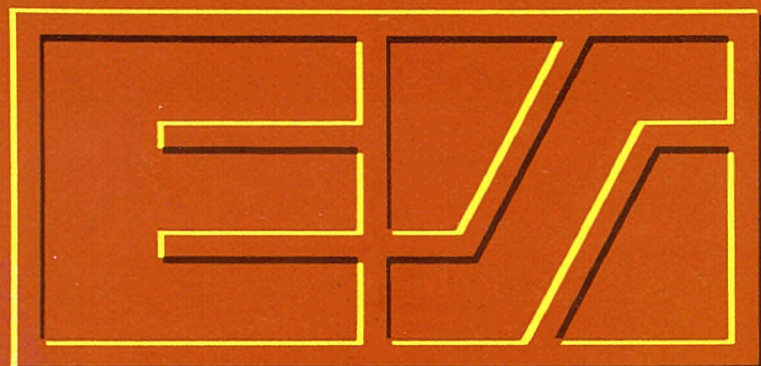


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As from issue No 4/5-1981, the 'Monthly external trade bulletin' will contain many major modifications which will make it a valuable source of information on trade. Essentially the changes concern three points:

Statistical sources:

They are now the same as those used for establishing the NIMEXE analytical tables.

Scope:

As of the last quarter 1978, data on Greece is placed alongside that for the nine other Member States which allows us to obtain comparable results for the whole of the present Community.

Processing:

This bulletin is now produced mechanically and the production schedule is thus shortened which will certainly be appreciated by users. The mechanical processing of the statistical tables is possible because the data are now stored in the CRONOS data bank. These data may also be consulted on-line via Euronet.

We would also draw your attention to the fact that more detailed statistics, broken down by the NIMEXE and CTCI nomenclatures, are available quarterly on microfiche and annually in the publication 'Analytical tables for external trade'.

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NEWS ITEMS

The development of data bases

Report on a seminar organized by Eurostat

The Statistical Office organized a seminar in Luxembourg on 25-27 May on 'Statistical data banks'.

The seminar was chaired by Mr Jacques Mayer, a former Director-General of Eurostat who is now Inspecteur Général at the INSEE, and was attended by some 50 officials who are in charge of data banks in the national statistical institutes of the Community member countries, as well as Spain and Sweden. There were also representatives from international bodies such as the UN and the OECD, private hosts, i.e. data-processing companies specializing in on-line access to data bases, several independent experts and some 30 officials from the Statistical Office and the main Directorates-General in the Commission which use data bases, such as External Relations, Economic and Financial Affairs, Internal Market and Industrial Affairs, and Information Market and Innovation. This last Directorate-General was represented by the Director in charge of Euronet, Mr Anderla. The secretariat for the seminar was provided by Division C-4 (Publications and Studies), the director of which, Mr J. Nols, together with Mr Byk, administrator, was one of the persons organizing and directing the seminar. Initially, this had three main aims. Firstly, to try to analyse the situation in the member countries regarding statistical data bases which were fed or administered by public authorities, secondly to examine the problems of disseminating this considerable amount of information on social and economic matters, and lastly to evaluate the size of the market for this information. The discussions on the first two points produced

results which were undeniably interesting and in many ways encouraging.

The Statistical Office had tried to make an inventory of what the Member States possessed in the way of statistical data bases. Several people attending the seminar provided further details, additional information and even a few corrections to this inventory. The report will therefore be revised and will then give a fairly accurate and complete picture of existing data bases, their nature and their contents.

With regard to on-line dissemination of the data, the report by a French expert, Mr N. Divoy, provided a clear exposition of the problems which are central to this matter. It became clear during the discussions following the presentation of this report that there was a very wide diversity of situations regarding the statistical institutes and other public bodies which had access to this source of information, and this produced



procedures and outlooks which were very different from one country to another. Since it is universally acknowledged that on-line access to these data bases is of the utmost importance as regards both dissemination and development, some effort will have to be made on harmonizing statistical series, selection and coordination in the constitu-



tion of data banks, rapid updating of the information stored, documentation on statistical sources, and data-processing methods. In addition, the policy of disseminating statistical information will become increasingly important and should give priority to resolving the problem of the different kinds of data carriers, viz. hard copy, microfiches and magnetic tape, and to making a rational choice, in line with the needs of the users, i.e. government authorities, both sides of

industry, business interests, research workers and educators, journalists and others, to give them access to this information under optimum conditions.

During the seminar it was suggested that in organizing the dissemination of information two major categories of users should be distinguished, viz. 'privileged' users, such as government bodies, public services and, in certain cases, major professional organizations, and 'others'. For the first category a direct link with the institutes in charge of these data bases was absolutely necessary. For other users there were two possibilities, viz. direct service with all its advantages, or use of private hosts. Regarding the latter possibility the importance of the link between the statistician and the user was stressed. This link should be preserved as far as possible.

The seminar then examined all the possible ways in which the national statistical institutes and the hosts could work together. The international aspects of the problem were also discussed and it was felt that coordination at Community level should be attempted. The proposal made during the seminar to set up, under the aegis of the Statistical Office of the European Communities, an appropriate organization for coordination and exchange of information among national institutes on data bases and on policy concerning the dissemination of statistical information, was generally approved.

L.R.

Coordinated annual inquiry into industrial activity

The disparities between the industrial statistics produced in the various Member States of the European Community and, consequently, the lack of comparable numerical data on Community industry soon came to constitute a considerable hindrance to the work of the Commission, particularly in the sphere of medium-term economic policy, industrial policy and competition policy.

For this reason the Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC), in collaboration with the bodies responsible for these matters in the Member States, set about designing and setting up a coherent system of industrial statistics in order to provide the Commission and other users with a set of comparable data, valid from one country to the other, giving them a picture of the structure of Community industry and on the basis of which they could follow any changes that took place. The coordinated annual inquiry into industrial activity in the Member States occupies a central position in this Community system.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

The annual inquiry into industrial activity in the Member States was set up by Council Directive No 72/221/EEC of 6 June 1972. It is not carried out by the SOEC itself but by the competent national civil services—statistical offices and ministries—which forward the inquiry results to the SOEC in a standard form and according to a standard nomenclature.

