

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BULLETIN



No. 3/4

March/April 1979

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

BULLETIN

Brussels - March 1979

I N D E X

	<u>Page</u>
I <u>167th PLENARY SESSION</u>	1
<u>Adoption of Opinions</u>	1
1. FARM PRICES.....	1
2. SHIPPING POLICY - FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE (own-initiative Opinion).....	12
3. MISLEADING ADVERTISING.....	14
4. EIGHTH DIRECTIVE.....	18
5. SHEEPMEAT.....	22
6. COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE WINE MARKET.....	28
7. ENERGY CONSUMPTION OF DOMESTIC APPLIANCES... 30	30
8. MONETARY COMPENSATORY AMOUNTS - WINE.....	33
9. TRANSPORT OF ANIMALS.....	35
10. R & D - FUSION.....	37
11. PUBLIC SERVICE OBLIGATIONS/AID FOR TRANSPORT.....	40
12. SAFE CONTAINERS CONVENTION.....	41
II <u>EXTERNAL RELATIONS</u>	43
2nd part of the ESC Chairman's official visit to Paris.....	43
<u>Chairman's speech reporting external relations activities</u>	44
- Meeting with Chancellor SCHMIDT in Bonn.....	44
- At the ECSC Consultative Committee in Luxembourg.....	47
- Visit to Athens.....	47
- Visit to Italy.....	48
- Meeting with National Economic and Social Councils.....	51
- Audience with the POPE.....	52
- Meeting with Mr KOHNSTAMM in Florence.....	52
- Meeting with the Canadian Agriculture Minister.....	52
III <u>NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS</u>	54
IV <u>PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK</u>	55
V <u>NEWS OF MEMBERS</u>	59
VI <u>PRESS CUTTINGS</u>	

167th PLENARY SESSION

The 167th Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities was held in Brussels on 4 and 5 April 1979 under the chairmanship of Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO, Chairman of the Committee.

The Plenary Session was attended by Mr GUNDELACH, Vice-President of the Commission, who participated in the debate on farm prices.

Adoption of Opinions1. FARM PRICES

The Proposals for the 1979/1980 Farm Prices and Related Measures

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

As a corollary to a freeze of the current guaranteed prices, expressed in units of account, the Commission proposes measures for restoring balance to the market in milk and milk products, agri-monetary measures consisting of adjustments to certain "green rates" and an automatic procedure for dismantling new monetary compensatory amounts. It also states its intention of presenting proposals shortly for adjustments to the structural policy.

Agricultural prices for 1979/80 : no price rises in units of account

The Commission considers that the current prices expressed in units of account must be frozen in view of the persistent surpluses of some major agricultural products such as milk and sugar. The cautious price policy followed for the last two marketing years has not redressed this situation, nor have the considerable and costly efforts to promote sales both within and outside the Community met with much success. The record cereal and sugar harvests in 1978 and a new increase in milk production have not made the situation any easier.

As regards agricultural incomes, maintenance of the current prices would seem justified. For three consecutive years there has been a slowdown in production costs and, according to preliminary estimates, real incomes in agriculture continued to increase in 1978. Since 1970 they have risen by an average of 3.5% per year, i.e. a little faster than in the other economic sectors (3%). Regional and sectoral differences in agricultural incomes remain considerable, however.

Measures on the milk market : efforts to deal with surpluses to be stepped up

The further increase in milk production has led the Commission to propose a complete overhaul of the system

of co-responsibility levies. With effect from 1 June 1979, the levy will be variable, with a minimum rate of 2% of the target price for milk. Its level will be reviewed three times a year and adjusted in the light of variations in deliveries of milk to dairies compared with the average for a reference period. The rate of the levy will be double the percentage increase in deliveries, for example : a 2.5% increase in deliveries would put the co-responsibility levy up to 5%.

To safeguard the incomes of small producers with no alternative to milk production, the Commission proposes to exempt them from the levy, provided that they meet certain conditions (e.g. annual deliveries not exceeding 60,000 litres; farms with not more than 25 hectares, etc.). The conditions have been formulated in such a way that the exemption applies mainly to milk production based on grass and farm-produced fodder as opposed to imported feed. The exemptions already in force in connection with the existing levy (e.g. for mountain areas) will be retained. Exemptions apply to a total of about 30% of dairy holdings, but these represent no more than 12% of total milk production in the Community.

The new levy will be an integral part of the common organization of the market in milk and milk products. Revenue will be paid into the Community budget so that consumers (including farmers in the case of animal feed) can benefit from lower prices. The Commission proposes to increase the maximum Community contribution towards the

consumer subsidy which the Member States may grant on butter to 42 u.a. per 100 kg. (as compared with the current level of 23 u.a. per 100 kg.). It proposes continuing sales of cut-price butter to certain categories of consumer and to non-profit-making organizations. It is also considering to what extent sales of butter at reduced prices to biscuit and ice-cream manufacturers can be increased. The Commission intends to maintain for some years the aid for the use of liquid skimmed milk and skimmed-milk powder as animal feed.

The Commission considers that all aid for production, which inevitably swells the surpluses, must be suspended except in a few cases to be specified.

Lastly, the Commission proposes continuing until the end of the 1979/80 marketing year the system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for conversion to beef and veal or sheepmeat production.

Summary of Vice-President GUNDELACH's speech

Defending the very fundamentals of the Common Agricultural Policy as essential for European integration, Mr GUNDELACH said lower world market prices were no alternative to the Community price level because of a restricted market situation, as had been shown during the recent multi-lateral trade negotiations. Replacement of Community production by cheap imports was, therefore, not serious. In

addition, unemployment within the EEC had to be taken into consideration and, under the current circumstances, manpower should stay on the land. Finally, the security of supply, as many exporting countries were unstable, as well as the balance of payments of different Community countries, had to be taken into account.

Mr GUNDELACH went on to say that, on the other hand, the credibility of the CAP was being undermined because it produced quantities for which there was no market, like dairy production, which was still on the increase, whereas the consumption curve was declining. Aiding the developing countries was no way out in this respect because food aid could not be considered as a means to get rid of Community surpluses, some of which were simply unusable. Even though it might be a good policy to carry over stocks for security reasons, stockbuilding without markets did not make sense. Bumper crops were adding to existing surpluses. Therefore, a warning should be given and no increase of price should be planned.

