

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

SEC(78) 1526 final./2

Brussels, 28 April 1978.

WORKING PAPER

on

THE ROLE OF THE TERTIARY (INCLUDING PUBLIC) SECTORS

IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF

GROWTH, STABILITY AND FULL EMPLOYMENT

Meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment

(May 1978)

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

1. Knowledge of the different branches in the Tertiary sector has been inadequate compared to that of the other sectors. There is a need for analyses of trends in employment, training and conditions of work, and identification and study of the other critical issues for these branches. There is a particular lack of such analysis at the Community level.

- (i) Does the Committee agree that a better understanding should be developed at the Community level to help clarify these issues?
- (ii) Could joint meetings of the Social Partners help in identifying and examining common issues for these branches?

2. Potential new output and employment growth areas in the tertiary sector contain firms or collective groups which are small or just developing. Such firms often face special problems (as is often the case in other sectors). These need to be identified and alleviated.

How can small and medium-sized firms be helped overcome these problems, particularly with a view to aiding them in innovation?

3. Services and the production of goods have an equally valid economic and social role. Yet in seeking to aid the production of physical goods, policies have sometimes discriminated against services.

Should national policies be reviewed to ensure that such discrimination is eliminated?

4. Whether basic collective services should be provided publicly or privately, centrally or locally, is a question of political choice, as well as of economic and administrative possibility. A further choice is whether to use income transfers or direct provision of services by the State. Responsibility for these choices may fall between different parts of Government, so tending to obscure the issues involved. This applies for example to the responsibility for provision of health, education and social protection.

Does the Committee agree that the importance of collective services in the years ahead merits the development of comparative studies on their finance and management, as well as their cost-effectiveness?

5. Provision of public services is subject to budgetary constraints. At the same time, the resources devoted to collective services could be better directed to ensure more effective use. There is a problem of making publicly provided services genuinely available to all within budgetary constraints.

- (i) How can budgetary constraints be reconciled with the aim of wider access to the services, especially for less favoured groups?
- (ii) What would be the reaction to solutions such as the introduction of pricing for access to these services, or to special facilities for these groups?

6. The Public sector has been the main source of growth in employment over the past decade. Yet while there is clearly demand for more public services, the financial capacity of governments to provide them is in doubt. The opportunities and constraints seen from the point of view of Governments need to be clarified.

What are the prospects for new public sector employment in the future, and what obstacles do Governments see for it?

7. The State can use direct job creation as a policy against unemployment. However, it has proved difficult to find schemes which fulfill all the criteria - meeting social need that can be integrated into longer term development of public sector employment, and relating to the particular needs of the workers concerned. These needs include acquisition of skills, coping with the different needs of young people, the disadvantaged, long term unemployed or older workers.

How can job creation schemes be evaluated; how can we best ensure that they meet their objectives; and how can they be related to longer-run development of public sector services and employment?

8. Rationalisation through investment has affected parts of the Tertiary sector as it has affected the manufacturing sector. The introduction of computers and office automation, for example, has substantial implications for certain categories of tertiary employment, eliminating certain jobs and creating others, while giving rise to increased needs for professional training. Yet the effects of investment on tertiary sector employment and conditions of work are even less known than in the manufacturing sector.

What is the role of investment in employment creation and development in the tertiary sector?

9. Statistical information from official sources about employment and output in the Tertiary sector is inadequate for the development of serious and detailed policy thinking. Far more information has been made available, for example, about the manufacturing sector. Yet the information concerning the tertiary sector is potentially available, both from Governments and from the Social Partners in regard to their own areas of responsibility.

- (i) Is the Committee willing to support the Commission in seeking to develop new sources of information in this sector?
 - (ii) Will the Committee aid the Commission in the exploitation of the data already available to the Social Partners?
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- EN - A number of issues for discussion were briefly indicated on page 5 of the Commission's Working Document SEC(78) 1526 final

THE ROLE OF THE TERTIARY (INCLUDING PUBLIC) SECTOR
IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
GROWTH, STABILITY AND FULL EMPLOYMENT

The following paragraphs pose those "Issues for discussion" in greater detail.

- FR - Un certain nombre de thèmes de réflexion, brièvement repris à la page 5 du document de travail de la Commission SEC(78) 1526 final

LE ROLE DU SECTEUR TERTIAIRE (Y COMPRIS PUBLIC)
DANS LA REALISATION DE LA
CROISSANCE, DE LA STABILITE ET DU PLEIN EMPLOI

sont décrits avec plus de détails dans les paragraphes suivants.

- DE - Eine Anzahl von Diskussionspunkten sind auf Seite 5 des Arbeitsdokuments SEC (78) 1526 endg.

DIE BEDEUTUNG DES TERTIÄREN SEKTORS (EINSCHLIESSLICH DES
ÖFFENTLICHEN) FÜR WACHSTUM, STABILITÄT UND VOLLBESCHÄFTIGUNG

aufgeführt worden. Die folgenden Abschnitte behandeln diese "Themen für die Diskussion" in grösserer Ausführlichkeit.

- IT - Un certo numero di punti di discussione sono brevemente indicati a pagina 5 del documento di lavoro della Commissione SEC (78) 1526 def.

FUNZIONE DEL SETTORE TERZIARIO E PUBBLICO NEL CONSEGUIMENTO
DELL'ESPANSIONE, DELLA STABILITA' E DELLA PIENA OCCUPAZIONE

I paragrafi allegati forniscono gli elementi dettagliati utili per una discussione generale.

- NL - Een opsomming van discussiepunten bevindt zich op pagina 5 van het werkdocument SEC (78) 1526 def.

DE BETEKENIS VAN DE TERTIAIRE EN OVERHEIDSSECTOR
VOOR DE GROEI, STABILITEIT EN
VOLLEDIGE WERKGELEGENHEID

De volgende paragrafen behandelen deze thema's voor de discussie uitvoerig.

- DA - Et antal punkter til droeftelse er kort anfoert paa side 5 i Kommissionens arbejdsdokument SEK (78) 1526 endelig udg.

DEN TERTIAERE OG DEN OFFENTLIGE SEKTORS BETYDNING
FOR OPNAELSE AF VÆKST, STABILITET OG FULD BESKÆFTIGELSE

Følgende afsnit behandler disse punkter mere detaljeret.