The inquiry covers all enterprises in industry and the craft trades which employ 20 or more persons and whose principal economic activity is listed in one of the groups (three-

digit headings) of the General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Community (NACE) relating to industry, including energy and water, as well as building and civil engineering (NACE divisions 1-5). The principal economic activity of an enterprise means the one in which the greatest value-added is created, or the activity which employs the largest number of persons. This circumscription of the field of the inquiry calls for the following remarks:

Firstly, those enterprises employing fewer than 20 persons are excluded from the inquiry. Now it so happens that in some industrial branches and in some Member States enterprises of this kind account for a very large proportion of the value-added. For this reason, the Council Directive made provision for extending the field of the inquiry, at intervals of no more than five years, to small enterprises employing fewer than 20 persons, so that enough information would be obtained, at least on a periodical basis, on their place in industry. For this purpose the SOEC developed, in collaboration with the National Statistical Institutes, the procedure for carrying out these supplementary inquiries, the first of which took place in 1980 for 1979 and covered enterprises employing between 10 and 19 persons. The results of this inquiry, however, are not yet available. Secondly, classifying enterprises according to their principal activity means that those secondary activities engaged in by enterprises which, as regards their main activity, come under other headings such as trading or transport, are excluded. But above all, it also means that, given the heterogeneity of the activities of industrial enterprises and the fact that they are classified, during the processing of the inquiry results, according to their principal

activity, the results broken down by industrial sectors forfeit a great deal of their validity and their international comparability. Because of this drawback, statisticians have been obliged to make use of a subtler statistical unit enabling them to collect and draw up 'purer' statistics which, for this very reason, are better suited to the purpose of analysing the various industrial activities.

The unit in question is the 'kind-of-activity unit' (KAU, which is one of the three statistical units used for the annual inquiry, along with the enterprise and the local unit, or individual establishment. For each of these units, the reporting body is the enterprise: it provides, first of all, data covering all of its activities (enterprise data), secondly, a certain number of numerical data relating to each of the individual activities exercised by it (KAU data) and, finally, data on each of its local units for the purpose of drawing up regional industrial statistics.

Finally, it should also be pointed out that the variables for which data are collected are, in addition to persons employed and labour costs, those required to calculate the gross value-added at factor cost and at market prices.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INQUIRY IN THE MEMBER STATES

Implementing the annual inquiry in accordance with the Council Directive inevitably raised problems for some Member States. Some of them, nevertheless, were in a relatively favourable position to start with since the national bodies responsible for such matters were already carrying out similar surveys on a regular basis, whereas others were obliged either to reorganize their national system of industrial statistics in order to include a survey of this kind in it, or else to make more or less extensive

changes to existing statistical inquiries. The most frequent changes necessary were the addition of supplementary variables in the national questionnaires in use at the time, the adaptation of a particular concept or definition to Community standards, the introduction of a new statistical unit at national level or the modification of the STET field of the survey. This process of adaptation is not yet completed. Finally, most of the Member States had to solve problems connected with the transition from national activities nomenclatures to the NACE, as well as problems in analysing their own surveys from a Community point of view and forwarding the results to the SOEC in the most convenient form for subsequent processing and distribution.

Today it can safely be said that each aspect of the Directive, whether the field of the survey, the list of variables, the statistical units or the breakdown of the results according to NACE and by size classes of staff, is at present being satisfactorily implemented by two-thirds of the Member States, which are not, however, necessarily the same ones for each aspect of the Directive. The SOEC and the Member States will continue to strive gradually to fill the remaining gaps and rectify any defects.

A great deal of progress must still be made in three spheres: the use of the enterprise statistical unit by all of the Member States, the implementation at all levels of the kind-of-activity unit (KAU) and speeding up the forwarding of the results.

As regards the enterprise statistical unit, it should be pointed out that this unit is now being used by all the Member States, with the exception of the United Kingdom which is still using the 'establishment', a pragmatic statistical unit that does not provide a completely valid comparison at Community level with the results of other Member States. Appropriate measures are being prepared in the United Kingdom in order to remedy this state of affairs.

As of now, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark all collect the requisite data in KAU; hitherto France has only collected a limited number of variables in terms of this unit. In the case of the United Kingdom, the use of the kind-of-activity unit is dependent on the introduction of the 'enterprise' as the statistical unit. As for the Federal Republic of Germany, the preliminary work has already been undertaken with a view to introducing the KAU in the very near future.

The first survey was carried out by the Member States in 1974 and related to 1973. Given, however, that a survey on this scale requires a running-in period of several years before all the results can be considered reliable, the SOEC and the Member States agreed that the results of the first two surveys, covering the years 1973/1974, would only be given very limited distribution.

At the beginning of 1980 the SOEC published the results of the survey covering 1975. This was the first survey in which all the Member States participated fully. At present the publication setting out the results for 1976 is still being printed and the publication of the results for 1977 is being prepared.

There is no denying that the period which necessarily elapses between the carrying out of the survey in the Member States, the forwarding of the results of the SOEC and the publication of the complete Community results is still far too long. Shortening this production period and getting the results to the final users as rapidly as possible constitute one of the main tasks now facing the SOEC.

J.-M. Pfister

Figures on the European Community's supply of raw materials

Official pronouncements and scientific statements generally reduce the problem of raw materials to its physico-technical dimension, supplemented at best by economic considerations. In view of their high degree of dependence on imports and the resulting external vulnerability, the problem for the Community countries is primarily, however, a geopolitical or geomilitary one. The Statistical Office of the European Communities took this aspect into account in its recent publication *Raw materials balance-sheets 1975-1978*.

263 pages present the balance-sheets—i.e. domestic production and recovery, net imports, domestic consumption and changes in stocks—for 21 raw materials of particular strategic and economic importance (six base

metals, nine steel refiners, four other alloy metals and two non-metals). The division of each balance-sheet into six sub-balances marks the development of a new approach to this question, permitting a clear, systematic and comprehensive insight into the connection between the various stages of production from the natural raw material to first-stage processing (via chemical compounds, intermediate products, raw material and recovery) and into the supply of raw materials at each of these stages.