This ruled out even slight increases which, in fact, do matter as, over the years, they were cumulative and stimulated production. This production, therefore, had to become less attractive economically, and, for example, the co-responsibility levy had to be introduced in the milk sector. For the long term, the agriculture budget has to be alleviated because it is foreseeable that for political reasons the Community's own resources stemming from VAT

will not be increased for the sake of the CAP. Emphasis must be laid on structural policy aiming at diversification and assistance to the poor regions.

Discussion on Farm Prices

Following Mr GUNDELACH's speech, a lively debate was held on the large number of amendments to the Section's Opinion. During this debate farming representatives spoke out in favour of a more dynamic agricultural policy than that conceived by the Commission, arguing that the increase in costs caused by mounting oil prices should be countered by an average 3% increase in farm prices.

Members representing consumers and trade unions, as well as some members from the industrial world, however, expressed views that were much closer to the position adopted by the Commission. Finally, there was a majority in favour of adopting a compromise which diverged quite considerably from the Agriculture Section's Opinion.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 47 votes in favour, 23 against and 13 abstentions.

At the end of a delicate, but orderly debate, the Economic and Social Committee issued its Opinion on the farm price proposals for the coming marketing year.



From right to left: Mr GUNDELACH, Commission Vice-President; Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO, Committee Chairman; Mr LOUET, Secretary-General.

The Opinion laid before the Committee by the Section for Agriculture differed on several points from the Commission's proposals. In particular, it disagreed about the trend in farm incomes, the proposed average price increases (+ 3%), agro-monetary measures and the milk sector. This Opinion was, however, radically amended by the Plenary Session, where the majority of the members took a line that was more akin to the Commission's proposals.

Farm incomes

The Committee does not consider itself in a position to either confirm or disprove the point of view of the Commission, which considered that incomes in farming had risen more rapidly than incomes in other sectors of the economy.

Level of proposed prices

In view of the imbalance on a number of major agricultural markets the Committee proposes that the prices of the products on these markets should remain the same in units of account.

However, it calls on the Commission to examine whether price increases are not justified for products which are not in surplus.

Furthermore, in order to guarantee income trends, long-term measures should be set in train for products whose prices are not increased.

Agro-monetary sector

In view of the Council's decision with regard to the dismantling of new monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs), the Committee considers it is possible to accept the dismantling of existing MCAs over a period of four years, as proposed by the Commission.

However, negative MCAs could be dismantled more quickly.

Furthermore, if the dismantling of positive MCAs is to lead to a drop in farm prices in money terms, the Committee thinks that measures should be framed and adopted by the Community authorities for offsetting the adverse effects on farm incomes.

The milk sector

By a very small majority (35 votes to 33, with 6 abstentions) the Committee adopted an amendment to the effect that the Commission's proposals on the co-responsibility levy should be approved, since the milk sector accounted for the bulk of EAGGF expenditure and there were at present no other effective measures to reduce dairy surpluses rapidly.

The Committee also called upon the Commission to produce new guidelines for Community policy in the milk sector.

As regards the co-responsibility levy, the Committee asked the Commission to consider introducing a levy scheme geared to individual producers' contributions to surpluses.

The Committee's views on the proposals concerning the various products can be summarized as follows :

Sugar

The Committee adopted an amendment tabled by the consumers approving the Commission proposal for a reduction in the B quota. This was contrary to the line taken by the Section for Agriculture in its Opinion.

Rice

The Committee considered that the threshold price of round-grained rice should be raised to that of long-grained rice.

It also asked that rice be included in the list of food aid products. It was, however, unable to agree to concessions being made in the GATT negotiations that would subsequently disrupt this important sector, as well as tobacco and other Mediterranean crops.

Fruit and vegetables

The Committee asked the Commission to review the marketing standards, which occasionally discriminate against quality varieties.

Flax and oilseeds

The Committee approved the Commission's proposals, but asked that encouragement be given to the development of other deficit products for which there were outlets in the processing industries.

Wine

The Committee urges the Council to take steps, when deciding the farm prices, to abolish the excise duties which unjustifiably penalize wine products in several Member States.

Structural Policy

The Committee reserves the right to make a detailed examination of structural issues when it discusses the structural policy proposals which the Commission has just submitted to the Council. However, it stressed that the Community must put more money into structural policy and bring in structural policy instruments which will :

- make for a greater degree of balance between Community regions;
- underpin underprivileged areas more intensively;
- more effectively assist the producers who are experiencing the greatest difficulties.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture. The Chairman was Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr SCHNIEDERS - Germany - Employers.

2. SHIPPING POLICY - FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE

(own-initiative Opinion)

Problems Currently Facing Community Shipping Policy. Particularly Maritime Safety, the Growing Importance of the New Shipping Nations, the Development of Flags of Convenience and the Discrimination against Certain Flags.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 81 votes in favour, 2 against, and 15 abstentions.

There are three major categories of problems facing shipping companies, workers in the shipping sector and the environment affected by shipping disasters :

- safety at sea;
- vessels that are sub-standard from the economic, social and technical points of view;

- the threat to Community shipping companies' survival and the implications as regards the economic independence of a foreign-trade-oriented Community in the important transport sector.

To tackle these difficulties, the Committee calls for :

- the adoption of Community legal instruments with a view to immediate steps in the social and technical spheres at international and Community level;
- supplementary deterrent action to strengthen existing Community legal instruments and remedy the shortcomings that still exist, particularly in the areas of maritime safety and living and working conditions;
- Community action to be envisaged in the medium term, such as presentation of a Community position on behalf of the Member States at future negotiations in international forums.

The Committee appeals to the Council, the Commission, the Member-State governments and all national and international decision-making bodies to ensure that work is speeded up and that the decisions needed to avert serious threats to the Community are taken without delay.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr HOFFMANN - Germany - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr ROUZIER - France - Workers.

3. MISLEADING ADVERTISING

Proposal for a Council Directive relating to the Approximation of the Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States concerning Misleading and Unfair Advertising.

