990.4 million u.a., or Lit 1 129 000 million at the rate of exchange applying when the contracts were signed; 85 million u.a. (Lit 97 000 million) were given unde the NCI. The total is 24% up on the previous year's Lit 909 000 million and represents more than 38% of all the Bank's operations in the Community in 1979. Roughly 70% of all the money lent in Italy was for investment in the Mezzogiorno. A 3 point interest relief grant under the EMS was given on loans totalling 619.1 million u.a. (Lit 705 000 million).

In the United Kingdom a total of 844.3 million u.a. (£533.9 million) was lent as against 286.3 million in 1978 and 320.8 million in 1977. This gives 33% of all financing operations in the Community. Out of this, 105.3 million u.a. (£66.3 million) came from NCI resources.

Loans given in Ireland virtually tripled from £Irl 78.5 million in 1978 to £Irl 226.1 million (339.6 million u.a.) in 1979. Out of this, 86.7 million u.a. (£Irl 158 million) came

Bull. EC 2-1980 99

from NCI resources. The 3 point interest relief grant under the EMS was applied to loans totalling 259.3 million u.a. (£Irl 172.6 million).

Loans totalling 222.7 million u.a. (FF 1 312.1 million) were given in France, 58.4 million u.a. (Bfrs 2 350 million) in Belgium and 47.8 million u.a. (DM 120 million) in Germany.

Following special authorization from its Board of Governors the EIB gave a loan of 39.4 million u.a. for an energy project in Austria that is of direct interest to the Community.

Outside the Community

Mediterranean countries: expansion of loan operations

2.3.43. With development loans totalling 426.5 million u.a. in ten countries, relating mainly to industrial, agricultural and energy projects, the EIB sharply stepped up its loan operations in non-Community Mediterranean countries in 1979. These loans were given under the agreements between these countries and the Community, and 78.8 million u.a. came from budget resources managed for the Community by the Bank.

In 1979 EIB assistance in countries that had already been assisted in the past was as follows: Greece — 114 million u.a.; Turkey — 82 million; Portugal — 46 million; Lebanon — 17 million. The following assistance given in countries receiving EIB finance for the first time: Egypt — 65 million; Morocco — 40 million; Tunisia — 24 million; Syria — 19 million; Jordan — 11.3 million; Malta — 8 million.

ACP

2.3.44. The Bank pursued its operations under the first Lomé Convention. It gave a total of 86.4 million u.a. in sixteen countries for manufacturing, mining, energy and tourism projects. EDF funds managed by the Bank accounted for 13.2 million, allocated for various risk-capital operations.

Loans to the ACP countries in 1979 were allocated as follows (in u.a.): Mauritania: 25 million; Cameroon: 16.7 million; the Ivory Coast: 16.3 million; Ghana: 6 million; Kenya: 5 million; Niger: 4.5 million; Barbados: 2.5 million; Mali: 2.5 million; the Gambia: 2.3 million; Madagascar: 2.3 million; Djibouti: 1 million; Senegal: 1.5 million; Burundi: 0.5 million. A further 300 000 u.a. was allocated to Swaziland, Cape Verde and Jamaica.

EIB financing operations in February

2.3.45. The European Investment Bank advanced a total of 240.9 million u.a. in February, of which 160.9 million went towards investment projects in Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, France and the United Kingdom, 75 million to Turkey and 5 million to the ACP State of Trinidad and Tobago. These operations bring to 257.5 million EUA the total volume of financing granted by the Bank so far this year.

Community

2.3.46. Six loans totalling the equivalent of IRL 42.9 million (64 million u.a.) have been granted by the European Investment Bank for

small and medium-scale industrial ventures (global loan of IRL 10 million to the Industrial Credit Company Ltd), water supply schemes, land drainage and fishing harbour development in Ireland. Five of the loans (IRL 32.9 million) are being made available with interest subsidies of 3% under arrangements agreed when Ireland joined the European Monetary System.