These balance-sheets are compiled for both the Community as a whole and the individual Member States, together with summary balance-sheets for the major producing countries and the USA and Japan. The units of measurement are tonnes of raw material

and metal. In each case the basic figures are used to calculate indices of dependence and recovery.

The question may well be asked whether there is still a need for a further comprehensive publication in addition to the well-known regular international publications on raw materials (in particular those of the Metallgesellschaft, the US Bureau of Mines, the Institute of Geological Sciences, London, and the OECD).

Just a quick glance at this publication shows that it is completely independent and leads to a new perception and knowledge of the whole question. This can be attributed both to the novel multi-stage approach already mentioned and to the specific aim of the balance-sheets, namely the determination of raw materials dependence. In contrast, the raw materials statistics of the OECD, for example, are geared more to market observation and the relevant industries' scope for economic expansion. The present publication therefore pays particular attention to recovery as an important component of supply, an aspect which is neglected by most of the other statistical systems.

In addition, this publication not only summarizes the overwhelming abundance of

existing statistical data in an easily understandable form (thereby greatly helping the user, since these figures are generally too disconnected to provide even a moderately well rounded picture) but also fills many of the existing gaps in the information, either by means of estimates based on the logic of the balance-sheet system or through original investigations, especially on the recovery aspect, which is dealt with in a separate sub-balance.

Apart from these aspects of content, the outstanding feature of this publication is its presentation, which is geared to users' needs and enlivened by a large number of graphs and very informative flow-charts. The whole of the last part contains flow-charts for the major raw materials, which outline the main features of the most important processes and certainly make it easier—not only for the layman—to understand the balance-sheet system, which may at first sight appear complicated.

It is intended to update the figures in the near future and at regular intervals thereafter (the SOEC currently has the figures for 1979 to hand) and to supplement this factual volume with economic analyses.

H.S.

Calculations on the supply situation concerning agricultural products

This article is the last contribution made by Mr Günther Thiede before leaving the Statistical Office for reasons of health. M. Thiede came to the Commission in 1958 as head of the division responsible for agricultural statistics. After having led for many years the division 'Agricultural balances and products', Mr Thiede was recently nominated adviser to the Directorate for Agricultural Statistics. Mr Thiede was very well known in the Community, not only for the work he directed at Eurostat, but also because of his studies in the area of agricultural economics. These studies have been published in numerous specialized reviews in Germany and other European countries. 'Eurostat News' would like to take this opportunity of thanking him for the article he has written for us and addresses its sincerest wishes for a happy and well deserved retirement.

Table 1 — Degree of self-sufficiency of the Community ¹ in individual agricultural products in 1979 (1978/1979)

Degree of self-sufficiency ¹ over 100%		Degree of self-sufficiency ² around 100%		Degree of self-sufficiency under 100%	
Wheat	116	Total cereals	100	Grain maize	59
Rye	114	Oats	100	Rice	81
Barley	113	Potatoes	100	Vegetables	94
Sugar	124	Wine	102	Fresh fruit	77
Veal	105	Total meat	98	Citrus fruits	41
Fat content of milk	113	Beef	100	Vegetables fats and oils	23
Protein content of milk	108	Pigmeat	101	Sheepmeat	65
Whole-milk powder	321	Fresh milk	100		
Skimmed-milk powder	107	Eggs	101		
Butter	119				
Cheese	105				

¹ EUR 9.

² Production as a percentage of domestic consumption.

The European consumer, unlike his counterpart in many Third World countries, is provided with an abundance of all possible kinds of consumer goods. Food shops offer a remarkably wide range of products which come not only from the European market opened up by the European Community but also from overseas. The agricultural industry in Europe is producing more and more agricultural raw materials and foodstuffs, with the result that it is becoming increasingly difficult to sell certain products within Europe. The number of mouths to feed is rising only very slowly and, at a time when people are becoming more conscious of their calorie intake, the amount of food consumed by the individual is no longer increasing but in some cases is actually going down. The Community is therefore confronted with more and more surpluses which the European market is unable to absorb.

The Statistical Office of the European Communities, in collaboration with Member States, records these developments by means of the agricultural supply balance-sheets, in which data on production, imports, exports, agricultural use, industrial

use, human consumption, losses and stocks are tabulated. The latest complete accounts (i.e. for all countries and products) are for the calendar year 1979 in the case of animal products, and the farm year 1978/79 in the case of crop products.

Table 1 shows the degree of self-sufficiency of the Community (EUR 9) in individual agricultural products. The data are calculated by comparing the figures for production and for domestic consumption. If both figures are the same, the degree of self-sufficiency equals 100. On the other hand, if production fails to meet domestic needs, the degree of self-sufficiency is under 100.

COMMUNITY SURPLUSES AND SHORTFALLS

In the case of milk products, sugar, certain types of cereals and poultry meat, the Community agricultural sector has produced quite large surpluses. In 1979, for example, about 10% more milk (13% in the case of fat content and 8% in the case of protein

content) was produced than could be sold on the domestic market in the form of drinking-milk, milk products or animal feed. There was a sugar surplus of 24% and a wheat surplus of 16%.

As regards all types of cereals taken as a whole and potatoes, beef, pigmeat and eggs, i.e. the products which quantitatively and in value terms represent the major proportion of our food, the supply situation in 1979 and 1978/1979 was more or less in balance.

For certain products which, primarily for climatic reasons, cannot be produced in sufficient quantities in the Community, there were shortfalls which had to be made up by imports. This was true of rice, grain maize (primarily used as animal feed), fruit, vegetables, sheepmeat and, in particular, vegetable fats and oils. The Community has to import large quantities of soya oil, peanut oil, copra oil, olive oil and other oils because the plants producing them grow more easily in sub-tropical or tropical conditions. Barely a quarter of Community consumption of vegetable fats and oils is produced in the Community itself, whereas three-quarters come from overseas.

