

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME on 5 and 6 July 1977

PE 49.371

1. Question by Mr K. NYBORG (H-94/77)

Subject : New fishing techniques

Can the Commission state definitely whether work has begun on the promised assessment of research into new fishing techniques intended to promote the more effective exploitation of our fishery resources?

2. Question by Mr BROWN (H-111/77)

Subject : Polyurethane foam and other polymeric materials

Having regard to the high fire risk of flexible polyurethane foam when used for bedding and furnishings, and the dangers to life in the event of a fire in the home, will the Commission open discussions with the appropriate department of State in the United Kingdom about the recent development by that department of a safer flexible polyurethane foam designed to reduce the high burning rate and intense heat and thereby eliminating dense toxic smoke associated with the present generation of polyurethane foam, with the objective of producing a draft directive establishing a common standard throughout the Community for the manufacture of a safer polyurethane foam?

3. Question by Mr LIOGIER (H-114/77)

Subject: European policy on viticulture

In order to consolidate the European policy on viticulture by improving quality, does the Commission intend to propose a ban on the blending of wines produced in different regions?

4. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-119/77)

Subject : Electrically driven car for the physically disabled

Whether to save oil and lessen pollution, the Commission will encourage the development of an electrically driven small car suitable for use by the physically disabled.

5. Question by Sir WALKER-SMITH (H-131/77)

Subject: Article 100 of the EEC Treaty

To ask what criteria are applied by the Commission in assessing whether draft Directives for the approximation of laws satisfy the requirements of Article 100 of the EEC Treaty; and whether the Commission will make a statement to clarify the position?

6. Question by Mrs EWING (H- 135/77)

Subject: Pig Producers

In view of the disastrous situation facing the British pig-producing industry, particularly in Scotland, owing to a dramatic increase in the cost of feed of over 35% last year, and the very serious competition suffered from several countries through the operation of Monetary Compensatory Amounts, what measures does the Commission intend to take to alleviate the situation?

7. Question by Mr SPICER (H-136/77)

Subject: Notional recipes for processed products

Are there any plans to update the regulation listing the notional recipes for processed products in view of the fact that the original Regulation No. 1060/67¹ has been amended by Regulation No. 1231/70 which has never been printed in English?

¹ OJ No. L 141, 12.6.1969, p.7

8. Question by Mr PATIJN (H-140/77)

Subject: EEC - India relations

Following a recent visit of Mr HAFERKAMP to India, will the Commission state how it now views the future development of EEC - India relations, particularly as regards the strengthening of the Commercial Cooperation Agreement mentioned by Mr HAFERKAMP in his speech in New Delhi on 14 May 1977?

9. Question by Sir Brandon RHYS WILLIAMS (H-143/77)

Subject: Creation of a united community capital market

What steps will the Commission now propose for the creation of a united community capital market with a view to bringing about a closer alignment of the interest rates charged for comparable loans in the Community's main financial centres?

10. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-146/77)

Subject: Implementation of the directive concerning the freedom of establishment of doctors

Following the entry into force on 1 January 1977 of the directive concerning the freedom of establishment of doctors, can the Commission say whether all the enabling provisions have now been enacted and whether there have already been cases where the directive has been applied?

11. Question by Mr BROEKSZ (H-147/77)

Subject : Award of public works contracts

Can the Commission state what action the Italian Government has taken to comply with the judgment of the Court of Justice of 22 September 1976 (Case 10/76) in the matter of the award of public works contracts, which found that the Italian Government had failed to fulfil its obligations under the EEC Treaty or, alternatively, what steps the Commission envisages taking if the Italian Government has so far failed to comply with this judgment?

12. Question by Mr CIFARELLI (H-148/77)

Subject : Toxicity of bio-proteins

Since there are appreciable differences between the laws of the Member States governing nutritive protein substances produced by fermentation and intended for use as animal feed, does the Commission envisage adopting a Community regulation in this area? In particular, does it consider that the methods used for the treatment of wastes prior to their discharge into the atmosphere, soil or water afford adequate protection for people exposed to the dangers of environmental pollution?