The water supply and sewage schemes are to be carried out in the south-west (IRL 10 million: Counties Cork and Kerry), the west (IRL 6.7 million: mainly counties Clare and Limerick) and the north-west (IRL 5 million: Counties Galway, Mayo and Sligo). IRL 5.5 million will be used to help finance land drainage schemes covering about 58 000 hectares in Counties Meath, Limerick and Mayo and IRL 5.7 million will go towards the development of commercial fishing harbour facilities at Killybegs and Greencastle (County Donegal) and Howth (County Dublin).

In Belgium, BFR 250 million (6.2 million u.a.) has been lent for ten years to Société Nationale de Crédit à l'Industrie (SNCI) — Nationale Maatschappij voor Krediet aan de Nijverheid (NMKN), which will use the proceeds to finance smaller-scale ventures selected in agreement with the EIB.

In Denmark, DKR 25 million (3.4 million u.a.), lent for ten years to the State, will be made available to the Regional Development Board (Egnsudviklingsraadet) for allocation in agreement with the EIB.

Both global loans will help finance priority projects in development or conversion areas.

In France, a loan of FF 460.9 million (79.6 million u.a.) has been granted to part-finance the second, third and fourth phases of the

nuclear power station at Dampierre-en-Burly (Centre).

In the United Kingdom, UKL 5 million (7.7 million u.a.) has been lent to the Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company Ltd for the construction and equipment of heavy engineering works at Darlington (County Durham). The project should create 85 new jobs and safeguard up to 1 400 existing jobs.

Non-member countries

2.3.47. In Turkey, the Bank has granted a loan of 75 million u.a. for the opening-up of lignite deposits and the construction of a power station near Elbistan (in south-east Turkey); the power station (installed capacity 1 260 MW) will be supplied with lignite from the mine and will be connected to the country's high-voltage supply system by two 380-KV transmission lines, one to Ankara (450 km) and the other to Kayseri (150 km). The loan is being granted on special terms under the third EEC-Turkey financial Protocol.

It is planned to bring the generating units on stream between the end of 1981 and 1983; the electricity produced at Elbistan should be equivalent to two million tonnes of oil per year, or approximately 15% of the country's oil imports in 1978.

2.3.48. Under the terms of the first Lomé Convention the European Investment Bank, has granted a loan of 5 million units of account to help finance small and medium-scale industrial and tourism ventures in Trinidad and Tobago. The global loan is being made available with 3% interest relief financed by the European Development Fund.

Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

2.3.49. On 29 February the Commission sent the Council its new budget proposals for 1980.¹ On 14 February Parliament had issued a declaration on the main features of these proposals, and this was followed by a debate.²

ECSC operating budget

2.3.50. On 5 February the Council discussed the budgetary aspects of the iron and steel sector. The budget estimates adopted by the Commission in December³ indicated that the appropriations for conversion aids (43 million EUA) could not be committed until extraordinary revenue of this amount had been obtained; the attitude which emerged from the Council was that these additional resources should be covered by an ad hoc contribution by the Member States. The Council therefore asked its appropriate departments to draw up a solution along these lines so that a decision could be taken in the near future.

Financial operations

ECSC

Loans raised

2.3.51. In February the Commission concluded the following borrowing operations:

- (i) a bond issue of LFR 500 million underwritten by a syndicate of Luxembourg banks. The bonds bear interest at the nominal rate of 10% payable annually over a ten-year period. The loan was opened for public subscription at 99% of the nominal value. Official quotation of the bonds on the Luxembourg exchange has been applied for;
- (ii) various private loans in Swiss francs, French francs and guilders, totalling 58.37 million EUA.

Loans granted

Loans paid out

2.3.52. Pursuant to Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission made loans amounting to some 198.1 million EUA in January and February.

Industrial loans

Industrial loans totalling 143.1 million EUA were granted to ten undertakings to finance the following programmes:

Coal industry

• United Kingdom: National Coal Board, London (powered roof supports).

