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## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education

on the Fourth Report on the Activities of the European Social Fund – 1975

**Rapporteur: Mr J.-M. CARO**

PE 46.635/fin.



By letter of 15 September 1976, the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education requested authorization to draw up a report on the Fourth Report on the Activities of the European Social Fund - 1975.

Authorization was given by the President of the European Parliament in his letter of 8 October 1976. The Committee on Budgets was asked for its opinion.

On 23 September 1976, the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education appointed Mr CARO rapporteur.

It considered the draft report at its meetings of 28 October 1976, 26 January and 17 February 1977, and unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement on 17 February 1977.

Present: Mr Van der Gun, chairman; Mr Caro, rapporteur; Mr Albers, Mr A. Bertrand (deputizing for Mr Granelli), Mr Carpentier, Mrs Cassanmagnago Cerretti, Mr Creed, Mr Dondelinger, Mrs Dunwoody, Lady Fisher of Rednal, Mr Glinne, Mr O. Hansen, Mr Kavanagh, Mrs Kellett-Bowman, Mr Lezzi, Mr Martens (deputizing for Mr Santer), Mr Meintz, Lord Murray of Gravesend, Mr Pisoni, Mr Schreiber (deputizing for Mr Adams), Mr Schyns, Mr Wawrzik, Mr Yeats.

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

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The Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the Fourth Report on the activities of the European Social Fund - 1975

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Fourth Report on the activities of the European Social Fund - 1975 (COM(76) 338 final),
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. 578 /76),
1. Notes with satisfaction the Commission's punctual submission of the 1975 Report on the activities of the Social Fund and welcomes the new method of presentation embodied in it;
  2. Points out, however, that this exhaustive account in 1977 of the Fund's activities in 1975 should be of more than merely academic interest and should provide lessons for future financial years;
  3. Calls on the Commission therefore to discuss with the European Parliament, thoroughly and in good time, its views on the new reform of the European Social Fund, which have to be submitted by 1 May 1977 at the latest;
  4. Notes with satisfaction that in 1975 the Fund's resources were for the first time actually distributed on a priority basis to the neediest Member States, but expresses its misgivings in view of the fact that the 50% contribution which beneficiaries of the Fund are required to make towards the financing of their projects represents too heavy a burden for the states that are most dependent on aid and helps to perpetuate the economic imbalance between the Member States of the Communities;
  5. Urges the publication of comparable reports on the utilization of the Fund, both at national and Community level, particularly with a view to eliminating information disequilibria between the various national administrations.
  6. Emphasizes that, in view of the continuing serious employment situation in the European Community, the implementation of a vigorous policy is urgently required in this sector; to this end it is vital to improve and intensify the Fund and to harmonize national and Community priorities;

7. Considers the Fund's resources as most inadequate in view of the gravity and dimensions of the economic problems facing the Community and the high expectations its citizens have of the Fund as a remedy for the crisis;
8. Stresses that the Social Fund's resources will gain in practical significance if their utilization is coordinated with those of the other Community Funds;
9. Considers that control of the determination of the basic policy of the Fund is essential in order to improve supervision of the allocation of Fund resources and of the implementation of assisted projects;
10. Feels that it is important to find solutions to the problems of shortage of staff and technical problems with which the administration of the Fund is faced; reiterates the criticism levelled on repeated occasions in previous years by the European Parliament regarding the staffing of the Fund's administration and control services and deplores the budgetary restrictions which will continue to stand in the way of the required increase in the number of staff, and accordingly endorses the opinion of the Committee on Budgets;
11. Condemns, in the interests of budgetary clarity and integrity, the use of 'shifts' (glissements) as an extremely dubious budgetary practice, and urges the Commission to eliminate the factors giving rise to this procedure;
12. Regards, with a view to ensuring the efficient operation of the Social Fund, particularly in reference to the pending reform of the fund, the following as essential points:
  - strict budgetary management within the framework of a medium-term multiannual budget,
  - observance of specific time-limits to correspond with the financial resources then required,
  - indication of financial requirements resulting from Member States' applications prior to finalization of the budget and harmonization of diverging priorities which come to light when requirements are announced,
  - strengthening of ex-post control in view of the Fund's great importance for structuring the Community's social policy, so as to prevent speculation with the appropriations,
  - more flexibility in administrative procedures to enable the foregoing points to be improved;

13. Calls on those of its committees concerned to give constructive assistance in working out ways to improve the implementation of the Social Fund's objectives;
14. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTI. GENERAL REMARKS

1. On 28 July 1976, pursuant to Article 6 of the Council Regulation (EEC) No. 858 of 24 April 1972, the Commission submitted to the Council and European Parliament its Fourth Report on the activities of the European Social Fund (for the 1975 financial year)<sup>1</sup> which, besides outlining the Fund's activities in the year concerned, also includes forecasts of expenditure for action to be taken pursuant to Arts. 4 and 5 of the Council Decision of 1 February 1971 on the reform of the European Social Fund, together with the draft budget for 1977 and forecasts for 1978.