13. Question by Mr INCHAUSPE (H-149/77)

Subject : Portugal's application for membership and nationalization of the banking sector

In view of Portugal's application for membership of the Communities, would the Commission not agree that the decision to nationalize the Portuguese banking sector conflicts with Article 90(2) of the Treaty of Rome, which stipulates that 'the development of trade must not be affected to such an extent as would be contrary to the interests of the Community', bearing in mind that state planning in the financial sector is most definitely contrary to these interests as well as to the principle of the free movement of capital?

14. Question by Mrs DUNWOODY (H-150/77)

Subject : Isoglucose

Will the Commission state what representations they have received on the question of ISOGLUCOSE, and what studies they have made of the cost of the Commission's proposals to the consumer?

15. Question by Mr BANGEMANN (H-151/77)

Subject : Harmonization in the field of banking legislation

When does the Commission propose to draw up suitable proposals to remedy the slow progress being made towards the harmonization of banking legislation, particularly in the fields of company law, tax law, the law on bank supervision and the law on property?

16. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-154/77)

Subject : New Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and Iran

What is the present position regarding a new Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and Iran?

17. Question by Mr DONDELINGER (H-155/77)

Subject: The fight against the multinationals

What practical measures does the Commission intend proposing to counter the activities of the multinationals, having regard to the MALDAGH report, to which hitherto it seems to have paid scant attention?

18. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-157/77)

Subject: Japanese systematic infiltration of European
electronic component markets

Is the Commission aware that Japan is using dubious trading practices in order to capture the entire world market in consumer electronics; that this has resulted in a massive Japanese incursion into West European markets in the last few years; and what proposals do the Commission intend to initiate to eliminate this threat to European industry and employment?

19. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-160/77)

Subject : Oil Exploration

What steps is the Commission proposing to further the exploration for oil, possibly on the model of the Community's uranium prospecting programme, in those Member States which are thought to possess potentially promising on-shore and off-shore geological formations, alternatively, what proposals is the Commission considering to further encourage Member States to licence exploration companies to search for new deposits of oil, in conformity with the Community's Energy Objectives for 1985?

20. Question by Mrs WALZ (H-161/77)

Subject : Fixing of savings on consumption during oil
boycotts and periods of crisis

Has the reservation expressed by the United Kingdom at the Council meeting of 14 June 1977 meanwhile been withdrawn?

21. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-162/77)

Subject: Legal problems concerning membership of the
European Community

What study is being made of the legal position, in relation to the Community, of part of an existing member state which, albeit by democratic means, hives off from the existing member state?

22. Question by Mr KASPEREIT (H-168/77)

Subject: Non-compliance with the principle of exemption from VAT
on exports

What steps does the Commission of the European Communities plan to take following the decision by the United States Customs Court in the Zenith Radio Corporation case, which calls into question the principle of exemption from VAT on exports

23. Question by Mr VANDEWIELE (H-172/77)

Subject: Levying of countervailing duties by the USA

What is the Commission's view of the decision by American courts that the reimbursement of value added tax by third countries is an unlawful export subsidy, and what steps does it propose to take if countervailing duties are levied on EEC exports, particularly on special steels?

24. Question by Mr PRICE (H-170/77)

Subject: Greater self-sufficiency in British agriculture

To ask the Commission on what grounds Mr Finn Gundelach criticised the recent statement by Mr Silkin about the need for greater self-sufficiency in British agriculture, and under what article he considers such a policy illegal.

25. Question by Mr PINTAT (H-174/77)

Subject: Threat to the French brewing industry

In view of the fact that French brewers are faced with a consolidation of the disparities between the various regulations and the discrepancy between open markets, like their own national market, and closed markets, does the Commission not think that vertical harmonization at Community level for individual products is a vital necessity and the only way in which free movement can be effectively ensured?

26. Question by Mr MEINTZ (H-175/77)

Subject: Record of achievement of the European Community

Does the Commission consider that Mr Jacques Ferry, Vice-President of the French Employers' Federation (Conseil National du Patronat Francais) is justified in the view expressed by him in a report to the Economic and Social Council in France that the EEC institutions have been unable to devise or impose adequate solutions in the face of the economic crisis? Does it intend to comment on this matter?