Steel industry

Luxembourg

Société Metallurgique et Minière de Rodange-Athus (Rodange plant; two loans);

Points 1.5.1. to 1.5.5.

² Point 2.3.30 and OJ C 59 of 10.3.1980.

³ Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.3.99.

The particulars for ECSC loans relate to January and February 1980.

Arbed SA, Luxembourg (Schifflange, Esch-Belval and Differdange plants; two loans).

Italy

Italsider SpA (Genoa plant); Dalmine SpA (Dalmine-Bolzano plant); Ilssa Viola (plant at Pont St Martin, Val d'Aosta); Acc. & Ferr. Lombarde Falck SpA (Milan plant); Ferrotubi SpA (Sestri Levante plant).

• Federal Republic of Germany

Thyssen AG (Duisburg plant); Steag und Vew Gemeinschaftskraftwerk.

Low-cost housing

Loans for the building or improvement of low-cost housing amounted to 0.87 million EUA.

Conversion loans

The conversion loans (Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty) paid during the period amounted to 54.1 million EUA. The loans were granted to the following undertakings:

France

Société Française de Mécanique, Douvrin (Nord/Pas-de-Calais); Banque Populaire de la Loire, Saint Etienne (Rhône-Alpes) (for small and medium-sized undertakings).

Ireland

The Industrial Credit Co. Ltd, Dublin (for Runtalrad Ltd, Thomastown).

• United Kingdom

Carreras Rothmans UK, Aylesbury (Spenny-

moor plant, Durham); Daniel Doncaster Ltd, Sheffield (Blaenavon plant, Gwent); Dynoplast Ltd, Ashington, Northumberland; FHS Automotive Parts Manufacturing Ltd, Cardiff (Tafarnaubach plant, Gwent); Finance for Industry, London (for small and mediumsized undertakings); Girling Midland Ross Air Actuation Ltd, Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate (Tredegar plant, Gwent); Natural Gas Tubes Ltd, London (Tafarnaubach plant, Gwent); Sheepbridge Stokes, Chesterfield (Sheffield plant, South Yorkshire); Sony UK Ltd, Sunbury-on-Thames (Bridgend plant, Mid Glamorgan); Wiggings Teape Ltd, Basingstoke (plant at Ely, Cardiff, South Glamorgan).

Loans decided on

2.3.53. The Commission also agreed to the grant of loans under Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty. The total amount of loans decided upon is 115.3 million EUA. The recipients are: Mannesmann AG, Düsseldorf; Arbed SA, Luxembourg (Esch-Belval, Schifflange et Differdange plants).

2.3.54. The Commission obtained the Council's agreement for granting loans under Article 56(2). The loans decided upon total 60.2 million EUA and were granted to the following recipients:

France

Société de développement régional du Nord et du Pas-de-Calais, Lille (for small and medium-sized undertakings); Société Mécanique Automobile du Nord, Paris (Trith-St Léger); Société de développement régional de Lorraine LORDEX, Nancy (for small and medium-sized undertakings).

Financing Community activities

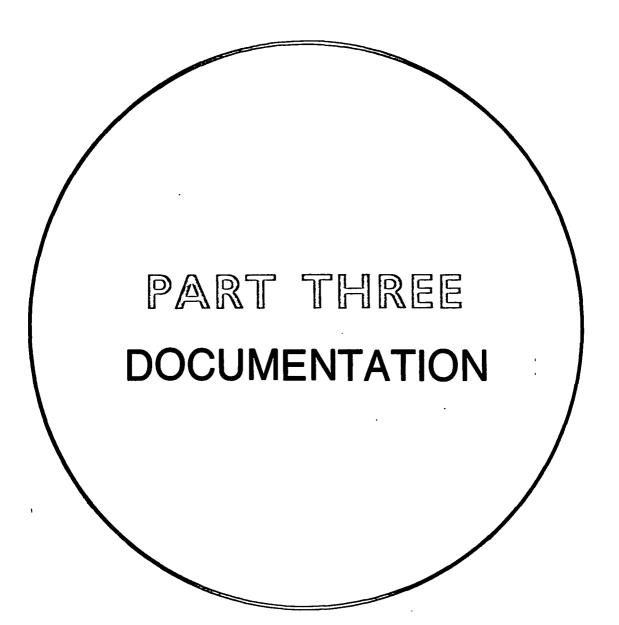
• United Kingdom

ERF Ltd, Cheshire (Wrexham plant, Clwyd); Hokellar Hatt Ltd, Glasgow, Strathclyde.

