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# European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Working Documents

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13 November 1975

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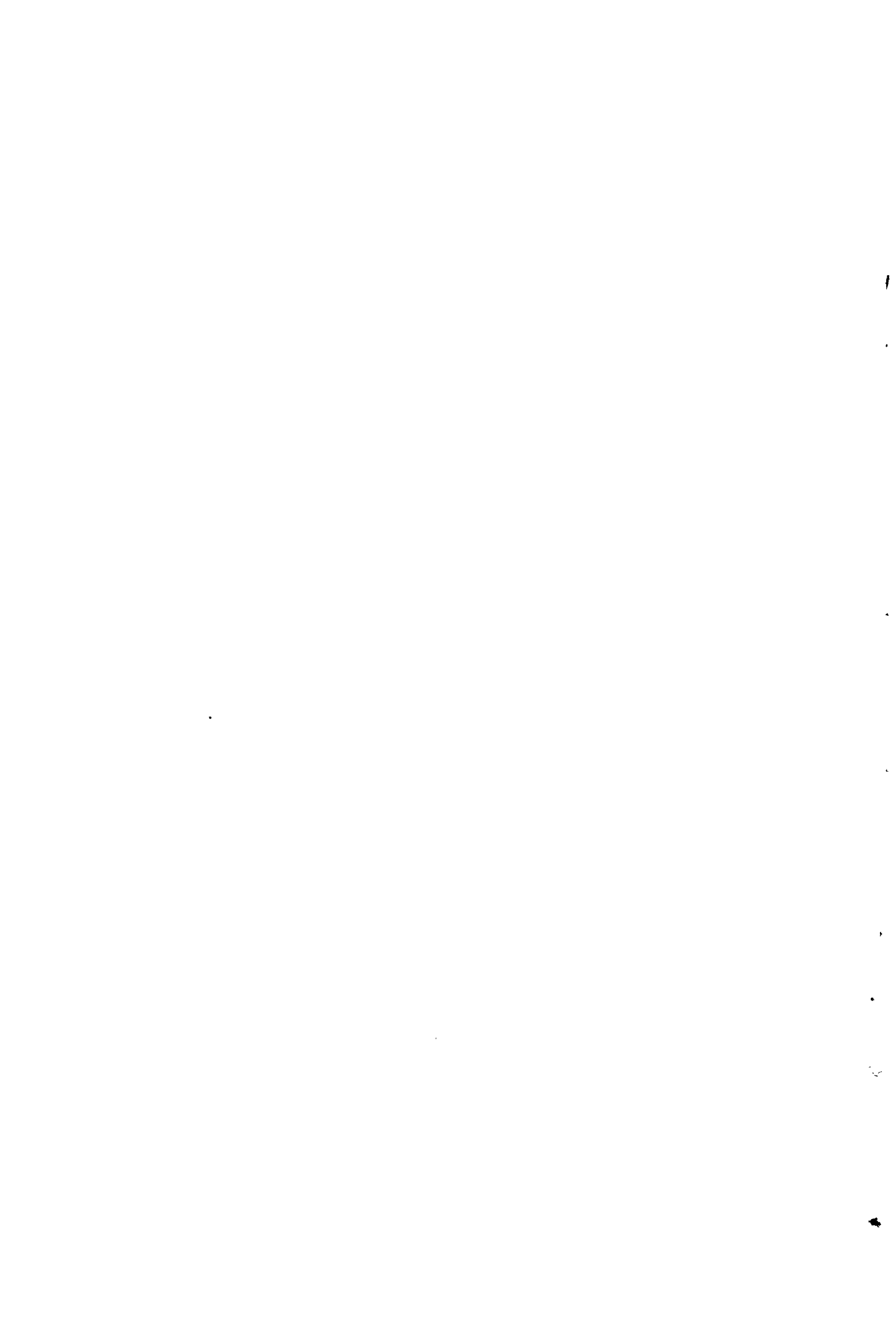
### Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 207/75) for a Council Decision accepting the Customs Cooperation Council's recommendation of 1 January 1975 (SITC/BTN Rev. 2)

Rapporteur : Mr Hugh H. DYKES

PE 42 014 fin.



By letter of 29 July 1975 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Council Decision accepting the Customs Cooperation Council's recommendation of 1 January 1975 (SITC/ BTN Rev. 2).

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations.

On 17 September 1975 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr Dykes rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 4 November 1975.

At the same meeting, the committee unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement.

Present: Mr Kaspereit, chairman; Mr Dykes, rapporteur; Mr Bayerl, Mr Brégégère, Lord Castle, Mr D'Angelosante, Mr De Clercq, Mr Didier, Mr Klepsch, Mr E. Muller, Mr Nyborg, Mr Schulz, Mr Spicer, Mr Thornley and Mr Vetrone.

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A

The Committee on External Economic Relations 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 decision accepting the Customs Cooperation Council's recommendation of 1 January 1975 (SITC/BTN Rev. 2)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council<sup>1</sup>;
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 207/75);
- having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations (Doc. 372/75);

approves the Commission's proposal.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 197, 28.8.1975, p. 2

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The United Nations and other national and international bodies publish their external trade statistics in terms of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC).
2. In order to collect the data necessary for compiling these statistics a correlation must be established between the SITC and the subheadings of the statistical and tariff nomenclatures which are in fact the means of obtaining these data.
3. The Common Customs Tariff of the Community, like many other customs tariffs, is based on the Brussels Nomenclature (BTN), the administration of which is the responsibility of the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC).
4. The CCC has made a recommendation to its member countries, as well as to the customs and economic unions which certain of them have set up, to incorporate in their customs tariffs or in their statistical nomenclatures subheadings which will allow a correlation between the BTN and the SITC, of which a second revision was recently produced.
5. This Draft Council Decision consists of a single article which is designed to enable the member-states and the Community, to which the above mentioned recommendation was addressed, to notify their acceptance and the date of implementation to the Secretary-General of the CCC.
6. This decision is a useful step forward in the harmonisation of international trades statistics and as such is welcomed by the Committee on **External Economic Relations**.