27. Question by Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (H-176/77)

Subject : M.C.A.'s on processed products

Further to the answer given by the Commission to Oral Question (H-137/77) on monetary compensatory amounts applicable to processed products, can the Commission please state how delaying the application of m.c.a's to these products for nine months will help those manufacturers or traders who have purchase or sale contracts which are not renegotiable and which can be in existence for nine months or more?

28. Question by Mr K. NYBORG (H-95/77)

Subject : Oil prices

Is the Council aware that, in the USA, a federal government agency (FAE) has carried out surveys to ascertain whether the oil prices charged by petroleum companies are reasonable in relation to the price of crude oil and, in the light of these surveys, intends to take action to reduce oil prices. Has the Council any intention of asking the Commission to carry out similar surveys?

29. Question by Mr COUSTE (H-113/77)

Subject: Harmonization of VAT

Having adopted the Sixth Directive harmonizing the basis of assessment of VAT, does the Council propose to review the Financial Regulation as soon as possible so that the Directive may be implemented at an early date?

30. Question by Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS (H-118/77)

Subject : Observance of Human Rights by ACP Countries

What plans does the Council have, working through the Lomé Convention, to encourage the observance of human rights by the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries?

31. Question by Mr HAMILTON (H-158/77)

Subject: Use of bribes by international companies to
further private business interests

There is a lot of evidence to indicate that financial bribes and other forms of corruption are used by companies to promote their business interests; that the recent Summit meeting in London condemned these practices and resolved to take measures to curb them.

That being the case, can the Council indicate what specific action they intend to take on this matter?

32. Question by Mr DALYELL (H-163/77)

Subject: Legal problems concerning membership of the
European Community

What study is being made of the legal position, in relation to the Community, of part of an existing member state which, albeit by democratic means, hives off from the existing member state?

33. Question by Mr HOWELL (H-164/77)

Subject: Employment

What steps have been taken and what further action does the Council intend to take in the near future to bring about full employment and to make the use of that term something more than a pious hope?

34. Question by Mr CORRIE (H-167/77)

Subject: Community's negotiations with Greece

What is the present state of the Community's negotiations with Greece?

35. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-173/77)

Subject: Request to Mr Tindemans to mediate in the dispute on the JET project

The Belgian Prime Minister Mr Tindemans, President of the Council since 1 July 1977, has not accepted a request to act as mediator on the problem of the siting of the JET project. Is not the attempt to find a solution to such serious disputes automatically the responsibility of the President of the Council and has not the Council already taken a decision by a majority of 7 votes on the siting of the JET project?

36. Question by Mrs EWING (H-177/77)

Subject : Fish stocks in waters of Member States

To what extent the Council take into account, in discussing Commission proposals on fisheries, of the stocks of fish in the waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the different Member States?

QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

37. Question by Mrs EWING (H-133/77)

Subject: Soviet Jews

To ask the Foreign Ministers whether, in the light of the clearly expressed views of this Parliament, they were able to adopt a common attitude at the Belgrade Conference, with a view to defending individual human rights in general and the right of the individual to leave his or her country if he or she chooses to do so, and with particular reference to the position of Soviet Jews?

38. Question by Mr CIFARELLI (H-142/77)

Subject: Democratic government in the nine Member States

Is there any truth in the press reports that certain foreign ministers declared at Leeds that it was inconceivable for a country which ceased to be governed in a democratic manner to remain in the Community? If so, will the foreign ministers indicate the specific grounds on which this position was based?

39. Question by Sir Derek WALKER-SMITH (H-159/77)

Subject : Air transport of passengers and cargo

To ask the foreign ministers whether, having regard to the fact that the Montreal Additional Protocol No. 3, extending and amending the Guatemala City Protocol, and the Montreal Protocol No. 4 revise and bring up to date the Warsaw Convention 1929 in regard respectively to the air transport of passengers and cargo, representations can be made to those of the Member States and other countries as appropriate which have not yet voted the necessary signature or ratification to do so as soon as possible.

40.

Question by Mr PRICE (H-171/77)

Subject: Effect of the economic activities of investors
from the EEC countries upon the political
situation in Southern Africa

To ask the Foreign Ministers what conclusions they have reached
about the effect of the economic activities of investors from the
EEC countries upon the political situation in Southern Africa,
consideration of which was requested by the recent ACP/CEE
Assembly in Luxembourg.