Gist of the Draft Directive

The Draft Directive lays down criteria for determining whether advertising is misleading or unfair, permits comparative advertising under certain conditions, provides legal remedies for those affected by misleading or unfair advertising and lays the burden of proof on the advertiser.

The definition of advertising is sufficiently broad to cover the diversity of advertisers and media but neither political propaganda nor advertising by private individuals falls within the scope of the Directive. Neither do reports on comparative tests by independent organizations since they do not promote the sale of goods and services.

In defining misleading advertising, the proposal puts particular emphasis on the omission of material information from an advertisement which thereby gives a false impression or arouses expectations which the advertiser cannot satisfy.

The draft Directive states that comparative advertising, that is advertising which compares rival brands of

goods etc., is not misleading and unfair in itself and should be allowed under certain conditions. Thus, the comparison of two products should deal with material points and not insignificant aspects. Secondly, the comparison should be of verifiable details and not of the kind "Product X is better than product Y". However, comparative advertising should not cast discredit on a rival producer or product.

The Draft Directive stipulates that national laws are to be adopted which provide persons affected by misleading or unfair advertising, as well as associations with a legitimate interest in the matter, with quick, effective and inexpensive facilities for initiating appropriate legal proceedings against such advertising. The measures provided for include orders for the immediate cessation of such advertisements and for the publication of corrective statements.

As a general rule, it is up to the complainant to prove the misleading and unfair nature of an advertisement. The Directive makes one exception to this rule, namely, when an advertiser makes a factual claim. Thus, any advertiser who makes a factual claim must bear the consequences if the validity of his claim cannot be proved. This reversal of the burden of proof is not unreasonable since the advertiser can select what material to put in the advertisement while consumers or competitors are not always in a position to prove that a factual claim is incorrect as they will not have access to the results of scientific tests.

The draft Directive, recognizes the usefulness of bodies set up by business interests for the self-regulation of advertising and neither their existence nor their scope will be affected by the measures proposed. The Directive will ensure that complainants will also have access to independent courts.

Finally, the Directive allows Member States to adopt or maintain more exacting provisions to protect the consumer against misleading or unfair advertising as long as such measures conform to EEC Treaty rules.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopts its Opinion by 76 votes in favour, 2 against and 39 abstentions.

The Committee approves the aims and the general rationale of the Directive, which is designed to protect, not only consumers and competitors, but also the general public against misleading and unfair advertising.

Furthermore, these forms of advertising are only one aspect of the problem of advertising in general which, as the preliminary programme for consumer information and protection points out, may take forms which run counter to the individual liberty of consumers.

The Committee would therefore ask the Commission to examine other aspects of the problem of advertising in its future work.

Regarding the comparative advertising provided for in the proposed Directive, the Committee proposes a trial period of five years. At the end of that period a final decision should be taken on the advisability of permitting this form of advertising.

Article 6 of the proposed Directive recommends a reversal of the burden of proof; the Committee observes that this exception to general legal principles does not constitute a legal innovation, as there are sources of law in the Member States which place the burden of proof on the defence, particularly where the defendant is in a better position to provide this.

Accordingly, the Committee gives its support to the proposed reversal of the burden of proof. It is aware that this will protect, not only the consumer and the public at large, but also competitors whose advertising is fair. The Committee emphasizes that the reversal of the burden of proof. It is aware that this will protect, not only the consumer at large, but also competitors whose advertising is fair. The Committee emphasizes that the reversal of the burden of proof must only apply to genuine, and, hence, objective, statements by the advertiser.

The Committee also acknowledges that the self-regulatory bodies dealing with advertising in certain Member States have played a useful role up to now. The Committee nevertheless approves the provision in Article 7 whereby all

persons or organizations involved would have the right possibly to institute legal proceedings.

Although self-regulatory bodies might be authorized to settle disputes between advertisers, legal action is still the most appropriate way of defending the interests of consumers and the general public.

Finally, the Committee considers that it would be advisable to allow the Member States 24 months rather than 18 to comply with the Directive, since the measures necessary to implement the Directive may necessitate a major recasting of legislation in some Member States.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs. The Chairman was Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr RAMAEKERS - Belgium - Various Interests.

4. EIGHTH DIRECTIVE

Proposal for an Eighth Directive pursuant to Article 54(3)(g) of the EEC Treaty concerning the Approval of Persons responsible for Carrying out Statutory Audits of the Annual Accounts of Limited Liability Companies

The Commission's Proposal

The Draft Eighth Directive establishes uniform conditions in the EEC for the granting of accreditation to persons responsible for the mandatory auditing of the annual accounts of limited liability companies.

The aim is to ensure that only fully qualified professionals, who are of good repute and independent, can obtain such accreditation.

The Draft makes provision for a theoretical and practical professional aptitude test (degree level), which all those requesting accreditation will have to pass. The Member States will remain free to organize the secondary and higher studies preceding this test as they think fit; but for the latter the modalities would be made uniform. The test will be open not only to persons having completed higher studies, but also to persons with long-standing practical experience in the legal, financial and accounting field. In addition, the Member States will be able to appoint professionals who have satisfactorily audited company accounts in the past.

Accreditation will be possible, with suitable precautions, not only for natural persons, but also for professional associations and companies.

The Draft Eighth Directive is a follow-up to the other proposals concerning company law. The Draft Fourth

Directive, which deals with company's annual accounts, states that such accounts must be audited by persons qualified to do so under national law. The same applies to auditors of group accounts (Seventh Directive) and the accounts of "European Companies". In addition, the Draft Fifth Directive, concerning the structure of limited companies, states that only independent persons who are appointed or approved by a legal or administrative authority may audit the accounts of such companies.

Gist of the Opinion

In this Opinion, which was adopted unanimously, the Committee points out that the obligation on limited liability companies to have their annual accounts audited by independent, qualified persons is a protection for shareholders and third parties.