OVERALL ACCOUNTS ON THE SUPPLY SITUATION

Questions are often asked about the degree of the Community's self-sufficiency in all agricultural products intended for human consumption taken as a whole, the aim being to establish whether and to what extent the quantities produced by the Community's own agricultural industry (i.e. supplies from Community soil) are sufficient to feed everyone in the Community. For this type of overall calculation, surpluses and shortfalls which, as indicated above, occur in the case of individual products are set off against one another. Care is taken to avoid the double counting which can occur when agricultural products are re-used in the agricultural production process (e.g. cereals used to produce animal products).

For these calculations, the 'grain-equivalent' is used as a common denominator or conversion factor. Thus, for example, 5 kg of potatoes correspond to 1 kg of cereals, according to their starch equivalent, or—a further example—an average of 4.8 kg of cereals are required to produce 1 kg of pigmeat.

Table 2 — Community¹ supply trends for agricultural products as a whole

(in million t grain-equivalents)

	1973 (1972/1973)	1974 (1973/1974)	1975 (1974/1975)	1976 (1975/1976)	1977 (1976/1977)	1978 (1977/1978)	1979 (1978/1979)
Final production	279	299	301	295	293	310	329
Domestic consumption	296	303	305	305	308	312	319
Supply balance	- 17	- 4	- 4	- 10	- 15	- 2	+ 10
Degree of self-sufficiency ²							
gross (%)	94	99	99	97	95	99	103
net (%) ³	83	88	88	85	82	87	89

¹ EUR 9.

² Final production as a percentage of domestic consumption.

³ After deduction of feed imported from third countries.

In 1979 (vegetable products 1978/79), production of foodstuffs in the nine Community countries—calculated overall—exceeded consumption for the first time. In previous years there had always been a shortfall. In 1979 Community production stood at 329 million t GE compared with a consumption of 319 million t GE. The surplus of 10 million t GE represents 3% of domestic consumption, which means that the degree of self-sufficiency in all agricultural products, calculated in gross terms, was 103. However, if the 45 million t GE of imported feedstuffs from third countries are taken into account, there was a net degree of self-sufficiency of 89. A net figure is required because a considerable proportion of the basic material for animal products does not come from within the Community frontiers but has to be imported in the form of feed from third countries.

FRANCE IN SURPLUS UNITED KINGDOM IN DEFICIT

Table 2 also shows how the supply situation in the Community has improved over the

last few years. In the period 1973-1979, crop production increased by an average of 2.5 million t GE per year, animal production by 5.9 million t GE, and thus total final agricultural production by 8.4 million t GE or an average of 3% per year. On the other hand, consumption within the Community increased only by an average of 3.9 million t GE, or 1.3%. During these seven years, production exceeded consumption by an average of 4.5 million t GE per year.

There are wide variations in the supply situation as regards individual Member States. France, the Netherlands, Denmark and Ireland produce more agricultural products than they can themselves consume. In absolute terms, the largest surplus producer of the Community in 1979 is France, with a surplus of 20 million t GE. About one-fifth of French agricultural production has to be exported.

In terms of the area available, the surpluses in the Netherlands, Denmark and Ireland, although less than that of France in absolute terms, are even greater. In fact, the degree of self-sufficiency of the Netherlands amounted to 162 and was even higher in Denmark and

Table 3 — Supply situation in Community member countries in 1979
(1978/1979)

	Final agricultural production	Domestic consumption	Supply balance	Degree of self-sufficiency (%)	Supply balance converted into million annual consumption units
	in million t GE				
FR of Germany	69	76	- 7	91	- 5,6
France	98	78	+20	126	+13,8
Italy	55	64	- 9	86	- 8,0
Netherlands	27	17	+10	162	+ 8,7
Belgium-Luxembourg	13	13	- 0	97	- 0,3
United Kingdom	44	62	- 18	70	-16,5
Ireland	10	4	+ 6	228	+ 4,3
Denmark	14	6	+ 8	240	+ 7,1
EC	329	319	+10	103	+ 7,8

Ireland, i.e. well over 200, as compared with only 126 in France. In absolute terms, the surpluses in these three countries range between 6 and 10 million t GE.

The Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom all have shortfalls. Overall, domestic production in the Federal Republic of Germany is 7 million t GE below the level required for total self-sufficiency in food supply. In the United Kingdom, the shortfall was even higher, i.e. 18 million t GE, and in Italy there was a shortfall of 9 million t GE. Hence imports, as opposed to domestic agricultural production, accounted for 9% of domestic consumption in Germany, 14% in Italy and 30% in the United Kingdom.

The surpluses and shortfalls may also be converted to annual consumption units (number of persons) by means of the figures

for domestic consumption in each member country and the average Community consumption in each of the areas concerned. The resulting figures are shown in the final column of Table 3. In 1979 production in France outstripped domestic requirements by an amount sufficient to supply almost 14 million persons. In contrast, the shortfall in the United Kingdom corresponded to the requirements of 16.5 million people. For the Community as a whole, there was a surplus of 7.8 million annual consumption units. The shortfall in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1979 amounted to 5.6 million annual consumption units. In comparison, the surplus in the Netherlands corresponded to the requirements of 8.7 million people—considerably more than the whole of the shortfall in the Federal Republic.

G. Thiede

The organization of statistics in Spain

(continued)

THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF STATISTICS

The Superior Council of Statistics, as a consulting body, was also established by the Act of 1945 in order that science and experience might collaborate closely through university professors and officials acquainted with the problems that the application of this technique presents in actual life.

Many years of functioning have demonstrated the need for reorganizing the Council, for strengthening its character as supreme consultative body in statistical matters, as well as its composition, enlarging its competence and providing it with ade-

quate means for the fulfilment of its tasks; the reorganization carried out in 1968 was for these reasons. Recently, in 1978, its composition was again modified, being adapted to the new political and social structure of the country.

As a supreme consultative body, it is empowered to give formal statements on the projects, proposals and statistical subjects which are submitted to it for study, and specially on the coordination of statistics drawn up by the various agencies of the State and local government. The formal statements given by the Council are required in matters concerning the planning or execution of new services, the substantial reform

of any statistics and statistical inquiries which may involve public collaboration or affect different government agencies.