Whilst the first three Commission reports (for 1972, 1973 and 1974) contained explanatory summaries of the legal basis and administrative procedures to promote a satisfactory understanding of the activities of the Fund, the 1975 report assumes that this information is now sufficiently well-known.

Moreover, Article 11 of the Council Decision of 1 February 1971 referred to above provides for a review by the Council of the effects of the reform of the Social Fund after five years and calls on the Commission to give its opinion by 1 May 1977 at the latest on problems arising in the course of the Fund's operation and to propose improvements.

2. In the circumstances, your Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education is mainly interested in the 1975 report from the point of view of the prospects for a further reform of the Social Fund and the determination of priorities which have become apparent as a result of the economic and social trends in the Community during the years that have elapsed since the first reform, particularly in the employment sector; because, without wishing to detract from the Commission's report on the Fund's activities in 1975 - an extremely informative document - the committee would regard it as being of no more than historical interest unless lessons were drawn from it now which could be put to use in the forthcoming reform proposals. As Mr KAVANAGH, rapporteur for the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment on the 1974 report<sup>2</sup> pointed out last year:

'There is no question that, in view of the steadily deteriorating economic situation and the effects this has on the labour market, the original concept of the new Fund, as a means of pursuing an active Community employment policy through the best possible adaptation of the entire labour force in terms of Community priorities, must be expanded. It is

<sup>1</sup> Doc. COM(76) 338 final

<sup>2</sup> Doc. 446/75, p.8



no longer enough to maintain full employment, combat under-employment and promote further vocational training; top priority must now be given to combating unemployment.'

3. It can only be described as regrettable - and meanwhile, perhaps, for certain Member States, dangerous - that the situation on the Community employment market in 1975 not only did not improve, but even worsened, and this trend continued, to a certain extent, in 1976. For example, between October 1975 and October 1976 unemployment in the Community rose by 3.5% (from 5,071,000 to 5,250,000), and the number of women out of work rose by 11.5%. These overall figures for the Community fail to make clear

- (a) the widely-diverging trends at national level and
- (b) the differing degree to which specific sectors and regions have been affected.

It should be pointed out in this connection that, in accordance with the principles underlying the reform of the Fund, the Commission has given priority to applications from those Member States with the most pressing structural and regional problems, rather than applying the criterion of size of individual national contributions.

## II. MAIN FACTORS IN THE PLANNED REORGANIZATION OF THE FUND

4. Whilst it does not seem absolutely necessary to reproduce in this report the trends and statistical data given in the Commission's document, certain budgetary procedures - in particular the 'shifts' (glissements), but also the 'recommitments' (réengagements) - do provide grounds for concern that their application, especially on this scale, seriously undermines the value of the final figures both as regards the integrity and clarity of the budget.

In 1975, as the Commission's report states, the 'shifts' increased considerably<sup>1</sup>.

The Commission states<sup>2</sup>:

'In 1975 'shifts' increased considerably in number, as did the amount of appropriations involved. Whereas during the period 1972 to 1974 only 32

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<sup>1</sup> Thanks to the 'shift' it is possible for appropriations cancelled during a financial year to be utilized at a later date. Representing a kind of acquired right, however, it influences subsequent decisions by interfering with the assessment of applications for aid according to the criterion of priority. It also leads to an inadequacy of funds owing to the mortgage which it places on future resources.

<sup>2</sup> See Doc. COM(76) 338 final, p.30

'shifts' were recorded from a total of 375 approvals, that is less than one-tenth, for 1975 alone, almost four-tenths of the approvals, 92 out of 237, involved accounting shifts. Under Article 4, shifts accounted for 30 million u.a. compared with final total commitments of 130 million u.a.; under Article 5 the figure was 100 million u.a. out of final total commitments of 242 million u.a.'

5. Particular reference must be made to problems relating to administrative procedures and financial management, which have led to striking delays in the granting and payment of assistance. The result of this has been that a number of projects for which applications had already been lodged were started before the Commission had even taken a decision on payment, thus prejudicing that decision.