It welcomes the high level of the requirements laid down by Articles 4 and 5 of the Draft Directive with respect to the qualifications of auditors. The Committee considers this to be absolutely vital, since auditors must have a high level of theoretical knowledge and practical competence if statutory audits of limited liability companies are to provide a real protection. The Committee therefore accepts the principle, laid down in the Draft 8th Directive, that statutory audits may be carried out only by persons who have "passed an examination of professional competence at graduate or an equivalent level of training".

A number of specific comments are made in individual Articles :

- The present wording of Article 2(2)(a) means that up to the entry into force of implementing measures, it will be possible to form professional companies and associations in which persons not authorized to carry out statutory audits have a majority holding. It is only after the implementing measures come into force that the formation of such companies and associations will be prohibited. The Committee has doubts about the wisdom of allowing so much time to elapse before the ban becomes effective. It fears that the very announcement of the ban might stimulate an undesirable trend. Attempts should be made, in liaison with the Member States, to prevent this happening;
- In the Committee's view, a high level of professional competence is needed to carry out the tasks of an auditor. It points out that the requirements laid down in Article 4 and the following Articles are minimum ones and that some Member States have more stringent requirements.

After giving due consideration to all the various aspects, the Committee comes to the conclusion that, viewed overall, the provisions of Article 4 are reasonable;

- It considers the list of examination subjects in Article 5 to be necessary in order to guarantee as far as possible that the tests will be equivalent. For this reason, the Committee proposes that the detailed statement of subjects contained in the Explanatory Memorandum be reproduced in a non-binding Appendix to the Draft Directive.

Apart from this, it recommends establishing a committee which would propose changes in the list of examination subjects, in the light of the changing requirements of audit practice. The relevant professional bodies should be represented on this committee;

- It notes that Article 10 does not lay down binding rules. The second sentence of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1,

however, obliges the Member States to recognize as equivalent qualifications obtained in another Member State. The Committee considers that this provision goes too far, bearing in mind that the Draft Directive lays down minimum requirements and, in particular, given the exceptions provided for in Article 7. This provision could possibly induce some Member States to pursue a restrictive policy on the approval of auditors from other Member States. The Committee therefore proposes that the provision be reviewed. The sentence in question should be deleted, or amended, to specify that qualifications obtained in another Member State are to be recognized as equivalent if the approval granted in that other Member State was granted after an examination of professional competence pursuant to Article 4. The Committee agrees that it should also be necessary to demonstrate the adequate legal knowledge, as stipulated in Article 10(1)(b);

- The Committee also draws attention to the close connection between Article 11 of the 8th Draft Directive and Articles 53-57 of the Draft 5th Directive on the structure of sociétés anonymes, which give detailed criteria for the independence of auditors. The Committee refers in particular to Article 57 of the Draft 5th Directive, which lays down principles for the remuneration of auditors. In view of this connection, the Committee considers that either the two Draft Directives should be adopted together or the provisions of the Draft 5th Directive should be incorporated in the Draft 8th Directive.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services. The Chairman was Mr van CAMPEN - Netherlands - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr FRIEDRICHS - Germany - Workers.

5. SHEEPMEAT

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the Common Organization of the Market in Sheepmeat

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The proposal covers all the agricultural products in this sector, except offals for the manufacture of pharmaceutical products.

Wool, which is not an agricultural product for the purposes of the Treaty, is not covered by the proposal.

The proposal includes arrangements for prices and for trade.

Prices

A Community market price would be established to represent the prices of fresh and chilled sheep carcasses.

The Council would fix a basic price each year for fresh and chilled sheep carcasses, with reference to the market situation, the development prospects and production costs for sheepmeat and the market situation in the other livestock product sectors, in particular the beef and veal sector.

Interventions

As the rate of self-supply of the Community is fairly low (about 64%), the Commission considers that buying-in by intervention agencies will not be necessary.

However, in order to avoid excessive fluctuations in market prices, the Commission proposes that intervention measures may be taken in the form of aid for private storage of sheepmeat when the price recorded on the representative markets in the Community remains at less than 90% of the basic price.

Arrangements for trade with non-member countries

The Commission proposes that a variable levy, in place of the customs duty, be applied to imports of the products listed in Articles 1(a).

The Common Customs Tariff would still be applied to the products listed in Article 1(b) and (c).

The levies would be fixed monthly by the Commission and be calculated by two methods :

- i) for fresh and chilled carcasses;
- ii) for frozen sheep carcasses.

Production and marketing aid

The Regulation lays down measures that may be taken to encourage action by trade and joint trade organizations to make it easier to adjust supply to market requirements.

Any production and marketing aid granted by the Member States is to be subject to the provisions of Articles 92, 93 and 94 of the Treaty.

The variable premium granted by the United Kingdom under the national price guarantee system is to be abolished on the entry into force of the Regulation.

Provisions adopted under Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas which concern special aid for sheep farming in the areas covered by that Directive will not be affected by this Regulation. If, however, it became apparent that in the new circumstances and consistently with the objectives of Directive 75/268/EEC an increase were justified, the Commission would propose this.

Other measures

The Commission considers also that a transitional period is essential on account of the very big differences in market prices and production costs between Ireland and the United Kingdom and the other Member States.

To enable the implementation of this Regulation to comply with the conditions set out in Article 43(3)(a) of the Treaty, the Council may authorize the granting of a premium to sheepmeat producers insofar as is necessary and up to a maximum to be determined. The unit amount of this premium could vary from time to time and be differentiated by region.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 48 votes in favour, 7 against, and 1 abstention.

It regrets that the Commission was unable to make any definite proposal before the transition of the three new Member States into the Community was completed at the end of 1977. It believes the current deficit between production and consumption will increase further with enlargement and it therefore points to the need for encouraging sheep production, particularly in those regions where it is the main farming activity. The Committee also feels that the continued operation of national market rules creates distortions and is incompatible with the Common Agricultural Policy and the Treaty.

No organization of the market should encourage a standardization of quality, an alignment on the most mediocre quality, or even a move towards more industrialized forms of breeding and greater integration with the animal feed industries.

The Committee thinks that the common market organization should ensure :

- The implementation of the principle of Community preference;
- A common frontier with regard to third countries;
- A common market management;

- A common price policy;
- The introduction of a policy for modernization of production structures;
- A reasonable price policy from the point of view of consumers.