The Council consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Councillors, the Secretary-General and five Vice-Secretaries. The Presidency is held by the President of the Institute as a permanent representative of the Minister of Economy, and the Vice-Presidency is in the hands of the Director-General of the Institute. It also includes as Councillors the 20 General Technical Secretaries of the Ministries, 10 distinguished persons appointed by the Minister (5 of them being appointed because of their merits and scientific knowledge, and the other 5 because of their experience in the use and application of statistics), the 5 deputy Directors-General and the Technical Secretary of the National Institute of Statistics, and the 5 permanent Councillors of the Directive Council. The Secretariat-General and the 5 Vice-Secretariats are held by statisticians who belong to the Institute.

The Council may act in plenary session or through its permanent committee; special committees and working groups also exist for the study and discussion of subjects within their competence. The agencies—including the Institute itself—which intend to develop new statistics or substantially reform the existing ones, are obliged to submit the relevant project to the Superior Council so that it may give a formal statement.

THE STATISTICAL WORK IN MINISTRIES AND OTHER AGENCIES

At present, the Ministries prepare the statistics necessary for their own purposes, and also collaborate in the elaboration of statistics of public interest, in accordance with the standards of the National Institute of Statistics and by virtue of its coordinating functions.

Some Ministries have developed statistical committees, presided by the General Technical Secretaries, which include delegates of the Institute; these committees have drawn up statistical plans which are already being implemented.

The Institute has delegated or transferred the preparation of several types of industrial statistics to the Ministries of Industry and Energy as it has agricultural and various other kinds of statistics to the other Ministries. Agricultural Statistics, except the Census, are the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Provincial Councils, Municipal Corporations and other local entities, pursuant to the Statistics Act, collaborate with the Institute in producing statistics of public interest. The Municipal Corporations in particular play an important part in this respect. A substantial part of the administrative, accounting or statistical work which they need to carry out for their own purposes provides data for important statistics of national interest, such as the Quinquennial Registers of Population. Likewise, the Municipal Corporations play an important part and collaborate with the Institute closely in the data collection stage for most of the important censuses and for many periodical surveys and other statistical operations.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STATISTICS

When the National Institute of Statistics intends to develop new statistics of public interest or substantially modify existing statistics, the corresponding unit draws up a tentative plan which is first submitted for discussion by internal committees or working groups of the Institute. These consist of officials from units concerned in the matter, and especially from the Services of Methodology, Survey Design and Sampling, Field Work, Data Processing and Publications. The tentative plan, once it has been revised

by the internal committees or working groups, is then submitted to the Coordinating and Advisory Committees for discussion and opinion and subsequently to the Directive Council and the Executive Board. Finally, the project is taken up with the Superior Council of Statistics for a formal statement and, if necessary, a Decree is published as a resolution of the Council of Ministers or a Ministerial Order is issued by the Minister of Economy or by the Minister of the Presidency when it affects two or more Ministries. This procedure is also followed in respect of decennial censuses.

When it is a case of statistics proposed by the Ministries, the corresponding projects are subject to methodological and technical study by the Statistical Committees established within the General Technical Secretariats. Once they have been prepared, the projects are subject to examination by the National Statistical Institute and submission, should this be appropriate, to the respective Committee; furthermore, they are submitted to the Superior Council of Statistics for its formal statement; the subsequent legal stages are as described above.

The same steps are taken with the statistical projects of other public agencies.

DISSEMINATION OF THE INFORMATION

The Institute is responsible for the publication of statistics and studies it has drawn up, and likewise, that of information of general interest based on the statistics prepared by the other public agencies. For this purpose it utilizes special publications, referred to in the programmes of each census, statistics or survey, and also publications of a general character such as yearbooks (comprehensive and in brief), provincial statistical reports, monthly bulletins of statistics and indicators of business trends. To give an idea of the Institute's work concerning statistical development, we can say that during the last year,

1978, 127 publications were issued totalling 165 000 copies and 28 000 000 pages, which covered annual, quarterly and monthly information. Of these, 108 in 125 000 copies were printed in the Institute itself. The information in respect of certain indicators—mainly price indexes—is given special treatment in order that it may reach the users as soon as possible.

In addition to printed material, the Institute uses other media for the dissemination of statistical information such as magnetic tapes and photocopies of computer sheets. In some cases, when the potential user of the information has a computer compatible with those of the Institute, the information is provided on magnetic tapes. In other cases, and as a complement to the information offered by printed publications, the Institute supplies photocopies of the computer sheets with unpublished charts.

Finally, the Institute regularly provides information in writing, at the formal request of the user, on the indexes of consumption prices and population; it issued about 25 000 such documents last year.

As far as the bases of the data are concerned, the Institute is working on the development of this necessary system of information, taking advantage of the experience acquired by other countries and international organizations.

The Ministries and other agencies also publish statistics of public interest which they prepare, and for which, as has been indicated previously, the Institute has a coordinating function.

For the convenience of users, the Institute publishes, at certain intervals, an inventory of the statistics drawn up both by the Institute and other agencies—with a brief description of contents. It also runs a central public library, displaying publications of national countries, and also a considerable number of books on statistical theory and methodology. The total bibliographical

stock of the library amounts to 120 000 volumes, which correspond to 17 312 titles: of these 113 126 books with 10 541 titles are periodicals and 6 874 books with 6 811 titles are of a scientific or technical character.

In every provincial delegation there is also a library, at the disposal of users, with statistical publications of a general character and works specific to each province.

PROSPECTS

The Statistics Act of 1945, which constitutes the basis of the present statistical organization, attained its objective in trying to solve the problems which Spanish statistics were facing at the time of its promulgation, but it is at present inadequate, in spite of the complementary legal provisions issued subsequently.

In fact, the development of a new political and social system, in view of the elimination of the corporative organization and the appearance of trade unions and employers' organizations, the increasing importance of regional and local statistics, especially because of the existence of pre-autonomous entities and, in due course, the admission of autonomous communities, the future integration of Spain in the Common Market and the advisability of keeping close relations

with other countries, the attention and care to be paid to the sources of statistical data, the development of new systems for the treatment of statistical information and the desirability of achieving the appropriate coordination in national statistical activities are the reasons why a new law is now being prepared for submission to the Parliament in due course: this will provide a new legal base for Spanish statistics, adequate to present needs.

