

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1981 - 1982

8 December 1981

DOCUMENT 1-835/81

Report

on behalf of the Committee on Transport

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-734/81) for a directive amending Directive 75/130/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States

Rapporteur: Mrs M. von ALEMANN

On 9 November 1981 the Commission of the European Communities submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 75/130/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States (Doc. COM(81) 576 final).

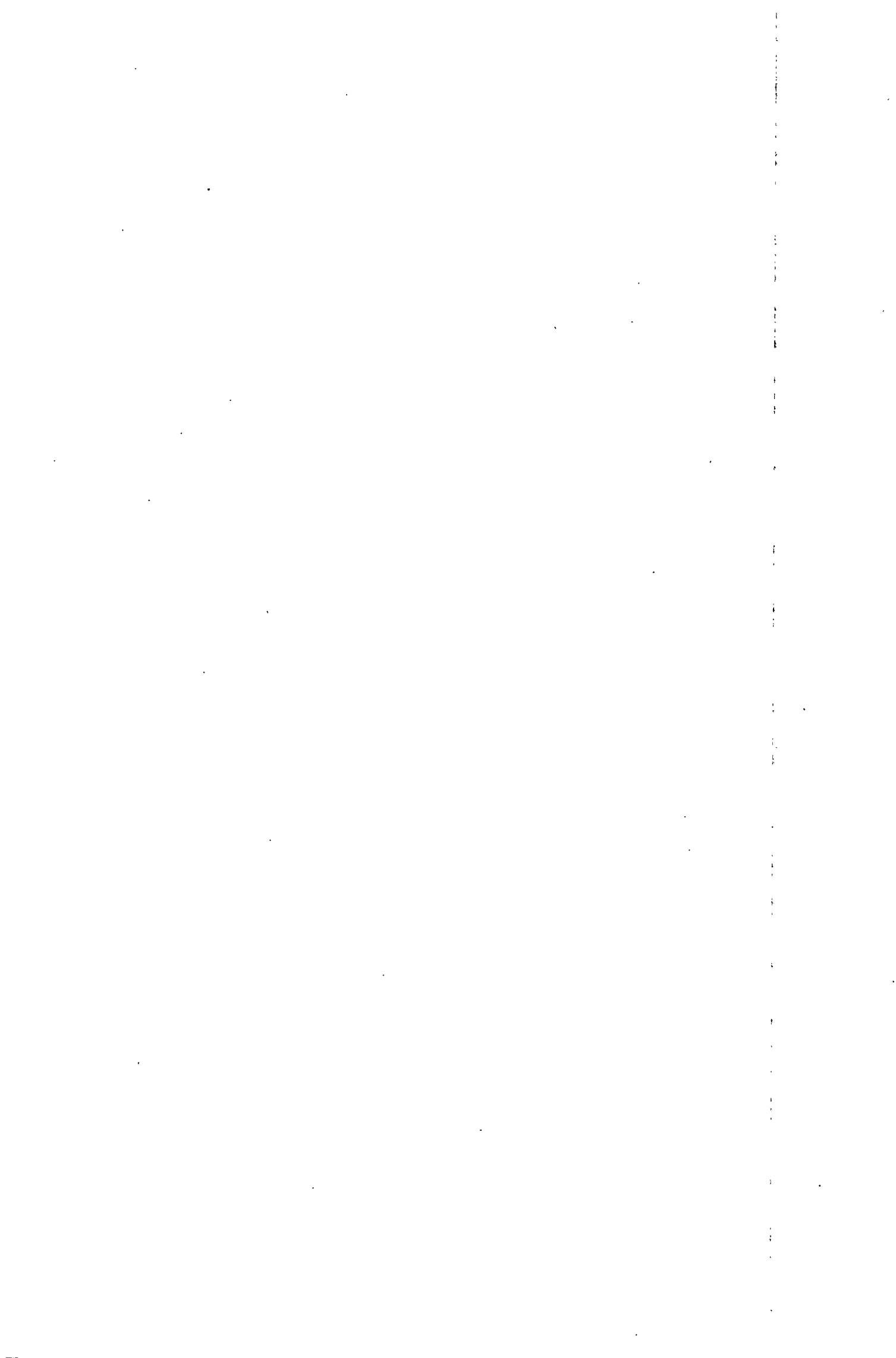
By letter of 11 November 1981 the President of the Council of the European Communities consulted the European Parliament (Doc. 1-734/81). On 16 November 1981 the Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Transport as the committee responsible.