The Committee, while recognizing the difficulty experienced by the Commission in making its proposals, wishes to express its reservations about certain important aspects of the Draft Regulation. It thinks in particular that :

- The Commission must draw up a proposal for the deconsolidation of the GATT-bound tariff on sheepmeat imported from third countries;
- The necessary price guarantee to producers must be implemented by direct premium payments and these must form a continuing part of the market organization;
- Provision must be made for a period of transition to the full common market and for special measures to facilitate harmonization;
- Expenditure under Directive 75/268/EEC should be treated as quite distinct from the budget of the market regulation;
- Provision should be made for refunds on Community exports of live sheep and fresh or chilled sheepmeat.

The Committee also believes that consideration should be given to the introduction of specific Community measures (e.g. a production aid) for the benefit of the

wool sector. Finally, it considers that all provisions of the future market organization should also apply to goats.

In the final analysis, the Committee considers that the Commission's proposal cannot be accepted unless it takes the Committee's comments and amendments into consideration

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture. The Chairman was Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr BUTLER - United Kingdom - Various Interests.

6. COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE WINE MARKET

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) 816/70 Laying Down Additional Provisions for the Common Organization of the Market in Wine

Gist of the Commission document

The Commission proposed supplementing Regulation (EEC) No. 816/70 by incorporating a legal basis for granting aid for grape musts and concentrated grape musts intended for the manufacture of fruit juices and British and Irish wines, respectively. If users of must are to be able to draw up a proper commercial and industrial strategy which guarantees a steady outlet for vine products, the aid

system should be permanent and the amount of the aid should be fixed before the start of the wine year.

Gist of the Opinion

By its Opinion, adopted by a large majority with 1 vote against and 12 abstentions, the Committee endorses the Commission proposal on fruit juices. There are so many problems connected with British and Irish wines, however, that the Committee feels unable to approve that particular proposal until such time as :

- a) the Commission submits proposals on the production, labelling and presentation of liqueur wines, vermouths and all the alcoholic drinks falling within heading 22.07 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- b) a further look has been taken (once the proposals under (a) above have been adopted) at the question of aid for the purchase of Community musts and concentrated musts which are intended for the manufacture of British and Irish wines against a background of market transparency and uniform terms of competition for all drinks referred to in (a) above, particularly as regards labelling presentation and access to raw materials.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture. The Chairman was Mr EMO
CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was
Mr MASPRONE - Italy - Employers.

7. ENERGY CONSUMPTION OF DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

Proposal for a Council Directive on the Indication by Labelling of the Energy Consumption of Domestic Appliances, and on the

Proposal for a Council Directive applying to Electric Ovens the Council Directive on the Indication by Labelling of the Energy Consumption of Domestic Appliances

Gist of the Proposed Directives

The object of the proposed Directives is to provide the public with the maximum information about the energy consumption of household appliances such as water-heaters, ovens, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, televisions, tumble-dryers and vacuum cleaners. The Commission considers that the introduction of a labelling system could enable consumers to make comparisons between the different makes on offer and encourage them to choose the appliances which consume the least energy.

The information required under the Directive would be printed on a 90 mm by 100 mm yellow-orange label. A uniform system would be advantageous for manufacturers wishing to sell their products throughout the Community since they would not have to conform with a variety of different national labelling standards.

The labelling system would be optional. Whilst the provision of data on energy consumption is an absolute

priority, the Directive also makes provision for the inclusion on labelling of other particulars - e.g. water consumption and noise level.

The potential for energy saving of the proposed labelling system is such as to make the system a valuable part of the Community's programme on the rational use of energy.

Gist of the Opinion

By a unanimous Opinion the Committee approves the Commission's proposals. They will make for a more rational use of energy and better consumer information at the point of sale while indirectly contributing towards the protection of the environment.

In the light of experience in non-member countries, the Committee shares the Commission's view that the Directives will help induce consumers to buy lower-energy-consuming appliances. The Commission reckons that the resultant saving in energy will amount to around 1% of total energy consumption by 1990, assuming that 10% of all domestic appliances are replaced in any given year.

The Committee considers that the provision of energy-consumption data by means of labelling as proposed in the Directive is just one facet of the general information which should be provided for the consumer. The Committee refers to its previous stands on the need for full information for the consumer, and, in the present case, to

the need for information relating to all the relevant characteristics of the appliances in question.

The Committee nevertheless feels that consideration should be given to the possibility of eventually including within the scope of the Directive other high energy consuming appliances such as electric fires and storage heaters provided that there are proven methods for measuring their efficiency and they account for a considerable proportion of energy consumption.

While noting that agreement has been reached between experts at the Council to the effect that the Directive should be optional, the Committee nevertheless considers that the labelling provisions should be mandatory and not optional. Only if they are mandatory can there be any hope that a sufficient number of firms will comply with the regulations to effect the 1% energy saving envisaged.

The Committee considers that the Member States could be given 21 months, rather than 2 years, to comply with the Directive. This should be adequate, bearing in mind that the Draft Directive has already been the subject of discussions with interested parties and that all the Governments agree that there is a need to economize on energy consumption.

The Committee considers that the label should be headed "energy consumption" rather than "product information" if the data given only refers to energy consumption.

The Committee approves the proposed Directive on electric ovens as the first application of the outline Directive.

It considers, however, that micro-wave and fan ovens should also be covered where this is technically possible.

Although it is unable to take a definitive stand on the matter, the Committee doubts whether the indication on the label of consumption per hour provides the consumer with sufficiently clear and complete information to be able to make a full assessment of the product.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs. The Chairman was Miss ROBERTS - United Kingdom - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr HATRY - Belgium - Employers.

8. MONETARY COMPENSATORY AMOUNTS - WINE

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No 974/71 with regard to the Calculation of Monetary Compensatory Amounts in the Wine Sector

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The Commission is proposing radical simplifications in the system of monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs)

so as to encourage French and Italian wine exports to other EEC Member States and to non-EEC countries.

It is proposed that the French MCAs currently amounting to 10.6% be dismantled completely and that the Italian MCAs be reduced to the rate necessary to maintain the present situation as regards competition between French and Italian wines. Under the present monetary conditions, the Italian MCAs could be reduced from 17.7% to around 6%.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion approving the Commission's proposal.