The proposed law which is now being drafted tries to ratify and strengthen the position of the National Institute of Statistics as the superior agency of Spanish statistics, mainly entrusted with the functions of management and coordination of the national statistical system. The system is one in which the Ministries, autonomous communities and local administration collaborate in the planning and execution of the statistics required by Spanish society in order to be informed of the structure and the demographic, economic and social evolution of the country. This system will be implemented through the National Plan for Statistics, which will cover all the statistics of public interest, including those which the Spanish Constitution calls 'statistics for State purposes', those which fall within the competence of the autonomous communities are also of public interest, and, similarly, those of local government.

Newsflash...

We have already mentioned one staff change at the Statistical Office—the departure of Mr G. Thiede after many years of work. There is another change and it concerns the nomination of Ms Fürst.

Ms Hildegard Fürst was nominated, as of 1 April 1981, Head of Division B 1, 'Population, employment, education and general

social statistics' in the directorate 'Demographic and social statistics'. Ms Fürst came to the Commission as an administrator in 1958. In 1973 she was appointed head of the specialized service 'Research, science and education statistics' and in 1976 Ms Fürst became head of the specialized service 'Employment and education statistics'.

PUBLICATIONS

Published

Theme 1

EUROSTAT REVIEW

ISBN 92-825-2119-2 (EN/FR/NL), 92-825-2120-6 (DA/DE/IT)

Format A 4, 246 pages, price BFR 400

This new publication contains the time series of the principal statistical domains covered by Eurostat. The data cover the period 1970 to 1979 and relate to the EC countries, Greece, Spain, Portugal, the United States and Japan.

The work is divided into six sections: 1. General statistics. 2. National accounts, finances and balance of payments. 3. Population and social conditions. 4. Industry and services. 5. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries. 6. External trade.

Comparisons between two periods are often expressed in per cent or as an index number. The most important features are shown in graph form.

Theme 2

REGIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — DETAILED TABLES BY BRANCHES

ISBN 92-825-2074-9 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 91 pages, price BFR 800

Main aggregates of economic accounts for the basic administrative units of the Community.

Detailed results for 1974.

Time series covering 1970-77 for value-added of the economy as a whole and of broad groupings of branches (agriculture, industry, services).

Theme 3

EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION STATISTICS— METHODOLOGY — VOLUME I

ISBN 92-825-2066-8 (FR), 92-825-2065-X (EN), 92-825-2064-1 (DE)

ISBN 92-825-2068-4 (NL), 92-825-2063-3 (DA), 92-825-2067-6 (IT)

Format A 4, 92 pages, price BFR 250

Revised and enlarged version of the methodology of the former social accounts (social protection accounts).

This volume is the first part of the methodology of the European social protection statistics; it deals with the financial transactions and gives the nomenclatures and definitions (with explanatory notes) of the social protection schemes, their expenditure, their receipts and the objectives (functions) of the benefits they grant.

The second part will cover the protected persons and the beneficiaries.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POSITION OF WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY

ISBN 92-825-1444-7 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, 347 pages, price BFR 600

The Statistical Office has always attached great importance to collecting data on the social and economic position of women in Member States. Virtually all social statistics drawn up for the Community make a systematic distinction between men and women.

However, a large amount of the information available is spread over several different publications and is not always presented in a suitable form. That is why the Statistical Office has undertaken this study, which provides an overall picture of the position of women in Member States through a series of statistical tables.

The study is divided into three parts. The first is concerned with demographic aspects. The second covers the problem of employment and unemployment, earnings and working conditions. The third deals with education and vocational training. The statistical tables are accompanied by a technical note giving the sources and definitions of the data.

COMPARATIVE SURVEY OF THE GENERATIONS COMING IN AND OUT OF THE PERIOD OF ACTIVITY 1973-1977

ISBN 92-825-2108-7 (FR/EN)

Format A 4, 149 pages, price BFR 200

The Statistical Office of the European Communities regularly publishes the main results of the Labour Force Sample Survey as well as demographic statistics. This new publication, differing in style from its predecessors, presents details of a study based on these data and having two specific characteristics:

- an accent on age, in particular analyses of populations in the 15-24 and 55-64 age groups, i.e. the age groups with the largest concentration of persons entering or leaving active life;
- wide use of colour diagrams (over one-third of the pages) to show how the situation differs from country to country in relation to demography, activity, employment, working conditions and job-seeking.

Theme 4

EC RAW MATERIALS BALANCES 1975-1978

ISBN 92-825-1964-3 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, 275 pages, price BFR 500

PUBLICATIONS

Description of the method and of the system of raw material balances of the SOEC. Application of this system for 21 vital mineral raw materials. Analysis of Community balances (ratios) and comparisons with certain third countries. World reserves, self-sufficiency of the EC and its Member States, the dependency of third countries, technico-economic commentary.

IRON AND STEEL YEARBOOK

ISBN 92-825-2086-2 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 162 pages, price BFR 1 000

Yearly statistics on the structure and the economic situation of Community's iron and steel industry: employment, size of enterprises, plants, crude steel, iron and scraps balances, production of iron-ore, pig-ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel and end products, consumption of raw materials, works deliveries and receipts, external trade of scrap and ECSC products, indirect foreign trade, steel consumption, investments of the iron and steel industry, prices and levy.

Theme 5

FISHERY — CAPTURES BY REGION 1967-1979

ISBN 92-825-2174-5 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 221 pages, price BFR 800

This volume, reflecting the development of Community policies for the management of the fishery resources of the Community seas, gives for the Member States historical series (1967-1979) of catches by fishing region for the principle species.

FORESTRY STATISTICS 1973-1977

ISBN 92-825-2045-5 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 143 pages, price BFR 300

Forestry statistics' is a publication of the most important data on forestry in nine Member States of the Community. This publication comprises:

1. Summary data on forestry in the EC
2. Structure of forest
3. Removals
4. Supply balance-sheets for raw wood
5. Intra-EC trade in raw wood
6. Supply balance-sheets for the major wood products
7. Pulpwood consumption by industrial products
8. Forest fires

Theme 6

ACP: YEARBOOK OF FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS 1972-1978

ISBN 92-825-2164-8 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, 694 pages, price BFR 500

This publication presents the most recent data available to the Statistical Office of the European Communities on the external trade of the ACP States and includes time series dating back to 1972 for certain countries.