Attention should be paid to the rumours<sup>1</sup> already being circulated about the Commission's proposed improvements, the tenor of which is that the Commission will decide at the end of the year on a general aid plan for the following year in each Member State. This plan will be decided on the basis of the programmes submitted by each State, with the Fund's intervention rate ranging from 50 to 65% of the estimated costs of national and sectoral requirements. Control would be assured by paying up to 50% of the aid in respect of an approved project in advance, but withholding at least 25% until after the results had been checked.

6. Whilst up until now there has been no discussion, except with Italy, on the Fund's structures, i.e., its division into measures under Article 4 for retraining specific groups of workers for other jobs and measures under Article 5 on the elimination of long-term structural and regional imbalance in the employment market, the matter of the Fund's inadequate financial resources cannot be criticized strongly enough. As part of the forthcoming reform of the Social Fund the previously rather arbitrary differentiation of aid measures according to Arts. 4 or 5, however, will have to be reviewed, particularly in the light of the approval which the Council is required to give for any transfers of appropriations.

Practice has shown that various Member States have been able to acquire several times the amounts usually authorized by splitting their 'Article 4' and 'Article 5' contracts so that they overlap. The hope cherished particularly by the most severely affected countries and regions of the Community, that the European institutions will establish priorities in the context of a Community social policy and thus break the vicious circle which results from

<sup>1</sup> Agence Europe, 30.12.1976, p.11

the fact that it is predominantly the wealthy regions and industrial sectors which attract investment and thus create new jobs, must be fulfilled by endowing the Fund with really adequate resources. This applies particularly to sectors which have only recently been included in the Fund's terms of reference: handicapped persons, migrant workers and youth.

7. In this connection the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education must also consider the suggestions put before it by Mrs KELLETT-BOWMAN<sup>1</sup>. It certainly cannot be regarded as unimportant that national budgets are drastically reducing expenditure aimed at maintaining the standard of living of certain sectors of the population, thus denying them any chance of saving themselves from social decline. Mrs KELLETT-BOWMAN's important suggestion that ways should be sought to raise additional resources for the Fund with a view to financing important projects which are as yet not covered by the Fund's terms of reference must receive serious consideration.

### III. CONCLUSIONS

8. A fundamental difficulty up to now has lain in the differing priorities and procedures as well as in the inflexibilities of national social security systems on the one hand and those of the European Social Fund on the other. The success of the proposed improvements now being awaited will depend to a very large extent on whether these dangers can be adequately overcome; this will mean on the one hand no return to the principle of reimbursement according to size of contribution, and on the other no restriction on flexibility as regards ways of providing assistance.

If this is to be achieved, the Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and Education considers that the following points must be regarded as essential in the forthcoming reform of the Social Fund:

- strict budgetary management within the framework of a medium-term multi-annual budget,
- observance of specific time-limits to correspond with the financial resources then required,
- indication of financial requirements resulting from Member States' applications prior to finalization of the budget and harmonization of diverging priorities which come to light when requirements are announced,
- strengthening of ex-post control in view of the Fund's great importance for structuring the Community's social policy, so as to prevent speculation with the appropriations,

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<sup>1</sup> PE 46.211

- more flexibility in administrative procedures to enable the foregoing points to be improved.

The committee also expects as a matter of course to take part from the earliest stage in deliberations on reorganization so that it can make its own constructive contribution to this reform.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Draftsman: Mr. M. B. YEATS

At its meeting on 3 November 1976, the Committee on Budgets appointed Mr Yeats draftsman. It considered the draft opinion at its meeting of 15/16 January 1977 and adopted it unanimously.

Present: Mr Lange, Chairman; Mr Yeats, Draftsman; Lord Bessborough,  
Mr Delmotte (deputizing for Mr Faure), Mr Fletcher, Mr Meintz  
(deputizing for Miss Flesch), Mr Schreiber, Mr Shaw, Mr Würtz

Fourth Report on the Activities of the European Social Fund<sup>(1)</sup>

Broad sweep of activities helped by the  
European Social Fund

1. Out of the 6,268 m.u.a.'s available in the 1975 financial year for the general budget of the European Communities, the Social Fund accounted for 5¾ per cent. This relatively small amount was needed to meet a wide range of activities in the social sphere. To underline the modest nature of the sums available in the light of the extensive demands on them, the following indication of the range of tasks to be confronted is given as an illustration:

- actions in relation to ex-agricultural workers;
- outlay in regard to young people;
- adaptation to technical progress;
- assistance to migrants;
- vocational rehabilitation of handicapped persons;
- assistance to persons in regions which are less favoured or in decline;
- help for those in the textile and clothing industries; and
- pilot schemes and preparatory studies relating to
  - listing of vocational training aids;
  - analysing the present situation and foreseeable development of non-agricultural economic activities in Brittany;
  - identifying obsolete qualifications in the United Kingdom; and
  - training of instructors and social workers.