However, the Committee asks the Commission to examine the trends in table wine prices in the Community and see to it that the fall in prices that should result from the present proposal being applied in wine-importing Member States is passed on to the consumer.

Furthermore, insofar as the implementation of the new system has negative effects on producers' incomes - especially in the countries which are revaluating - the Committee invites the Commission to submit measures to the Council to counteract or moderate such effects.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Agriculture. The Chairman was

Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr GUILLAUME - France - Various Interests.

9. TRANSPORT OF ANIMALS

Proposal for a Council Directive establishing measures for the implementation of Directive No. 77/489/EEC on the Protection of Animals during International Transport

Gist of the Proposal

The Proposal comprises a number of implementing provisions in respect of basic Directive No. 77/489/EEC of 18 July 1977.

It also sets out provisions with regard to an additional certificate in case the Commission considers it necessary to draw up a further certificate, in addition to the health certificate, in order to cover the whole of the period in which an animal is transported from one country to another.

The proposal also includes provisions for the gradual introduction of Community measures for the protection of animals transported by land, water and air. To speed up the formulation and adoption of these measures and their implementation in practice, it is proposed that,

pursuant to Article 155 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission be empowered to lay down the implementing provisions in respect of the Directive, acting on the advice of the Standing Veterinary Committee.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously approves the Commission's proposal.

However, the Committee urges the Commission to ensure that the rules contained under Article 4 of Council Directive 77/489/EEC are strictly applied in all Member States and that the areas of responsibility of those charged with ensuring the welfare of animals throughout the entire period of their transit are defined clearly and more precisely.

The Committee acknowledges that more scientific data is required on all aspects of animal transportation and urges the Commission to give urgent consideration to this need.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by its Section for Agriculture. The Chairman was Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr HALL - United Kingdom - Various Interests.

10. R & D - FUSION

Proposal for a Research and Training Programme (1979-1983) for the European Atomic Energy Community in the field of controlled Thermonuclear Fusions

Gist of the Proposal

Nuclear fusion is a potential, but as yet unproven, long-term source of energy supply. It would have the advantages of being a large-scale source, not dependent on scarce natural resources and with relatively fewer environmental problems. But the technology is complex, and the research expensive.

The Community has already carried out four five-year research programmes in this field under the EURATOM Treaty. The current programme runs from 1976 to 1980 at a total cost to the Community of 124 MUA and with a staff of 113. In May 1978, the budget was increased by 102.4 MEUA and personnel by 150 temporary staff to cover the construction of an experimental device, JET (Joint European Torus).

As requested by the Council in 1976, the Commission has prepared a new five-year rolling programme for 1979-1983 (i.e. with a two-year overlap with the existing programme). It has a total Community budget of 348.7 MEUA. Of this, 131.7 MEUA is earmarked for the construction phase of JET, with the remaining 217 MEUA providing support for

the research work of the different fusion research Associations in the Member States.

The programme is largely a continuation of the present effort. However, certain extensions of the work are proposed in connection with :

- the possible construction of two new Tokamak devices;
- plasma heating;
- system studies in the fusion technology areas;
- inertial confinement (development of lasers);
- development of superconducting coils.

It is also proposed to add new activities covering research into tritium technology and reactor materials.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted by 86 votes in favour, 1 against and 5 abstentions its Opinion endorsing the proposed programme for 1979-1983 which has a total Community Budget of 348.7 MEUA. Of this, 131.7 MEUA is earmarked for the construction phase of the joint European Torus (JET) with the remaining 217 MEUA providing support for the research work of the different fusion research Associations in the Member States. The programme involves 113 Community staff, plus 150 temporary staff for building JET.

The Committee notes that thermonuclear fusion offers a long-term, but still uncertain, possibility of meeting a significant proportion of the Community's energy requirements in the next century. The technology is complex and requires a major research effort involving considerable cost. However, given the potential importance to the Community, the Committee believes that the fusion research work must be pursued. The Community must remain in a position to make a significant contribution internationally, if it is itself to benefit from international information exchange.

The Committee agrees with the concentration of Community work on "magnetic confinement" technology (i.e. Tokamak systems of which JET is an example). However, it notes that recent progress has been made with a different technology, "inertial confinement", and calls for appropriate attention to developments in this field.

It is pleased that the programme will already tackle some of the important future technological problems in developing a fusion reactor (tritium, materials technology, etc.). Even if it is assumed that fusion can have significant safety and environmental advantages over nuclear fission, the Committee believes that the problems associated with fusion must be discussed openly as of now to prevent any distrust from the outset.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Energy and Nuclear Questions under the chairmanship of Mr HATRY - Belgium - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr FRIEDRICHS - Germany - Workers.

11. PUBLIC SERVICE OBLIGATIONS/AID FOR TRANSPORT

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1191/69 on Action by Member States concerning the Obligations Inherent in the Concept of a Public Service in Transport by Rail, Road and Inland Waterway and Regulation (EEC) No. 1107/70 on the Granting of Aids for Transport by Rail, Road and Inland Waterway.

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

The definition of tariff obligation set out in Article 2(5) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1191/69 of 26 June 1969 does not include all the elements which could be termed tariff obligations inherent in the concept of a public service.

Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1107/70 of 4 June 1970, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No. 1473/75, therefore lays down provisional arrangements pending the adoption of Community regulations in respect of tariff obligations not covered by Regulation (EEC) No. 1191/69.

The adoption of comprehensive and definitive rules regarding tariff obligations within the meaning of Regulation (EEC) No. 1191/69 arises in particular from the need to improve the transparency of financial intervention by States in favour of the railway undertakings.

The tariff obligations referred to in Article 2(5) of Regulation (EEC) No. 1191/69 should therefore be widened

to include the obligation for undertakings to comply with a general level of tariffs, which is contrary to their commercial interests and fixed or approved by any public authority.