The Yearbook contains statistics for ACP States in West, Central and East Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

Trade is analysed by major products and product groups, with a variety of tables reflecting the trends in the principal raw material and primary product exports of the ACP countries and their main destinations.

To be published

Theme 2

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — DETAILED TABLES BY BRANCHES 1970-1979

ISBN 92-825-2087-0 (EN/FR/NL), 92-825-2088-9 (DA/DE/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 180 pages, price BFR 700

Detailed results of the national accounts of the member countries for the period 1970-1979. Data are provided for the operations on goods and services (value-added, earnings of employees, gross fixed capital formation, final consumption of households) as well as the breakdown by branch of employment.

Theme 3

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

ISBN 92-825-2191-5 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 240 pages, price BFR 500

This publication contains the most recent series on employment, working population, unemployment and industrial stoppages, thus bringing the 1979 edition on 'Employment and unemployment' up to date.

The basic tables on population, working population and employment are supplemented by employees in employment statistics established in accordance with the NACE classes. The tables on employment include the series published monthly by the Statistical Office plus several specific analyses and certain figures on vacancies notified and filled. Industrial stoppages are shown as the number of days lost per 1 000 employees per branch of activity.

PUBLICATIONS

A historical section shows the main figures in the form of chronological series, several of which date back to 1950.

An annex is added to include employment and unemployment figures in Greece, Spain and Portugal.

PENSIONERS IN THE COMMUNITY

ISBN 92-825-2190-7 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 61 pages, price BFR 400

This publication by the Statistical Office gives the main demographic data on the elderly and pensioners in the countries of the Community.

The publication is divided into three parts:

- Part One provides some demographic indicators relating to the elderly.
- Part Two gives the main data relating to the occupations of the elderly: whether they belong to the labour force or not and, where applicable, the main employment data.
- Part Three presents the results of the specific survey on the elderly and retirement conditions which was carried out jointly with the labour force sample survey of 1977. It permits a breakdown into pension categories (old age, disability, direct or survivor's, etc.) and provides a statistical basis for the determination of retirement age based on the statements of individuals.

Theme 5

YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS 1975-1979

ISBN 92-825-2189-3 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 330 pages, price BFR 500

This book can be considered as a statistical *vade mecum* containing the most important items given in 'Agricultural Statistics'. This publication contains 6 parts:

- General
- Agricultural and forestry accounts
- Structure
- Production
- Supply balance-sheet
- Prices and price indices.

Periodicals

► Monthly bulletins

EUROSTATISTICS — DATA FOR SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC ANALYSIS (THEME 1)

ISSN 0250-393X (DE/FR/NL), 0250-3921 (DA/EN/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 100 pages, price BFR 800 subscription (11 issues)

BFR 1500 subscription (22 issues)

The publication is intended to provide a selection of the most significant indicators of the trends in employment, production, external trade, prices, finance and the balance of payments for the Member States, the Community as a whole and the United States. The indicators will be expressed in the form of indices relating as far as possible to seasonally-adjusted series.

The bulletin will be available in two three-language editions which will appear alternately at the beginning and in the middle of each month.

MONTHLY STATISTICS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED IN THE COMMUNITY (THEME 3)

(DE, EN, FR, IT)

Format A 4, approximately 10 pages, price BFR 360 annual subscription

The report contains monthly figures of unemployed persons registering at Public Employment Offices (Community and Member States, including Greece), changes compared with the previous month and the previous year and unemployment rates, calculated on a uniform basis by reference to the civilian working population. Also shown are numbers unemployed aged under 25 years as well as new registrations of unemployed persons during the month and vacancies. A short commentary and a graph illustrating the month's figures are included.

INDUSTRIAL SHORT-TERM TRENDS (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-7427 (FR), 0378-7877 (EN), 0378-8008 (DE)

Format A 4, approximately 60 pages, price BFR 500 annual subscription

Short-term industrial indicators with comments, tables and graphs. Production indices (gross indices per day worked and indices adjusted for seasonal variations) for 39 sectors of industry, indices of turnover, orders received, number of persons employed, earnings and number of hours worked, for 15 sectors of industry. The publication may include one or more methodological supplements in the course of the year, which are included in the subscription price.

IRON AND STEEL — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-7559 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 15 pages, price BFR 450 annual subscription

Short-term economic statistics (monthly) on production of pig-iron, crude steel, steel mill products, index of production, new orders, deliveries and order-books, external trade of ECSC steel products, consumption and receipts of scrap and number of short-time workers.

HYDROCARBONS — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3731 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 30 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

Updates monthly the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the petroleum and gas industries.

PUBLICATIONS

COAL — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-357X (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 20 pages, price BFR 300 annual subscription

Updates monthly the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the coal industry.

ELECTRICAL ENERGY — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3561, approximately 16 pages, price BFR 300 annual subscription

Updates monthly principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the electrical economy in general and fuel consumption in power-stations in particular.

MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN (THEME 6)

ISSN 0378-3723 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 130 pages, price BFR 1 800 annual subscription

General summary of foreign trade of the European Community by countries and by products. Trends in EC trade by countries and by products. Trade of the main non-EC countries. Indices.

The persons especially interested in foreign trade may also consult for more detailed information the *Analytical tables NIMEXE and SITC*, series of annual publications which will be published shortly. This important source of information exists also on microfiches.

► Quarterly bulletins

QUARTERLY IRON AND STEEL BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3510 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 130 pages, price BFR 1 200 annual subscription

Annual, quarterly and monthly statistics on employment, consumption of raw materials, production of iron-ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel products and end products, on works deliveries and receipts, stocks, on external and internal ECSC steel and scrap trade and on apparent steel consumption.