Last year's comments of the Committee on Budgets  
on the European Social Fund<sup>(2)</sup>

2. When the Committee on Budgets looked at the Third Report<sup>(3)</sup> on the European Social Fund last year, it made comments on the following lines which are still valid:

- the need to prevent the cancellation of appropriations;
- the significance of introducing the commitments authorizations technique in the Social Fund<sup>(4)</sup>,
- the importance in the context of the 1977 review of the Social Fund of removing difficulties of interpretation;

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(1) COM (76) 338

(2) Doc. 446/75

(3) COM (75) 355

(4) An interim arrangement for 1977 was introduced last year (O.J. L333 p.24 2/12/1976)

- the desirability of giving priority to Article 4 activities,
- the need to streamline procedures so that the Fund could react more rapidly to evolving situations,
- the aspect of adequate financial control, and
- the need for improved information.

The work of the Committee on Budgets in connection with this opinion is facilitated as a result of the extensive questionnaire to the Commission prepared by Mr Dalyell<sup>(1)</sup> in the context of the examination of the Third Report.

#### Improvements in the Fourth Report

3. There is evidence in the Fourth Report of a number of welcome improvements under way which represent at least a partial response to the exhortations in the Committee on Budgets' opinion of last year. These include the rearranging of the forecasts of expenditure presentation, an attempt at the standardization of the documentation relating to the submission of applications, and more precise instructions regarding the use of forms. It has yet to be seen, however, whether the alterations in documentation will lead to a real improvement in procedures. It must be noted that, in the 1975 financial year, the payments pattern still lagged unsatisfactorily and there was an excessive concentration of activity in the fourth quarter which would indicate that the impact of whatever improvements are under way has yet to be fully realised.

#### Loss of ESF funds

4. The draftsman would like to revert, at this stage, to a feature arising out of the slowness of action in 1974 and 1975 in the ESF area. In 1975, 51.36 m.u.a. remained unused for Article 4 for the 1974 financial year. Of this total, 21.06 m.u.a. were carried over for ESF use in 1975, 30.3 m.u.a. were transferred to the EAGGF<sup>(2)</sup>.

The failure to use some 30 m.u.a. in the ESF sphere was due to three factors:

- the complicated procedures which apply in this domain,
- the lateness of the Council decision on carry-over (22 September 1975)<sup>(\*)</sup>; and
- the failure of Council to take action on more than one of the Commission's proposals regarding assistance to young persons and structural retraining operations linked to the recession.

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(1) PE 42.865

(2) Not covered by the derogation in the Regulation of 24.11.1975.

(\*) Parliament gave its opinion on 20 June 1975 on the basis of Doc. 143/75.

For an already under-financed social policy, this regrettable loss of funds highlights once again the need for stricter Community procedures and for clearer documentation.

Commitments situation in 1975

5. The following table shows a breakdown by Member States of the commitments entered into in 1975:

(in m.u.a.)

	<u>Article 4</u>	<u>Article 5</u>
Belgium	2.05	5.97
Denmark	0.85	8.08
France	32.30	41.53
Germany	26.91	14.83
Ireland	11.37	11.20
Italy	32.76	62.77
Luxembourg	-	0.03
Netherlands	2.12	8.83
U.K.	21.53	88.70
	<u>129.89</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>241.94</u> <sup>(2)</sup>
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	371.83	

(1) 99% of the 131.1 m.u.a. available  
 (2) 98% of the 245.0 m.u.a. available

Payments position in 1975

6. The following table sets out particulars of the portion of the 1975 commitments that were paid out in the course of that year:

(in m.u.a.)

	<u>Article 4</u>	<u>Article 5</u>
Commitments	129.89	241.94
Payments	21.01	5.49
	<u>108.88</u>	<u>236.45</u>
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	345.33	

These sums to be automatically carried forward should have been paid out



by the end of December 1976 if they were not to be cancelled<sup>1</sup>. Indeed, because of the backlog in payments, a situation obtained in 1976 which entailed the need to pay out about 500 m.u.a. arising out of sums carried forward from 1974 (154 m.u.a.<sup>2</sup>) and 1975 (345 m.u.a.) This bunching of payments is better seen in perspective against the following list of payments for preceding financial years:<sup>3</sup>

1973	.....	30 m.u.a.
1974	.....	194 m.u.a.
1975	.....	127 m.u.a.