Regulations No. 1191/69 (Article 2) and 1107/70 (Article 3) should therefore be amended accordingly.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously and endorses the Commission's proposal, which seeks to increase the transparency of the compensation granted (and of financial relations) and to facilitate a more rational approach to the question of public service obligations.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr HOFFMANN - Germany - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr van RENS - Netherlands - Workers.

12. SAFE CONTAINERS CONVENTION

Draft Council Recommendation on the Ratification of the International Convention for Safe Containers (CSC)

Gist of the Commission proposal

Containers have not so far posed any major safety problems at international level.

Nevertheless, the fear that certain States might adopt container safety rules unilaterally, which could have repercussions on the movement of containers and the goods contained therein - and hence on international trade - prompted the United Nations Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) to draft a convention, which was concluded in Geneva on 2 December 1972 under the title of "International Convention for Safe Containers" (CSC).

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee unanimously adopted its Opinion welcoming the Commission's document, in which it is recommended that Member States should ratify the International Convention for Safe Containers, if they have not yet done so, or accede thereto before 1 January 1980.

This Opinion was based on material prepared by the Section for Transport and Communications. The Chairman was Mr HOFFMANN - Germany - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr HENNIG - Germany - Various Interests.

II

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

SECOND PART OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S
OFFICIAL VISIT TO PARIS

Mrs Fabrizia BADUEL GLORIOSO, Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee returned to Paris on 27 and 28 February for the second part of her official visit, which began on 6 and 7 February. Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO was accompanied by Mr RENAUD and Mr ROSEINGRAVE, Vice-Chairmen, Mr LOUET, Secretary-General and Mr di MURO, Chef de Cabinet. (This visit was reported on in the previous Bulletin).

In the course of talks with Mr Jean FRANCOIS-PONCET, Minister for Foreign Affairs and President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers, Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO raised the Committee's involvement in the Community's external relations and the accession of Greece, Spain and Portugal. She also referred to relations between the Committee and the Council and the need to involve the economic and social forces in Community efforts to surmount the recession.

Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO also had talks with Mr Alain POHER, Speaker of the Senate, in the course of which she raised the Committee's links with the directly-elected European Parliament; Mr POHER, a former President of the Parliament recognized the need for closer cooperation between the two institutions and stressed the complementary nature of their activity.

Chairman's speech reporting external relations activities

- Meeting with Chancellor SCHMIDT in Bonn

"On 8 March I was received by Mr SCHMIDT, the German Chancellor, with whom I reviewed the current live issues of Community politics, in particular unemployment and the relaunching of the economic and monetary union. I briefly described the role and work of our Committee, and discussed the major points of the new structural analysis of employment in the various sectors, work sharing and consultations with representatives of social and economic groups in the three applicant countries. Mr SCHMIDT, for his part, mentioned the roles of the governments and economic and social interests in tackling the current serious recession.

The recent Council request for an Opinion on working hours shows that the preoccupations of our Committee have been taken into account.

In anticipation of the Paris Summit Conference, which was held a few days after my talks with Mr SCHMIDT, I mentioned the possibility of holding - with the agreement of the Commission and in the context of our Committee - a number of sectoral meetings to review the situation and outlook, and work out ways of cutting unemployment and increasing the number of jobs.

We also discussed the Community's relations with the LDCs, paying special attention to the negotiations on renewal of the Lomé Convention. Mr SCHMIDT acknowledged the constructive role played by our Committee, as a forum for dialogue and discussion between the Nine's social and economic interest groups.



Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO, President of the ESC,
meets Mr Helmuth SCHMIDT, the West German
Chancellor, in Bonn.

- At the ECSC Consultative Committee in Luxembourg

The same day, I met in Luxembourg Sir Derek EZRA, Chairman of the ECSC Consultative Committee, Mr ACKERMANN, Vice-Chairman, Mr NICKELS, Chairman of the Labour Problems Commission, and Mr DANIS, Secretary. For my part, I was accompanied by the two Vice-Chairmen, Mr RENAUD and Mr ROSEINGRAVE, and by the Secretary-General, Mr LOUET. The two sides discussed ways of dovetailing the coal and steel initiatives of the ECSC Consultative Committee with the industrial restructuring of the Community that we are considering in overall terms. It was also decided to establish closer links between our Committee and the ECSC Consultative Committee.

- Visit to Athens

From 12 to 14 March I was in Athens, with the Vice-Chairmen and the Secretary-General, at the invitation of SCOP, the recently established Greek Economic and Social Council. I attended a meeting of the SCOP Executive Committee at which the organization of work, and contacts between the two institutions, were discussed.

I invited Mr MITZOTAKIS, SCOP President, and Mr STEPHANOPOULOS, Secretary-General, to attend as observers the joint meeting with the Presidents of national Economic and Social Councils which was held in Rome on 21 March.

I met the Greek President, Mr Costantino TSATSOS, who stressed the European vocation of his country and the fact that the Community, apart from playing an economic and political role, is a homogenous cultural unit. For my part, I referred to the Committee's endorsement of Greek accession.

I subsequently met Mr KARAMANLIS, Prime Minister, Mr KONTOGEORGIS, Minister responsible for relations with the Community, Mr LASCARIS, Minister for Labour, Mr DOXIADIS, Minister of Social Services, and Mr RALLIS, Minister for Foreign Affairs. We discussed a number of specific issues, including industrial restructuring, CAP and social policy.

In this connection, I mentioned our Committee's frequent statements that all workers employed in the Community should be treated on a completely equal footing.

Following the press conference held on 14 March, I met the Ambassadors to Greece of the nine Member States.

- Visit to Italy

From 19 to 23 March, I and the Vice-Chairmen were in Italy on an official visit. We were received by the Italian President, Mr Sandro PERTINI, by the President of the Camera, Mr INGRAO, and by the Vice-President of the Senate, Ms Tullia ROMAGNOLI CARRETTONI.

The Italian President urged continuation of our drive to revitalize the Committee, and stressed the importance of the contribution of economic and social interest groups. In my talks with the Presidents of the Cameras, we considered the scope for establishing closer links and exchanging more information with the members of the European Parliament to be elected on 10 June.