EEC

Loans raised

2.3.55. In February the Commission concluded three private investments in US dollars, guilders and German marks, to a total of 45 million EUA.



Units of account

Units of account

European unit of account

ECU and European unit of account

3.1.1. Following the entry into force of the European Monetary System on 13 March 1979,1 the ECU/EUA is now used in all areas of Community activity without exception, the decision to apply the ECU provisionally in the common agricultural policy having been extended until 31 March 1980. The Community has thus returned to using a single unit of account after a period of several years during which units of account of very different kinds had existed at the same time.

Gradual introduction of the EUA

- 3.1.2. Since it was devised in 1975, the EUA has been phased into use in the various areas of Community activity:
- 1975 ACP-EEC Lomé Convention (Council Decision of 21 April 1975); balance sheet of the European Investment Bank (Decisions of the Board of Governors dated 18 March 1975 and 10 November 1977);
- 1976 ECSC operational budget (Commission Decision of 18 December 1975);3

- 1978 General budget of the Communities (Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977);4
- 1979 1 January establishment of the EMS (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978) (ECU); customs matters (Council Regulation of 23 November 1978); European Monetary Cooperation Fund (Council Regulation of 18 December 1978); 9 April provisional introduction, for three months, into the common agricultural policy (ECU) (Council Regulation of 29 March 1979 extended by Council Regulation of 25 June 1979).7

The EUA may also be used in the fields of banking and commerce, and various banks offer arrangements for deposits denominated in EUA. By way of example, Table 1 shows the rates obtaining in Brussels last month for large deposits.

Table 1 — Annual interest rates on bank deposits denominated in EUA

	1 February 1980	15 February 1980	29 February 1980
1 month	12.625	12.00	12.50
2 months	12.625	12.125	12.625
3 months	12.625	12.25	12.75
6 months	12.50	12.50	12.875

Rates obtaining in Brussels.

Bull. EC 2-1979, preliminary chapter.

OJ L 104 of 24.4.1975. OJ L 327 of 19.12.1975.

OJ L 356 of 31.12.1977.

OJ L 379 of 30.12.1978.

OJ L 333 of 30.11.1978. OJ L 84 of 4.4.1979; OJ L 161 of 29.6.1979.

Units of account Units of account

Definition

3.1.3. The ECU is identical with the EUA, though, unlike the EUA, it provides for a revision clause enabling changes to be made to its composition. It is a 'basket' unit made up of specific amounts of Member States' currencies, determined mainly by reference to the size of each Member State's economy.

The ECU, like the EUA, is made up of the following amounts: BFR 3.66, LFR 0.14, HFL 0.286, DKR 0.217, DM 0.828, LIT 109, FF 1.15, UKL 0.0885, IRL 0.00759.

Calculation and publication

3.1.4. The equivalent of the ECU/EUA in any currency is equal to the sum of the equivalents of the amounts making up the unit.

It is calculated each day¹ on the basis of representative rates for each Community currency against the dollar, which is used simply as a common reference for expressing exchange rates. The exchange rates are established on each exchange market at 2.30 p.m. by the relevant central bank; on the basis of these rates, the Commission establishes an ECU/EUA equivalent in the Community currencies and in the other major currencies.

These equivalents are published each day in the Official Journal of the European Communities ('C' edition) and may also be obtained from the Commission by telex (automatic answering service); they are also reported by the main European press agencies and are published in many newspapers (see Table 2 below).

¹ See notice on the calculation of the equivalents of the ECU/EUA published by the Commission: OJ C 69 of 13.3.1979.