The Committee considers that a situation whereby only about 8 per cent of the commitments entered into in a particular year are paid out and cleared up in that year leaves a great deal to be desired<sup>4</sup>. While the pluri-annual nature of many of the projects involved is recognized, it does appear strange that only 1/12th of the 1975 operations could be cleared up in the course of that year<sup>5</sup>.

7. The reasons given by the Commission for these delays are four-fold:
- the complexity of the system;
  - accounting 'shifts',
  - delays in the submission of applications; and
  - shortage of administrative staff.

As regards the complexity of the system, the Report indicates that steps to add to transparency are already under way and the 1977 review will provide an opportunity for simplifying the arrangements further.

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<sup>1</sup> Under Article 6 of the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973, appropriations for payments outstanding under commitments entered into between 1 January and 31 December are carried forward automatically for one year only.

<sup>2</sup> Rendered possible by an amendment (Doc. 258/75) to the Financial Regulation.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Report of the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1975, point 34, 5th sub-paragraph.

<sup>4</sup> Projects relating to youth and migrant problems should be treated with particular despatch: it is recognised that much of the blame for delays lies with Member States who send in their claims in the closing months of the year.

<sup>5</sup> For the convenience of Members, a statistical annex, furnished by the Commission, brings up to date the position regarding the utilisation of appropriations.

### Accounting shifts

8. A particularly noteworthy problem in 1975 was the steep rise in 'shifts' or 'glissements' of projects. This phenomenon arises when a project originally envisaged to run for a maximum of three years slips on to four or even five years. The degree of worsening in the situation is highlighted by the following figures:

over the years 1972-1974, 32 out of 375 approvals were thus modified but, in 1975, 92 out of 237 were modified. Thus, there was a rise in cases affected from 9 per cent in the earlier period to about 38 per cent in 1975.

This slippage runs counter to good management and undermines the scope for progress in the social area, where considerable significance should attach to the speedy operation of schemes to help the unemployed, the handicapped, young people, and so on. While the Commission indicate that they are doing all they can to ameliorate the situation, the worsening in the position in 1975 causes concern.

The Committee notes that the extended use of the commitment authorization technique <sup>1</sup> will take care of the problem which arose in the past from the danger of appropriations lapsing. However, by the removal of a constraint which arose from the need to effect payments within certain time-limits, the extent of 'glissements' could worsen. This is a matter in relation to which the Audit Board should carry out a special study so as to discover the causes of the upsurge in the percentage involved and to try to identify possible solutions.

### Shortage of staff

9. At paragraph 34 of its report on the financial year 1975, the Audit Board refers to a letter sent by it to the Commission calling attention to the drop from eight to five in the number of officials dealing with control aspects of the ESF. This drop - which took place at a time when the funds involved were increasing - is a cause for concern, especially from the control aspect<sup>2</sup>. It is a matter which could be gone into perhaps in the context of the 1975 discharge report.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr Shaw's Interim Report Doc. 296/76

<sup>2</sup> It is understood that, in the interim, there has been a strengthening of the auditing staff.

## Wider spread of Social Fund activities

10. It is noted that, overall, in line with aspirations expressed in Parliament, there has been a broader spread of the use of appropriations as between different purposes, in 1975 than in 1974, due mainly to the approval of 35 m.u.a. in relation to youth:

(i) Article 4 purposes

	<u>In 1974</u>	<u>In 1975</u>
	%	%
Agriculture	56.3	25.9
Textiles	12.3	4.5
Agriculture & Textiles	8.5	10.0
Youth	-	27.1
Handicapped	5.9	14.3
Migrants	17.0	18.1

(ii) Article 5 purposes

Regions	75.9	85.4
Technical progress	2.5	1.9
Undertakings	0.6	0.7
Handicapped	20.9	12.0

Source: Annex 3 COM (76) 338 final

## Chapter 52. Pilot schemes and Preparatory Studies

11. Pilot schemes and preparatory studies will be of particular value in identifying useful new avenues of activity and in making more effective utilization possible. Fuller cover of this aspect in future Reports is thought desirable.