On 27 November 1981 the Committee on Transport appointed Mrs M. von ALEMANN rapporteur.

On 3 December 1981 the Committee on Transport considered the Commission's proposal and the report and unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement on the same date.

Present:

Mr Seefeld, chairman; Dame Roberts and Mr Carossino, vice-chairmen; Mrs von Alemann, rapporteur; Mr Albers, Mr Cardia, Mr Klinkenborg, Mr Nikolaou (deputizing for Mr Lagakos) and Mr Moreland.



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The Committee on Transport hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive amending Directive 75/130/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(81) 576 final)¹,
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 75 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-734/81),
 - having regard to Council Directive 75/130/EEC of 17 February 1975 on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States (Official Journal No. L 48 of 22 February 1975, p.31) as amended by Council Directive 79/5/EEC of 19 December 1978 (Official Journal No. L 5 of 9 January 1979, p.33),
 - having regard to the resolution embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Directive amending Directive 75/130/EEC on the establishment of common rules for certain types of combined road/rail carriage of goods between Member States (Official Journal No. C 296 of 11 December 1978, p.68),
 - having regard to the resolution of 18 September 1981 embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for: I. a Directive on certain measures to promote the development of combined transport, II. a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1107/70 with a view to supplementing the system for the granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway by the addition of provisions on combined transport (Official Journal No. C 260 of 12 October 1981, p.123) and having regard to the report drawn up by Mr Volkmar GABERT on these proposals on behalf of the Committee on Transport (Doc. 1-395/81),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Transport (Doc. 1- 835/81),
1. Points out once more the great importance of combined transport for future transport policy and stresses the need to promote its development owing to the present situation with regard to energy policy;
 2. Therefore approves the Commission's proposal.

¹OJ N° C 312 of 1 December 1981, p. 4

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Council Directive 75/130/EEC of 17 February 1975 starts from the premise that the use of the road/rail method for the international carriage of goods by road is economically advantageous over long distances, and that this reduces road traffic and thus enhances road safety, at the same time contributing to the protection of the environment. This directive therefore provided, initially for a period of three years, that the Member States should abolish all quota restrictions and various restrictive administrative provisions, particularly authorization requirements, in relation to certain types of combined transport.
2. Following the Commission's proposal (OJ N° C 185 of 3 August 1978, page 3), which was approved in its entirety by the European Parliament (OJ N° C 296 of 11 December 1978, page 68) the Council adopted on 19 December 1978 Directive 79/5/EEC amending Directive 75/130/EEC. This directive extended the period of validity of Directive 75/130/EEC for an unlimited period of time and extended the application of this directive on an experimental basis to other forms of combined road/rail carriage. The amending Directive 79/5/EEC inter alia added a new Article 8 to Directive 75/130/EEC the effect of which was to include for a limited period until 31 December 1981 containers of 20 feet or more and swap bodies which have no supports in the scope of Directive 75/130/EEC.
3. In connection with the Commission's duty, pursuant to Article 7 of Directive 75/130/EEC in the version of Directive 79/5/EEC, to report to the Council, the Commission stated that experience had shown hitherto that the application of 75/130/EEC to containers of 20 feet or more and swap bodies which had no supports was appropriate.
4. The proposal submitted by the Commission to the Council on 19 October 1981 for a further amendment to Directive 75/130/EEC therefore provides that the final date laid down for the application of the directive to the carriage of containers of 20 feet or more and swap bodies which have no supports should be deleted; according to the Commission's proposal Directive 75/130/EEC is to apply permanently to these types of transport.
5. Finally, the Committee on Transport has pointed out in the report drawn up by Mr GABERT on two proposals from the Commission to promote the development of combined transport (Doc. 1-395/81) the great importance of combined transport for future transport policy and emphasized the need to promote its development because of the present situation with regard to energy policy. Judicious promotion of the development of combined transport naturally presupposes that all quota restrictions are abolished and administrative barriers eliminated.

Since there have been no unfavourable experiences with the application of Directive 75/130/EEC to the types of carriage of goods affected by the present amending directive the arrangements which have already been approved by the Parliament on an experimental basis should be maintained permanently.

6. The Committee on Transport therefore approves in its entirety the Commission's proposal of 19 October 1981 amending Directive 75/130/EEC (Doc. COM(81) 576 final) but stresses that the more extensive requests put forward in Mr GABERT's report concerning the promotion of the development of combined transport (Doc. 1-395/81) must be complied with as soon as possible so that combined transport may in the future display its full economic and ecological advantages.