CROP PRODUCTION (THEME 5)

ISSN 0378-3588 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 120 pages, price BFR 900 annual subscription

The most recent information on

- (1) Land use, crop production of arable land (area, yield, production) — fruit and vegetable production;
- (2) Meteorological report;
- (3) Supply balances for crop products.

ANIMAL PRODUCTION (THEME 5)

ISSN 0250-6580 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 120 pages, price BFR 900 annual subscription

This quarterly bulletin replaces the three monthly bulletins giving monthly statistics of meat, eggs and milk.

The data in the first three sections of the bulletin are supplied by Member States under the following Council legislation:

- Directive 68/161/EEC and 73/132/EEC on production statistics for beef and veal and pigmeat;
- Regulation (EEC) No 2782/75 on the production and marketing of eggs for hatching and of poultry chicks, and
- Directive 72/280/EEC on milk and milk products.

The fourth section contains data derived from external trade statistics, aggregated so as to make them comparable with production statistics.

The fifth and final section contains the main findings of surveys carried out at different intervals, such as the structural surveys on cattle-breeding and pig-breeding, annual supply balance-sheets, notes and forecasts, and other information.

SELLING PRICES OF VEGETABLE PRODUCTS (THEME 5)

ISSN 0378-6714 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 160 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

The quarterly bulletin *Selling prices of vegetable products* shows:

- producer prices of vegetable products in each of the past 12 months;
- prices of certain processed products of vegetable origin;
- percentage variations compared with the previous month and the same period in the previous year.

The prices in absolute values are expressed in national currency and in ECU. The conversion rates used are shown in the preliminary section which also gives a description of the main characteristics of each price series and the rates of the value-added tax in agriculture.

SELLING PRICES OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS (THEME 5)

ISSN 0378-6722 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 130 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

The quarterly bulletin *Selling prices of animal products* shows:

- producer prices of animal products in each of the past 12 months;
- prices of certain processed products of animal origin;
- percentage variations compared with the previous month and the same period in the previous year.

The prices in absolute values are expressed in national currency and in ECU. The conversion rates used are shown in the preliminary section which also gives a description of the main characteristics of each price series and the rates of the value-added tax in agriculture.

PUBLICATIONS

PURCHASE PRICES OF THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION (THEME 5)

ISSN 0378-6692 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 165 pages, price BFR 900 annual subscription

The quarterly bulletin *Purchase prices of the means of production* shows:

- prices of the main means of production purchased by farmers in each of the past 12 months (feedingstuffs, fertilizers, fuels, seeds and pesticides);
- percentage variations compared with the previous month and the same period in the previous year.

The prices in absolute values are expressed in national currency and in ECU. The conversion rates used are shown in the preliminary section which also gives a description of the main characteristics of each price series and the rates of value-added tax in agriculture.

EC AGRICULTURAL PRICE INDICES (INPUT-OUTPUT) (THEME 5)

ISSN 0250-5967 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 70 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

Statistics are presented month by month for the past 12 months. The indices are preceded in each case by a brief analysis of the previous quarter's results showing the percentage variations for both EUR 9 and each Member State. Weighting schemes are given by country and by product. Graphs show trends for EUR 9 for the main elements of the indices. The annual results for the indices are also published in the yearbooks *Agricultural price statistics* and *Yearbook of agricultural statistics*.

FISHERIES — QUANTITY AND VALUE OF LANDINGS IN THE EC (THEME 5)

ISSN 0250-4383 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 88 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

This quarterly publication contains the monthly data on the landings (quantities and values) of the more important fish species in Community ports.

EC TRADE WITH THE ACP STATES AND THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN STATES (THEME 6)

ISSN 0379-3486 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 75 pages, price BFR 150 annual subscription

This publication comprises a selection of statistics on the main flow of trade between the Community and the developing countries, in particular the ACP countries and the south Mediterranean States. The statistics published relate both to trade by broad categories of products and to Community imports of the main commodities.

► **Half-yearly bulletins**

HOURLY EARNINGS — HOURS OF WORK (THEME 3)

ISSN 0378-3596 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 290 pages, price BFR 600 annual subscription

This publication which is updated every six months contains harmonized data on workers' hourly wages, on labour costs and weekly hours worked, plus indices of developments in employees' monthly salaries in industry. These data are broken down according to NACE, and, for certain countries, by region.

This publication also contains some data on the earnings and conditions of employment of permanent workers in agriculture.

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Eurostat News provides the public with a regular flow of information on the progress of the SOEC publications programme. The presentation is such that it is clear which publications have *just appeared* in the course of the last quarter and which are *in course of preparation* and will thus be available in the near future. There follows a list of 'periodicals', indicating their frequency of publication (monthly, quarterly, half-yearly).

The information provided on each publication is as follows: 'theme' to which the work belongs, title of volume, international classification number (ISBN or ISSN), languages in which available, format, number of pages, price and brief summary of content. For practical reasons, the *price* is given in only one currency, the BFR (Belgian franc) which is the legal tender in the country of publication (the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg). The price thus indicated applies when orders are placed directly with the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (L-2985 Luxembourg, 5 rue du Commerce – postal cheque account (CCP) 19 190-81 – bank current account BIL 8-109/6003/300) and serves as a rough guide to the prices in the various national currencies in the event of purchase from the sales offices which are listed on the third page of the cover. The *languages* in which the publications are available are shown by

the following abbreviations: M -- multilingual, i.e. in the official languages of the European Communities.

DA = Danish, DE = German, EN = English, GR = Greek, FR = French, IT = Italian, NL = Dutch

Users who wish to order publications directly from the Publications Office (or to take out subscriptions) will find an *order form* on the last page of *Eurostat News*. It need only be detached, legibly completed and sent to the address indicated.

As certain users of statistical information wish to be regularly informed of the publications produced by the Statistical Office of the European Communities, a *request for information* is provided at the second last page of this issue. If it is completed and returned to Eurostat, the sender will subsequently receive notification of our publications as they appear.

Further information may be obtained from the staff responsible for *Eurostat News* (at the address given on the first page of this issue) or from Division C-4 – Dissemination of information (Jean Monnet Building L-2920 Luxembourg – Tel. 4301/2038 – Telex COMEUR LU 3423).

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