## Conclusions

12. The Committee on Budgets:

- notes that the Commission has taken certain - albeit modest - steps towards solving the problems in the ESF and the 1977 re-examination of the Fund will present the opportunity for further reforms;
- regards the virtually full commitment of the appropriations available in 1975 as evidence of strong demand for the services of the Fund and of a certain degree of efficiency in respect to the initial acceptance of projects;

- considers, however, that the situation continues to be most unsatisfactory because of 'glissements', delays in processing documents, lack of clarity in procedures and inadequate resources;
- regards the delays in the implementing of projects and the build up of backlogs in payments as particularly deleterious;
- while approving of the use of the commitment authorization technique, is concerned lest this add to the problems in regard to 'glissements' and delays in the implementing of projects;
- approves of the better balance in distribution of activity which gives the ESF a more broadly based social character;
- considers the amount spent in social activities to be modest in the extreme and regards the inadequacy of resources as a major problem;
- recalls, in this context, the resolution adopted by Parliament on 27 October 1976 which deplored the blatant shortcomings of the Community's social policy;
- believes that the European Social Fund must be closely linked to the other Community funds if maximum benefit is to be had from its limited resources and budgetary coherence is to be secured;
- stresses the need for an adequate auditing and administrative staff in this area of Community activity and endorses the views expressed by the Audit Board in its letter of 19 February 1976;
- criticises the Council strongly for delaying the taking of the carry-over decision in 1975 until so late a stage that it was not possible to use all the funds in the social sphere;
- calls on the Audit Board to pay particular attention in its next report to the phenomenon of 'glissements' and
- asks its Control Sub-Committee to watch the operations of the ESF with particular care so as to ensure that allegations of irregularities such as those that have been advanced against the EAGGF do not arise.

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

PAYMENTS MADE IN 1975

Unit: Million of units of account  
to two decimal places

	<u>ART 4</u>	<u>ART 5</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a) On 1974 Appropriations	9.10	42.20	51.30
b) On 1975 Appropriations	21.01	5.49	26.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	30.11	47.69	77.80

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

UTILISATION OF THE 1974 AND 1975 APPROPRIATIONS

Unit: Million of units of account  
to two decimal places

Financial Years

	<u>1974 (Articles 4 + 5)</u>	<u>1975</u>
Appropriations	307.91	376.00
Commitments	255.49	371.83
Payments made:		
in 1974	49.36	-
in 1975	51.30	26.50
in 1976	<u>105.54</u>	<u>132.04</u>
 TOTAL PAYMENTS	 206.20	 158.54
 Reductions of programmes- Payments refusals, etc.	 34.00*	 60.00*
 Remainder to be paid	 15.29	 153.29

\* : Partly estimated

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND  
APPROPRIATIONS, COMMITMENTS AND PAYMENTS

Unit: Million of units of account  
to two decimal places

FINANCIAL YEAR	APPROPRIATIONS			COMMITMENTS OR AUTHORISATIONS CARRIED OVER			PAYMENTS MADE			APPROPRIATIONS CARRIED OVER			APPROPRIATIONS NOT COMMITTED		
	ART 4	ART 5	TOTAL	ART 4	ART 5	TOTAL	ART 4	ART 5	TOTAL	ART 4	ART 5	TOTAL	ART 4	ART 5	TOTAL
1974	98.80	168.40 <sup>(1)</sup> +40.71 <sup>(2)</sup>	267.20 40.71 <sup>(2)</sup>												
TOTAL 1974	98.80	209.11	307.91	47.44	208.05	255.49	1.97	47.39	49.36	45.47	160.66	206.13	51.36 <sup>(3)</sup>	1.06	52.42
1975	110.00 21.01 <sup>(3)</sup>			108.88 * 21.01 <sup>(3)</sup>		108.88 * 21.01 <sup>(3)</sup>	- 21.01 <sup>(3)</sup>			108.88 0			1.12 0		
TOTAL 1975	131.01	245.00	376.00	129.89	241.94	371.83	21.01	5.49	26.50	108.88	236.45	345.33	1.12	3.06	4.08
1975				45.47*		160.66*	206.13*	9.10	42.20	51.30	36.37	118.46	154.83		
1975															
1976				36.37*		118.46*	154.83*	19.48	86.06	105.54	16.89	32.40	49.29		
1976				108.88		236.45	345.33	26.54	105.50	132.04	82.34	130.95	213.29		

- (1) Initial appropriation  
(2) Appropriation coming from a surplus on article 4 on 1973 appropriations carried over  
(3) Appropriation 1974 carried over on 1975 (part of the remainder of 51.36 m.u.a. on article 4 not committed). This credit has been used for payments covering actions performed in 1975.