Table 2 — Values in national currencies of one ECU/EUA

National currency	1 February ¹	15 February ²	29 February ³ 40.6207	
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.5247	40.5936		
German mark	2.49498	2.49989	2.50332	
Dutch guilder	2.75528	2.75542	2.75323	
Pound sterling	0.629350	0.623303	0.620621	
Danish krone	7.80030	7.82035	7.79375	
French franc	5.84594	5.85897	5.86296	
Italian lira	1 157.39	1 158.13	1 159.18	
Irish pound	0.676057	0.674719	0.678152	
United States dollar	1.43020	1.43796	1.41191	
Swiss franc	2.33766	2.33237	2.39037	
Spanish peseta	94.7936	95.8545	94.9087	
Swedish krona	5.96421	5.97444	5.95290	
Norwegian krone	6.99009	6.99568	6.93390	
Canadian dollar	1.65259	1.66688	1.61720	
Portuguese escudo	71.9819	67.9868	68.0259	
Austrian schilling	17.9204	17.9314	17.8889	
Finnish mark	5.30461	5.31902	5.30455	
Japanese yen	343.891	350.431	353.966	

OJ C 26 of 2.2.1980.

Bull. EC 2-1980

² OJ C 39 of 16.2.1980.

³ OJ C 52 of 1.3.1980.

Units of account

Units of account

Each month, the Commission also calculates, for its own purposes, the equivalent of the EUA in about 100 currencies.

Use of ECU/EUA rates

3.1.5. The ECU-related central rates are not at present used for any purpose other than their reference role in determining the divergence indicator within the EMS and in calculating the monetary compensatory amounts under the common agricultural policy.

In contrast to earlier units of account, which were linked to parities or central rates, the ECU/EUA is established on the basis of daily exchange rates, and it is on the basis of these daily equivalents that all the transactions of the sectors using this unit of account are carried out, including settlements between central banks within the EMCF. Common agricultural policy activities, however, are based on the central rates, and the activities of some sectors, which apply the EUA simply as a point of reference for administrative purposes, use a rate which is generally valid for one year.

'Green' rates

3.1.6. Agricultural prices will in future be fixed in ECU if the provisional decision to use this unit of account is made definitive; however, the ECU equivalent in national currencies ('green rates') will, like the earlier representative rates, continue to be fixed by the Council (Table 3).

Table 3 — Conversion rates into national currencies for the ECU, used in connection with the common agricultural policy

National currency	Amount in national currency for 1 ECU February
Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.81931 40.59512
Danish krone	7.72338
German mark	2.81432 ¹ 2.78341 ²
French franc	5.56725 ² 5.76891 ³
Irish pound	0.659274
Italian lira	1 117.00 ² 1 060.73 ⁴
Dutch guilder	2.81459¹ 2.79914²
Pound sterling	0.618655 ² 0.587724 ⁵

For milk products and seeds.

For other products.
 For pigmeat.

For sugar and isoglucose, cereals, eggs and poultrymeat, ovalbumin and lactalbumin, pigmeat and wine.

⁵ For cereals, eggs and poultrymeat, ovalbumin and lactalbumin, and wine.

Additional references in the Official Journal

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 5-1978

Point 2.1.50

Grants from European Regional Development Fund for 1978 (first allocation 1978) OJ C 327 of 31.12.1979

Bull. EC 9-1978

Point 2.1.35

Grants from European Regional Development Fund for 1978 (second allocation 1978) OJ C 327 of 31.12.1979

Bull. EC 12-1978

Point 2.1.72

Grants from European Regional Development Fund for 1978 (third allocation 1978) OJ C 327 of 31.12.1979

Bull. EC 11-1979

Point 2.1.7

Commission Directive of 21 November 1979 adapting to technical progress Council Directive

76/756/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the installation of the lighting and light-signalling devices on motor vehicles and their trailers OI L 51 of 25.2.1980