I met Ministers ANSEMI, PANDOLFI, SCOTTI, FORLANI, FOSCHI and Professor OSSOLA for lengthy discussions of the economic and social issues before our Committee which are of special interest to the Italian government - issues such as EMS, the enlargement of the Community, working hours, unemployment, industrial restructuring and relations with the ACP countries.



Mr SCOTTI, Italian Minister of Labour, welcomes
Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO, Committee Chairman, at Rome.

On 20 March I met the heads of the Italian organizations represented on our Committee. We discussed our Committee's organizational and functional problems at length, and considered ways of giving economic and social interests a greater say in Community decisions.

- Meeting with National Economic and Social Councils

The second joint meeting of our Committee and the national Economic and Social Councils was held on 21 March at CNEL headquarters; a delegation from the Greek Economic and Social Council was present as observer. The participants compared their work schedules, with special reference to national and Community-level discussion of Community issues. It was decided to improve the exchange of information and to hold at least one joint meeting every year, on the basis of a clear-cut agenda.

At a lunch - to which I invited the Presidents and General Secretaries of the national Economic and Social Councils, and the Nine's Ambassadors to Italy - I described the scope of the meeting, so as to ensure that the governments were informed immediately.

Turning to the members from Germany and Denmark, which do not have Economic and Social Councils, I would urge the need to consider the possibility of Danish and German representatives sitting in on the next meeting.

- Audience with the POPE

On 22 March His Holiness JOHN PAUL II received the delegations from our Committee and the national Economic and Social Councils.

- Meeting with Mr KOHNSTAMM in Florence

On 23 March I visited Florence, where I met Mr KOHNSTAMM, President, and leading figures in the European University Institute. This meeting gave us an opportunity to evaluate the achievements of the Institute, and the scope for using its research in our work.

- Meeting with the Canadian Agriculture Minister

On 29 March I met in Brussels the Canadian Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr Gaëtan LUSSIER, in company with the Chairman of our Section for Agriculture, Mr EMO CAPODILISTA, and the SECRETARY-GENERAL. We considered the agricultural issues before our Committee, and the preoccupations and views of the Canadian Government in connection with the Community.



The Committee delegation is received by
Pope JEAN-PAUL II.

NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

During the month of February, the Council requested the Committee to deliver Opinions on :

Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the second time the Annex to Directive 76/769/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on investment aid at the marketing and processing stage of milk products

Multiannual Programme of the Joint Research Centre - 1980 - 1983 (Doc. COM(79) 121 final).

Proposals for Council Regulations

- amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1418/76 on the Common Organization of the Market in Rice
- amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2727/75 on the Organization of the Market in the Cereals Sector

Proposals on Policy with Regard to Agricultural Structures (Doc. COM(79) 122 final).

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

May 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Forestry policy
- Balance on the wine market (Doc. COM(78) 260 fin)
- Agricultural research
- Swine fever
- Processing of dairy products
- Customs declarations
- Tower cranes
- Forestry tractors
- Driving position - Forestry tractors
- Dangerous substances (Addition to the Appendix)
- Dangerous substances (Second amendment to the Appendix)
- Own-account road transport
- Plastic materials coming into contact with food

Initiative Opinions

- Energy objectives for 1990
- Convergence of medium-term economic policy

Study

- Spain (continuation)

June 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Genetic manipulation
- Isoglucose
- Tobacco
- Quality wines produced in specific areas
(Doc. COM(79) 44 fin)
- Building products
- Lawn mowers
- Units of measurement
- Fresh poultrymeat
- Nutritive value of food
- Storage of radioactive waste
- Plutonium cycle
- Economic situation
- Development of the social situation
- Exchange of young workers
- Protection of workers
- Stock exchange listing of securities

Initiative Opinions

- Interest rebates

Study

- Yugoslavia

July 1979 Plenary Session

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Agricultural structural policy
- Caseins
- Relief from customs duty
- Measuring instruments
- Simple pressure vessels
- Weight of road vehicles
- Programme for the Joint Research Centre

Initiative Opinions

- Use of medicines

Studies

- Influence of regional authorities
- Cereal substitutes

Later Plenary Sessions

Opinions requested by the Institutions

- Consumer credit (September)
- Organization of the markets in cereals and rice
- Company taxation (October)

Initiative Opinions

- Technical barriers (procedure)
- Structural aspects of growth
- Enlargement

Study

- R & D management

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Death

Mr Victor DE RIDDER, a member of the Economic and Social Committee since September 1974, died on 1 April 1979.

**PUBLICATIONS OBTAINABLE FROM THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Periodical

- Bulletin (monthly publication)

General Documentation

- The Economic and Social Committee (leaflet) (January 1975)
- The Economic and Social Committee (April) 1975) (A descriptive brochure) 16 p.
- Annual Report (1977) 70 p. (1976) 80 p.
- Directory (January 1979) (List of Members) 41 p.
- The Right of initiative of the Economic and Social Committee (October 1977) 124 p.
- 20th Anniversary of the Economic and Social Committee (May 1978) 19 p.

Opinions and Studies

- Employee Participation and Company Structure (September 1978) (Opinion) 116 p.
- Youth Unemployment — Education and Training (November 1978) (5 Opinions) 97 p.
- The Stage reached in aligning labour legislation in the European Community (June 1978) (Documentation) 60 p.
- Employment in Agriculture (Study) (June 1978) 135 p.
- Monetary Disorder (Opinion) (June 1978) 98 p.
- Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in the Community Context (April 1978) (Opinion) 29 p.
- Industrial Change and Employment (November 1977) (Opinion) 98 p.
- EEC's Transport Problems with East European Countries (December 1977) (Opinion) 164 p.
- Community Nuclear Safety Code (July 1977) (Study) 50 p.
- Regional Development - Unemployment and Inflation (June 1977) (Opinion) 130 p.
- Research and Development (November 1976) (Study) 35 p.
- Systems of education and vocational training (August 1976) (Study) 114 p.
- Regional Policy (March 1976) (Opinion) 11 p.
- European Union (July 1975) (Opinion) 33 p.
- Progress Report on the Common Agricultural Policy (February 1975) (Study) 52 p.
- The Situation of Small and Medium-sized Undertakings in the European Community (March 1975) (Study) 69 p.