Point 2.1.31

Commission Decision of 28 November 1979 relating to a proceeding under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/29.672—Floral)
OJ L 39 of 15.2.1980

Bull. EC 12-1979

Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3

1980 programme for the attainment of the customs union
OI C 44 of 21.2.1980

Point 2.1.7

Council Directive of 20 December 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement and on the repeal of Directive 71/354/EEC
OJ L 39 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.1.8

Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to rear-view mirrors for two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles

OJ C 30 of 7.2.1980

Point 2.1.36

Commission Decision of 7 December 1979 relating to a proceeding under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty in Case No IV/29.266 and others (Cane Sugar Supply Agreements)

OJ L 39 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.1.37

Commission Decision of 12 December 1979 relating to a proceeding under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/223—Transocean Marine Paint Association)

OJ L 39 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.1.39

Commission Decision of 5 December 1979 relating to a proceeding under Article 85 pf the EEC Treaty (IV/29.011—Rennet)

OJ L 51 of 25.2.1980

Point 2.1.112

Award of aid from the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (Regulation No 17/64/EEC)—Second tranche 1979

OJ C 38 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.1.113

Award of aid from the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (Regulation (EEC) No 355/77)—Second and last instalment for 1979

OJ C 38 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.2.12

Council Decision of 20 December 1979 amending for 1980 the import quotas laid down by Decision 75/210/EEC on unilateral import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries

OJ L 42 of 18.2.1980

Point 2.2.24

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3071/79 of 18 December 1979 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Guatemala on trade in textile products

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3072/79 of 18 December 1979 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Indonesia on trade in textile products

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3073/79 of 18 December 1979 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Peru on trade in textile products

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3074/ 79 of 18 December 1979 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Singapore on trade in textile products

OJ L 350 of 31.12.1979

Point 2.2.35

Council Decision of 10 December 1979 on the conclusion of the Protocols extending for the first, second and third times the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention constituting the International Wheat Agreement of 1971

OJ L 39 of 15.2.1980

Point 2.3.97

Final adoption of amending and supplementary budget No 3 of the European Communities for the financial year 1979

OJ L 41 of 18.2.1980

3. Infringement procedures

Infringement procedures

Proceedings commenced under article 169 of the EEC treaty

- 3.3.1. In February the Commission addressed letters of formal notice concerning three cases of failure to notify measures to implement the following Directives:
- Directive 75/34/EEC concerning the right of nationals of a Member State to remain in the territory of another Member State after having pursued therein an activity in a self-employed capacity¹ (Ireland);
- Directive 77/388/EEC on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes (Sixth VAT Directive)² (France, Ireland).

Reasoned Opinions

- 3.3.2. In February the Commission issued three reasoned opinions concerning:
- the obligation to have a guarantor established on German territory for the marketing of medicinal products (Germany);
- French taxes on imports of sheepmeat from the United Kingdom (France);
- rules on units of weight for knitting-yarn (Germany).

Proceedings in the Court of Justice

3.3.3. Eight cases were brought before the Court of Justice under Article 169 of the EEC Treaty for failure to implement directives: Cases 41/80, 42/80, 43/80, 44/80 and 45/80 against Italy; 48/80 and 49/80 against Belgium and 65/80 against the Federal Republic of Germany.

On 27 February the Court gave judgment in several cases' relating to duties on alcohol, spirits or alcoholic beverages imported from other Member States. In Cases 168/78 (France), 169/78 (Italy),

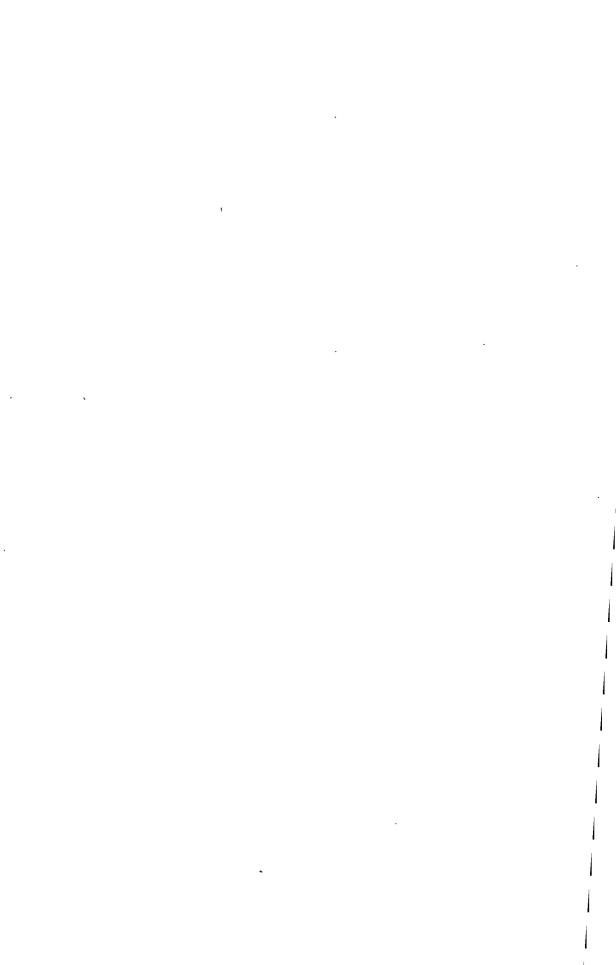
171/78 (Denmark) and 55/79 (Ireland) it found that the Member States had failed in their obligations. In Case 170/78 (United Kingdom) the Court reserved its judgment as to the substance.

Bull. EC 2-1980

OJ L 14 of 20.1.1975.

² OJ L 145 of 13.6.1977 and OJ L 149 of 17.6.1977 (Corrigendum).

³ Points 2.3.24 and 2.1.26 to 2.1.29.



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2-1980

Henvisning - Hinweis - Note - Avertissement - Avvertenza - Voorbericht

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Anmodningerne skal indeholde nøjagtig angivelse af referencenumre forud for titlerne.

Dieses Verzeichnis enthält die im Berichtszeitraum erschienenen amtlichen und nichtamtlichen Veröffentlichungen (Monographien, Reihen, Zeitschriften und Informationsdienste) des Europäischen Parlaments, des Rates, der Kommission, des Gerichtshofes, des Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschusses, der Europäischen Investitionsbank und des Rechnungshofes der Europäischen Gemeinschaften. Diese Veröffentlichungen sind bei den nachstehend aufgeführten Stellen erhältlich.

Bei Anfragen sind die den Titeln vorangestellten Referenzen vollständig anzugeben.

This list includes both official and unofficial publications (such as monographs, series, periodicals, newsletters) which were published in the given period by the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Economic and Social Committee, the European Investment Bank and the Court of Auditors of the European Communities. These publications can be obtained from the addresses mentioned hereinafter.

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DA Dansk

DE Deutsch

EN English

FR Français

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NL Nederlands

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BFR Belgische frank/franc belge

DKR Dansk krone

DM Deutsche Mark

FF Franc français

LIT Lira italiana

HFL Nederlandse gulden

UKL Pound Sterling

USD US dollar p.

Side Seite Page Page Pagina Bladzijde

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Tidsskrifter / Zeitschriften / Periodicals / Périodiques / Periodici / Tijdschriften

Enkeltudgivelser / Einzelveröffentlichungen / Non-periodicals / Isolés / Non periodici / Eenmalig 1 7 18 General / Allgemeines / General / Généralités / Generalità / Algemeen 2 Politiske og institutionelle aspekter / Politische und institutionelle Aspekte / Political and institutional aspects / Aspects politiques et institutionnels / Aspetti politici e istituzionali / Politieke en institutionele aspecten..... 7 19 3 Fællesskabsret / Gemeinschaftsrecht / Community law / Droit communautaire / Diritto comunitario / Communautair recht..... 8 19 4 Forbindelser med tredjelande - Udenrigshandel / Auswärtige Beziehungen - Außenhandel / External relations - Foreign trade / Relations extérieures - Commerce extérieur / Relazioni esterne -Commercio estero / Buitenlandse betrekkingen – Buitenlandse handel 8 20 5 Konkurrence og det interne marked / Wettbewerb und Binnenmarkt / Competition and internal market / Concurrence et marché intérieur / Concorrenza e mercato interno / Concurrentie en 10 20 binnenlandse markt..... 6 Økonomiske, monetære og finansielle spørgsmål / Wirtschaft, Währung und Finanzen / Economic, monetary and financial affairs / Économie, monnaie et finances / Economia, moneta e finanza / 10 20 Economie, geldwezen en financiën 7 Sociale spørgsmål / Soziale Angelegenheiten / Social affairs / Affaires sociales / Affari sociali / Sociale zaken 10 22 8 Industri / Industrie / Industrie / Industrie / Industrie 23 11 9 24 Energi / Energie / Energy / Énergie / Energia / Energie 12 10 Transport / Verkehr / Transport / Transports / Transporti / Vervoer 12 24 11 Landbrugspolitik / Landwirtschaft / Agriculture / Politique agricole / Agricoltura / Landbouw...... 13 25 12 Regionalpolitik / Regionalpolitik / Regional policy / Politique régionale / Politica regionale / Regionale politiek..... 13 28 13 Udvikling og samarbejde / Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit / Development and cooperation / Développement et coopération / Sviluppo e cooperazione / Ontwikkeling en samenwerking 13 28 14 Videnskab og teknologi / Wissenschaft und Technologie / Science and technology / Science et technologie / Scienza e tecnologia / Wetenschap en technologie 13 28 15 Miljø og livskvalitet / Umwelt und Lebensqualität / Environment and quality of life / Environnement et qualité de la vie / Ambiente e qualità della vita / Milieu en kwaliteit van het leven 15 28 16 Undervisning / Bildungswesen / Education / Éducation / Educazione / Opvoeding 15 29 17 Statistik / Statistiken / Statistics / Statistiques / Statistiche / Statistiek 16 29 18 Almene informationspublikationer / Allgemeine Informationsschriften / Popular publications / Publications de large vulgarisation / Pubblicazioni ad ampia divulgazione / Publikaties voor breed publiek..... 17 34 19 Diverse / Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous / Divers / Vari / Diversen 35 17

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Trettende Almindelige Beretning om De europæiske
Fællesskabers Virksomhed 1979. Bruxelles - Luxempourg - Februar 1980.

1980. 378 p.

CB-29-79-522-DE-C ISBN 92-825-1601-6 Dreizehnter Gesamtbericht über die Tätigkeit der Euopäischen Gemeinschaften 1979. Brüssel - Luxemburg - Februar 1980. 1980. 401 p.

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CB-29-79-522-FR-C ISBN 92-825-1603-2 Freizième Rapport général sur l'activité des Communautés européennes 1979. Bruxelles - Luxembourg - évrier 1980.

:B-29-79-522-IT-C ISBN 92-825-1604-0 redicesima Relazione generale sull'attività delle Conunità europee 1979. Bruxelles - Lussemburgo - febraio 1980. 980. 386 p.

:B-29-79-522-NL-C ISBN 92-825-1605-9
Pertiende Algemeen Verslag over de werkzaamheen van de Europese Gemeenschappen 1979. Brussel Luxemburg - februari 1980.
980. 389 p. (DA.DE.EN.FR.IT.NL).

FR 225 DKR 43 DM 13,80 FF 32,40 IT 6 500 HFL 15,30 UKL 3.60 IRL 3.80 ISD 8

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Α

В

16

Ekspresinformation - Undervisning og uddannelse Schnellbericht - Bildung und Ausbildung Rapid Information - Education and training Note rapide — Éducation et formation Nota rapida — Istruzione e formazione Spoedbericht - Onderwijs en opleiding

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17

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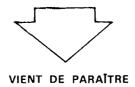
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